



Fingal Heritage X Climate Toolkit

Fingal Climate Action Toolkit providing participants in Fingal with some tools required to aid in monitoring the impact of climate change on the heritage assets of the county.



Howth Harbour (Image by Abarta Heritage)

Written and published by Abarta Heritage on behalf of Fingal County Council and Fingal County Council Heritage Office.
Cover Image, Bremore Passage Tomb (Image by Abarta Heritage).



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The Heritage Council



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1. Introduction

This toolkit is aimed at providing participants in Fingal with some of the tools required to aid in monitoring the impact of climate change on the heritage assets of the county. It is designed to compliment the online submission form associated with the project that can be found at <https://arcg.is/1XaKnS> and a series of training videos discussed below. The sections to follow will cover the basics of what the project seeks to achieve, and how you can help.



Skerries South Strand (Image by Abarta Heritage)

Fingal Cultural Heritage and Climate Change Risk Assessment

This project has emerged as a result of a climate change risk assessment carried out by Fingal County Council earlier in 2021. This looked at all the risks faced by the cultural heritage assets in the county including historic gardens and demesnes, geological heritage sites, architectural conservation areas, historic structures, archaeological sites and monuments.

The reason for the assessment was to provide baseline data so that Fingal County Council might better understand the current threats these natural hazards present to our heritage assets. This allows the Council to assess and prioritise sites for site surveys and mitigation work depending on the level of risk they face.

The natural hazards that were considered risks as part of the Climate Change Risk Assessment were:

- Fluvial (river) flooding
- Pluvial flooding (as a result of heavy rainfall)
- Groundwater flooding
- Coastal flooding
- Coastal erosion
- Slope instability

The report set out to give each heritage asset a score, based on:

- a) the likelihood of it being impacted
- b) the potential impact of that hazard

If you would like to read the final Fingal Climate Risk Assessment Report in more detail, it is available [here](#) and the interactive map can be explored [here](#).

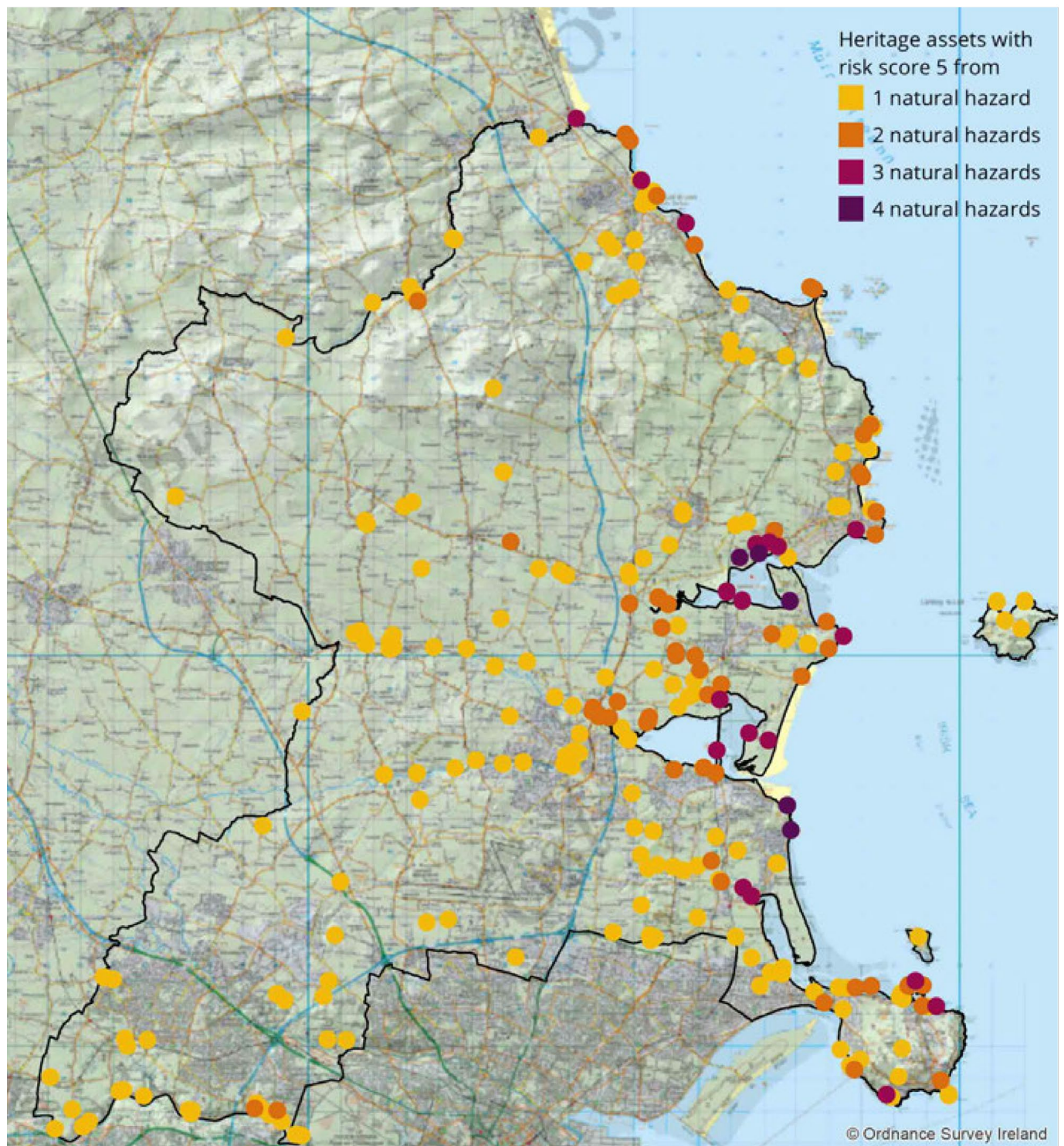


Figure 1 - Map of sites at risk (from Fingal Cultural Heritage Risk Assessment Report 2021)

Fingal Cultural Heritage & Climate Change Risk Assessment Online Map

- Under the map title on the upper left part of the screen, click on ‘Basemap’ and select ‘Imagery’ to provide a satellite image base for your map.
- To identify a named location, type into the window on the upper right of the screen that says ‘Find address or place’. Alternatively zoom in to the desired location using the + and – signs in the upper left corner of the map.
- All the heritage assets are colour coded. The colours are explained on the left hand side of your screen. These scores indicate the level of climate change related risk faced by each site.

