The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project of the Donabate-Portraine Peninsula

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For
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And
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Illustrations

Figures

Appendices

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Executive Summary

The historic landscape characterisation (HLC) of the Donabate-Portraine peninsula is an action of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2005-2010 and was carried out by Margaret Gowen & Co Ltd, co-funded by Fingal County Council and the Heritage Council. The principal products of this exercise are a series of Geographical Information System (GIS) based data sets and a supporting report. This exercise complements and links to a similar study carried out for Swords Town and hinterland.

Project Objective

The objective of the project was to produce a distinctive and historic dimension of the present environment within the Donabate-Portraine peninsula (semi-rural and coastal) using a GIS to define the historical elements within the present day landscape and the human processes that have formed it.

In achieving this aim the study has-

- Provided an integrated historic landscape planning tool
- Provided greater understanding and definition of the significance of the historic character of the landscape and the historic processes that have formed the present landscape.
- Created GIS data available to the public, private and community sectors, to act as a mechanism to sustain the character of the landscape into the future.

On a broader level it has sought to-

- Establish an integrated mechanism to promote, enhance and manage the identified unique and or sensitive heritage areas within the project area.
- Promote a sense of identity at community level.
- As a research tool, to provide a better understanding and awareness of our environment and local distinctive characteristics and to provide a common place for various experts and the general public to express their views and opinions, encouraging integrated discussion and working.

Methodology

The HLC process assesses all aspects of the landscape, not just 'special' areas or point data associated with the protection of monuments and sites. It is concerned with the commonplace and the locally distinctive in providing a framework for understanding the character and historical development of the landscape. There are two stages in the characterisation process;

- the identification, description and mapping of the main historic influences which have formed and define the present day landscape
- to provide tools to manage change within the landscape.

The results of the characterisation process led to the creation of 10 landuse broad types in which there are 38 landscape character types (Figs 5 and 6). Within the report, these types were assessed in terms of the historical processes from which they derive, the historical and archaeological components that they contain, the characteristics that distinguish them from similar types and the rarity of the type across the study area.

Outcome of the Process

Understanding landscape means understanding the underlying cultural processes and political, social and economic influences, this understanding was generated through a time depth analysis of the landscape character at different time periods.

The use of GIS allows a wide variety of HLC analysis including time slices at various points in history which chart the rate of change and development on the peninsula. For this project, four time slices were examined, current landuse (Ordnance Survey 2000), mid 20th century (OS 1935-38), mid 19th century (1837-43) and relict landuse. The number of time slices was limited by the amount of accurate historic mapping available for the study area. These time slices established the following trends in landuse since 1837.

Broad Type	Mid 19th Century	Mid 20th Century	Current
Coastal	5.3%	2.5%	2.5%
Communication	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%
Designed landscape	15.5%	6.2%	5.5%
Enclosure	41.2%	49.7%	35.9%
Industrial	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%
Military	0.0%	0%	0.0%
Recreation	0.0%	4.5%	12.8%
Settlement	1.9%	4.7%	10.2%
Unclassified	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Water	34.4%	31.1%	31%
Woodland	0.0%	0.1%	0.7%

These patterns of HLC types when read in conjunction with the current landuse mapping (Fig. 5 and 6) provide an analysis of their sensitivity, vulnerability and capacity for change, important factors of spatial planning.

When combined with the relict mapping (Fig. 7) and heritage data (Fig. 4) this model can begin to guide the appropriate location, scale and type of new development, limiting impact on the historic environment by identifying key heritage constraints as well as identifying gaps in the archaeological knowledge. This knowledge can lead to the promotion of designs which contribute sensitively and positively to the local character, or indeed the development of a new and innovative landscape where historic character is no longer a determining factor.

Findings and Future Uses of HLC

This holistic approach to cultural heritage issues and the placing of a value on the historic landscape in which we live and work can influence the quality and design of new communities with that environment.

It is hoped that the Donabate-Portraine peninsula HLC will provide a practical input into future landscape management decisions at a local level, increasing the understanding and appreciation of the historic landscape across the community.

Within developing and developed areas on the peninsula, there is potential for including the historic environment to maintain, enhance or create a sense of place, for example, retaining vernacular buildings and sea walls, maintaining hedgerows and townland boundaries, locating open space around archaeological monuments and using historic lands as public parks. Imaginative design can make the historic environment part of the future as well as the past.

For HLC to be successful it has to be a sustained and transparent process, comprehensive in its application and updated regularly.

The results of further archaeological investigation and architectural heritage surveys can be easily accommodated within the GIS environment, so the project can grow and develop over time.

The products of this particular project have enabled:

- Provision for a forum of integrated discussion across different specialities and different departments within Fingal County Council.
- These discussions have elevated the profile of landscape issues amongst the decision makers and adjudicators, enabling a proactive approach to heritage manage.
- The HLC process to be integrated with other studies on a county, regional and national scale if necessary.
- The use of available technology and information to create a historic landscape dataset (GIS), a valuable resource base in terms of personnel, technology and knowledge
- A cost effective tool for future archaeological analysis
- The interactive data has provided a greater transparency of archaeological information to create knowledge and understanding of the historic landscape and the processes which have helped form it and can be displayed on the web as a source of information for the general public.

PART I: INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

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Introduction

'I wonder is it possible to write a simple short statement, a vision of what we want for the Irish landscape? If we can write that and accommodate within it all the social, economic, development, protective and other needs everything else will flow from the vision' - Prof. Michael Ryan, Landscape Conference, 1999.

This historic landscape characterisation (HLC) project of the Donabate-Portraine peninsula was undertaken by Margaret Gowen & Co Ltd and was commissioned by Fingal County Council in partnership with the Heritage Council. This project is an action of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2005-2010. The objective of the project is to promote better understanding and management of the historic landscape resource, to facilitate the management of continued change within it and to establish an integrated approach to its sustainable management in partnership with Fingal County Council and the Heritage Council and with other organisations.

It is an aspiration of this project that the HLC ethos will become embedded into the planning process county by county on a national scale under the guidance of the European Landscape Convention (2000), which promotes landscape as a primary aspect of the common heritage that requires understanding and sustainable management. This convention has been ratified in Ireland since 2004 and HLC provides a mechanism of bringing large-scale characterisation into heritage management and shifting our objectives from protecting individual, separate sites (point data) to managing change in all places.

Previous Landscape and Characterisation Work

The use of historic landscape characterisation is relatively new to Ireland. To date it has been primarily used for two reasons, to provide an historic dimension to landscape character assessment reports and to consider specific predefined historic and archaeological landscapes.

The Heritage Council advocates the use and is committed to promoting HLC in Ireland. Studies, of note are the Pilot Landscape Character Assessment of County Clare (Heritage Council 2000) and the Archaeological Landscape Project (ALP) (Cooney 2004). The former produced a HLC component for the overall landscape assessment and the latter produced a GIS-based approach to the study of archaeological landscapes on behalf of the Heritage Council. Recently other studies have been carried out in Offaly and Cavan and the Heritage Council are currently involved with a cross boarder study in Carlingford and Derry.

Rational for HLC

HLC emerged in England in the early 1990's and developed rapidly on a county basis, a national HLC programme is due for completion by the end of 2007.The benefits for producing a HLC study have widely been reported upon in England. Generally is allows a proactive approach to be taken for the management, planning and development with respect to the historic character of an area. It has the potential to assist in the formulation and implementation of economic, agricultural, sustainable tourism and community development and management strategies in rural and urban environments.

The protection of the historic landscape requires not only designation but good management supported by information and understanding. Creating this understanding is the purpose of the HLC.

HLC considers the aspects of the environment and components of the landscape, both natural and built that is a product of human activity. This includes fields and their enclosing elements and boundaries, communication systems, distribution of buildings, woodland etc. The modern landscape is the result of processes of change and modification over the millennia, understanding how these processes occur and how they are represented in today's landscape is critical in providing a time-depth analysis to the cultural landscape and appreciating the Donabate-Portraine peninsula study areas, unique character, sensitivity, vulnerability and capacity for change and development.

Understanding the landscape means understanding the underlying cultural processes and political, social, economic and cultural influences, this can be generated through a time depth analysis of the character and time-slice mapping showing a reconstruction of the landscape character at different time periods.

Reasoning for this project

While the Heritage Council has supported and advised county councils on individual projects and has carried out considerable work and research in the characterisation of the cultural and historic landscape, the approach taken has not always been consistent and comprehensive. This current project provides an opportunity to develop the method and practice of HLC in Ireland, having regard to previous work, in order to demonstrate how HLC can inform a better understanding of the historic processes that have formed the present landscape and to sustain the character of the landscape for future generations of people to enjoy. There are several other reasons for undertaking this process in the study area, these are;

- The need to understand archaeological sites in the Fingal region given their various visibilities within the landscape and to understand all monument types in terms of their wider setting.

- To provide an assessment of the interaction between sea and land and how being part of a coastal environment has influenced the landscape character.

- A review of Landscape Assessment in Ireland (Heritage Council 2006) recognised the importance of integrating archaeological approaches to landscape with landscape assessment. This project will provide an historical depth to support and complement the Landscape Character Assessment for Fingal.

Project Aim

The aim of the HLC is to produce a distinctive and historic dimension of the present environment within the Donabate-Portraine peninsula (semi-rural and coastal) using a GIS to define the historical elements within the present day landscape and the human processes that have formed it.

Project Objectives

The objective of this project is to undertake an analysis of the historic character for the semi-rural coastal area of the Donabate-Portraine peninsula. This area is subject to rapid change and development and the project aims at informing future management and development of the landscape and heritage resources within the area. The focus of HLC is to recognise that the present landscape is the result of changes and continuities from the past. The challenge is to sustain the character of the landscape in the face of future changes. The immediate objectives of this project are to-

- Provide an integrated historic landscape planning tool
- Provide greater understanding and definition of the significance of the historic character of the landscape and the historic processes that have formed the present landscape.
- Create GIS data available to the public, private and community sectors, acting as a mechanism to sustain the character of the landscape into the future.

Broader Objectives

- Establishment of integrated mechanisms to promote, enhance and manage the identified unique and or sensitive heritage areas within the project area.
- Implementation of heritage schemes at a local level to promote a sense of identity at community level.

- As a research tool, to provide a better understanding and awareness of our environment and local distinctive characteristics and to provide a common place for various experts and the general public to express their views and opinions, encouraging integrated discussion and working.

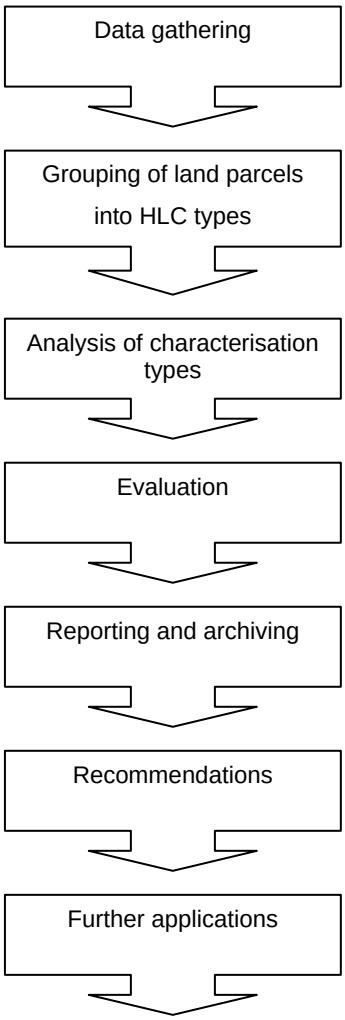
Project Phasing of the HLC process

The HLC process assesses all aspects of the landscape, not just 'special' areas or point data associated with the protection of monuments and sites. It is concerned with the commonplace and the locally distinctive in providing a framework for understanding the character and historical development of the landscape (Fairclough, 2004). There are two stages in the characterisation process;

- the identification, description and mapping of the main historic influences which have formed and define the present day landscape
- the provision of tools to manage change within the landscape.

The process commences with the systematic identification (sources listed in Part II) and description of the historic attributes of the contemporary semi rural and coastal landscape. This description forms the basis of Part III which provides a narrative of the historical attributes that contribute to the modern semi-rural and coastal landscape of Donabate-Portraine Peninsula. This narrative consists of information drawn from the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), the National Museum of Ireland, historic mapping, aerial photography, Record of Protected Structures (RPS), excavations, place name evidence and other relevant historic sources. It provides an up to date historic account of the study area to accompany the HLC maps and database (GIS). It also provides an accessible written format of basic available archaeological information for the general public and non-archaeologist.

(after Clark, Darlington, Fairclough, 2004)



The Donabate-Portraine Peninsula Landscape

The Project Area

The study area is located in the Donabate-Portraine peninsula of Fingal in North Co Dublin. It is bounded to the north by the Rogerstown Estuary, the Irish Sea to the east, Malahide Estuary to the south and the recently constructed M1 motorway to the west. The study area extends into the coastal, intertidal and marine zone exploring the influence of the sea on the coastal environment. In total, it occupies an area of 8093 acres (3,275 hectares or 32.7^2 km) and there are 23 townlands within the study area (Figs. 1-3).

Geology and Soils

The geology and soils of this region vary locally due to the proximity of the coastal environment. The agricultural land consists of predominant grey brown podzolics associated gleys, over a parent material of till with limestone and shale. In addition to this the townland of Corballis which runs along the coastal land margin is recorded as predominantly acid brown earths with associated gleys, regosols and podzols over morainic sands and gravels and blown sands. Three formations of bedrock geology are present on the peninsula, calcareous; greywacke; siltstone and shale form the central belt consisting largely of the townlands of Newbridge Demesne, Ballalease West, Ballisk and Ballymastone while adesite; tuff; pebbly mudstone and shale is present along the coast in the townlands of Balcarrick and Portraine Demesne and Quay. Argillaceous bioclastic limestone and shale dominates the southern section of the study area forming the basis for the townlands of Corballis, Kilcrea, Ballymadrough and Seapoint. This geological base has influenced the landscape and development of the peninsula, the topography, soil, hydrology and vegetation are a direct result of the rock types present. All of which influence the archaeology or relict landscape as they affect movement, settlement, food sources and land drainage within the study area. These factors have also influenced the agriculture and settlement pattern on the peninsula, characterising the present day landscape.

The current landscape and topography

This flat, undulating lowlying semi-rural landscape is dominated by the coastal and estuarine environment which gives rise to a unique landscape character. The study area consists of varying and different c zones such as the marine and intertidal/estuarine environment, sand dunes, rock outcrops and cliffs, the lowlands with high ridges and the course of the river. The lowlands provide a gentle rolling relief interspersed with one gravel ridge, oriented east-west, located in the townlands of Corballis and Ballalease South and a high ridge area in Portraine Demesne before dropping off to form a cliff formation (Fig. 2 and 3).

Over the course of time environmental influences and changing tidal patterns have altered the topography, of this coastal and estuarine landscape. The dynamic nature of estuaries are well

documented, the process of change, alluvial deposition and coastal erosion occasioning changes in freshwater estuaries can result in archaeological remains being buried under silts and mud flats. At Rogerstown, the protected estuarine (Special Protection Area) and salt marsh habitats are of great ornithological and ecological interest and the enclosed character of the area mean that views are generally contained within the low hill and dune systems. Despite its proximity to the Balleally landfill, which is now visible over a wide area, the estuary still offers a sense of solitude. The estuary is sub-divided by the Dublin-Belfast railway line.

Further along the coastal plain the development of the lowlying Burrow area has occurred in a haphazard manner given the traditional seasonal occupation of the area. The eclectic mixture of building styles and material contribute to a unique if not disorganised and cluttered settlement pattern some what at odds with the natural surrounding environment. The coastal zone along the eastern edge of the study area is largely exposed and particularly vulnerable to intrusive development, natural erosion and possible flooding. Donabate beach is an important amenity, other amenities include a number of golf courses in the townlands of Turvey, Beaverstown, Balcarrick and Corballis and the walks along the coast which take advantage of the magnificent views out to sea, Lambay Island and Howth.

The Malahide estuary located along the southern extent of the study area with its large expanse of water and open views has been used for water based activity over the years. The Pill River flows into this estuary and cuts through Kilcrea, Newbridge Demesne and Turvey townlands. The river is tidal in the townland of Kilcrea and prone to flooding during high tides, historic maps and the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1937-43) 6 inch map show this area to be largely reclaimed, noting it as 'Killerogh Island' and showing an island named 'Mullan' respectively. Historically waterways are important corridors for settlement activity due to the obvious benefits such as a food source, transport and natural boundaries.

Two important demesnes or estate landscapes with mature planting and woodland are located on the peninsula, Newbridge, a public park and Portraine, a hospital. The south west of the study area is also characterised by large estate houses, for example Seafield House, Kilcrea House and Corballis House. The largely intact stone walls of former demesnes and sea walls in the townlands of Ballymadrough, Seapoint and Kilcrea are vestiges of a bygone era, providing glimpses of the past and reflecting the diversity of the areas built environment. Donabate Village, which grew up around a medieval ecclesiastical foundation, forms the focus for commercial activity on the peninsula and is largely enclosed by modern housing estates. The surrounding landscape consists of medium to large, lowlying agricultural fields incorporating elements and boundaries of the relict 19th century field patterns.

Settlement history

The following is a short archaeological and historical overview presented in chronological order of the study area. Donabate-Portraine peninsula has a rich and well-documented archaeological presence and the area is known to have been extensively settled and the natural resources exploited since the prehistoric period.

Mesolithic Period (7000 B.C–4000B.C)

The earliest evidence of human activity in this area dates to the Mesolithic period. The estuaries at Malahide and Rogerstown have been identified by lithic experts and collectors as particularly rich (Stout and Stout 1992) in finds dating to the later Mesolithic period. Two later Mesolithic Bann flint flakes are recorded from Kilcrea townland (NMI file no. IA/52/62) (Fig. 4).

Neolithic Period (4000 B.C–2500 B.C)

The coastal pattern of settlement continues during the Neolithic period. Artefacts dating to this period have been found along the estuaries at Malahide and Rogerstown, and a cave in the cliffs at Portraine has also yielded flint artefacts. Excavations at Lambay Island (off the coast Portraine) have revealed many Neolithic artefacts, as well as occupation associated with the important flint stone axe production site, which gives an insight into the industrial activities of this period. The topographical files of the National Museum record two finds from Beaverstown townland, a stone axehead (NMI ref. 1932:5626) and two flint waste flakes (NMI ref. 1978:20-21). In Portraine Demesne two flint flakes (NMI refs. 1978:20-21) and a hollow flint scraper (NMI refs. 1997:8) are recorded. Several flint flakes and artefacts are also recorded from other townlands on the peninsula, such as from Balcarrick (NMI ref. 1946:292), Ballymadrough (NMI refs. 1978:69-72), Kilcrea (NMI refs. 1965:56, 1967:180-184 and 1976:147), Lanestown (NMI refs. 1978:27-42 and 1978:73-74), Lissenhall Great (NMI refs. 1978:77-78), Seapoint (NMI refs. 1978:75-76) and Turvey (NMI ref. 1978:80-116) (Fig. 6). Two hammer stones from Balcarrick (NMI refs. 1941:409) and Donabate (no NMI ref.) may also belong to this period. A great many of these finds can be attributed to an intensive field walking survey carried out by Paul Gosling (Archaeological Survey of Ireland) in 1978.

