



DONABATE - PORTRANE

Heritage Audit Report

SINÉAD BEGLEY & ASSOCIATES ON BEHALF OF FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL





Cover photos were kindly provided by the following: Mute Swans, Martello Tower, Donabate, Cliff path from Tower Bay toward Donabate by Alain Rochecouste. Bells at the former St. Ita's Hospital by James Bannon. Common Blue butterfly from The Irish Butterfly Book by Jesmond Harding (2021). Sea Thrift and Sea Holly © Zoë Devlin www.wildflowersofireland.com Puffin by John Doyle ([natureshots.jp](https://www.instagram.com/natureshots.jp) on Instagram).

The wonderful artwork on the inner covers and throughout the report was kindly provided by students at St. Patrick's Boys' National School and Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School. Work includes depictions of the wildlife of the area, Carr's Mill, the former St. Ita's Hospital, Newbridge House and Stella's Tower.
Thank you to all involved!

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Acknowledgements..... | 6 |
| Foreword..... | 9 |
| Introduction | 10 |
| Heritage Audit Study Area | 10 |
| Report and Inventory of the Archaeological Assets of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula | 11 |
| Structure of Report | 11 |
| 1. Nature and Biodiversity of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula | 13 |
| Rogerstown Estuary | 13 |
| Malahide Estuary | 14 |
| Turvey Nature Reserve..... | 15 |
| Beaverstown Nature Reserve and Corballis Nature Park | 17 |
| The Burrow Beach, Portrane..... | 17 |
| Geology and Soil..... | 20 |
| Tower Bay to Donabate Beach..... | 22 |
| Cliffs, Caves and Cures | 24 |
| St Ita's Campus Woodlands and Wetlands | 26 |
| Donabate Beach | 27 |
| Nature at Newbridge Demesne | 28 |
| Community Action for Natural Heritage..... | 29 |
| 2. The Archaeology of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula | 31 |
| The Inventory of Sites | 31 |
| 3. Timeline of Life on the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula | 37 |
| From Early Settlers to the Arrival of Christianity | 37 |
| Fingal and the Romanised World..... | 38 |
| The Arrival of Christianity | 39 |
| St Mochuda's Well and the Chapel Bank..... | 39 |
| Tuath Tuirbhe and the Gobán Saor..... | 41 |