If you would like to read the final Fingal Climate Risk Assessment Report in more detail, it [is available here](#) and the interactive map [can be explored here](#).
What can you do to help?

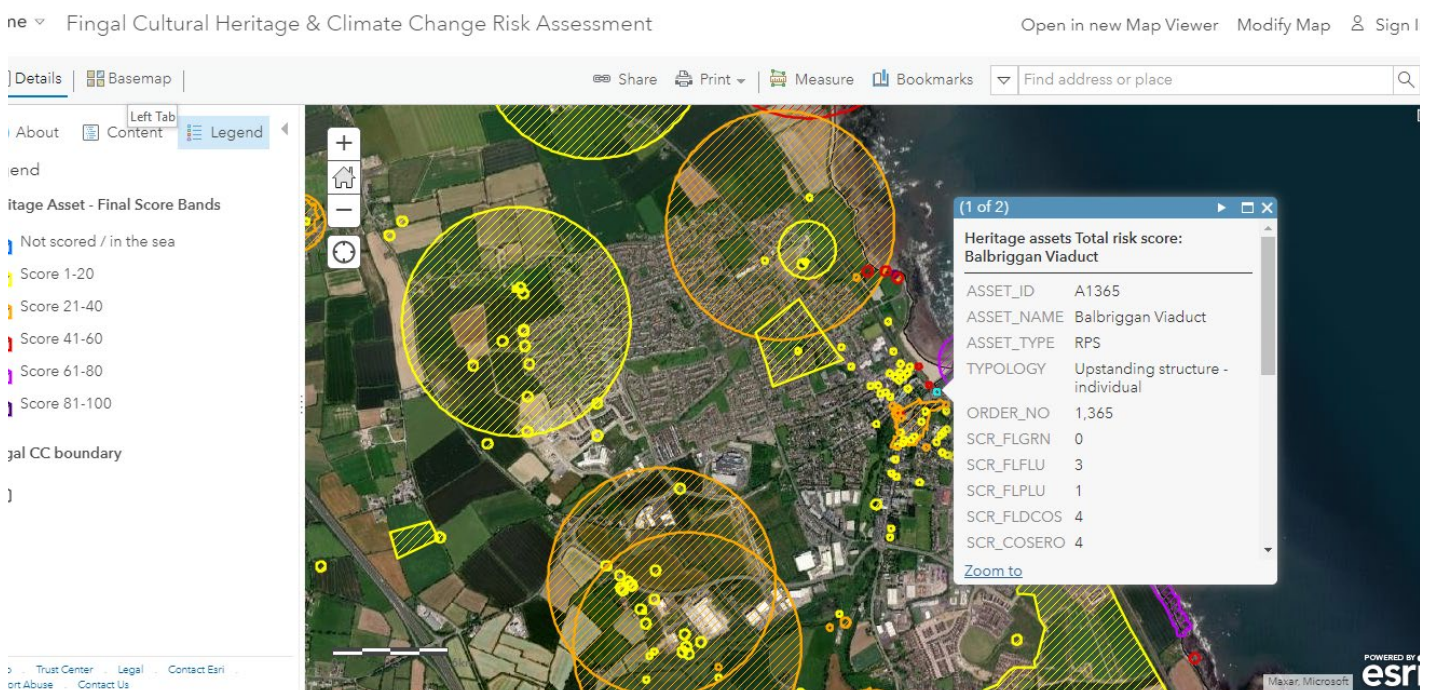


Figure 2. Screenshot of Fingal Cultural Heritage & Climate Change Risk Assessment Online Map

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The risk assessment was primarily a desk-based study. Now that the risks and hazards have been identified, we need your help to record and monitor the condition of your local heritage sites ‘in the field’.

We have put together this toolkit to provide advice and guidance on visiting and recording heritage sites in Fingal.

Whether you hope to visit sites throughout the county or make regular reports on a particular site near your home, the methods are the same; this guide is aimed at helping you put these methods into practice.

Why are we doing this?

Fingal Heritage X Climate Project aims to capture valuable information about the condition of our heritage sites which are in danger of damage and even loss to climate change.

Our heritage is a valuable link to the past and is also part of the living cultural heritage of the very varied and diverse Fingal landscape. We all have a role in caring for it.

By providing up to date reports on the condition of heritage sites and the risks they face, you can allow Fingal County Council and other bodies to create sustainable and suitable plans for their future and prioritise any works that might be necessary to protect or conserve them.

Unfortunately it is not possible to save every site at risk, as resources are not always available. Instead we can use the information we are gathering to highlight where resources can best be used. In some cases sites can be conserved or protected, however in other cases the only option is careful recording before loss, known as preservation by record.

2. Role of the participant

The Fingal HeritageXClimate Project is designed to encourage participants to visit and monitor heritage sites in their locality and record any risks or damage that they observe. This will be done through an online recording form. This toolkit provides information and guidance to participants on how to fill in the form and all other aspects of the project.