Recent archaeological excavation identified previously unknown prehistoric evidence in the townland of Beaverstown, adjacent to Donabate Train Station (Hagen, 02E1708). The Early Neolithic period (*c.* 4000BC–3500BC) was represented by a pit and three postholes, while a single posthole and two pits belonged to the Beaker period (*c.* 2400BC–2200BC).

Bronze Age Period (2500BC–600BC)

The discovery of three cist burials on the Rogerstown estuary, confirm the continuous presence of human settlement in this area during the earlier part of the Bronze Age. Bates (2001) records the

discovery of a Beaker vessel and cist graves at Burrow, but these finds could not be located in the files of the National Museum.

The above mentioned excavation (Hagen, 02E1708) at Beaverstown found that the site appears to have been abandoned after the Beaker period until the commencement of the later stages of the Bronze Age (*c.* 1500-500BC). The presence of a domestic enclosure with an estimated diameter of 25m and Late Bronze Age course domestic pottery was revealed.

Other Bronze Age activity was revealed as a result of archaeologically testing (Baker 06E0027), geophysical anomalies in the townlands of Ballymastone and Corballis. A possible hut site, similar in dimensions and plan layout to other previously identified sites at Curraghtoor, Co Tipperary and Lough Gur, Co Limerick dating to the middle-late Bronze Age was revealed. In Corballis, fulacht fiadh material as well as a fulacht fiadh site was identified.

Other geophysical responses detected in the townlands of Donabate, Corballis, Ballalease North and South and Ballymastone still require archaeological testing to ascertain if they are archaeological in nature. Given the high correlation of results from the geophysical results, it is likely that the majority will be archaeological and may form part of a larger buried Bronze Age landscape. Equally, the features may also be from different time periods demonstrating the level of erosion to earthen monuments from agricultural practices in this area.

Late Bronze Age/ Iron Age Period (600BC–500AD)

There are no sites or finds dating to this period within the study area however along the coast to the north and on Lambay Island, the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age is represented by a find from Lambay, a burial from Raheny, Lusk (Cassidy 1993) and by two impressive promontory forts with multiple ramparts at Lambay and Drumanagh, near Rush. The latter consists of three ramparts, which enclose 48 acres of headland and also produced evidence of Roman material. Roman material has also been found associated with Romano-British burials at Lambay Island. This evidence indicates that the coastline was well fortified, that a sizeable population existed to construct such impressive works, and that a trade network existed between Roman Britain and Ireland.

Early Christian/ Early Medieval Period (500AD-1100AD)

The plains of north Co. Dublin, at the dawn of the historical period (5th/6th centuries A.D.), formed part of the geographical region of Brega. As late as *c*.600 (*Annals of the Four Masters*) Brandub mac Echdach, Uí Chennselaig king of Leinster would land his “sword blows” on Brega. From the seventh until the eleventh centuries, the overkingship of Brega was dominated by Síl nÁedo

Sláine, a dynasty of the Southern Uí Néill (Byrne 1973). The Cianachta Bec also known as the Tuath Turbi (possible origin for the townland name of Turvey) occupied this general area during this period (O'Brien 1976, 191).

Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Sites

There are several pre-Norman ecclesiastical sites located within Donabate peninsula, including Mochuda's Church at Burrow ("The Chapel Bank", DU008-028), St. Canice's at Portraine (DU008-03101) and the churches at Kilcrea (DU012-01601) and Ballymadrough (DU012-01301). These church sites probably received direction and would have been influenced from the major ecclesiastical centres located at Swords and Lusk.

Early Medieval Secular Settlement

The most significant component of Early Medieval secular settlement is the ringfort. These sites consist of circular areas defined by banks and external ditches, and excavation often reveals associated field systems as well as the remains of dwelling houses and outbuildings for extended families. They are usually situated on gentle slopes in open grassland, with good views of the surrounding area. There are several possible ringforts in the environs, these are recorded as enclosures and were mostly detected by aerial photography as circular cropmarks with no visible trace at ground level. It is likely that they represent ploughed out ringforts and occur at Lanestown (DU012-006), Kilcrea (DU012-017), Turvey (DU008-025) and at Lissenhall Great where an enclosure (DU012-003) and an earthwork site marked as 'site of fort' on the OS 1st edition (DU012-015) is located. The townland names of Rahillion and Ballalease may also indicate the former existence of early medieval settlement in the area (Appendix 4).

Viking Evidence (800AD-1100AD)

Vikings also feature in the history of the area, making their first appearance in the vicinity when they plundered the monasteries of Inish Patrick and Rechru about the year 795. The Norse invaders also left their impact at Lambay most notably in the placename. By the middle of the ninth century permanent settlements were established along the east coast in the area known as Fingal, which included the peninsula of Donabate and Portraine. Bases were established at *Inbher Domhnainn* (Malahide) and *Ben Eadair* (Howth), and Dublin became their major stronghold in Ireland, with its conquest in 836.

Bates (2001) mentions Knockaman, as the highest point in Burrow townland, as the site of a battle, and among the items discovered were "several broken swords, spears, pikes, and some gold ornaments, mostly decomposed under bones and skulls of humans with those of horses". In 1872 it was recorded in a letter that the items were discovered by John Doherty and were

apparently placed in the museum. However these items cannot be traced within the National Museum of Ireland.

The Anglo-Norman Period (1100AD-1534AD)

Donabate grew up around the medieval ecclesiastical foundation in Donabate townland, which includes the present church, located on the site of the medieval parish church (DU012-005/01), the graveyard (DU012-005/03), a memorial slab (DU012-005/04) and the tower house (DU012-005/02). The medieval church is mentioned in 1230 when it was granted to the monastery of Grane. In 1240, the parish was administered by Richard De St. Martin. In 1310, the king, during the vacancy of the See of Dublin, presented William de Bathe to the vicarage of Donabate. He was succeeded, as far as the records show, by Thomas Athaland in 1375, and by Henry Marleburgh in 1419. At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1541, Egidia Wale, the last prioress of Grane, was found to have been seized of the rectories of Donabate, Kilmacud, and Bray, which, with their tithes and emoluments, were, as the inquisition states, appropriated to said house (D'Alton 1838). The Regal Visitation of 1615 found the church and chancel of Donabate in good repair and reports the value of the vicarage as £15 per an annum. At that time, the parish was administered by John Ethridge. Whereas the church and chancel was in good repair in 1630 (Bates 2001), the Civil Survey of 1654 merely mentions the walls of a church, indicating that the building was roofless and no longer in use (Simington 1945). In 1838 there were still some remains of earlier church to be seen alongside the present building (D'Alton 1838).

Four tower houses are recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places in the immediate environs of Donabate. These are at Portraine (DU008-030), Lanestown Castle at Newbridge Demesne (DU012-004), at Turvey (DU012-024/01) and at Donabate (DU012-005/02) (Fig. 4).

The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries - Post Medieval Period

The long association of the Barnewall family with the lands of Turvey began in the sixteenth century. The Barnewall family were of Breton origin and had been among the followers of William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Their loyalty and service to the crown was rewarded in 1462, when Robert Barnewall was given the title of Lord Trimlestown (D'Alton 1838). After the suppression of the monasteries in 1541, Patrick Barnewall was granted the extensive lands of the monastery of Grace Dieu, and in 1555, he also acquired the lands and the manor of Turvey, Ballalease and Ballisk. His son Christopher inherited the manor house and lands of Turvey, and built a new mansion at Turvey in 1565 (Joyce 1913). This date is inscribed on a tablet, formerly located over the west gate, and which is now in the possession of the Donabate Historical Society (Bates 2001). On his death in 1575, Christopher Barnewall was succeeded by his son Patrick († 1609). The lands of Patrick's son Nicholas, who was created Baron of Turvey and Viscount Barnewall of Kingsland in 1645 († 1663), were confiscated following the

Cromwellian period. While the manor and much of the confiscated lands were recovered during the Restoration, the influence of the Barnewall family was largely shattered (*ibid*.). The Down Survey of 1656 records detailed information regarding the property of the Barnewall family. The lands included Turvey, Staffordstown, Butler's meadow, Ballymastone, Beaverstown and Ballisk. Other property listed comprised a stone slated house, a barn and stables, an orchard and a garden, several thatched houses, cabins and garden plots, two mills in use and a pigeon house.

Turvey House itself is described as a late seventeenth century house of two storeys with a gabled attic, which became an attic storey with a parapet and three lunette windows when the house was altered c. 1725-50. The front consisted of nine bays with tall narrow windows grouped together in threes (Bence-Jones 1978). When the Barnewall estate was mortgaged to Robert Birch in 1768, the property included the castle and manor of Turvey, the demesne lands and a water mill (Bates 2001). During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the demesne passed through various hands. In 1968, Turvey House was listed for preservation, but in 1972 its interior was gutted, and the house was demolished in 1987. Archaeological monitoring of the removal of demolition rubble at Turvey House revealed the upstanding remains of three phases of castle/house construction (Murtagh, 1993). Remnants of a 15th century tower house with angle tower and barrel vault over the ground floor, a late 16th century L-shaped house and an early 18th century Georgian mansion were revealed.

The Eighteenth to Twentieth Centuries - Post Medieval Period

The eighteenth century witnessed a considerable degree of economic growth on the peninsula, with fishing activity supplemented by limestone quarrying. The ruined windmill at Rahillion (DU008-027) is probably of eighteenth century date, and there are also two tidal mills in the area, at Kilcrea (DU012-018) and at Seapoint (DU012-042). Continued fears of French invasion towards the end of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries prompted the policy of building watch-towers of Martello type, of which there are several along the east coast, such as at Balcarrick (DU012-008) and at Quay (DU012-010).

A number of shipwrecks are recorded as sinking during the 19th and early 20th centuries off the coast of Portraine. Two are named as the Queen Adelaide and the Tergiste in the Shipwreck Inventory held by the Underwater Archaeological Survey while two further vessels which sank remain unnamed. According to Bates (2001) further shipwrecks are known locally, the people of the Burrow saved two crew from the Ada, which was wrecked off the sandhills, and received a medal in 1873 for their bravery. The Galatee was shipwrecked near the St Ita's graveyard, it had a cargo of pig iron which was looted by locals who became known as 'Block Daniels'. The Mary Anne, sank on a sandbank off Corballis, John Smyth of Bridge House salvaged beams from the ship and reused them in outbuildings on his land. Another cargo carrying timbers was wrecked

during World War 1 on a sandbank off Corballis, the locals salvaged the timbers which were taken away by payment of 3 pence per plank (this incident is also recorded in the Shipwreck Inventory). In 1838, a schooner carrying coal was driven ashore during severe storms at Corballis. A ship named the Willingmind was also stranded at Corballis in 1764. Probably the most famous wreck is the Tayleur which sank off the coast of Lambay Island, to the east of the study area. Known hazards such as rocks or sandbanks are recorded on Admiralty Charts as Cable Rock and Lugger Bank just off the coast. Townland names also reflect the coastal nature and influence of the sea for example Quay, Portraine, Donabate and Seapoint. This as well as a number of archaeological sites such as Martello Towers, harbours, piers, tidal mills, fording points and flint artefacts reflect the unique historic character of this coastal environment.

Eyre Evans is recorded as having purchased the estate of Portraine in 1728 and is recorded as living in Mount Evans in 1737 so presumably the house must have been built during this time period. The house was described in an 1884 advertisement for sale as ‘located on an elevation in a central part of the Demesne, commanding magnificent views seawards of Lambay Island, Ireland's Eye, Howth and the Bay of Dublin, and the coast and mountains to Bray Head. It is remarkably dry and in excellent repair. The basement storey, which is large and commodious, is sunk, so that the first floor is on level with the ground. The house contains large dining and drawing rooms, library and large hall. Opening off the library there is a large and lofty conservatory and well shaped and lighted billiard room, both heated with hot water pipes. The second and third floors contain numerous bedrooms, opening off corridors, water closets and bathroom attached. Also, principal and back stairs and servant's apartments in wing attached to the house’.

The surrounding lands and associated buildings are further described as '….coach house and stabling for several horses, stable-servant's, steward's and herd's houses, spacious loft etc., and a pump and large rain water tank in a well enclosed yard, which is connected with the Mansion House by an underground passage. There is a lodge at entrance and a gamekeeper's cottage within the Demesne. The lands all in grass of a very superior quality, containing 470 acres…'. The house and land was sold in 1893 for the sum of £10,000 to the governing board of lunatic asylums in Ireland with an agreement that exempted the board from paying rent to the church thus ending the interest of the lands from the church and an association with the Archbishop of Dublin from the 12th century onwards.

Construction commenced in 1896 to the winning design of gothic revival architect, Ashlin. This red brick structure was to eventually house 1,200 patients.

Newbridge House, now the property of Fingal County Council, was built in 1737 for Charles Cobbe, later Archbishop of Dublin, after he purchased lands at Donabate (Bence-Jones 1978). By this time, Charles Cobbe was in possession of the townlands of Lanestown, Haggardstown, Newbridge Demesne, Donabate, Corballis, Baltra (now part of Corballis) and Kilcrea (Bates 2001). In 1760 the Archbishop's fashionable daughter-in-law, Lady Elizabeth Beresford, added a large wing to the back of the classical mansion containing the magnificent drawing room. It was designed to display her husband's collection of seventeenth and eighteenth century paintings.

Other buildings of eighteenth century date include a Catholic chapel, which is first mentioned in 1729, when it is recorded that repairs were carried out (*ibid*.). This building stood west of the Railway Station at the junction with Turvey Avenue. The building was demolished when Turvey Avenue was extended over the bridge of the railway line. St. Patrick's Anglican Church, situated on the site of the medieval parish church, was built by Archbishop Cobbe in 1758.

An archaeological test excavation was carried out in 1999 in the glebe field to the west of the Donabate church. This revealed a considerable amount of activity, ranging in date from the medieval, late medieval and post-medieval periods. Finds included a sixteenth century coin, as well as pits containing food debris, bone and shell, which may date to the late medieval period (Walsh 2000).

Several artefacts have recently been recovered during the course of metal detecting in Donabate, and are recorded in the topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland. Finds include buttons, a spur, harness and shoe buckles, the foot of a vessel and a musket ball (NMI refs. 1999:127-136 and 1999:302-303).

Several public buildings in Donabate belong to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The present parish hall was built as a church in 1803 on a site donated by the Barnewall family. The glebe house was built in 1810, by aid of a gift of £100 and a loan of £320 from the Board of First Fruits. A glebe of nine acres lies to the northwest of the church (Lewis 1837). The present St. Patrick's Catholic Church, built of Portmarnock brick with cut stone dressing, was opened in 1903. It was built on a site donated by John Smyth of Bridge House Pub (Bates 2001).

The are many fine houses of note still intact located on the peninsula, for example, Seafield House (RPS 483), Kilcrea House (RPS 500), Corballis House, Newport House, Prospect Point (RPS 480) and Balcarrick House (RMP DU012-041).

Donabate Modern Period

The arrival of the Dublin-Drogheda railway line in 1844 and the construction of St. Itas psychiatric hospital in 1896 signalled a change to the insular character of the peninsula forever. The quiet rural predominantly fishing community was suddenly easily accessible and the large scale construction for the hospital meant an influx of labour and people from elsewhere. Change included the development of Donabate into a commercial centre which still is the focus for settlement today with modern housing estates surrounding the village.

In recent years, sustained economic and employment growth in Dublin and a decline in agricultural practices has placed increased development pressure on the peninsula. This coupled with the desire to live and retire by the sea has accelerated the demand for holiday and permanent dwellings. Over the last 100 years, tourism, leisure and infrastructural services have also developed in tandem with settlement requirements.

The post medieval period represents 38.6% of the total monument site type, reflecting the dominance and importance of post medieval archaeology in the modern Donabate-Portraine landscape.