| | |
|---|----|
| The Vikings and Anglo-Normans | 42 |
| The Vikings | 42 |
| The Anglo-Normans | 43 |
| Lanistown Castle | 44 |
| 4. Heritage Houses, Demesnes and Estates of the Peninsula | 47 |
| Turvey House | 47 |
| Joseph Daw and the Murders at Turvey | 48 |
| Corballis House | 48 |
| Kilcrea House | 49 |
| Seafield House | 50 |
| Newbridge House and Demesne | 50 |
| Portrane House and Demesne | 53 |
| Hampden Evans and the 1798 Rebellion | 54 |
| Sophia Parnell-Evans and the Widow's Tower | 54 |
| The Famine | 55 |
| 5. Portrane and the Burrow | 58 |
| St Catherine's Church | 59 |
| Stella's Tower | 59 |
| St Ita's Campus | 60 |
| 6. Donabate Village | 65 |
| St Patrick's Church of Ireland Church, Donabate | 65 |
| St Patrick's Catholic Church, Donabate | 66 |
| Schools and Education | 68 |
| Ballisk | 69 |
| The Railway | 71 |
| The 1916 Rising | 72 |
| Lamb Brothers Fruit Farm and Orchards | 73 |
| 7. Maritime and Coastal Heritage | 75 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Mills, Harbours, and Quays | 75 |
| Martello Towers | 76 |
| Smuggling | 77 |
| The Burning of the Coast Guard | 78 |
| The Sinking of the Tayleur | 79 |
| A Community Commemoration of Local Heritage | 79 |
| 8. The People of the Peninsula - Social History and Culture | 81 |
| Community Arts, Literature and Music | 81 |
| The Donabate Mummers | 82 |
| Artists in Residence at Lynder's Mobile Home Park | 83 |
| Sport | 84 |
| The National Folklore School's Collection (Donabate Schools) | 86 |
| Community Action for Heritage | 86 |
| Donabate Historical Society Museum | 86 |
| Fingal Vintage Society | 87 |
| Naming of Local Housing Developments | 88 |
| 9. Consulting the Community | 89 |
| What aspect of local heritage are people most interested in or curious about? | 90 |
| What approaches to interpreting heritage do people favour? | 93 |
| Concerns raised during consultation in relation to specific heritage assets | 95 |
| 10. Interpreting Heritage, Suggested Themes and Guidance | 97 |
| Guidelines for Interpretation | 97 |
| Suggested Themes for Interpretation | 98 |
| Theme 1: Local Landmarks - Exploring the Built Heritage and Social History of Portrane Village and Donabate Village | 98 |
| Theme 2: Coastal and Maritime Heritage | 99 |
| Theme 3: What Lies Beneath? Interpreting the Archaeological Heritage of the Peninsula | 100 |
| Possible Sub-themes and Narratives for Interpreting Archaeological Sites | 101 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Promoting Heritage in Schools..... | 104 |
| Access and Inclusion | 104 |
| Connecting People with Heritage on Safe and Accessible Routes..... | 105 |
| Highlighting Heritage in Community Spaces, and Heritage Properties | 106 |
| Collaboration to Celebrate Local Heritage..... | 106 |
| Relevant Plans and Policies | 107 |
| Funding and Support for Community Heritage Projects..... | 107 |
| Useful Contacts | 108 |
| Appendix 1. Archaeological Inventory Tables..... | 109 |
| The Location..... | 109 |
| The Known Archaeology | 109 |
| Accessibility..... | 110 |
| Appendix 2. Sites on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, Donabate-Portrane | 150 |
| Appendix 3. The Portrane Shore Heritage Trail by Mick Mongey | 152 |
| References | 153 |

Acknowledgements

A very special thank you to the Community Liaison Group and all those that shared their knowledge and expertise by providing publications, videos, photos, and other information on the heritage of Donabate and Portrane to share with the community.

Congratulations and a huge thank you are also due to the pupils of fifth class at St Patrick's Boys' National School and sixth class at Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School, and their teachers, for their wonderful drawings of the birds, wildlife and built heritage of the peninsula. The pupil's enthusiasm and curiosity about their local heritage is truly inspiring!

Sinéad Begley and Associates would also like to thank everyone who took part in surveys, workshops, or meetings as part of the heritage audit. We also appreciate the fantastic support of community groups, councillors and other organisations and individuals who shared surveys and raised awareness of the heritage audit in the area.

Community Liaison Group

Peadar Bates, Donabate Historical Society

Maura Quirke, Portrane Village Renewal Group (PVRG) and Tidy Towns

Breda Dockrell, Donabate Portrane Liaison Committee / Peninsula Pacers / Slí na Sláinte

Larry Carolan, The Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival

Eilish McDermott, Donabate Portrane Liaison Committee / The Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival / The Chinkwell Writers / The Tower Singing Circle

Gerard Ronan, Author

Other individuals and groups

Raymond Brett, Portrane Village Renewal Group (PVRG) and Tidy Towns

John Lovatt, Donabate and Portrane Tidy Towns

Nancy Dempsey

Neil Dempsey

Mick Mongey

Jesmond Harding

Noel McAllister

Christie McAllister

James Bannon

Alain Rochecouste

Aoibheann Murphy

Deirdre Cullivan

John Doyle, @natureshots.jp on Instagram

Zoë Devlin, www.wildflowersofireland.com

Áine Ní Bhrolcháin, Donabate Community College

The pupils of fifth class at St Patrick's Boys' National School, Donabate, teachers Kate Flanagan and Michelle Taaffe, and Principal Brian Horan