This toolkit is based on training provided by Abarta Heritage at the outset of the project. A recording of the first training session [can be found here](#). This toolkit also contains useful information for those that are new to the project to help them to acquire the knowledge, techniques and skills they need to take part.

As a participant, you are free to choose the sites or areas you want to monitor for this project and to dictate the pace at which you work. It is advisable, however, to start in a locality that you are already familiar with, with your own property or where you know the property owners, somewhere close to where you live or a place where you have relatives or friends. You can then branch out into other localities if you wish.



Mulhaddart Church (Image by Abarta Heritage)

Some of the more important knowledge and skills that you need are set out in the following sections:

- **Internet access** is necessary for this project as the Site Recording Form must be filled out online. You can choose to fill it out ‘in the field’ using a smartphone or tablet or fill it out on a computer/laptop at home. If you are not filling out the form on site, please be sure to bring a copy of the questions with you so that you remember to record all the necessary information. A PDF of the form can be [downloaded here](#) and is also available as an appendix to this document. Please note that only forms filled out digitally can be accepted.
- **The Site Recording Form** is the key tool for gathering information. It is important that all participants use this form to ensure consistency. This toolkit contains important guidance on filling out the form. Please read it through before visiting your site(s).
- **One recording form must be completed for each location or site visit.** If you visit the same site more than once, you will need to fill out a different form for each visit. While it may not be possible to complete every question on the survey form for every site visited, you should try to be as thorough as possible. If you are monitoring a site with multiple visits, try and do this in different seasons or after weather events e.g. storms.
- **The project involves visiting sites and monuments.** Visiting farmland can also be an element of the work. To help you navigate this, this toolkit presents some guidance about how to interact with these landscapes, such as providing details of the Countryside Code and relevant Health & Safety considerations.

Getting started

When setting out to visit and record heritage sites for this project there are some things you need to be aware of.

- For sites located on private property, you must obtain the owner's permission to enter the property (see below).
- Please note all the health and safety advice is in the next section of this toolkit.
- Some of the recorded heritage sites will not be visible above ground, such as those sites that are recorded in the Historic Environment Viewer as 'cropmarks'. **For subsurface archaeology** sites like this you can still record the condition and observed risks for the location.
- Some things you might need: a camera, a measuring tape, either a smartphone/tablet or a print out of the record form, pen/pencil.



Baldongan Church (Image by Abarta Heritage)

3. Field Survey Work – Some Guidelines

While some heritage sites are easily and freely accessible, you should always be aware that depending on where they are located, visiting them can require the permission, co-operation and good will of farmers, landowners, and others. It is important to behave respectfully and with due courtesy when dealing with landowners and carrying out survey work. It is also important to be aware of potential hazards in the countryside and on the coast and avoid taking unnecessary risks.

For sites located on private property, if you don't know the farmer or landowner personally, you should seek out a mutual acquaintance or someone known to them who can make an introduction. Explain the purpose of the project when requesting permission to enter onto private land. If you are visiting farmland, you should familiarise yourself with the Countryside Code and the Leave No Trace Principles (below) and observe these at all times. These also apply when visiting coastal sites.

The Country Code

1. **Respect the people** who live and work in the countryside.
2. **Respect private property**, farmland and all rural areas.
3. **Park carefully**; avoid blocking farm gateways or narrow roads.
4. **Use approved walking routes** where they exist.
5. Where possible **ask permission** before crossing farmland.
6. **Dogs should be kept under close control** and should not be brought onto hills or farmland without the landowner's permission.
7. **Avoid damage to fences**, hedges and walls; use gates and stiles when crossing.
8. **Leave all gates as you find them** (open or closed).

9. **Do not interfere** with machinery, crops or animals. Protect wildlife, water sources, plants and trees.
10. **Walk on the centre of tracks**; don't trample vegetation on the edges.
11. **Take your litter home**; even biodegradable items can take years to disappear.
12. **Guard against all risk of fire** and avoid making unnecessary noise.
13. Always **keep children closely supervised** during a walk.

Leave No Trace Principles

1. **Plan ahead** & prepare
2. **Be considerate** of others
3. **Respect farm animals** and wildlife
4. **Travel on durable ground**
5. **Leave what you find**
6. **Dispose of waste properly**
7. **Minimise the risk of fire**



Figure 3. Warning sign on Howth Coastline (from Fingal Cultural Heritage Risk Assessment Report 2021)

Health & Safety

Participants are responsible for their own safety. Always avoid taking unnecessary risks in relation to any hazard to minimise the likelihood of accidents and injuries

General safety advice

- Walking surfaces can vary considerably with the weather. Always wear strong footwear with a good grip. Some kind of footwear is always advisable on beaches due to sharp objects in the sand
- Check the weather forecast and be sure to dress appropriately e.g. warm and waterproof clothing and sunscreen.
- Always supervise children, especially near cliff edges, water and traffic.
- If possible, when visiting a remote location, let someone know where you are going.
- If visiting a site on the roadside, always remain aware of passing traffic.

Coastal safety

- **Be aware of tide times.** Being cut off by a rising tide is the most obvious, but commonest, reason for coastguard callouts. Always know the time of high tide so you can plan your visit safely, giving yourself time to get off the shore well before high tide. Tides can come in very quickly especially around rocky headlands with an onshore wind. Tide tables are available at <https://www.tidettime.org/europe/ireland/> or you can purchase a booklet in local shops.
- **Stay back from the base of cliffs.** Loose rockfalls and landslides are more frequent than you think.
- **Stay away from the cliff edges,** especially during high winds. The rocks and soil are loose at the cliff edge and can be dangerous to walk upon. Your weight may cause a slippage that brings you with it. Coastal cliff tops are generally unfenced so your safety is your responsibility.