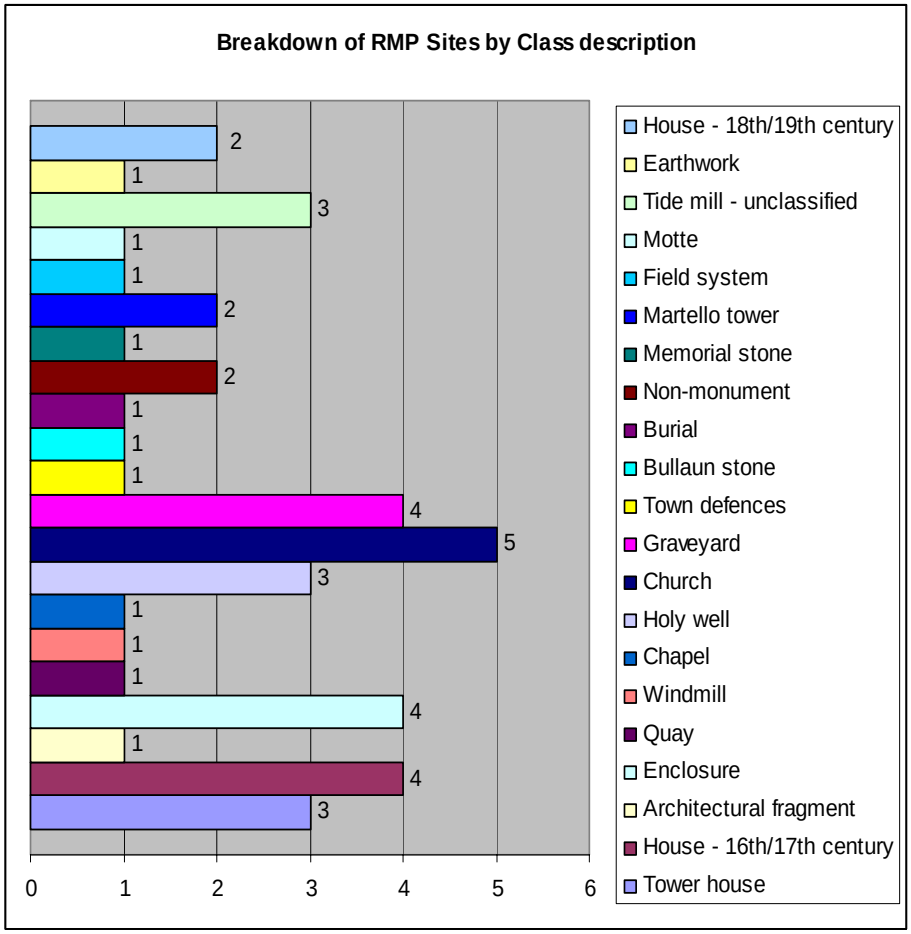
Undated

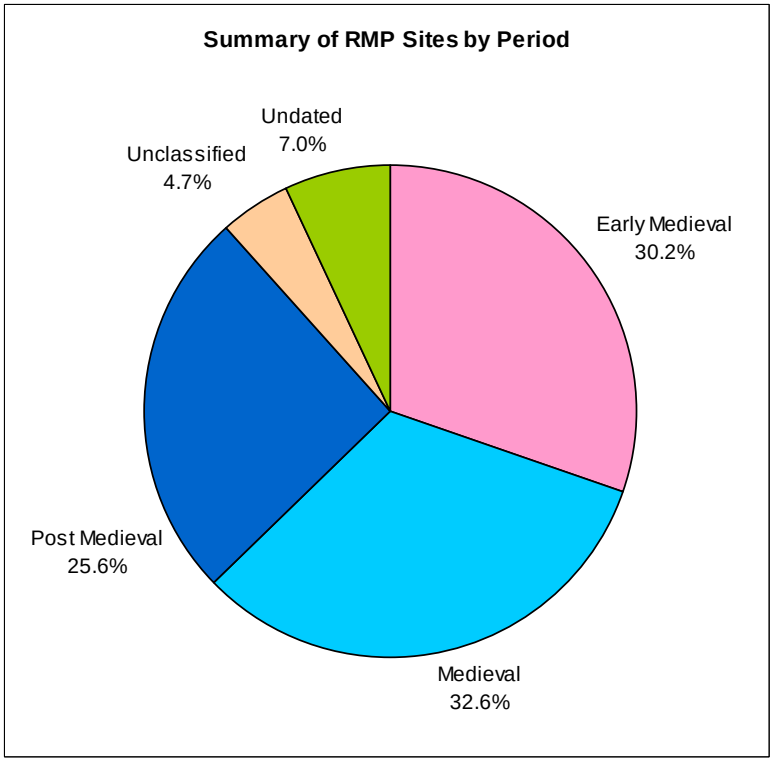
A number of archaeological features and finds have defied classification and remain undated yet still represent part of the varied archaeological pattern of activity and settlement located through out the peninsula. Where possible these have been attributed to a likely time period given the existing evidence to date, but excavation or further analysis may add, or contradict that record. These sites include a burial in Corballis townland (NMI refs 1950:34-35), fragments of human bone present in a charcoal and ash deposit on the beach at Quay (DU008-032), a possible harbour at Rogerstown (DU008-026). The previously mentioned enclosures would also fall into this category but it is likely that they are ploughed out ringforts. A mound (DU012-014) planted with mature trees is present in Ballymadrough, it is possible that this is an Anglo-Norman motte and another earthwork site (DU012-019) is shown on the 1st edition OS map as a 'moat'.

A number of caves exist around the cliffs of Portraine and have received names such as the chink well, the piper’s hole and the mermaids churn (Bates 2001). The priest’s chamber associated with a hiding place for priests during penal times is also recorded in the RMP as a holy well (DU012-007), which is a natural spring well deep in a sea cave. These cave systems are known locally to have associations with smugglers.

The following table is a breakdown by time period of the archaeological sites and finds in the Donabate-Portraine peninsula study area.

Period	**No. of sites**	**% of record**	**Site Types**	**Source**
Mesolithic	2	2%	Flint finds	NMI
Neolithic	15	14.9%	Excavated pits, and Flint finds	Test excavation, NMI
Bronze Age	7	6.9%	Beaker vessel and cist graves, Circular enclosure, circular hut site, 2 fulachta fiadh, ringbarrow	Bates (2001),Test excavation
Iron Age				
Other prehistoric (not assigned above)				
Early Medieval	15	14.9%	4 early medieval church sites, 3 graveyards, 5 enclosures and 1 field system, holy well, 1 bullaun stone	RMP
Medieval	16	15.8%	Battle site (possible), 4 tower houses, 2 church sites, 1 graveyard, memorial slab, holy well, 4 dwellings, 2 architectural fragments	Bates (2001), RMP
Post Medieval	39	38.6%	Windmill, 1 round tower (memorial), 1 hospital complex, 2 viaducts, 2 bridges, 1 railway station, 1 church, 1 water pump, 3 tidal mills, 2 Martello towers, 2 sluices, 5 vernacular structures, 2 Estate Houses, 11 dwellings (Red Sq.), 4 dwellings	RMP, RPS
Undated	7	6.9	2 burials, possible harbour, earthwork site and mound, 2 wells.	RMP, RPS
Total sites	101			


Breakdown of RMP Sites by Class description
2
1
3
1
1
2
1
2
1
1
1
4
5
3
1
1
1
4
1
4
3
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
House - 18th/19th century
Earthwork
Tide mill - unclassified
Motte
Field system
Martello tower
Memorial stone
Non-monument
Burial
Bullaun stone
Town defences
Graveyard
Church
Holy well
Chapel
Windmill
Quay
Enclosure
Architectural fragment
House - 16th/17th century
Tower house


Summary of RMP Sites by Period
Undated
7.0%
Unclassified
4.7%
Early Medieval
30.2%
Post Medieval
25.6%
Medieval
32.6%

PART II: PROJECT DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

Part II: PROJECT DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

The HLC Process

The project design is essentially a structured data gathering and mapping exercise of the dominant historic influences which define the present day landscape. Consultation played a key role in how the project was approached and the development of strategies to manage the landscape.

Consultation

A range of statutory authorities and bodies, local organisations, interest groups, heritage professionals were consulted during the course of this study. Consultations took a variety of forms including meetings, site visits, presentations followed by discussion, letters, emails and phone calls.

The aim of these consultations was to gain additional information on the historic landscape and archaeological heritage of the study area and to seek confirmation as to the suitability and sustainability of the long term usages for the HLC project for Fingal County Council.

The following organisations and individuals were consulted for information, and advice.

Organisations	**Individuals**
Fingal County Council	Gerry Clabby, Heritage Officer
Fingal County Council	Fionnuala May, Conservation Officer
Fingal County Council	Marjorie O'Shee, Senior Executive Planner
Fingal County Council	Hazel Craig, Senior Executive Planner
Fingal County Council	Larry Ryan, Chief Technician, Planning Department
Fingal County Council	Dominic Byrne, Systems Analyst, IT Department
Fingal County Council	Claire McIntyre, GIS Support Officer, IT Department
The Heritage Council	Prof. Gabriel Cooney
The Heritage Council	Ian Doyle, Archaeological Officer
The Heritage Council	Alison Harvey
Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government	Tom Condit, National Monuments Section, Heritage and Planning Officer
Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government	Karl Brady, Archaeological Underwater Unit
Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government	Willie Cumming, Architectural Inventory of Ireland
Donabate Historical Society	Peader Bates
Swords Historical Society	Bernadette Marks
English Heritage	Graham Fairclough
National Museum of Ireland	Duty Officer

Training

Attendance took place at the Cross Border Stakeholder Workshop held in Carlingford which provided an overview of HLC in Europe and Ireland as well as an introduction to the Carlingford and Derry (Historic Walled Towns): Emerging Cross-Border Historic Landscape and Seascape Characterisation Study. This workshop provided the opportunity to meet, discuss and exchange ideas with other individuals and experts concerned with characterisation. Personnel involved with the generation of GIS data have also undergone relevant software training.

Sources

The relatively small scale nature of the project, compared to the county scale embarked on by the Heritage Council for Clare or surveys completed by English Heritage allowed a more detailed approach to be taken and a wider range of source material to contribute to the analysis of character types. Field inspection also took place to assess current landuse use and to consider additional influences that were not readily apparent from the sources list below:

Data Sources	Details
Existing Landuse Information	
Study area outline	Predefined study area limits
Ordnance Survey mapping	Current edition (2000) (1:1000 & 1:2500)
	O.S. Discovery Series mapping (1:50,000)
Digital Aerial Photography	2005 (20cm resolution)
	1995 (1m resolution black and white O.S.) (not useful)
Digital Elevation Model	Height information derived from contours
Soils Mapping	GSI Ireland
Geology Mapping	GSI Ireland
Land division (sourced from OS Mapping)	Townland boundaries Field boundaries
Pre-existing GIS mapping layers	Development Plan 2005-2011
Local Area Plan mapping	Donabate Local Area Plan
Planning application mapping	APASS data available since 1992
Google Earth	Visual inspection to supplement digital aerial photography & OS mapping
Relict Landuse Information	
Topographical Files	National Museum of Ireland
RMP for Dublin	Archaeological Survey of Ireland, Duchas
RPS data	Fingal County Council
Place names data	Place names, field names and street names
O.S mapping	1st edition 6 inch scale (1837-1843) 1935-1938 digital six inch raster
Historical Mapping	Down Survey - 1654 Rocque - 1760 Taylor - 1816
Bathometry Data	Coastal Survey mapping, shipwreck inventory, admiralty charts
Details of previous excavations and assessments	Excavations database (www.excavations.ie)

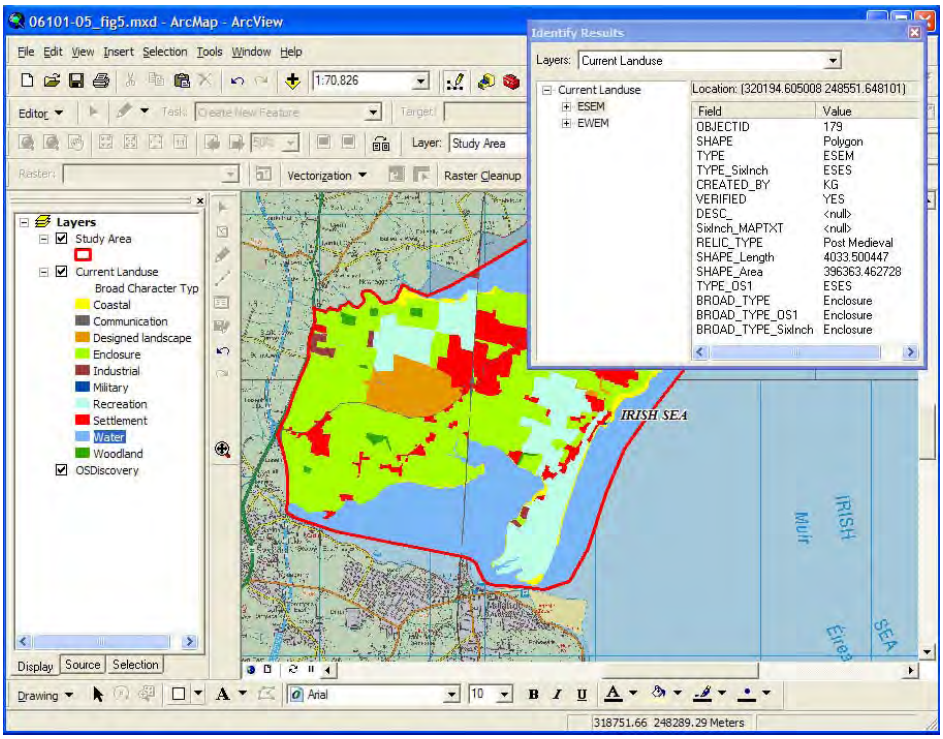
*other sources are listed in the reference section of the report

Creation of a Geographic Information System

HLC mapping and data analysis is managed through a Geographical Information System (GIS). The information is structured by the identification and grouping of archaeological, historic and other environmental attributes attached to land parcels (polygons). This method unlike conventional landscape assessment allows the creation of many different classifications of historic landscape types, each of which are distinct and have a recognisable common character. The distribution of landscape types can be mapped using a GIS supported by written descriptions of the landscape types and historical processes that they represent. This HLC forms a permanent and renewable database that can be utilised to provide information for a variety of planning, conservation and management-led initiatives and strategies.

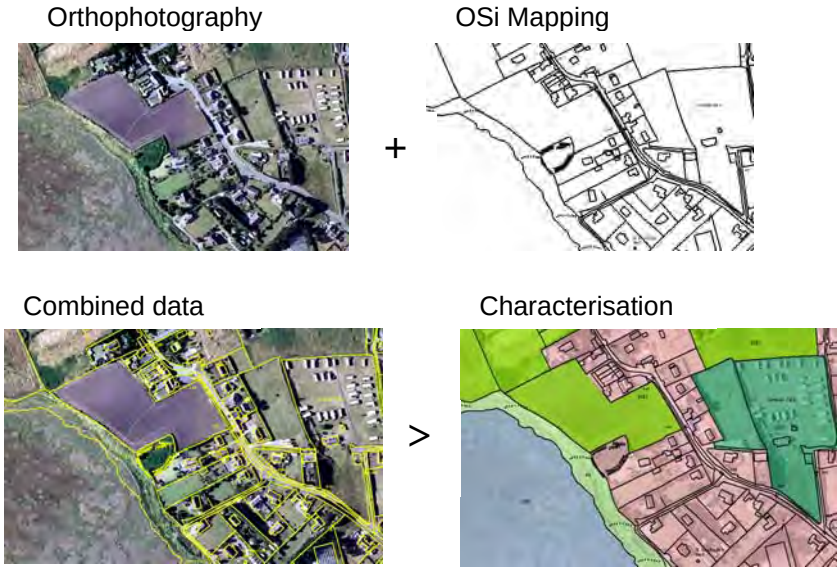
The HLC for the study area was undertaken using ESRI ArcView GIS, enabling the production of a high quality presentation of map information linked to database tables. The information provided by the GIS package has a dynamic output and can be updated and refined as necessary.

The database exists within the GIS. The data attributes attaching to the HLC polygons are stored in a Microsoft Access database file as part of an ArcView Geodatabase file system. The main table in the database contains all the attributes attached to the HLC polygons. This table contains a number of fields which can be analysed and combined together for further analysis (Appendix 1 & 2). Appendix 1 contains a description of each of the database fields.



Characterisation process of current landuse

Modern Ordnance Survey maps (2000) were overlaid with orthophotography dating to 2005 to aid interpretation and verify current land use. The characterisation exercise of the Donabate-Portraine study area was carried out at a map scale of 1:2,500 and individual landuse parcels were digitised using this combined data set.

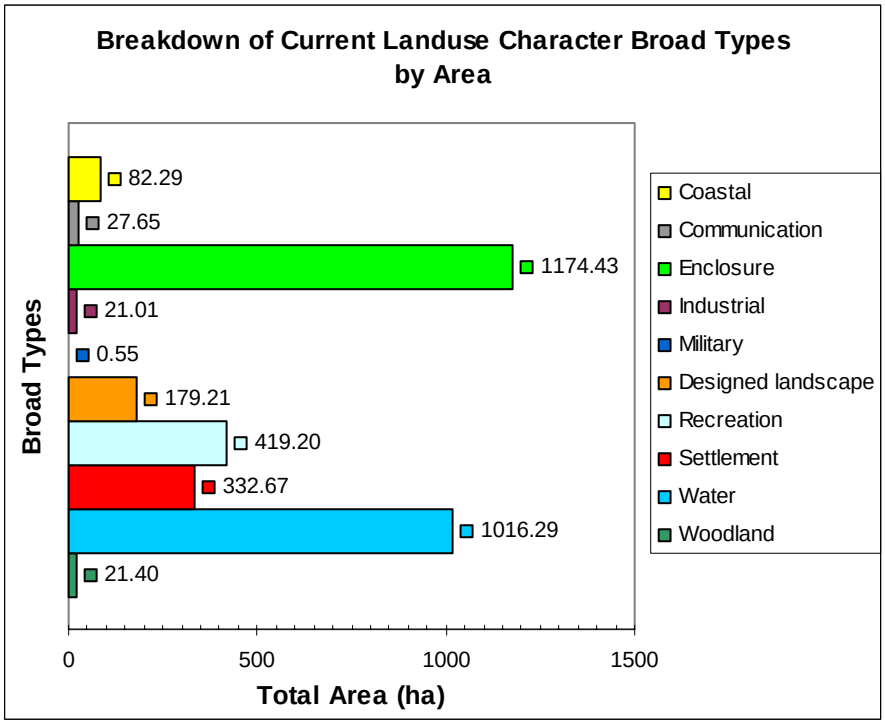


These land parcels were digitised to follow the line work from the OS map layers, this ensured that the data and defined land parcels would relate directly to data previously established and currently used by Fingal County Council, for example the Fingal Development Plan 2005-2011. This data set formed the basis for mapping the present day characterisation process and 10 general categories/attributes (Fig. 5) resulting in 38 current landuse character types (Fig. 6) were generated. The resultant categories were later verified in the field.

Categorisation was achieved by systematically dividing, the HLC area, Donabate-Portraine peninsula, into areas sharing similar attributes. Classification of these attributes was based on present landuse which was influenced by topography, hydrology, geology, size and shape of the enclosures as well as boundary type, morphology, place name and archaeological evidence. This resulted in the characterisation of 10 current landuse broad character types: (Fig. 5)

- Coastal
- Communication
- Enclosure
- Industrial
- Military
- Designed landscape

- Recreation
- Settlement
- Woodland
- Water



Enclosed land accounts for well over half the land area (1174.43ha) of the Donabate-Portraine peninsula presenting a largely rural environment. Recreation resulting from the abundance of golf clubs (419.20ha), settlement (332.67ha) and designed landscapes (parkland and private hospital land) (179.21ha) form the other main land cover types. While woodland, coastal, communication, industrial and military categories only contribute marginally in terms of land cover, they do contribute significantly in defining the character of the area. The Rogerstown and Malahide estuaries, the Irish Sea as well as the Pill River make up the water category (1016.29ha) which is influential throughout the peninsula.

Each broad character type consists of a number of individual current landuse character types. These broad categories were subdivided on the basis of more specific landuses, for example cliffs, sand and rough ground make up the coastal category or on the basis of size or shape, enclosures can be classified as straight edge large>16ha or wavy edge small<4ha, while the recreational broad type involves playing fields and amenity land, golf course and carparks. The amalgamation of the results from the individual land parcelling system creates a larger zone which identifies the broader pattern of historical processes and landuse and is visually more readable on maps.

While there are 38 character types within this study area, the number encountered will vary given the landscapes encountered and the project objectives. However as there is a common core this allows the transference of data from one area to another and if necessary, for various study areas to be joined together at a later stage. This ensures that this project can be linked to a larger study area, county, regional or even national study if required. Appendix 2 (List of attributes) provides a description of the broad and subtype categories while the following table, lists the 10 broad landuse categories and the 38 current landuse character types.

CODE	NAME	CATEGORY
CL	Cliffs	Coastal
CR	Coastal rocks	Coastal
RG	Rough ground	Coastal
S	Sand	Coastal
RAIL	Railway	Communication
RD	Road	Communication
ESEL	Enclosure, straight edge large > 16ha	Enclosure
ESEM	Enclosure, straight edge medium 4 - 16ha	Enclosure
ESES	Enclosure, straight edge small < 4ha	Enclosure
EWEL	Enclosure, wavy edge large > 16ha	Enclosure
EWEM	Enclosure, wavy edge medium 4 -16ha	Enclosure
EWES	Enclosure, wavy edge small < 4ha	Enclosure
SCRUB	Waste land / scrub	Enclosure
IND	Light Industrial	Industrial
LF	Landfill	Industrial
QRY	Quarry / sand and gravel pit	Industrial
PM	Previous military	Military
PARK	Parkland / Demesne	Designed Landscape
WDP	Wooded Parkland	Designed Landscape
CAR	Carpark	Recreation
CP	Caravan park	Recreation
GC	Golf course	Recreation
PF	Playing fields and amenity land	Recreation
HOSP	Hospital	Settlement
HS	Historic settlement	Settlement
MIX	Mixed use residential	Settlement
NS	Nucleated settlement	Settlement
SC	Settlement, cemetery	Settlement
SCH	School	Settlement
SCOM	Settlement commercial	Settlement
SRM	Settlement, residential, modern	Settlement
INTR	Intertidal zone	Water
RIV	River	Water
WTR	Water feature, natural	Water
WC	Woodland, coniferous	Woodland
WD	Woodland, deciduous	Woodland
WM	Woodland, mixed	Woodland
WP	Woodland, plantation	Woodland

When defining the 38 landuse types, various methodologies used in England and Ireland were reviewed and modified to produce the record required for the study area. In contrast to the system used so far in the UK and Ireland, the landuse types were assigned an abbreviated category name rather than a system of letter and numbers. The reasoning for this is that the attribute is easily recognisable and doesn't require constant cross referencing to a legend or key (Fig. 6).

For this project it was decided to establish a land parcelling system based on modern land use and not just to rely on the established townlands divisions. This was carried out after reviewing the size and extent of townlands within the study area and finding that there are 23 large to medium sized townlands. However, as the townlands are a unique and recognised central aspect to land division in Ireland, the current landuse broad character types and relict landuse were mapped on a townland basis to compare the results of the two different methodologies (Appendix 4, Figs. A5 and A6).

PART III: THE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES

Part III: THE EMERGING HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF THE DONABATE-POTRAINE PENINSULA

Understanding landscape means understanding the underlying cultural processes and political, social and economic influences, this can be generated through a time depth analysis of the landscape character at different time periods. The most important characteristic of landscape is its time-depth, as earlier landscapes exist in the present landscape and the rate of change can be analysed over time.

Part III of the report, discusses each broad type of current landuse, firstly according to the individual time slices listed below, as this offers a more detailed understanding of how human action has shaped the present day environment at specific times in the past, proving an insight into landscape history. For example, through comparison with the Ordnance Survey map of 1837-43 with modern mapping, it was demonstrated that since the mid 19th century the main cause of substantial change in the landscape is the loss of enclosed land and the dramatic impact of increased settlement and urban growth. Secondly, this section of the report examines each HLC broad type, the archaeological features and the processes that have formed and influenced each type on a summary basis providing future management guidelines and strategies to maintain, enhance and safeguard each type.

Time Slices

Time slices are data generated from period based maps demonstrating the influence and survival of the 19th and 20th centuries on earlier landscapes. These maps complement statutory designations such as the RMP and RPS which tend to focus on tightly defined areas and have a rather selective coverage of the 18th-20th century.

The use of GIS allows a wide variety of HLC analyse including time slices at various points in history. For this project, four time slices have been represented. The number of time slices is limited by the amount of accurate historic mapping available for the study area. Mapping is central to defining the modern and relict character landscapes and the presentation and manipulation of results. These results are analysed and interpreted using professional judgement.

Time period	Sources
Current Landuse	Ordnance Survey 2000 and orthophotography 2005
Mid 20th century	Ordnance Survey 6 inch (1:10,560) 1935-38
Mid 19th century	Ordnance Survey 1st ed 6 inch 1837-43
Relict	RMP, RPS, Topographical files, Shipwreck inventory, historic maps, excavations, literary sources, field work

The current landuse character types, as presented in Part II, were applied to the mid 19th (1837-43), mid 20th (1935-38) (contained in Appendix 5 Fig. A7-A10) and relict maps (Fig. 7) to analysis the rate of change of landuse on the peninsula. The following table charts the percentages of the total land area within each category since 1837.

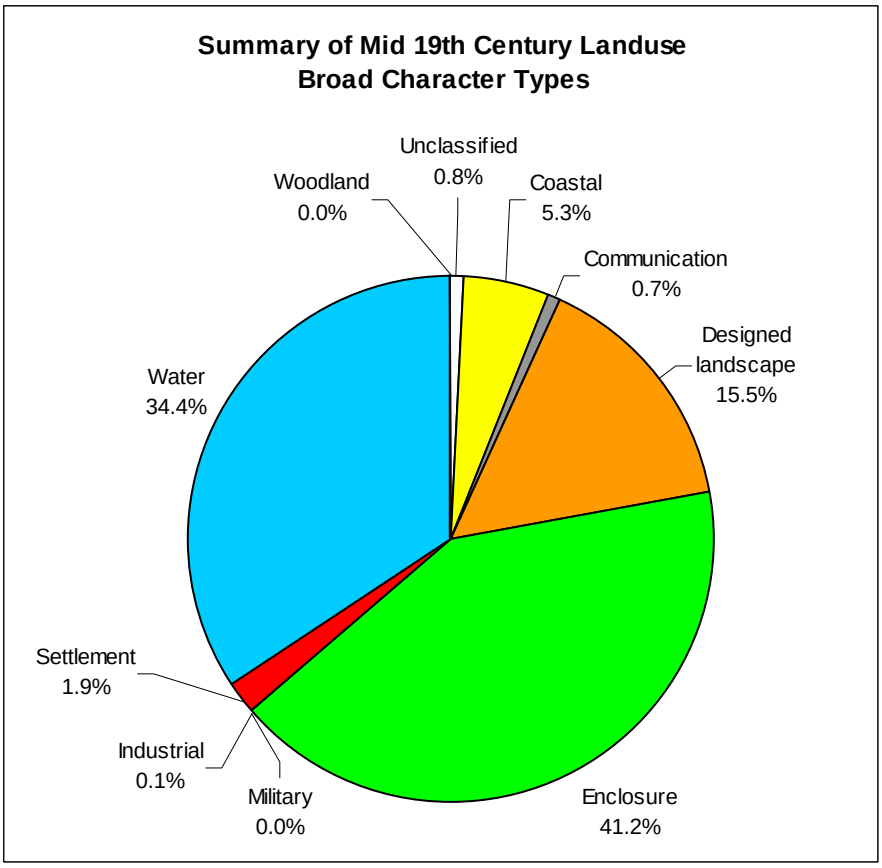
Broad Type	**Mid 19th Century**	**Mid 20th Century**	**Current**
Coastal	5.3%	2.5%	2.5%
Communication	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%
Designed landscape	15.5%	6.2%	5.5%
Enclosure	41.2%	49.7%	35.9%
Industrial	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%
Military	0.0%	0%	0.0%
Recreation	0.0%	4.5%	12.8%
Settlement	1.9%	4.7%	10.2%
Unclassified	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Water	34.4%	31.1%	31%
Woodland	0.0%	0.1%	0.7%

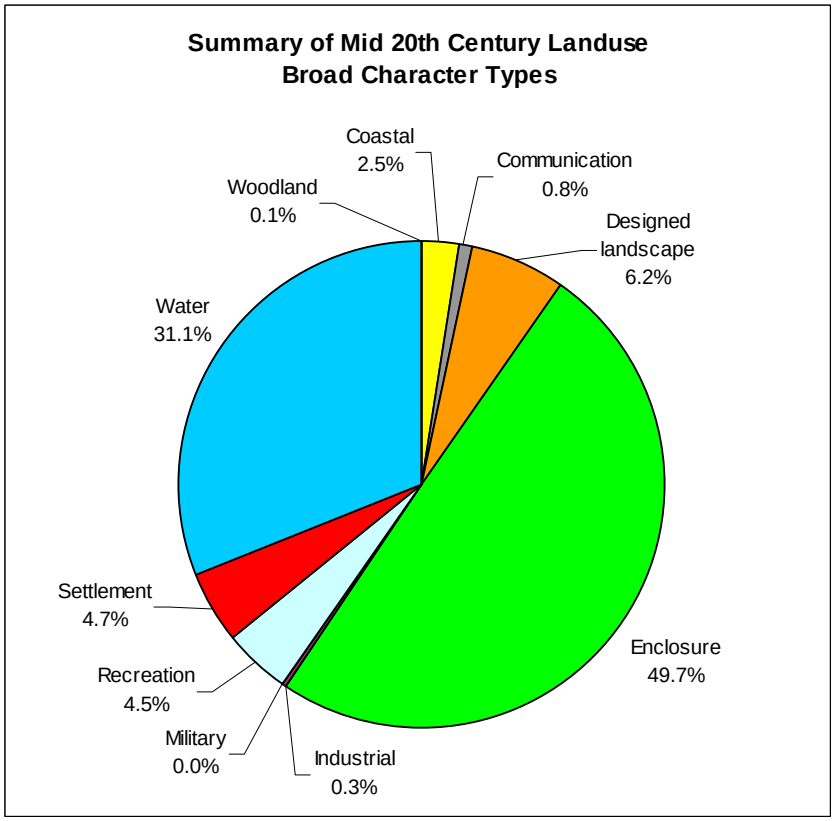
This table is significant for establishing the trends of landuse over the last 170 years. It presents information on the reduction of agricultural enclosed land from 41.2% to 35.9% (1837-2000), the break up of demesnes between the mid 19th and 20th centuries (15.5% to 5.5%) which led to an increase of enclosed land of 8.5%. It demonstrates that the main acceleration of settlement occurred between the mid 20th and current day, increasing at a moderate rate of 5.5% over a 72 year period. The land take for communications, in this case the road and rail network, has remained roughly the same since 1837. Recreational landuse such as golf courses, playing fields or designated parks are a recent phenomenon accounting for 12.8% which is a large amount of land to be put aside for leisure activities and amenity purposes and is obviously derived from the proliferation of golf courses and the coastal nature of the study area. The creation of the Island golfcourse in Corballis townland in 1890 accounts for the 4.5% of landtake in 1935. Other categories such as water (31%) and coastal (2.5%) have influenced the character of the entire peninsula and woodland while marginal in terms of landtake is important to the character of the area and the quality of life experienced by the local communities affected by change.

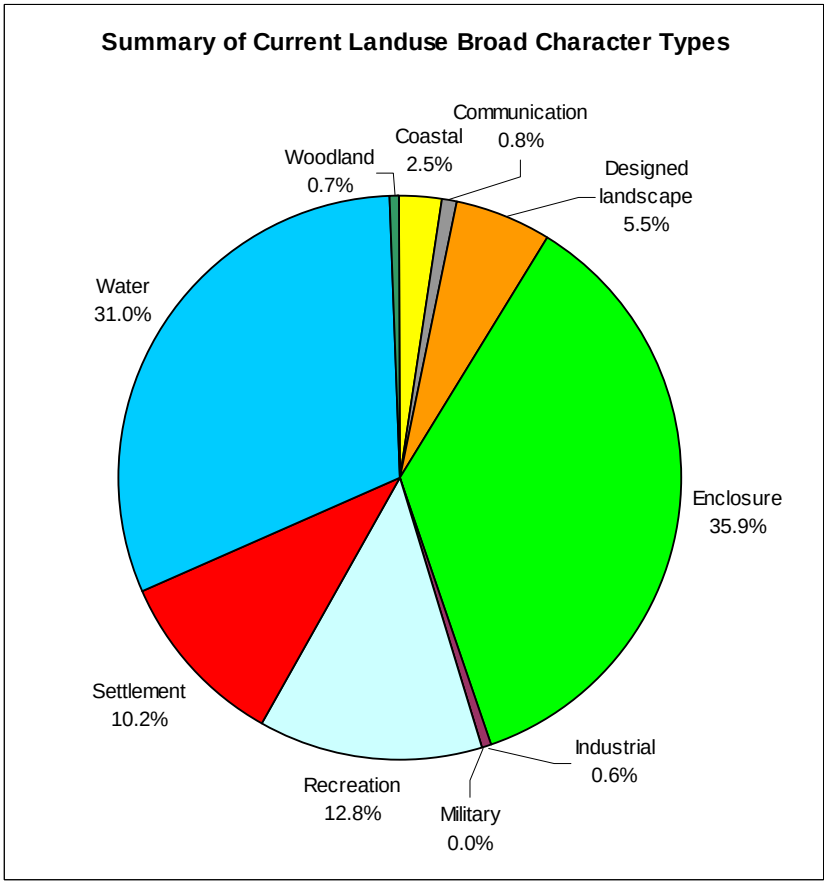
These patterns of HLC types when read in conjunction with the current landuse mapping (Fig. 5 and 6) provide an analysis of their sensitivity, vulnerability and capacity for change, important factors of spatial planning. When combined with the relict mapping (Fig. 7) and heritage data (Fig. 4) this model can begin to guide the appropriate location, scale and type of new development. It can limit impact on the historic environment by identifying key heritage constraints such as, in the case of the Donabate-Portraine peninsula, the remaining designed landscapes at Newbridge and Portraine as well as historic settlement such as Seafield House (RPS 483), Kilcrea House (RPS

500) and Corballis House (RPS 504), the sea walls along the Malahide Estuary and the high demesne walls at Ballymadrough and Seapoint as well as identifying gaps in the archaeological knowledge and assessing the potential of other areas. This knowledge can lead to the promotion of designs which contribute sensitively and positively to the local character, or indeed the development of a new and innovative landscape where historic character is no longer a determining factor.

This holistic approach to cultural heritage issues and the placing of a value on the historic environments in which we live and work can influence the quality and design of new communities with that landscape. The following is a representation of each time period, i.e. the mid 19th century, the mid 20th century and present day showing the percentage landtake of each broad landuse category.




Summary of Mid 20th Century Landuse
Broad Character Types
Coastal
2.5%
Communication
0.8%
Woodland
0.1%
Designed
landscape
6.2%
Water
31.1%
Settlement
4.7%
Enclosure
49.7%
Recreation
4.5%
Military
0.0%
Industrial
0.3%


Summary of Current Landuse Broad Character Types
Communication
0.8%
Coastal
2.5%
Woodland
0.7%
Designed
landscape
5.5%
Water
31.0%
Enclosure
35.9%
Settlement
10.2%
Industrial
0.6%
Recreation
12.8%
Military
0.0%

Relict Landuse Type

The initial stage of the HLC was to identify landscape attributes used to define the landuse character types (Fig. 5 and 6) and to map them digitally leading to a systematic assessment of the study area. Historic landscape character types are defined and land parcels are assigned to the type which best fits landuse character. Distinct patterns of landscape character that have a broadly common history and a tangible heritage are identified as historic landscape character types. The relict landscape is produced by assigning the dominant historic time period (relict landuse) to the newly digitized land parcel (Fig. 7). Polygons of the same categories sharing common boundaries join together to form zones to simplify and extend the information (broad character types).

The categories reflect the dominant relict landuse and while specific periods such as the Mesolithic (7000BC-5000BC) and the Iron Age (600BC-400AD) are not represented on the map it does not mean that these time periods are not present within the study area just that there was not sufficient data to generate an individual category. Also where a specific date could not be obtained two categories were added Prehistoric (7000BC-500AD) and Unclassified.

Type	**Date**
Prehistoric	7000BC-500AD
Neolithic	4000BC-2500BC
Bronze Age	2500BC-500BC
Early Medieval	500BC-1100AD
Medieval	1100AD-1534AD
Post Medieval	1534AD-1900AD
None	Not of archaeological significance - known through test excavation
Unclassified	Of archaeological significance but the date remains undefined

The relict landuse type maps the archaeological and historical activities that are perhaps abandoned but have left a significant physical trace (and in some cases no visible trace) on the landscape, for example earthen monuments, buildings, field systems. It reflects the major time periods that left the most dominant and significant trace in today's modern landscape. This analysis is based on existing available information taken from the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), Record of Protected Structures (RPS), stray finds from the topographical files, historic and OS mapping, placename evidence, excavation database and archaeological geophysical surveys undertaken in the study area (Appendix 3).

The detail and level of the characterisation is partly dependent on the number and type of sources assessed for the project and the information that can be gained from these sources to further advance the characterisation of an historic component of a particular area. In cases where the dominant form was equally divided across different time period, the rarity value of a monument,

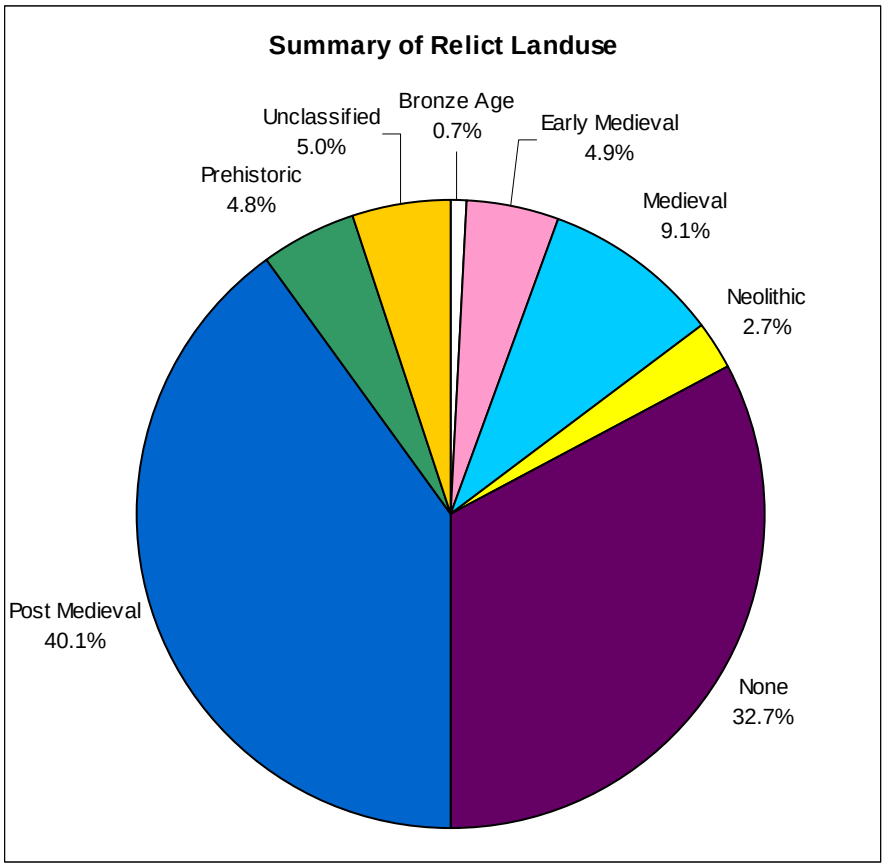
stray find or structure was taken into consideration. By choosing a rarer site the diversity of the selection for the historic landscape is thereby enhanced.