- **Do not walk on coastal defences such as rock armour and boulders.**
- **High Seas can be dangerous.** Stay away from sea walls, slipways, rocky shores etc during stormy weather as large waves can sweep you off your feet. We advise against site visits during extreme weather
- **Suspicious objects** Very occasionally, objects such as chemical containers or unexploded ordnance are washed ashore. Keep your distance and report it to the Gardaí, giving the time and location.

Hazards to be aware of

- horses, bulls, cattle & other livestock
- farm machinery
- barbed wire fencing & electric fencing
- unstable gates, fences & stiles
- drains, ditches, rivers & open water
- unstable buildings
- uneven, slippery or otherwise hazardous ground
- cliff edges and steep slopes
- rising tides and quicksands
- high seas
- traffic

You should avoid taking unnecessary risks in relation to any hazard to minimise the likelihood of accidents and injuries. Please follow our general safety advice. You should not bring dogs onto farmland.

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In case of Emergency:

In case of an accident or other emergency, **call 999** and ask for the relevant service (Gardai, ambulance, coastguard, fire service)

If you discover an artefact....

Where an archaeological site is actively eroding, it is possible for artefacts to become exposed. If you discover an artefact, take careful note of exactly where you found it, store it carefully, and report it to the National Museum of Ireland.

Please note that it is against the law to dig for artefacts. If an artefact is only partially exposed, please do not try and remove it. Just take a photograph and report it.

How to report your find to the National Museum:

Phone the Duty Officer in the Irish Antiquities Division at (01) 6777444 or send an email to antiquitiesdo@museum.ie



Bremore (Image by Abarta Heritage)

4. Filling out the Online Record Form

Section 1: Site visit details

Date / Time / Weather conditions

It is important to describe the weather at the time of survey as certain factors, such as very wet or dark conditions, can affect how a site looks. For coastal sites, the tide and the condition of the foreshore should also be noted, so that its accessibility can be recorded.

Recorder details

Please provide your name and at least one form of contact so we can keep you updated.

Recorders who are under 18 must be accompanied by an adult if visiting sites and the form should be submitted on their behalf giving the contact details of the adult.

Section 2: Identify site location

This part of the form will help you to identify the site you are visiting using the National Monument Service's Historic Environment Viewer (<https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>). You will also be given instructions on how to use this interactive map to find out whether the site is already recorded or a new discovery. If it is a recorded monument you can find out the site's reference number, what townland it is in, what it is (classification or type of site) and its location co-ordinates. This information can then be copied into the form.

An explanation of how to use the Historic Environment Viewer can also be [found here](#).

If your site is not on the Historic Environment map, it should also be reported to the National Monuments Service. This can be done via their website: www.archaeology.ie/archaeological-survey-ireland