While the RMP accounts for the majority of information of sites from the Early Medieval period onwards, such as ringforts, tower houses and churches, it was the stray finds (NMI files) found by field walking or by accident and recent excavations that gave the study area a prehistoric presence and significance. It is not surprising that the RPS, largely focuses on the post medieval period, protecting structures such as vernacular farm houses, bridges and demesne features. When defining an area other information such as place and townland names and historic maps were taken into consideration. Through excavation the shape of the relict map will be subject to change as additional features are revealed and become the dominant historical character within a land parcel. It is important to note that the HLC process is not static but a dynamic process as newly revealed archaeological features constantly redefine our knowledge of particular landscape.

The relict map has to be interpreted with care as designation is dependent on available archaeological information and is contingent with the findings of excavations. The categories have been mapped based on an interpretation of data (professional judgement) and existing archaeological and historic information of the study area. With the accumulation of further archaeological information, the relict map will be subject to change, for example, an area shown as post medieval may still contain significant remains from earlier periods. Recent excavation and testing in Donabate and Corballis townlands testify to this as previously these areas were thought to be dominated by medieval and post medieval influences but excavation revealed buried Neolithic and Bronze Age activity and settlement. As information becomes available it can be fed into the database and the accompanying mapping can be updated accordingly.

The extent of the relict landuse categories depend upon the pre-existing current landuse character type boundaries and in the case of townlands, the townland boundary. In certain cases, where it was considered possible that the archaeological/historic features could have influenced adjacent land parcels (current landuse character types) or townlands they were attributed with the same time period and land parcels and townlands were amalgamated.

The mapping of relict landuse types provides the most detailed and objective representation of the historic and archaeological character of a given land parcel and townland. It captures both the historic process explaining the present day framework of landuse and the most significant historic archaeological components underlying this framework. In this sense it provides a time-depth to the characterisation of the historic landscapes reflecting the surviving character of the present day landscape. The following is a summary of the dominant archaeological time periods represented within the study area.



Post medieval period (1534AD-1900AD)

The relict map for the study area is dominated by the post medieval period (40.1%), this is due to a combination of the following:

- Later enclosure of lands due to the coastal environment
- Reclamation of land
- Two demesne landscapes
- High percentage of vernacular and protected structures

Medieval Period (1100AD-1534AD)

The medieval period represents 9.1% of the total study area and is derived from recorded upstanding masonry remains of fortified houses, churches and graveyards at Kilcrea, Donabate, Corballis, Portraine, Portraine Demesne and Turvey and also from information from excavations.

Early Medieval Period (500-1100AD)

Earlier church sites at the Burrow, enclosures and possible ringforts in Lissenhall Great/Ballymadrough and Lanestown and dating evidence from excavations at Turvey have all influenced the Early Medieval category which encompasses 4.9% of the land cover.

Prehistoric Period (7000BC-500AD)

A general category entitled Prehistoric was applied to sites and finds dating from 7000BC to 500AD, the topographical files from the National Museum of Ireland which documents stray finds and flints formed the basis for this category. Flints along the coast at Kilcrea and a possible cist burial in Turvey as well as finds in the Burrow area and along a coastal strip of land at the Rogerstown Estuary account for 4.8% of the study area.

Bronze Age (2500BC-500BC and Neolithic Period (4000BC-2500BC)

Where possible the prehistoric category was subdivided, two phases, Bronze Age (2500BC-500BC) and Neolithic (4000BC-2500BC) are represented on the peninsula. These categories were largely brought about by recent excavation, geophysical survey and archaeological testing. It is likely that further excavation in greenfield, coastal and urban areas (Donabate town) will produce additional sites belonging to these time periods, thereby influencing and changing the relict map. To date Bronze Age material only accounts for 0.7% of the study area and the Neolithic influences 2.7% of the study area. While Neolithic evidence was only revealed through excavation in the townland of Beaverstown in Donabate Village and the find of a stone axe, it was decided to attribute this date to a wider area due to its rarity even though there were more features from a post medieval period in the general area.

Unclassified

The ‘unclassified’ category accounts for 5% of the study area and is largely confined to the Corballis peninsula and an area in Quay townland. The reason for this is that a burial recorded in the topographical files (1950:34, 35) and a recorded monument (DU008-032) (burial site) are located in these areas and remain undated. While it may be possible to date the Corballis peninsula to the medieval period from records attributing the lands to the church for use as rabbit warrens, it was decided to leave the area unclassified given the fact that there could be earlier burials. The categorisation of this area can be revised on further research or excavation. The Pill river also remains unclassified as finds from various periods and features dating from different time periods may be buried along the banks.

None

The ‘none’ category accounting for 32.7% is a reflection of the large water body which surrounds the peninsula. No classification was attributed to this as not enough information was available to appropriately categorise this large area. It is anticipated that in the future, forthcoming GIS work of the Underwater Archaeological Unit of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government along the eastern coast of Ireland can be incorporated into this HLC model.

Predictive modelling

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) draws information from a number of different sources, however it must be noted that the RMP while a valuable resource reflects the pattern of discovery more than the extent of the archaeological resource and the historic environment. By attributing a time-depth analysis to each land parcel, HLC offers an understanding of the potential archaeological and historical features within each HLC type.

By filling in the 'gaps' between recorded monuments and features and taking an holistic approach to landscape, the potential to reveal new or associated sites and features and the emerging distribution pattern of monument type is better understood. With an interactive GIS system at the fingertips of planners of various departments in the Fingal County Council, the historic environment can be taken account of with regard to spatial planning so that distinctive and special characteristics, that may have been overlooked by other methods or recording or simply not recognised are noted early in the planning process. Mapping generated for the HLC project can complement the Fingal Development Plan 2005-2011 and Landscape Character Areas mapping (Figs. A11 and A12) already generated by the County Council.

By having a GIS based dataset, the information contained within it can be applied in many different ways to answer specific questions. For example, the aspect model showing the direction of slope (Fig. 8) was generated from the digital elevation model (Fig. A4) which was based on the height information provided by Fingal County Council. This information is useful as historically settlement favours sheltered south facing slopes. This digital data can be used in conjunction with the recorded monument information (Fig. 4), to ascertain the location and a description of the site, the height at which it is located and its aspect. Information such as this in association with other reference layers such as a soil or geological mapping or geophysical survey information can be used in order to predict with greater certainty where additional below ground archaeological sites may be located or potential archaeological sensitive areas. Other combinations of data sets such as the recorded archaeological and historical sites (Fig. 4) with the 1st edition OS six inch mapping (1837-43) or the OS six inch 1935-38 edition can also be used to obtain further information of the derivation and context of sites.

An overview of HLC findings

The following is an account of each HLC type, the archaeological background and the processes which have formed it. Sources used for the identification of archaeological and historical components are acknowledged while key and significant aspects contributing to the character of the area are also discussed. Measures for maintaining, safeguarding and enhancing each individual historical character and any aspects of the landscape of special important and therefore deserving special protection are considered.

COASTAL

View to Lambay Island from Quay townland (protected view)

The coastal environment for the purpose of this project consists of sand, dunes, cliffs, coastal rock, and rough ground accounting for 82.29ha (2.5%) of the land cover. It is largely used for amenity (Donabate beach) or recreation purposes such as The Island Golf Club, and is a highly sought after place to live, offering the tranquillity of the sea and often spectacular views, removed from city and town life. However, this tranquillity can easily be disturbed as these areas are often susceptible to natural forces capable of dramatic and great change over a relatively short space of time.

In the past the coastal environment was a great source to the local economy, dunes were used as rabbit warrens in the townlands of the Burrow and Corballis, these are recorded from medieval times and are shown on Rocque's map of 1760. The sand and mudflats acted as a source for food, particular shellfish as well as providing routeways to Lusk and Rush across the Rogerstown Estuary. Fording points shown on the 1st and 2nd editions of Ordnance Survey mapping, are known at the northern most point of the Burrow (Lugg ford) and through out other areas just off the coast of Portraine townland (Eastern ford) and emanating from Raheen Point (Western Ford).

The archaeological record also has various features associated with a coastal environment such as a possible harbour at Beaverstown (DU008-026, RPS 517), which was noted in 1577 in the Civil Survey Records, a small fishing port was also noted 1529 at Portraine (Griffith, Inquisitions, p.77). Tidal mills are also recorded at Kilcrea and Rogerstown.

Since 1760, the shape of the coastline has changed, with land reclamation practices and natural forces of these dynamic environments forming sand banks and further extending the coast.

Two Martello towers forming part of a defensive system, built at the turn of the 19th century to protect against a French invasion during the Napoleonic Wars are located along the coast at Balcarrick (DU0122-006) and Quay (DU012-010).

Another defensive mechanism, this time against nature and the eroding forces of the sea, is visible along the Malahide Estuary. Shown on both Rocque (1760) and Taylor (1816), these large seawalls protect the land from flooding as well as framing the demesne lands of Seafield (then known as Ballmadraught) and Prospect Point.

Since the 19th century (1890's) golf has been played throughout the sand hills in the townland of Corballis. It was known as 'the island' as access was via boat from Malahide. The dunes and sand hills at the Burrow have largely been affected by expanding residential development, as seasonal occupation gives ways to the construction of permanent dwellings. The haphazard nature of development in this lowlying area which is subject to frequent flooding is at odds with the surrounding environment. The Burrow, according local folklore was the place of a Viking battle where items such as "several broken swords, spears, pikes, and some gold ornaments, mostly decomposed under bones and skulls of humans with those of horses" were revealed (Bate 2001). However, no records exist which can trace these items to this location.

The Dublin-Drogheda railway runs through the Malahide and Rogerstown Estuaries on a viaduct, (a protected structure, RPS No. 420 and 516), it was built in 1844 and resulted in land being reclaimed from estuarial waters thus increasing the value of Kilcrea House. The building of an embankment most likely led to a silting over of historic passes in Rogerstown Estuary.

Townland names also reflect the coastal nature and influence of the sea for example Quay, Portraine; known as Port Reachrainn and used as a port of embarkation for the ecclesiastical site on Lambay Island, it is possible that Donabate is derived from the Irish *Domhnach an Bhaid* meaning Sundays boat.

Further Work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the coastal HLC

The historic nature of our coastal environment is often overlooked due to the dynamic forces and changing coastline which can cover and destroy archaeological sites. However, there is still the potential to reveal a wealth of archaeological artefacts, features and site types from different periods, especially organic material such as wood due to the waterlogged conditions. Even within the study area, finds from the Mesolithic period are present in the form of flint artefacts, while tidal mills, fording points and Martello towers are all part of the history of the coastline. Archaeological monitoring is important, particularly after high tides or storms, in order to identify buried components and implement mitigation measures such as recording.

The continuing use of townland and place names, such as Quay, Portraine and the Burrow that have an association with the coastal environment should be promoted as they are reflective of the cultural diversity on the peninsula.

The pressure to develop and live by the sea is adding to the overcrowded nature of the Burrow, one of the lowest lying places on the peninsula which is subject to natural erosion and flooding. The change is settlement pattern is demonstrated by the contrasting mid 19th century (1837-43) and the current landscape character maps. The continued inappropriate development of this area will lead to further ecological damage and possibly affect archaeological sites such as St Mochuda's church known as the chapel bank (DU008-028) in the Burrow townland and lead to a loss of the traditional fording points. Careful management is required to balance these competing factors.

One of the main usages of the coastal fringe is for recreation, awareness should be raised in relation to the effects that pollution, litter and antisocial behaviour can have on ecological and archaeological features and their setting. To help raise awareness of the coastal environment further research, signage and interpretation of areas of archaeological and ecological importance should take place to inform the locals and the users of this important resource.

The impressive sea walls built along the Malahide Estuary should be maintained and possibly put forward for protection. While their main function is as a sea defensive wall they also add to the character of the peninsula and the townlands of Kilcrea (which largely consists of reclaimed land), Ballymadrough and Seapoint. These townlands are largely defined by high demesne walls or hedgerows on both sides of small winding roads and the sea walls carry this built heritage characteristic along the seaward side of the peninsula.

Rocks and caves cover only a minute section of the study area (0.6%) yet have a rich local history associated with smuggling and also as hiding places for priests during penal times. Many cave systems have their own names such as piper's hole or chink well and some are recorded as holy wells (DU012-007). While a lot of these features are named and recorded in local history books for example Bates 2001, further local research could be undertaken in relation to revealing the full stories behind these features, as they are largely recorded through oral tradition.

The magnificent views of the coast, Lambay Island and Howth are vulnerable to intrusive development, careful consideration should exerted over the type, nature, scale and height of development that can be built along the coastal fringe, views should be preserved as proposed in the Fingal Development Plan 2005-2011.

The various attributes with make up the coastal environment (sand, coastal rocks, rough ground and cliffs) should be integrated into a Coastal Management Plan. Known and potential archaeological components as well as natural heritage designations such as ramsar convention wetland, nature reserves, Natural Heritage Areas and Special Protection Areas should be taken into account when preparing these plans.

WATER

View of Irish Sea from Donabate strand

The water category includes the intertidal area, the Pill River and the sea. It accounts for 31% of the overall study area. This category demonstrates a huge influence over the terrestrial terrain of the peninsula, influencing settlement patterns, recreational, communication and social choices.

The Irish Sea was present by *c*.10,000BP and since then a series of sea level changes have been identified. During the last 3,200 years there were three occasions when sea level rose to a higher level than today (2,650, 1,800 and 800 year BP) (Tooley 1978, 1985). During the Mesolithic and Neolithic time the seashore would have afforded easier transport along the coast and an ample supply of food compared with a densely wooded interior. Flint artefacts are evidence that the coast was indeed exploited during these time periods. The process of change, alluvial deposition and coastal erosion can result in archaeological remains and the preservation of organic structures such as wood being buried under the silts and mud flats. This process can mask archaeological features such as trackways, causeways, jetties and fish traps. There is therefore the possibility that sites of this nature can and will be revealed along the coastal fringe of the peninsula.

Numerous shipwrecks are recorded off the coastal area, at low tide, timbers have been noted (Carl Brady, Under Water Archaeological Survey Unit, pers comm.). The majority of wrecks date to the Post Medieval period.

The two protected estuaries, Malahide and Rogerstown are considered to be of significant amenity value and areas of natural beauty, ecological importance and tranquillity, these are important resources and add to the quality of life experienced on the peninsula.

Further Work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the water HLC

Pieces of or items from shipwrecks can often be washed ashore or are revealed in the intertidal zone. The Portraine-Donabate area has a strong association with the sea as fishing was the main source of income for families in years gone by. The local diving community meets occasionally with the Underwater Archaeological Unit from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government and the unit are informed if archaeological material has been sighted off the coast. While this arrangement is on an informal basis, it should be encouraged as the recording of this information is valuable and difficult to do due to the temporary nature of sightings without local knowledge.

The main river channel of the Pill is tidal in the townland of Kilcrea and prone to flooding during high tides. On the 1sted edition OS map (1837-43) the area was noted as 'Killerogh Island' demonstrating the recent reclaimed nature of the area. There is a recorded tidal mill (DU012-018) in this area as well as Seapoint (DU012-042) highlighting the ongoing attempts of controlling and harnessing the power of the sea. Development along the low lying river channel should be carefully monitored to ensure that it does not adversely contribute to further flooding.

While the sea was not attributed a relict characterisation as there was not enough information available to appropriately categorise this large mass. It is anticipated that in the future, forthcoming GIS work from the Underwater Archaeological Unit of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government along the eastern coast of Ireland can be incorporated into this HLC model.

Overall there are limited measures that can be taken to protect, enhance and conserve this HLC type as natural forces remain the strongest influence both in its creation and in its destruction.

COMMUNICATION

Donabate Railway Station (RPS 511)

For the purpose of this HLC, only those roads identified on the Ordnance Survey Discovery series mapping as regional class road or above were considered. All smaller roads were merged into the adjoining land parcels. The communication category contains the railway, a post medieval feature and roads, some of which can be traced to 1760. The category only forms 27.65ha of the total land cover, but the advent of the railway and the location of a station in 1844 were vital to the development of Donabate village.

This HLC type mainly comprises of the motorway (M1) which bounds the study area to the southwest, the main road through the peninsula and the railway which bisects the study area in a north-south direction. The motorway network which has been recently updated provides greater accessibility on to the peninsula. The strategic environmental assessment produced for Donabate (2006) includes a proposal to bypass the village and further increase the ease of access through out the peninsula.

As far back as Rocque's map (1760) access to and from the peninsula was shown in the form of a formal tree lined avenue which led to Turvey House and on towards Donabate Village, today this is known as Turvey Avenue and is one of the main access routes to Donabate Village. The peninsula was also accessed to the south by a series of roads linking the formal demesnes and large houses. Corballis House was accessed via a coast road and the north of the peninsula was accessed via a coastal route crossing the Rogerstown Estuary at Turvey where a mill was located and extending to Portraine. Another road ran from Donabate Village out to Portraine Estate this is now known as the Portraine Road (R126). Over the years roads have been formalised in some cases, lost, abandoned, altered and changed allowing access through out the peninsula

especially through Balcarrick and Corballis townlands, as this area was largely inaccessible until the twentieth century.

These access ways had to be bridged in a number of key locations, one such structure obviously gave its name to Newbridge townland and demesne. The road had to cross the Pill River as it emerged from Kilcrea townland forming a bridge to the southeast of the demesne. Another stone, double arched bridge (a protected structure RPS No. 481) located near Newport House is now disused.

The emergence of the railway in 1844 has left its mark with a number of related railway infrastructure still intact and being used today. Railway infrastructure is by in large protected, the railway bridge (RPS No 502), the Malahide railway viaduct (RPS No 420), the railway station (RPS No 511), the station master's house (RPS No 510) and the viaduct at Beaverstown (RPS No 516). It is an important aspect of the industrial past still in use today. The railway was fundamental to the growth and development of Donabate and to the siting of St Ita's Hospital at Portraine.

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the communication HLC
Priority should be given to the conservation and maintenance of items of railway heritage as these have perhaps the most potential in terms of historic interest and time depth.

Any future road developments throughout the peninsula should take account of the existing historic environment and strive to minimise any disruption to the historic character especially throughout Corballis, Kilcrea, Ballymadrough townlands where the existing roads are flanked by demesne walls and high hedgerows providing an intimate driving experience and rural backdrop.

Historically, Turvey Avenue is denoted on Rocque's map of 1760 as a tree lined straight avenue leading to Donabate village (Fig. A1). The strong linear character of the route is still persevered today and is clearly evident when viewed on aerial photography (Fig. 2). It is appropriate that measures should be put in place to maintain the tree lined, linear character of this road as it enhances an historical aspect of the peninsula.