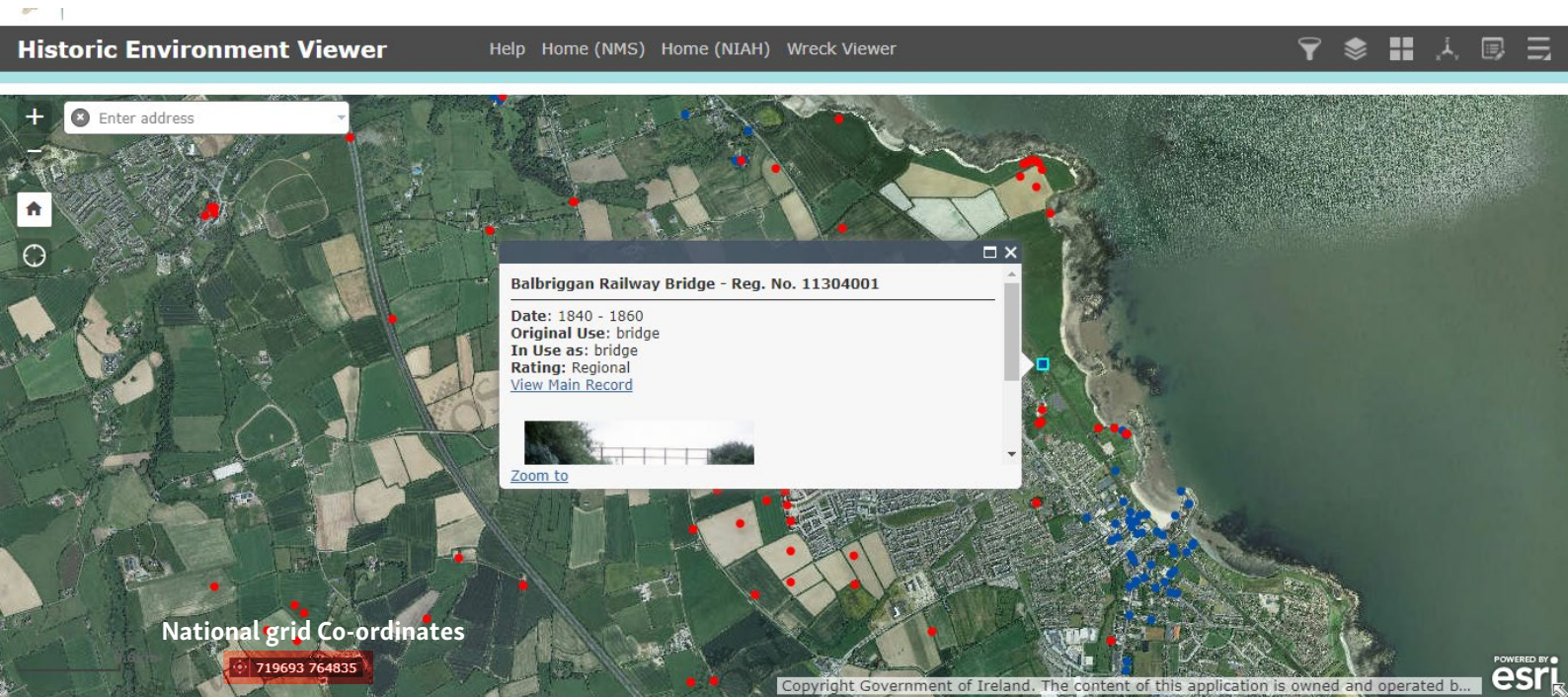


Figure 4. Screen shot of Historic Environment Viewer

Site type

A simple description of what the site is. For example, 'milestone', 'holy well', 'shell midden', 'church'. If the site type is not obvious or you are unsure, you can find this information on either the [Historic Environment Viewer](#) or the [Climate Risk Assessment map](#)

Site reference number

Every site recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record, the Record of Monuments and Places and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage are given a reference number. Within the form there is a link to the National Monument Service's interactive map. You can use this to find out if the site you are visiting is already recorded and marked with a dot.

Red dots indicate recorded sites and monuments and blue dots indicate structures on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. If you click on the relevant dot, it will give you information on the site including what it is, what townland it is in and its unique identification number.

Alternatively, the Fingal the Climate Risk Assessment map gives a unique asset ID to each site (See Fig 2).

Townland

Give the name of the townland in which the site is situated. If you are unsure, this will be found in the Historic Environment Viewer (see above).

National Grid Coordinates

The preferred form of grid co-ordinates is the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) co-ordinate system. This is a twelve figure reference – six figures for the easting and six for the northing.

You can find these using a GPS (Global Positioning System) that is enabled to provide ITM co-ordinates or you can read it from the Historic Environment Viewer, as described above. An explanation of how to use the Historic Environment Viewer can be found in our first training video [\[link\]](#).

If there is no dot on the map for the site you are visiting, you may have discovered a new site! In this case you can use the map function in the form to mark the location with a pin. Be sure to zoom in and place the pin as accurately as possible.

Section 3: Location information

Landscape location

Select from provided list. More than one selection may be relevant (e.g. 'Riverbank' and 'woodland')

Section 4: Site description

Function

The site you are monitoring may have had one or more functions. Please select as many as you think appropriate from the list provided.

Composition

What is the site or feature composed of? Please select the relevant option(s) from the list provided. Use the comment box to make any observations, e.g. the approximate proportions of different materials. You can also use this space if the material is not on the list provided.

Site description/ Identifying features

IMPORTANT: If the site is in a dangerous condition or a dangerous location, please do not attempt to take measurements and if taking photos, please do so from a safe distance. Stay safe.

Things to consider when describing your site include:

What is its general condition? Has it changed since you last visited it? What shape is the ground plan e.g. circular, rectangular? What are the maximum and minimum dimensions? Are there any other features or structures associated with it? Is there noticeable vegetation growth or damage?

For buildings: Is it roofed? Is it still in use?

Features seen in eroded coastal edges of even river banks might only be seen 'in section'. This means that there might not be any sign of them on the ground surface above – you are only seeing a slice through the feature. Describe the shape as you see it (See Fig 5). If it is very complex, don't worry, measurements and good photographs will do a lot of the work for you.

Taking measurements

- Aim to take key measurements like maximum or minimum length, width and depth or thickness (where appropriate and where safe). See the image below for guidelines on different types of measurements.
- When providing dimensions, it is important to state whether they are measured (i.e. using a measuring tape) or estimated. Please use the metric system (metres and centimetres).
- If the site you are describing is previously unrecorded, your description will be the first step towards identifying it.