The Donabate Local Area Plan and SEA statement both took into account environmental and heritage concerns when designing and proposing a new access road to bypass the congested village of Donabate. With the development of a new road every effort should be made to preserve the historic character and minimise disturbance to key heritage constraints – such as the walled demesne of Newbridge or recorded archaeological sites.

ENCLOSURE

Agricultural lands, Donabate-Portraine peninsula

In Leinster the system of land enclosure tends to be larger then the rest of the country (Aalen, 1997). Field systems are bounded by hedgerow and bank and ditch formations. The majority of land was held historically in estates or demesnes giving rise to designed parkland settings with estate walls and ornamental wooded areas at Newbridge and Portraine. Elements of designed landscapes survive today at Seafield, Kilcrea and Ballymadrough while the rest of the peninsula has been divided into small and medium sized fields with the occasional large field system present. For the purposes of this project the size of this system of enclosure or field systems have been classified as the following –

Small –	less then 4 hectares
Medium –	4-16 hectares
Large –	greater then 16 hectares

Enclosed land is the most extensive HLC type in the study area (1174.43ha) and along with fields it also encompasses waste land and scrub, accounting for 35.9% of current landuse throughout the study area. The land is mainly used is for agricultural purposes, namely arable farming and market gardening. Enclosed land has a significant impact on the landscape, defining this study area as semi-rural in nature and influencing settlement patterns there by having a major effect on future planning.

This HLC procedure did not assess the nature of smaller landscape features such as individual houses, barns or features such as pylons, ESB poles or street lighting elements that can have a significant impact upon the appearance and condition of a semi-rural landscape.

Land enclosure/boundaries can take many forms, natural tree/scrub lined boundaries, bank and ditch, walled, stonelined, rivers or coastal boundaries. The layout and field pattern for this project have been defined as:
Straight edge large, greater than 16 hectares
Straight edge medium, 4–16 hectares
Straight edge small, less than 16 hectares
Wavy edge large, greater than 16 hectares
Wavy edge medium, 4–16 hectares
Wavy edge small, less than 4 hectares

While many wavy/irregular edge fields are a result of natural processes such as rivers or the coast, these types of enclosures can also be helpful to define more ancient enclosures, as kinks or irregular field patterns may be reflect boundaries associated with buried (relict) archaeological features. Other small wavy or irregular field patterns may reflect the small land holdings on marginal coastal land, for example, the burrow area which has developed in a haphazard manner since 1760, with a myriad of individual small sized reclaimed fields and land holdings. Many of these have now been amalgamated or are now in use as residential plots. This method of enclosure has preserved the underlying irregular small sized field pattern in this particular area.

Prior to 1760, the coastal fringe was largely unenclosed, consisting of warrens and sandy banks (the Burrow, Corballis and Balcarrick). 'Furry field' shown on Rocque's map (probably referring to furze, typically used as a fuel source) is demarcated by a curving field boundary, this boundary is reflected on the 1st edition and while the curve is not as pronounced on modern day mapping it can still be traced. The area is now used as a golf club.

An estate named as 'Oldtown', is shown on Rocque's map of 1760, delimited by a wall it is located in an area now occupied by a modern housing estate, cemetery and the grounds of St Ita's Hospital. The boundary to the east of the site now forms the townland boundary between Portraine and Quay. The formal layout of this area probably reflects the importance of the strategic positioning of the quay as a departure point for Lambay Island and the early influence of the church. Seafield House (unnamed on the map) is also shown with a stone wall boundary as is Prospect Point, where the southern walls probably acted as sea defences.

Evidence for time depth is also preserved within the townland boundaries. While many fields have been amalgamated for agricultural practise especially in Corballis and Lanestown townland, many established boundaries are still visible throughout the study area or the line of existing boundaries are reflected though modern fencing or land divisions. The townland boundaries for Kilcrea, Lanestown, Ballymadrough, Seapoint, Newbridge, Quay and Turvey are largely intact and consist of a mixture of stone walls, hedgerows, mature tree and scrub and bank and ditch

boundaries. Remnants can be viewed on the aerial photograph of the area (Fig. 2) such as the townland boundary between Turvey and Beaverstown which is shown on Rocque's map (1760) as a laneway and is represented on the image by a mature tree line or the curving mature tree lined and ditch boundary between Ballymadrough and Lanestown. The dominant forces effecting land division are the development of residential estates in the townlands of Beaverstown, Ballalease West and North, Ballisk and Ballisk Common and the spread of land for recreational purposes for example at Balcarrick and Corballis. These sorts of development tend to remove existing boundaries to create new designed landscapes.

Market gardening is synonymous with the north Fingal area, historically Fingal has been referred to the bread basket for Dublin and the wider area and has been intensively farmed for the production of crops. This forms part of the basis for the straight edge medium enclosures located in the townlands of Turvey and Corballis.

Changes in the pattern of enclosure can be charted from the mid 19th century where the majority of fields were small and straight edged while on the mid 20th century map some small wavy edged fields are located in newly reclaimed areas. The area of enclosed land actually increased in this time period from 41.2% to 49.7% as a result of the break up of demesne lands and reclamation practices. The modern day mapping consists of a combination of wavy and straight edged medium fields with the occasional large field. The development of enclosure on the peninsula appears to be a later phenomenon, post medieval in nature.

Much of the land on the peninsula was originally enclosed by improvement minded landlords, a number of demesnes, Portraine, Newbridge, Turvey and Seafield are also present. While these demesnes have different functions today, they still preserve elements of the original estate such as mature woodland and stone walls and add a historic dimension which is significant to the character the peninsula.

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the enclosure HLC

The importance of this extensive HLC type accounting for 35.9% of landuse within the study area and affecting the appearance and use of the landscape should be taken into consideration when planning for new development and determining planning applications. Land division types and boundary type such as mature tree line, bank and ditch, hedgerow or stone wall should be identified prior to development to ascertain whether or not they contain an historical context and are worthy of retention. A survey into the methods of enclosure may be helpful to recognise the diversity in boundary type, their period, rarity in the record, survival and condition, vulnerability and potential within the modern day landscape.

The presence of former field boundaries reflected in the field pattern today is rare in survival in Fingal due to the field amalgamation process caused by intensive agricultural practices. It is important to enhance the public and landowners perception of the role, function and importance of natural and historic boundaries.

Where possible the maintenance of small irregular fields (Fig. 6) and hedgerows should be encouraged as historically they represent the oldest type of land division and attract a great diversity of wild life and songbirds especially along the northern coastline at Rogerstown Estuary.

The incorporation of townland or substantial or essentially intact field boundaries that form a focus in the landscape should be integrated into new residential schemes as open spaces, where possible. Work could take place on the retention and where appropriate the restoration of important boundaries. This should be considered for lands put forward for development within the LAP such as Corballis or Ballisk.

The importance of manmade and natural coastal boundaries such as defensive sea walls, sand dunes and mud flats that protect the land from flooding should be communicated to the landowners and public monitored, repaired and conserved.

Large amount of enclosed land now currently used for agricultural practices may also preserve relict archaeological features not yet revealed due to their eroded nature. Even with hundreds of years of agricultural activity there is a significant potential to revealed archaeological sites and deposits, further altering the HLC relict map and adding to the cultural heritage knowledge of the area. When assessing the cultural heritage nature of an area prior to development the historic nature and shape of field boundaries should be identified as they may act as an indication for further buried archaeological features.

Further work is required on the nature of historic boundaries and how they survive in the modern landscape. The interactions between historic farm buildings and associated land also need to be developed for example Corballis or Beaverstown House. This information can be used to guide future management practice and put in place appropriate conservation proposals.

Encourage the maintenance of boundaries such as walls, hedges, ditches and associated structures such as gate posts, gate and stone stiles that are part of demesne landscapes, estate houses or along Turvey Avenue. This will be essential for maintaining the character of Donabate-Portraine and distinguishing it from elsewhere in Fingal.

INDUSTRIAL

Balleally Landfill

There are three sub categories within the industrial category; light industry, sand and gravel pits (quarrying activity) and landfill. Industry has never been a dominant force on the peninsula, from the mid 19th century it accounted for 0.1%, in the mid 20th century (0.3%) and current landuse where it still only holds 0.6% of the total land cover of the study area. The statistics demonstrate the rural nature of the study area. Business and industrial parks such as Turvey Business Park are located near the exit for the motorway (M1) or along the N1, the western extent of the study area. While Donabate Village is a thriving commercial centre, it is not considered industrial in nature and therefore falls under the settlement category.

Historically, sand and gravel pits are shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1837-43). A burial recorded in the topographical files from the National Museum of Ireland was revealed and reported to the authorities during sand and gravel extraction in the 1950's from Corballis townland. Another feature with an historical dimension is the windmill (DU008-027 and RPS 518) located in the townland of Rahillion, dating to 1741. Locally it is known as McAllister's or Carr's mill. Windmills were a source of power that was used with regularity throughout the Fingal region for example in Lusk, Raheny, Clontarf and Feltrim. Many are mentioned in the civil survey of the seventeenth century and improved the value of land considerably.

The study area cuts the most southeastern corner of Balleally Landfill. The landfill dominates views throughout the Rogerstown Estuary. It is due to close soon and will be restored as a natural amenity.

There are a number of protected structures, such as a forge (RPS 505), mills and sluices (RPS 501 and 480) which are part of other HLC data sets such as settlement and coastal and are too small as individual structures to be considered industrial in their own right.

The industrial category is dominated by post medieval and modern remains.

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the industrial HLC

While the historic elements of an industrial nature such as the windmill are largely protected by inclusion in the Record of Monuments and Places or the Record Protected Structures, further work should be done in developing an appreciation for the structures and the modern context they now appear within.

It should be noted that burials/skeletal remains have been revealed in the sandhills of Corballis townland previously during the extraction of sand and gravel. The extraction industry has the potential reveal additional unknown sites or burials and operators should be made aware of this fact.

The restoration of the landfill site will be a positive catalyst for change and development within the Rogerstown Estuary.

MILITARY

Martello tower, Quay townland (RMP DU012-010, RPS 542)

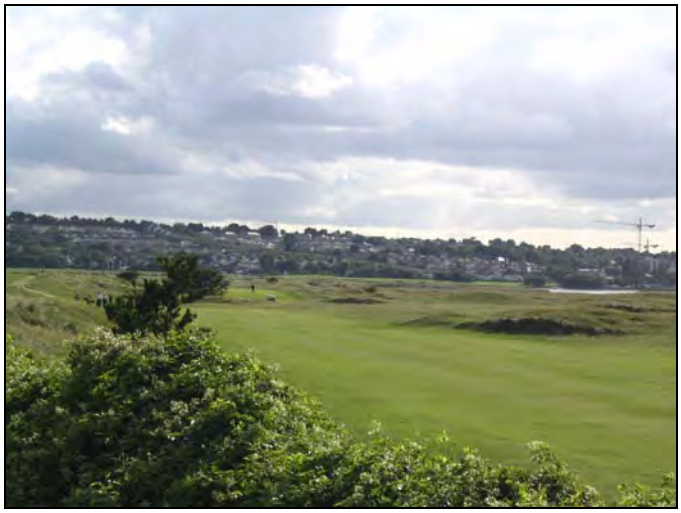
Despite their relatively recent origin the Martello towers (DU012-010; RPS 542 and DU012-008; RPS 543) associated with the military HLC have a significant story to tell concerning the defence of the coast of Ireland during the Napoleonic Wars.

There is only one sub-category within the Military landuse and that is 'previous military', this HLC only makes up a negligible portion of lands (0.55 ha) and essentially consists of two structures located on the coast in Quay and Balcarrick townland. Both these structures, dating to 1804 are recorded and protected by National Monuments Act and the 2000 Planning and Development Act as a recorded monument and protected structure. These Martello towers form landmark features along the coast. One tower is in private ownership and was recently advertised for sale in 2006, the other is in state ownership and is publicly accessible at the northern point of Donabate Strand.

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the inactive military HLC

Within the Donabate-Portraine study area there are two Martello towers that are key historic examples of military architecture. While neither is used for a military purpose any development proposals, changes in use or restoration works to these protected structures will require detailed assessment in order to ensure that appropriate conservation work take place.

RECREATION



View of Island golf course looking towards Malahide

The recreational HLC type includes golf courses, playing fields and amenity land, caravan parks and carparks. The concept of recreational land is relatively modern and this is reflected in the time slice evidence for the study area. While the total area devoted to current recreational use is 419.20ha (approx. 12.8%) this is very different from the mid 19th century when no recreational land was noted. All recreational facilities post-date the 1st edition OS mapping as within one hundred years recreational land had increased to 4.5% due to the creation of the Island golf course in 1890 in Corballis townland.

In total there are four golf courses located within the study area and these dominate the recreation HLC type (accounting for 11.2% of the total land area). Turvey golf course is located with in former demesne lands. The Island golf course is one of the oldest in the county and was established at the end of the 19th century when there was a great expansion in playing golf. The course is known as a links course, so named due to the resemblance to a chain, progressing up and down a narrow coastal strip. The name the Island can be attributed to the fact that access to the course used to be by boat only, and the original club house was located at the southern tip of the peninsula where the boats would arrive and depart for Malahide. Further golf courses are located in the townlands of Beaverstown and Balcarrick. Golf courses may potentially retain boundaries and landscape features associated either with earlier agrarian regimes, such as ridge and furrow or with the rabbit warrens which once were dotted along the sand dunes or features associated with demesnes landscapes. However, the creation, development and maintenance of golf courses can disturb and remove historical features and drainage can further degrade subsurface features.

Playing fields and amenity land, consist of sports grounds and open space and while not located on any map are visible on the aerial photography (Fig. 2) and account for 0.9% of this category. Playing fields are located in four separate areas throughout the peninsula, two are located on land

that was previously part of a demesne and the third is located to the north of Balcarrick golf course while the forth is open space in the Portraine area.

Caravan parks are located along the eastern coastal area of the peninsula and consist of 0.7% of the recreational landuse. Seasonal in nature the people using them swell during the summer months when the beach and parks are an obvious attraction.

Other tourist attractions exist within the study area such as Newbridge Demesne which is located at the centre of the peninsula and is an important focal point for recreational activity for locals and tourists alike. Two coastal stretches of beach attract people from north city Dublin and the Broadmeadow/Malahide Estuary is used for water based activities such as windsurfing and boating. Bird Watch Ireland have a hide located in Turvey townland looking out across Rogerstown Estuary which is also an important bird watching area. These activities and areas while of significant recreational value are discussed under separate categories/types such as designed landscape, coastal and settlement; the designed landscape HLC type may possess a recreational use but are distinguished by the retention of a parkland landscape while settlement and coastal types will also include areas of recreation but at a scale unmapped by the project.

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the recreation HLC

The openness and Greenfield nature of recreational land, contributes to a sense of space and the overall character of the study area, enhancing the rural and greenfield nature of the peninsula.

The dominant recreational landuse is for golf courses, these lands are zoned under objective OS and GB under Fingal Development Plan 2005-2011 which seek to preserve and provide for open space and recreational amenities (Fig. A11). These lands are vulnerable to development with the ever expanding requirement for housing and retail. It is important that the lands remain appropriately zoned to protect the physical and visual amenity of the area there by enhancing the character of the peninsula.

Historically, land now used for recreational purposes may contain or be part of former demesne lands. Historic structures such as the remains of a tower house at Turvey golf course (DU008-024/01-03 and RPS No.492) or Newbridge House (DU012-060 RPS No.494) and Lanestown Castle (DU012-004) both located within the public park can form part of the recreational experience. While these structures have been conserved and in the case of Newbridge House refurbished to the highest standards work should be carried out to raise the public awareness of the significance and importance of these features within the landscape. The processes such as excavation, research and design programmes involved with conservation, protection and refurbishment could be made available to the general public, to provide an understanding as to the merits of the intrinsic character of the area as an historic open space.

There is a long standing tradition of the use of land for allotments as is the case of Turvey townland or small scale market gardening. It is important that this type of traditional activity be maintained and where possible enhanced and encouraged by setting additional land aside as it contributes to the green field character of the peninsula.

In some cases, given the relatively low disturbance experienced by recreational land, such as the Island Golf course or Newbridge Demesne Park or that Corballis and Ballcarrick golf course extend over areas of prior agricultural use, there is considerable potential to reveal below ground archaeological remains. While these areas are protected, any development proposals should be accompanied an impact statement. The effect of a new development in the vicinity of recreational land should also be taken into consideration.

The mix of high quality recreational facilities and attractions improves the standard of living for locals and draws tourists to the peninsula. The type of tourist may vary from the day tripper, to the golfing enthusiast or a family holiday beside the sea in temporary accommodation. Due to the seasonal nature of the tourism industry care must be taken that the resources are not over utilised and that undue stress is placed on the amenities. A careful balance has to be struck to maintain the sustainable nature of the natural and built resource. Public awareness should be raised in relation to keeping coastal, park and open space amenities clean and free from rubbish, parking in designated areas should be promoted and awareness raised as to the treat that pollution and antisocial behaviour poses to the natural and sensitive habitats.

DESIGNED LANDSCAPES

Newbridge House (RPS 494 & RMP DU012-060)

While there is only one demesne landscape in state care and open to public access, historically the peninsula was home to several large scale demesnes and designed landscapes, Newbridge (RPS No.494), Portraine (RPS No. 536), Turvey (RPS No. 492) and Seafield (RPS No. 482 and 483). The original spaces occupied by these demesnes are still clearly defined and visible from orthophotography (Fig. 2) even though they now have different modern uses. The designed landscape category is broken up into two types, parkland/demesne and wooded parkland, these types are in place to reflect significant and associated elements of designed landscapes even though they may be in different land ownership.

Designed landscapes cover 179.21ha (5.5%) of the study area, however the extent of this area has been declining since the mid 19th century. During the mid 19th century designed landscapes accounted for 15.5%, with the break up of lands during the next 100 years, by the mid 20th century this figure had been reduced to 6.2%. The reduction of demesne land gave rise to an increase in enclosed land during this period (41.2% to 49.7%) Designed landscapes display evidence for different phases of development as well as indications of pre-parkland features.

These landscape demesnes comprise of many features from built heritage such as the main house, associated farms, stables, lodges, ice houses, canals, gates and walls to the semi natural woodland of planted shelter belts, the diversity of exotic tree and plant species and tree lined avenues, to the whimsical range of follies such as the memorial round tower in Portraine Demesne (RPS No. 537) and earthwork features. Earlier archaeological components from phases predating the demesnes establishment may be present, for example Lanestown Castle (DU0012-004 RPS No. 493) in Newbridge Demesne.

Two areas consisting of wooded parkland and parkland demesne are Newbridge Demesne Park and St. Ita's Hospital, Portraine. Newbridge House and the development of landscaped parkland occurred between 1698 and 1705 while the hospital is a later development (work commenced in 1896) within the original demesne setting of Mount Evans House built 1732-1737 but now demolished. Both these establishments still contain original demesne features dating to the 18th century. While each originally contained earlier archaeological features within extensive associated lands for example Lanestown Castle (DU012-004) and Kilcrea Church (DU012-009), the dominant time period due to the construction of the estates in the late 17th early 18th century is the post medieval period, this is shown on the relict map (Fig. 7).