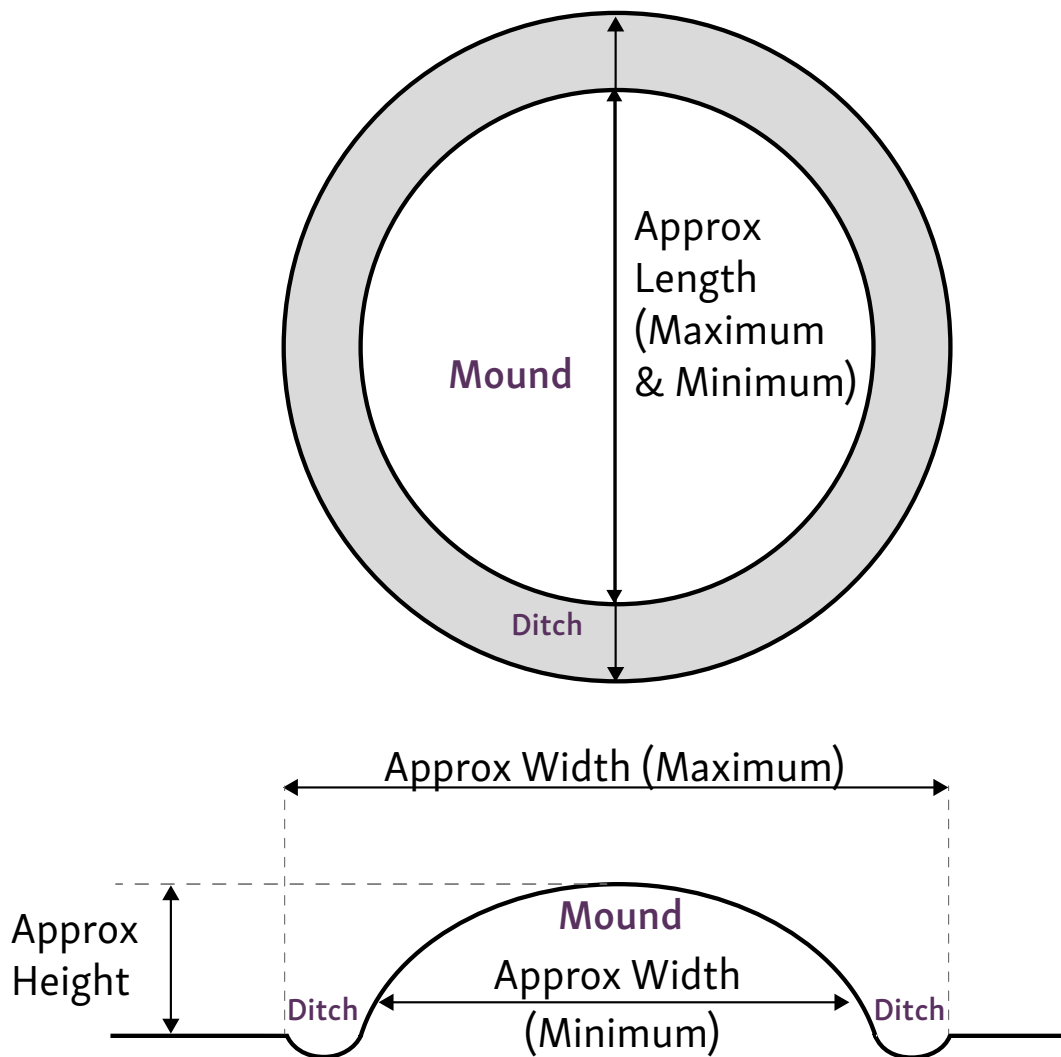


Figure 5: A guidance on how to take key measurements on an earthwork. Focus on maximum width/depth etc and on the straightness of measuring tape!

Section 5: Observed risks to site

Threats observed

Please select from the provided list. Additional observations can be added to the comment box e.g. evidence of recent landslide; people observed climbing on walls.

Section 6: Upload images

Photos

Upload to the form directly from your device . It is important that you upload at least one image of the site. You may upload a maximum of five images.



Figure 6. Skerries Mills (From: Creative Commons)

Appendix 1. Heritage site types – useful definitions

This is a list of the key types of heritage site that can be found in Fingal. Please note the feature and find out as much information about it as possible.

Archaeological Features

- **Barrow:** Circular ditched enclosure, often with an earthen mound in the centre, which covers a burial. Usually dates to the Bronze Age.
- **Bawn:** A defensive structure that would have surrounded a tower house.
- **Bullaun:** A large stone with one or more circular depressions carved into it. Often related to early medieval monastic sites; they may have served as holy water fonts, or may have had a more practical purpose similar to a large pestle and mortar for grinding herbs or minerals.
- **Cairn:** A man-made drystone mound, often covering the chambers of a megalithic tomb.
- **Cashel:** A stone-built circular enclosure, usually dating to the early medieval period. A variation of a ringfort.
- **Cist:** A stone-lined grave or chamber, usually dating to the earlier part of the Bronze Age.
- **Court tomb:** A megalithic tomb type that usually features a large courtyard area in front of a covered gallery that contained human remains, often in two or more chambers. The galleries or chambers were originally covered with a large cairn of small stones or earth.
- **Cup-marked stone:** A form of pre-historic art, consisting of a concave depression, no more than a few centimetres across, pecked into a rock surface and often surrounded by concentric circles also etched into the stone.

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- **Cursus:** A large prehistoric monument consisting of two parallel embankments.
- **Dolmen/ Portal Tomb:** A megalithic tomb type typically consisting of a simple chamber formed of upright stones, with a large capstone. The monument was then possibly covered with a cairn of small stones or a mound of earth.
- **Éire signs:** Very large letters spelling Éire accompanied by a number, marked on the ground surface in white to be viewed from the air. Made during 1943 to indicated to bombers that they were over neutral territory.
- **Fulacht Fiadh:** They commonly survive as a low horseshoe shaped mound of charcoal-enriched soil and heat shattered stone with a slight depression at its centre showing the position of the pit.
- **High cross:** A tall stone cross, often elaborately decorated with geometric designs or biblical depictions. Usually in association with early medieval Irish monastic sites.
- **Holy Well:** A naturally occurring spring or small pool of water which has been revered locally, often as far back as the pre-Christian era. Their adornment ranges from a few simple stones to larger domed enclosures. They are often associated with a particular saint, folklore or cure.
- **Henge:** A large circular enclosure, usually comprised of earthen banks and ditches, and thought to have had a ceremonial function.
- **Ice House:** Small, rounded structures built on the grounds of large country houses during the 18th and 19th centuries to store ice throughout the year. They were often built partially underground, close to lakes or rivers and sometimes insulated with, soil, straw or sawdust. During the winter, ice and snow would be cut from lakes or rivers, taken into the ice house and used as a source of ice during summer months.
- **Keep:** The central tower of a castle.