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the designed landscape HLC

An active management regime appears to be in place at Newbridge Demesne where work is being carried out to conserve and enhance parkland boundaries and key relict parkland features that provide a time depth within the modern landscape. Former park boundaries, often typified by stone walls or a substantial bank and ditch lined by mature trees should also be a priority feature for conservation and enhancement. Replacement planting should be encouraged where necessary.

Former parkland features whether functional (lodges, entrance gates, canals), semi-natural woodland shelter belts, planted avenues, specimen trees and/or ornamental features such as follies and earthworks particularly where they are well preserved and add group value to the overall setting should be conserved and enhanced.

A full survey should be initiated at St Ita's Hospital (Portraine Demesne) to identify and assess the preservation of all aspects associated with the historical demesne and later developments.

Both demesnes form architectural conservation areas (ACAs) (Fig. A11) –areas that contribute to an appreciation of a protected structure in terms of setting and character. Management regimes that promote joint working whilst protecting key attributes should be encouraged, such as woodland through tree preservation orders, structure through listing or views through protected view scheduling. However, all these elements which form and create the character of a demesne should be considered holistically, as with features of this kind the sum of the parts can be greater than the parts themselves when considered separately.

If at all possible avoid loss of integrity by division into multiple ownership, or through inappropriate change in use. This has occurred elsewhere on the peninsula with the break up of demesnes, for example, the gates and original avenue of Seafield House are in different ownership to the main house.

The authorities should promote consultation and advice; promote a network of support for management companies and individuals in charge of demesne landscapes.

SETTLEMENT

Cottages (Portraine Demesne) (RPS 524-534)

Settlement on the peninsula is diverse and shows a high degree of variation. Settlement incorporates the following HLC types, hospital, historic settlement, mixed use, nucleated settlement, cemetery, school, commercial and modern residential (each of these terms are explained in Appendix 2) and accounts for 332.67ha (10.2%) of the study area. This is a large increase from the mid 19th century (1837-43) when the peninsula was predominantly rural and settlement only accounted for 1.9% of the total land cover.

While modern housing estates around Donabate village account for a large portion of the settlement category (32.9% of 10.2%), nucleated settlement covering 42.9% of the settlement type is the dominant form and demonstrates the dispersed historical settlement pattern through out the peninsula. This type is interspersed with single farmsteads or estate houses which come under the historic settlement type, for example, Seafield House (RPS 483), Kilcrea House (RPS 500) and Corballis House (RPS 504). This is complimented by the seasonal nature of settlement along the coast which has in recent years seen permanent dwellings erected as a response to a desire to live next to the sea.

Within the settlement subtype graveyards/cemeteries and the hospital have been given their own categories this is because cemeteries are a distinctive characteristic in settlement pattern and are usually predefined enclosed spaces and the hospital is a large expanse of land that characterises the Portraine area with its striking red brick landmark building. The location of the hospital also accelerated the development of the area socially and economically.

Settlements tend to be sited at the junction of different resources, with transport routes and rivers influencing siting. There are 56 protected structures or buildings within the study area, the majority of extant buildings are post medieval or modern in date, with the notable exception of churches and tower houses. The development of nucleated settlements grew from medieval

monastic enclosures at Donabate and Portraine. Where modern settlement is located, archaeological material can remain below ground and could be disturbed by new development. Through recent archaeological investigation evidence for Neolithic and Bronze Age activity has been found at these locations tracing settlement patterns back over 5000 years. The development of the settlements is a product of the past and varies because of their previous function, use of material and different local styles.

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the settlement HLC

Settlement can be considered to have three identifiable historical elements

- Historic buildings and structures
- Below ground archaeological deposits
- Historic character of settlements for example street and townscapes, designed landscapes

Each of the above is well protected through existing legislation, such as protected structures (RPS) through the 2000 Local Government (Planning and Development) Act and Recorded (RMP) and National Monuments through the Principal National Monuments Act and amendments (1930-2004), ACAs (Architectural Conservation Areas, (2000, Act)) are places or areas that contribute to the appreciation of a protected structure, in terms or setting and character. The architectural and archaeological significance of settlement is a unique and special resource. Structures and places have over time acquired character and special interest through a combination of factors for example, their continued existence and familiarity in the landscape. In a changing world, they have a cultural significance, which is important to be passed on to our successors and warrant protection.

Development on the peninsula is inevitable (as proposed by the approved local area plan) and desirable but requires management in order to preserve the essential and valued historical character. Change should take place in the context of the historic environment in order to maintain historic character, to protect the best of the past and to afford the opportunity for heritage led regeneration.

In an area proposed for development, an architectural heritage survey can take place as part of the planning process, to ensure that all features are properly identified and assessed. Where necessary, information can be forwarded to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which is currently compiling a list of the country's architectural heritage. Structures which considered to be of a regional importance or greater can be recommended for inclusion in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

Within urban or semi rural settlement environments there is always the potential to reveal below ground archaeological remains that have no surface expression given that the historic core of most settlements still corresponds with the modern core, this occurred at Donabate where Neolithic and Bronze Age activity was revealed. Developed settlement areas are usually under the greatest pressure for large scale redevelopment where there is a significant potential to impact on below ground remains. Given this potential, archaeological investigation in terms of research, geophysical survey, topographical survey, test excavation and excavation may take place in advance of development in order to predict with greater certainty the below grounds archaeological remains of an area which has no visible trace. Such an exercise was recently undertaken for lands considered for development under the LAP in the townlands of Balease North, Ballisk, Ballymastone and Ballalease South. This exercise had the advantage of identifying below surface archaeological remains and their extent in advance of designing the scheme so buried features could be avoided if deemed necessary.

In accordance to objectives RS and RC of the Fingal Development Plan 2005-2011, development proposals within the villages, nucleated settlements or parkland demesnes for example at Portraine, Newbridge and Ballymadrough (Fig. 6) should have due regard to the historic dimension of the existing environment and new development should be aware of local distinctiveness, the layout and scale of buildings and designed spaces, the quality and character of the built fabric and the historic patterns that contribute to the overall uniqueness of the landscape.

Strategic planning and guidance should take account of the preservation and enhancement of key attributes of local historic distinctiveness for example along the road from Balcarrick to Corballis, an area identified as a nucleated settlement containing a number of interesting structures (some shown on the 1837 OS 6 inch map (Appendix 5, Fig. A2) and residences. New development should seek to contribute positively to the character of the landscape and should probably be focused around the commercial centre of Donabate Village. The use of new and innovative design proposals and materials should always be considered.

Settlement should be curtailed in areas where there is inadequate infrastructure or the risk of flooding and it is deemed inappropriate to build. An example of this would be the lowlying Burrow area where currently plots of land, used for traditional summer and temporary accommodation are now being used to construct substantial permanent dwellings changing the character of this area forever. The southern extent of the peninsula, the townlands of Ballymadrough, Kilcrea and Corballis are characterised by small winding roads flanked by demesne walls or substantial hedgerows, residential development in these areas where the infrastructural network by modern standards is poor should be limited. Limited development along the shore line will also enhance the essential rural coastal character of the area.

The redevelopment of St Ita's Hospital located within Portraine Demesne incorporates many different phases and elements of building. Any proposal for this area should be accompanied by a cultural heritage impact assessment report.

Cemeteries at Portraine (St Ita's) and Donabate Village and older burial grounds at Kilcrea (DU012-016001/002, RPS 499) and at Ballymadough (DU012-013001/002, RPS 484) should be appropriately maintained and protected.

WOODLAND

Forestry plantations, Turvey Island

Woodland cover accounts for 21.40 ha (0.7%) of the total study area, the types of woodland can be separated in modern coniferous, deciduous, mixed and plantation. The low woodland cover is modern in nature and has no distinguishing archaeological components. Wooded parkland is considered in the designed landscape category.

The lack of woodland on the peninsula is highlighted in the Civil Survey records of 1650 where a scarcity of fuel on the peninsula including wood is described. On Taylor's historic map of 1816, the areas surrounding Newport, Seafield, Newbridge, Turvey, Mount Evans House and Turvey Avenue are shown to be tree lined. Mature woodland planting in strong shelter belts is a dominant factor of demesnes of the 18th century such as Newbridge demesne, Portraine and Seafield. Recent in origin are the small plantations located in Turvey and Corballis townlands.

Further work required to maintain, enhance and safeguard the woodland HLC

Before planting modern forestry, the relevant authorities should advise on the appropriateness of the location. For example in Turvey townland there is an enclosure which is recorded as a cropmark (DU 008-025) by aerial photography in the field adjacent to the plantation forestry. The locational accuracy of archaeological sites should be verified in the field in advance of plantation. Also the area should be assessed for structures of architectural heritage merit or items of cultural heritage interest that may not be included in the RPS but still should be recorded for prosperity or in some cases avoided.

The location of economically led or plantation forestry should be assessed by relevant experts in advance of planting as large blocks of planting can have adverse visual effects and change the character of an area.

Replacement planting should be considered in demesne landscapes and management plans to maintain and sustain the historic character of the woodlands be established. New planting should take place within the modern residential settlements.

Future Uses of HLC

This report is only one product of the HLC project for the Donabate-Portraine peninsula. This narrative is accompanied by mapping which is supported in a GIS environment ensuring the data can be updated and used simultaneously by numerous users.

The mapping of specified time slices has illustrated the scale and rate of change of the semi-rural and coastal landscape. The peninsula is in many ways unique to the Fingal area, restricted vehicle access for many years has meant that the rate of change has been gradual and that the area has retained its semi rural and coastal character. The high percentage of land for recreational use compared to other areas in Fingal and the dispersed nature of the nucleated settlement, accounting for the majority of the settlement type in this area have also contributed to its unique and historical appearance. Provision for new development within this area will have to be carefully planned and delicately balanced to maintain and enhance the natural and heritage resources and historical elements of the area. The HLC has provided a time-depth analysis of the cultural landscape in order to understand and appreciate the unique character, sensitivity, vulnerability and capacity for change and development throughout the study area.

Within proposed new development areas, there is potential for including the historic environment to create a sense of place, for example by retaining vernacular buildings, hedgerows and townland boundaries, locating open space around archaeological monuments and using historic lanes as public rights of way. Imaginative design can make the historic environment part of the future as well as the past.

It is hoped that the HLC will provide a practical input into future landscape management decisions at a local level, increasing the understanding and appreciation of the historic landscape across the community. The HLC is a dynamic and flexible tool that can accept and accommodate new data in the future while providing a central knowledge base for all historical aspects of the landscape. For HLC to be successful it has to be a sustained and transparent process, comprehensive in its application and updated regularly.

The use of HLC is advocated in Archaeology 2020 – repositioning Irish Archaeology in the Knowledge Society – a realistically achievable perspective (UCD & the Heritage Council, 2006) - *'in a need to view archaeological sites in their wider landscape setting and to identify the major historical processes responsible for shaping Ireland's landscapes'.*

This view was also echoed by the Heritage Council in 2000 when they described the major benefit of landscape characterisation as
'..that it covers the whole countryside and not just special areas. The special areas benefit from being placed in this wider context, their role being seen as part and parcel of every day life rather

than isolated away from it. They are part of the landscape character and the special landscapes will always hold a particular place in our minds eye and our imagination. The characterisation process allows us to link back and further appreciate the significance and value of all landscapes' (Heritage Council 2000, 18).

The main benefits of this project are the following:

The creation of a GIS – The information can be reviewed, monitored, added to and changed over time forming a sustainable approach to historic landscape management. This approach has the potential to demonstrate how different layers of archaeological and landscape data can be combined to underpin a landscape based approach to sustaining the historic character of an area. Through the use of GIS, the HLC process can take place on a county, regional or national scale.

Landscape Characterisation - It has provided a historical depth to support, complement and enhance the Fingal Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) (1999) (Fig. A12) which raised the profile of landscape issues and is used within the decision making process for development control. HLC provides an overview of the historic dimension of the landscape. This broad character based approach links with LCAs. Recognition of the historic aspect of the landscape and the central role it plays in the characterisation process is critical to the creation, maintenance and development of a national landscape dataset.

The HLC project also provides for an initial implementation of the principles of the European Landscape Convention (ratified in Ireland in 2002) at a local county level. It has been noted in Scotland that 'an important stimulus for Local Authorities to carry out HLC has been the contribution it can make to the preparation of the county and regional LCAs and the supplementary detail it can provide to inform their implementation' (Countryside Agency & Scottish Natural Heritage, 2002).

Land Use Planning - The project can inform strategic planning and the production of Local Area Plans (LAP's) and form the basis for the production of Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA's) and contribute to supplementary planning guidance. The study can also help inform spatial planning initiatives and inform the placement of large scale infrastructural projects. The HLC has facilitated integrated discussion of landscape issues across various departments (such as conservation, planning, heritage, IT management) of Fingal County Council, increasing communication and understanding of the historic environment and key features that warrant maintenance, enhancement or protection. The identification of key heritage constraints at the early planning stages of a proposed development, allows a proactive approach to heritage management.

The planning process supported by Fingal County Development Plan (Fig. A11) has controlled and mitigated the effect of development on archaeology. However, the focus to date has been on individual sites and monuments and protected structures, HLC demonstrates the need for broader historic landscape based policies and also raises the profile of the historic environment. HLC mapping shows the main divisions and the rate of change of enclosure and settlement as well as, designed landscapes, areas of woodland and rivers, it also characterises the main areas of development into different phases such as prehistoric, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Early Medieval, Medieval, Post Medieval and unclassified. The mapping provides a coherent historic environment image and so allows draft policies to be attached to particular areas.

Conservation – HLC mapping generated for this project can be checked along side the RMP and RPS databases when responding to planning applications and inquiries about the historic environment. HLC has the capacity to fill in the gaps generated by the point data of the above two datasets as well as providing a landscape context from which to appreciate site specific information. It can also help develop programmes that are appropriate and sustainable to the local environment. It is also possible that the project may be used to help form tourism and heritage management initiatives.

Research - The project has helped stimulate research in the study area and has provided an up to date account of all recent archaeological findings as a result of development. It has also provided a greater appreciation of the variety of post medieval sites and landscapes which are still evident in the environment today. The study has also highlighted the need where necessary for further research studies to take place such as field survey and recording of various elements which make up a designed landscape or a survey into the methods of enclosure may be helpful to recognise the diversity in boundary type, their period, rarity in the record, survival and condition, vulnerability and potential within the modern day landscape. The results of this project should be integrated into other heritage management records such as the RMP or the RPS where necessary.

Public Outreach - Consultation has taken place with local historical groups and access to the project on the web will ensure that this HLC project is a tool that the general public can access and use for educational purposes. The interactive data will provide a greater transparency of archaeological information to create knowledge and understanding of the historic landscape and the processes which have helped form it. Ongoing opportunities will be sought by the Heritage Officer to engage and consult with local communities, creating awareness and understanding of the historic landscape.

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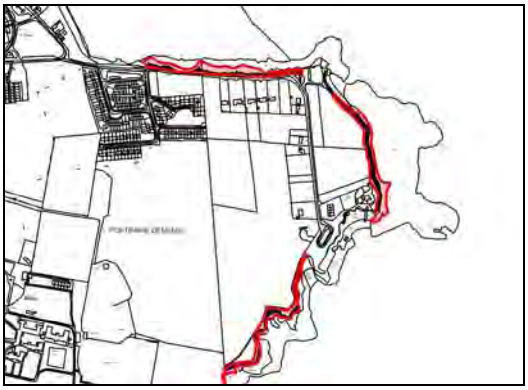
Appendix 1 - Database design

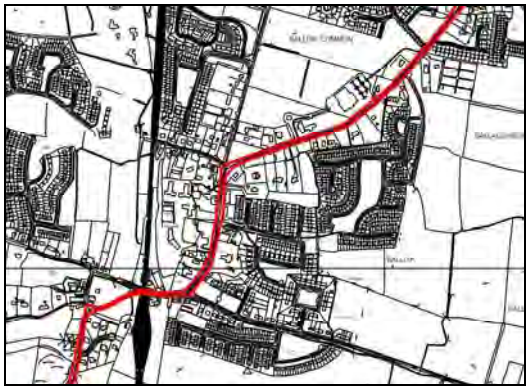
The table below outlines the data fields contained with the main table in the HLC database. The database is on Microsoft Access format and follows an ArcView Geodatabase file structure.

NAME	DATA TYPE	DESCRIPTION
OBJECT ID	OBJECT ID	Unique internal identifier for polygon features within the database
SHAPE	Geometry	Spatial data shape definition
TYPE	TEXT	Current landuse type
TYPE_20C	TEXT	Landscape characterisation types as shown in the mid 20th century OS 6" mapping (1935-38)
CREATED_BY	TEXT	Contains the initials of the person who created the polygon
VERIFIED	TEXT	Identifies that the polygon has been verified by another member of the HLC team.
DESC_	TEXT	Text description field used to record information relating to the polygon e.g. St Ita's Hospital, Seafield House
MAPTXT	TEXT	Field for recording map text from the 1st edition and later Ordnance Survey mapping that falls within each the HLC polygon
TYPE _RELIC	TEXT	This field records the dominant relic landscape character of each the HLC polygon e.g. Medieval, post medieval, Prehistoric
TYPE_19C	TEXT	Landscape characterisation types as shown in the mid 19th century OS 6" mapping (1837-43)
BROAD_TYPE	TEXT	Current broad character type for each polygon
BROAD_TYPE_20C	TEXT	Broad character types as shown in the mid 20th century OS 6" mapping (1935-38)
BROAD_TYPE_19C	TEXT	Broad character types as shown in the mid 19th century OS 6" mapping (1837-43)
SHAPE_Length	Double (numeric)	This field is maintained by the GIS system and records the length of the perimeter of the polygon
SHAPE_Area	Double (numeric)	This field is maintained by the GIS system and records the area of the HLC of the polygon

Appendix 2 - List of Attributes

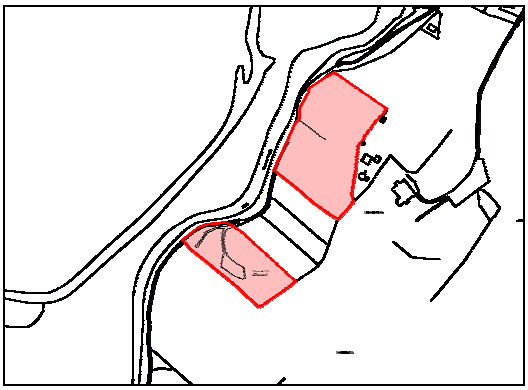
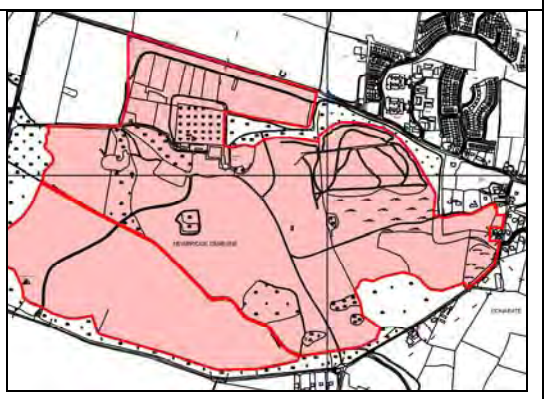
Current Landuse Codes

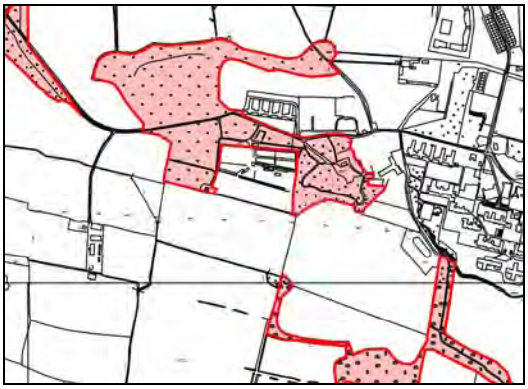
Coastal	
CL – Cliffs Areas identified as cliffs along the coast on the current O.S. mapping.	
CR – Coastal rock Large areas of rock outcrop along the coast which is often covered during high tides. These areas could be used as a food resource for foraging at low tide.	
RG – Rough ground Areas of rough ground along the coast and estuary, including coastal dunes near the beach.	