- **Kerbstones:** A line of stones surrounding a megalithic tomb. Sometimes decorated, kerbstones helped to keep the mound or cairn in place, as well as marking the boundary of the tomb.
- **Look Out Posts (LOPs):** Small concrete structures with windows looking out to sea, built at the outset of the Second World War for the Marine and Coastwatching Service.
- **Martello tower:** A circular tower usually positioned on the coastline or riverside. Constructed as a defence by the British army in the wars against Napoleonic France in the early nineteenth century.
- **Mass Rock:** During the seventeenth century, the penal laws were introduced in Ireland which forbade Irish Catholics from practising their faith. Mass Rocks were used by priests to say Mass out in the open where they were unlikely to be discovered.
- **Midden:** is an old dump for domestic waste which may consist of food waste such as sea shells, animal bone and botanical material as well as artefacts associated with past human occupation.
- **Moat/ Motte:** Served as the foundation for a wooden or stone tower. Would often have been accompanied by a bailey.
- **Ogham Stone:** An upstanding stone inscribed with the early Irish script, that usually dates to the early centuries AD. Ogham consists of a series of horizontal or diagonal strokes crossing a vertical central line.
- **Passage tomb:** The largest and most elaborate of the megalithic tomb types. Usually consists of a stone-lined passageway leading to a burial chamber. The passageway and chamber are then covered with an earthen or stone mound. Sometimes a mound may cover multiple passages and chambers. The most famous example in Ireland is Newgrange in County Meath.
- **Pillbox:** a small, partly underground concrete structure used as an outpost during WW2

- **Portcullis:** A defensive gate in the entrance or gateway of a castle or lowered into position in times of danger.
- **Promontory fort:** a fortified coastal headland or promontory that is naturally defended by a cliff on the seaward sides and with one or more straight or curved ramparts of earth or stone, with accompanying ditches, protecting the landward side.
- **Rath/Ringfort:** Roughly circular enclosure surrounded by one or more ditches with banks of earth or stone. Usually dating to the early medieval period, ringforts are one of the most numerous archaeological sites in the Irish landscape. The enclosures often defended houses and other ancillary structures within it. When the enclosure is constructed of stone it is often termed a cashel.
- **Round Tower:** Iconic and uniquely Irish, round towers were tall, slender towers of stone primarily used as belfries.
- **Sheela-na-gig:** Small sculptures of nude females (and occasionally males) exhibiting their genitalia. Their purpose is subject to debate: some believe they were a way of warding off evil spirits, others believe that they were a warning against the sins of the flesh.
- **Souterrain:** A tunnel-like stone passageway, usually dating to the early medieval period. Mainly found in association with ringforts or monastic sites. Thought to have been used for storage or possibly refuge. May feature chambers and multiple passageways.
- **Subsurface archaeology:** archaeological remains that survive below the ground surface but are not visible on the ground surface. They can be detected using geophysical survey or sometimes be observed as cropmarks
- **Sweat House:** Dating from the 18th century, sweathouses (teach allais in Irish) were small, oblong-shaped structures which were used as both a sauna and for medicinal purposes. A fire was lit inside the structure and people's illnesses were thought to be 'sweated out' of them as they sat inside.

- **Togher:** A wooden or stone trackway across boggy or marshy ground.
- **Tower house:** a fortified medieval residence of stone, usually four or more stories in height
- **Wedge tomb:** The most numerous of Ireland's megalithic tombs, and most commonly found in the western half of the country. The name refers to the simple wedge shape, as the height and width of the monument decreases from the front to the rear. Wedge tombs are the last of Ireland's megalithic tombs, and usually date to the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age periods.

Natural Landscape Features

- **Drumlin:** An oval or elongated hill believed to have been formed by the streamlined movement of glacial ice sheets across rock debris or till.
- **Glacial erratic:** A large boulder carried by glacial ice and deposited at a distance from its point of origin.
- **Gravel Pit:** An area of a field that may have been suitable for the extraction of sand and gravel for construction purposes. A pit may appear as a pond or small lake if the depression has filled with rain water.

Industrial, Farming & Other Man-Made Features

- **Benchmark:** A mapping tool which was used throughout the 19th century all over the world. Benchmarks today look like crows feet carved into stone with three prongs extending from a horizontal line. This line was used as a 'bench' to hold a rod which could measure the height above sea level and could be used over and over again.
- **Bridge:** A bridge over a small stream or river may provide historic information relating to stream development or old road systems.

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- **Dovecote:** A structure intended to house pigeons or doves. They may be free-standing structures in a variety of shapes or built into the end of a house or barn. They generally contain pigeonholes for the birds to nest. The birds were kept for their eggs, flesh, and dung.
- **Famine Ridges:** During the 19th century, Irish peasants planted potato seeds in what were known as 'lazy beds' – ridges about 5 foot in width, with a furrow running between each ridge. When the Great Famine took place in 1845-47, these lazy beds were abandoned as the population either died or emigrated and the overgrown ridges now remain in the landscape.
- **Folly:** An unusual, decorative building usually built in the grounds of a large estate as a curiosity and extravagant addition to the estate.
- **Forge:** Where a blacksmith would have created objects from wrought iron or steel by forging the metal, using tools to hammer, bend and cut the metal. While the building itself may not remain, local folklore may suggest that a forge once existed in the field.
- **Iron Gates & Stone Piers:** The gates can be plain or decorative and may still have some of their original paint. They are heavier than modern gates and will sometimes have the blacksmith's mark imprinted on them. The gates may no longer be in situ but the stones piers from which they hung are often still in place.
- **Killeen (Cillín in Irish):** These are often located outside the walls of a consecrated graveyards and were used to bury unbaptised children and sometimes adults. As the graves are unmarked, the location of a Killeen is often only known to locals through local folklore.
- **Limekiln:** Once a common feature of the rural Irish landscape of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, today, not many survive. Lime kilns are egg-shaped structures in which limestone was heated to a high temperature to produce quicklime. Although the quicklime had many uses, it was primarily used on agricultural land to improve soil quality by breaking up heavy clay.

- **Memorial:** May be a cross or some other structure placed to commemorate a person, group or event.
- **Mill (including mill stone, mill wheel, mill race):** The remains of mill building are often found dotted along rivers and streams. They were predominantly used for milling flour but had many other functions including the production of cotton and the grinding of bones to make bone-meal fertiliser.
- **Rag tree:** A tree (usually positioned next to a holy well or church site) with strips of cloth or rags tied to its branches as part of a healing ritual. As the cloth unravels and rots so the disease or ailment is believed to fade away.
- **Scratching Post:** An upright post made from timber, stone or metal that livestock use for scratching on.
- **Sheep Dip:** These would usually have been located beside a stream of river and would have an enclosed pen and run for the sheep.
- **Sheep Gap (or sheep creep):** A rectangular hole built into stone field boundary walls to let sheep move from one field to another.
- **Stone Walls:** Although more often found in the west of Ireland where the land is poorer and more stone-filled, fields may be separated by low stone walls where stones have been taken from the ground in order to utilise the land for farming.
- **Stone Quarry:** An area from which stone was extracted in large quantities, usually for construction. A quarry can often have high stone walls, giving the appearance of an amphitheatre.
- **Water pump:** Once used to pump water from a deep well or spring, these are often found in a central location. Although no longer used as a main water source, they are maintained as a decorative feature within a locality.

Appendix 2. Fingal Heritage X Climate Site Monitoring Form

By filling in this form, you will be providing valuable information that will be used in years to come to monitor both the changing condition of and risks to these sites.

The form consists of six short sections, including a section where you can upload photographs. It will take at least five minutes to complete this form. This will vary depending on the type/size of the site and how much detail you include.

*The red asterisk indicates a required field

In order to proceed, please answer the following two questions:

*Have you:

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Consulted the project toolkit? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Attended any of the three training sessions? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Viewed the recorded training session? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

*Have you read and do you accept the terms and conditions of participating in this project?

- Yes No

Section 1: Site visit details

*Is this your first visit to record this site?

Yes No

*Date of visit _____

*Time of visit (hh:mm)_____

*Weather conditions (Please Provide short description)

Tide (if relevant)

*Recorded by:

*Submitted by (if recorder is under 18, form must be submitted by an appropriate adult)

*Contact email address

(if recorder is under 18, email should be that of submitter)

Section 2: Identify site location

To find out whether the site you are looking at is previously recorded or a new discovery, follow the link to the National Monuments Service's Historic Environment Viewer [<https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>] and follow the instructions below.

- 1) The link above will open in to the Irish Historic Environment Viewer.
- 2) On the 'Basemap Gallery' (an icon of 4 squares near the top right corner) use 'Digital Globe'; this is the most recent Aerial Photograph of Ireland.
- 3) Zoom in as much as possible to the location you are exploring. If the site is recorded it will be indicated with a blue or red dot. Click on the dot to retrieve the townland name (e.g. 'Rush'), site reference number and site type/classification (e.g. 'castle', 'barrow').
- 4) Move the cursor over your site/discovery. In the bottom left of your screen you will see coordinates. You can copy these into the 'National Grid Reference' answer box below.

***Site Type** This information can be seen on either the [Historic Environment Viewer](#) OR the [Fingal Climate Risk Assessment map](#) .

Site reference number Reference number for either the Sites and Monuments Record (e.g. DU008-074----) or the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (e.g. Reg. No. 11323016) or the Climate Risk Assessment map provides an Asset_ID for each site (e.g. A0979)

***Townland**

***National Grid Reference (ITM)** If there is no dot at your location, that means you may have found a new site. You can records its location using the map function here. For those not using the online version for their site visit, take note of the co-ordinates as described on page 20.

Section 3: Location information

*Where in the landscape is the site located?

- Inland
- Coastal Edge
- River bank
- Intertidal (between high and low tide marks)
- Submerged
- Agricultural – grassland
- Agricultural – tillage
- Woodland
- Parkland/Gardens
- Scrub/Wasteland
- Urban
- Industrial
- Upland

Are you aware to a local name, field name, folklore or history associated with this site? If so, please add it below:

Section 4: Site description

Please refer to page 22 of the toolkit for guidelines on describing and measuring your site.

What was the function of the site? The site you are monitoring may have had one or more functions. Please tick as many as you think appropriate.

- Coastal
- Settlement
- Military
- Industrial
- Transport
- Nautical
- Fishing
- Ritual
- Unknown
- Other (please specify)

***Composition – what is the site/feature made up of?** The site you are monitoring may be made up of a number of different elements. Please tick as many as are appropriate.

- Timber
- Roundwood
- Seashell
- Earth
- Brick
- Stone/masonry
- Concrete
- Composite (more than one material)
- Metal
- Other (please specify)

***Site description/ Identifying features**

Section 5: Observed risks to site

*Have you observed any of the following threats to the site that are or might cause damage?

- Active erosion
- Storm surge
- Wind
- Flooding (coastal)
- Flooding (river)
- Flooding (as a result of heavy rainfall)
- Groundwater flooding (raised water table)
- Wave action
- Vegetation growth
- Animal disturbance
- Slope instability
- Visitor traffic
- Vehicle damage
- Development
- Illegal dumping
- Fire
- Other (please specify)

If you want to add more observations please type them here:

Section 6: Upload images

*Upload photographs of the site here Please restrict images to a maximum of 5.

**Thank you for your valuable contribution to
HeritageXClimate Fingal**

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Heritage Office



**Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall**
Fingal County
Council



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