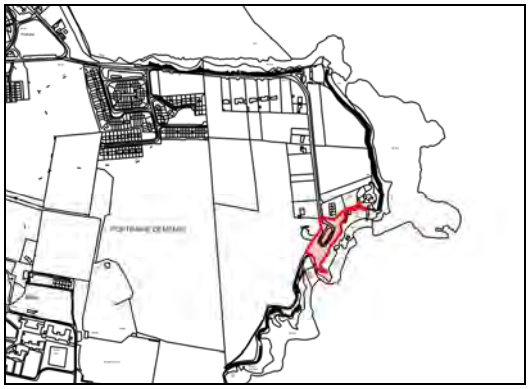
S – Sand Large areas of sand along the coast, above the high tide line defining the start of the intertidal zone.	
Communication	
RAIL – Railway Rail track and railway infrastructure.	
RD – Road Tertiary and higher class road as identified on the O.S. Discovery Series Mapping. This information has been supplemented with data observed in orthophotography where current mapping is not up to date.	
Enclosure	
Straight edge enclosure	
Straight edge enclosure is used to denote enclosed land with a straight regular edged field pattern. These enclosures represent planned, deliberate enclosure often including planned drainage and reclamation schemes. Different phases of landscape development and land ownership are represented by the planned subdivision of large irregular fields and by the amalgamation of smaller irregular fields into large regular fields for modern farming. During the classification process, fields which contain a wavy irregular boundary on one or more sides where they meet with a natural feature such as a river or a coastline, but otherwise form a straight edged field, are considered to be straight	

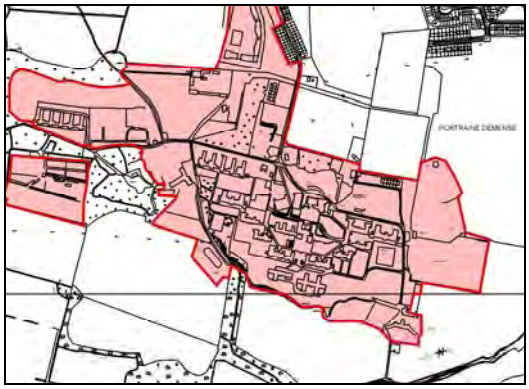
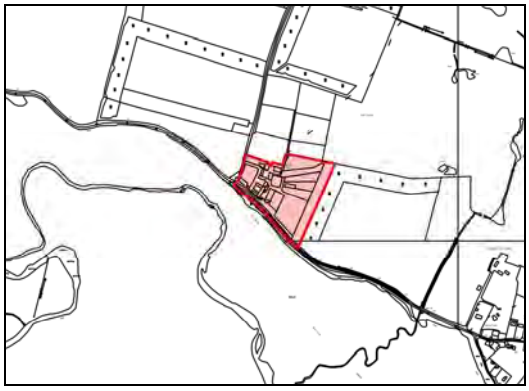
edge fields.	
ESES - Enclosure, straight edge small Straight edge enclosure with areas measuring less then 4ha.	
ESEM – Enclosure, straight edge medium Straight edge enclosure with areas measuring 4 – 16ha	
ESEL – Enclosure, straight edge large Straight edge enclosure with areas measuring larger then 16ha.	
Wavy edge enclosure	
Wavy irregular edge enclosure is used to denote enclosed land with an irregular, wavy edged field pattern. This class is characterised by land division that has evolved over time rather than that which has been pre planned. Wavy edge enclosure typically has curving boundaries and often reflects an earlier more unsystematic approach to land division that has remained relatively unchanged compared to large enclosure that has been developed for modern farming.	
EWES – Enclosure, wavy edge small Irregular wavy edge enclosure with areas measuring less then 4ha.	

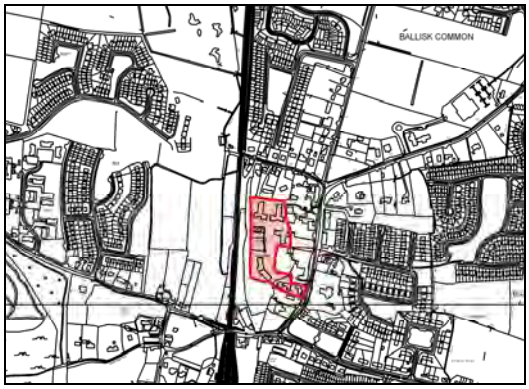
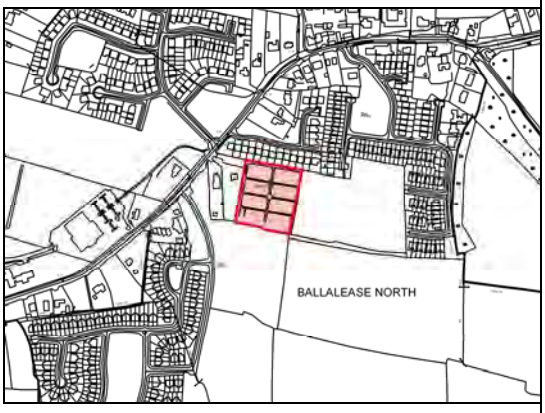
EWEM – Enclosure, wavy edge medium Irregular wavy edge enclosure with areas measuring 4 – 16ha	
EWEL – Enclosure wavy edge large Irregular wavy edge enclosure with area measuring larger then 16ha	
SCRUB - Waste land / scrub This subclass refers to areas of unimproved land or land which has since fallen into disuse and become heavily overgrown.	
Industrial This class describes areas where industrial activity is the dominant landuse character. Subclasses most evident in the present landscape are industrial estates, factories, quarries and landfill sites.	
IND – Light Industrial This subclass includes industrial estates, factory complexes, sewage works, water treatment facilities and recycling facilities.	

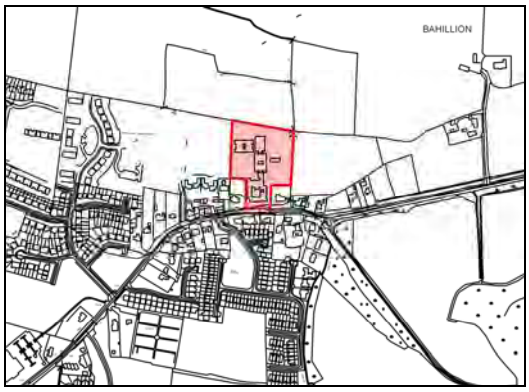
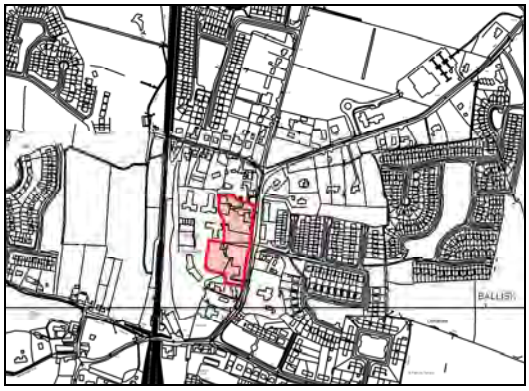
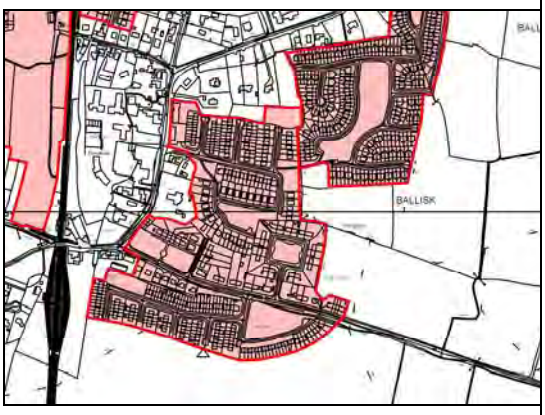
LF – Landfill There is only one small area containing landfill on the edge of the study area at Rogerstown.	
QRY – Quarry / sand and gravel pits Land identified as quarry / sand and gravel pits on O.S. mapping.	
Designed landscape The designed landscape class includes parkland / demesne and wooded parkland. Landscape demesnes are comprised of many features from built heritage to the semi natural woodland of planted shelter belts.	
PARK – Parkland / Demesne Demesne lands consist of lands and landscape elements held by an estate and include gardens, buildings and farmland.	

WDP – Wooded Parkland Continuous areas of planted demesne parkland. This HLC type is distinct from the 'PARK – Parkland / Demesne' HLC type, allowing areas of wooded demesne parkland to be discretely mapped even though they may be part of a land parcel which is no longer a demesne property.	
Military The Military class is used to record features with a present day or previous military landuse.	
PM - Previous Military	

Recreation	
CAR - Car park This class describes areas of public parking.	
CP – Caravan Park The caravan park class is identified as areas of enclosure containing mobile homes and other seasonal accommodation and is primarily identified on orthophotography.	
GC – Golf Course	

PF - Playing fields and amenity lands	
Settlement This class contains a number of subclasses representing different types of settlement visible within the current landscape. The use of these subclasses gives an instant analysis of the nature of the settlement and the types of structures present.	
HOSP – Hospital Hospitals and hospital grounds large enough to be mapped at HLC scale.	
HS – Historic Settlement Settlement associated with a country estate house or large farmstead which is in existence from the mid 19th century as shown on 1st edition OS mapping (1837-43). A number of map sources ranging from Rocque (1760), 1st edition OS to the current OS 1/1000 and 1/2500 series are used to establish this subclass.	

MIX – Mixed use residential This subclass refers to areas of settlement consisting of units which are designed for mixed residential and commercial use.	
NS – Nucleated settlement Settlement developed around a point such as a village square or developed along a stretch of road. This type of settlement develops over time and often in a haphazard manner. Houses within nucleated settlement of usually detached and of varied size and shape.	
SC – Settlement, Cemetery Cemeteries and graveyards.	

SCH – School	
SCOM – Settlement, commercial Areas of commercial settlement including shops, pubs, cafes offices, town centres etc.	
SRM – Settlement, residential, modern Areas of land covered by modern residential housing estates.	

Water	
INTR – Intertidal Zone The intertidal zone is the area of the foreshore and seabed that is exposed to the air at low tide and submerged at high tide. This zone is identified as being the area between the high water mark and the low water mark as shown on the current O.S. 1/2500 and 1/1000 series mapping.	
RIV – River	
WTR – Water feature, natural Areas of large natural water features including the sea and areas of the estuary that are continually submerged.	

Woodland	
WC – Woodland, coniferous	
WD – Woodland, deciduous	
WM – Woodland, mixed	
WP - Woodland, plantation	

Appendix 3 - Sources

The Record of Monuments and Places - This provides the legal protection for all monuments listed and mapped under Section 12 of the National Monuments 1994 Amendment Act. The record consists of a list of monuments and places, locational information and a map showing each monument and place. In some cases, difficulties arose in dating and mapping a monument due to either the lack of detailed information in the RMP or that the monument type was so heavily denuded that it defied categorisation. For example, the majority of enclosures or denuded earthworks derive from the Early Medieval period and have been identified by aerial photography however, they could be earlier, for example Neolithic. In cases like this best judgement was used and other recorded features were taken into account in the immediate vicinity of these site types and the results of any excavation work and field work to map the monument/feature on a time depth basis.

The Topographical Files from the National Museum of Ireland - These files identify recorded stray finds that have been donated or found by the state. In many cases the finds are recorded on a townland basis and the files do not contain precise location details. Where possible these details were mapped otherwise the information is shown on the relict landuse type mapping as unlocated, contributing to the overall archaeological information on a townlands basis but unsuitable for use within specific HLC polygons. However the relict land use may cover several present land use parcels and as such the information gained from the National Museum was useful. Difficulties were encountered with location information given as quite often it did not correspond to the general area, in this instance the townland was taken as the location and the find was specified as ‘unlocated’ within that townland.

RPS and NIAH - Information from The Record of Protected Structures and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage was taken from their pre-existing databases. Discrepancies occurred in the locational information between the registers for protected structures, the national inventory and recorded monuments. In some cases the same structure/monument was placed in two different locations by the respective databases. Also in some cases the RPS included denuded earthworks and items of a clearly archaeological nature that are more appropriately protected by the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004) and not the Planning and Development Act of 2000. In relation to all archaeological monuments, the RMP was taken as the primary indicator for their position on the map. Structures such as churches, tower houses, castle sites where the features are identified on both sets of records, their actual location was verified by OS mapping, aerial photography and confirmed in the field.

Historic cartographic maps such as Rocque (1760) and Taylor (1816) - can provide information as to the names of certain buildings and places not recorded on later maps, the style and layout of gardens, demesnes and parklands, the nature and size of boundaries. The stylistic nature of

these maps and the lack of a discrete scale meant that they could not be used to provide time slice data of the area, however items shown on the maps were used to inform the HLC types.

Test excavation, excavations and geophysical survey - Where previous archaeological work had been undertaken the results of the work was sought either from the Excavations bulletins, the excavation database (www.excavations.ie), or from individual archaeologists to provide the most up to date, comprehensive record possible.

Referenced documentary sources - Documentary sources and discussion with local historians and interest groups led to the emergence of new information in relation to the archaeological activities in certain areas, for example, a possible Viking battle at Knockaman or a possible cist burial at Burrow - while these events and discoveries are claimed to have occurred the lack of a record or physical evidence makes them extremely difficult to portray on a map. Where possible we have sought to confirm all the sources used to produce the HLC type for the area, where it has not been possible to confirm, it is mentioned in the narrative text as unsubstantiated/unreferenced information but still forms part of the rich oral tradition which defines this area. A valuable source document for this project was 'Donabate & Portraine - a history' by local historian Peadar Bates (2001).

Place name information - can indicate the presence of a forgotten site or may provide evidence to the location of a monument or provide additional information to the topography of land use of a townland or particular place.

Shipwreck Inventory - This inventory lists the name of the vessel, the date where possible, the general area where the vessel went down, (for example Portraine Rocks) and sometimes the circumstances of the wreck. The limited historical sources -the shipwreck inventory and admiralty maps- may have limited somewhat the information gleamed within the intertidal and marine environment. As the majority of recorded ship and boat wrecks have taken place in the post medieval period, this would appear to dominate the marine environment. However, within the coastal and intertidal environment another story arises with finds dating to the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods demonstrating exploitation form the earliest times for this dynamic environment.

Field Inspection - this assessed the present topography and land use. Various decisions taken in mapping the project were verified in the field. A full set of 1:5000 maps for the study area using modern OS mapping with the orthophotography background imagery was checked and analysed in the field.

Appendix 4 - List of Placenames

Townland Name	Derivation	Possible meaning
Burrow	Later origin, English coinage	May refer to the topographical nature of the land and rabbit warrens.
Quay	English	Reference to the coastal nature of the townland.
Balcarrick	Anglicisation of the Irish words *baile* and *carrig*	'Rocktown' alluding to an unenclosed settlement incorporating topographical information as to the rocky nature of the land.
Corballis	Derives from the Irish *Corbaile*. *Corr* however means small round hill and hollow.	Meaning Oddtown, the latter meaning may refer to a topographical feature, a gravel ridge which stretches across the townland in an east-west direction.
Kilcrea	Containing the Irish element *Cill* meaning church, *Cill Creidhe*	The church of Crea, incorporating the saint's name of this foundation
Ballymadrough	Incorporates the Irish element of *baile.*	Meaning unenclosed settlement.
Seapoint	Later English name	Referring to the coastal nature of the land.
Lissenhall Great/ Little	*Halla an Leasain*	
Lanestown	Incorporates the English element *ton* meaning town the Irish equivalent to an unenclosed farmstead.	Derives from De Launey, a personal Norman name. The manor of Landoney is mentioned in 1297, when Richard De Cardiff bought it from Thomas De Launey.
Turvey	*Tuibhi Traghmar* - a local chieftain of the territory in the east Brega during the 7th century.	The origin of this townland may owe its origin to a personal name.
Newbridge Demesne	English, relating to the later medieval or early modern period.	Refers to the designed landscape and house which was created in 1737.
Donabate	Derives from the Irish *Domhnach an Bhaid.* An alternative derivation according to the OS Placenames branch is *Domhnach Bat.*	The church of the boat. The second meaning may refer to a fort and a Danish family name (Bate).
Beaverstown (Benson in medieval records)	Incorporates the English element *ton* which is the equivalent of the Irish term *baile. Baile and Bheibearaigh*	Derives its name from a tenant, to whom Benson's portion of the manorial lands of Turvey were granted in 1385.
Ballisk and Ballisk	Derived from the Irish *baile*	The town/settlement of water,

Common	and *esc* or *uisce* meaning water.	possibly referring to a river or stream in the townland or to the proximity of the coast.
Ballalease North/South/west	Originates from *Baile an Lios.*	The townland or farmstead of the fort.
Ballymastone	Incorporates the Irish element of *baile*	Describes an unenclosed farmstead and a personal name.
Rahillion	Derived from the Irish words 'rath' and 'oilean'.	The ringfort of the island, there is no such recorded site in the townland, however in the neighbouring townland there is a harbour site known as Raheen.
Portraine/Portraine Demesne	Known as *Port Reachrainn* and used as a port of embarkation for the ecclesiastical site on Lambay Island.	Closely connected with Lambay Island (*Rechru*). The ancient name of Rechru was changed under Scandinavian influence to Lamb-ey i.e. Lamb Island (Joyce 1898).