The pupils of sixth class at Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School, teachers Danny O'Hara and Niamh Kershaw, and Principal Susan Clarke

Cathal Dowd Smith, Curator, Newbridge House & Farm

Donald Henderson, Eamonn Grogan, Michael Robinson, Donabate Historical Society

Charles Hutcheson, Fingal Vintage Society

Tracy Lanigan, St Ita's Campus

Andrew Fleming, OWLS

Fr Pat Reilly, St Patrick's Catholic Church, Donabate

Brian Scott, St Patrick's Church, (Church of Ireland), Donabate

Jacinta Lowndes, Donabate Portrane Community & Leisure Centre

Conor Tonra, St Ita's Athletic Football Club

John Chacko, Swords Cricket Club

Maria Walsh, The Heritage Council

Aengus Kennedy, Nature Northwest

Una Halpin, Wildways Adventures Limited

Finola O'Carroll, Trim Archaeological Projects

Faith Wilson, Ecological Consultant

Corina Johnston

Fingal County Council

Councillor Adrian Henchy

Councillor Paul Mulville

Christine Baker, Heritage Officer

Hans Visser, Biodiversity Officer

Karen de Lacey, County Archivist, Fingal Local Studies & Archives

Catherine Keane, Senior Librarian, Fingal Local Studies & Archives

Fergus O'Reilly, Librarian, Donabate Library

Helena Bergin, Architectural Conservation Office

Janette Scott, Community Officer

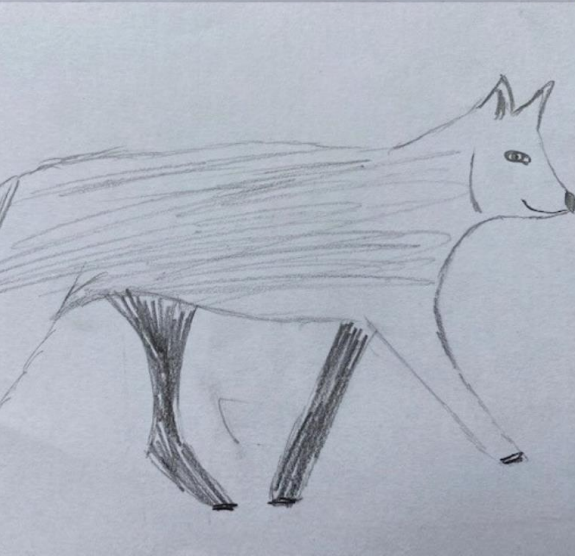
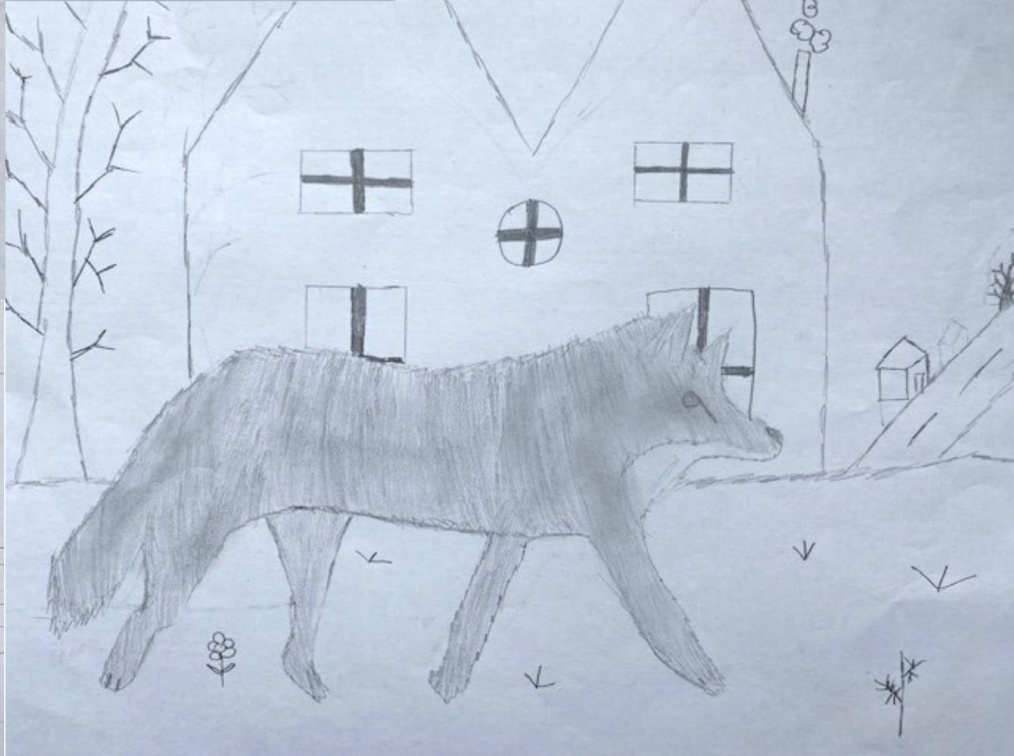
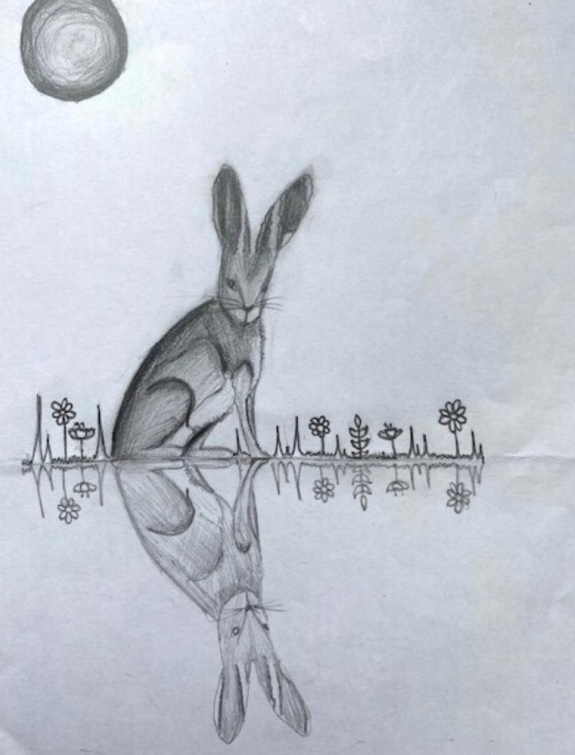
Caroline Cowley, Fingal Arts Office

Cover design by Marina Mulligan

The Report and Inventory of the Archaeological Assets of the Portrane-Donabate Peninsula was supported by the Community Monument Fund 2021.

Sinéad Begley & Associates

E: sinead@begley.ie W: www.begley.ie



Foreword

Heritage plays an important role in providing a sense of place and identity, supporting well-being, and promoting economic growth and community cohesion. As such, it is crucial that it is understood, valued, protected and made accessible to current and future generations. By collating the available information in an understandable way this heritage audit highlights the significance of the archaeological sites and monuments, historic buildings, artefacts, natural heritage sites and other elements of the Donabate-Portrane peninsula. These are tangible connections to our past and a valuable resource.

Heritage interpretation means to add meaning to experiences and is an important part of raising awareness, sharing knowledge, and preserving our past. Key to the success of this audit has been the involvement and meaningful interaction with interested groups, schools, councillors and individuals across the peninsula. Thank you to all who gave of their time, memories, expertise and knowledge. The participants and consultant Sinéad Begley are to be congratulated in producing a report which highlights the community capacity and the suite of diverse heritage assets set in the beautiful environment of the Donabate-Portrane peninsula. It is hoped that this heritage audit will provide inspiration and direction for community groups and interested individuals to work together towards creative interpretation initiatives for local communities and visitors alike.

Christine Baker, Fingal Heritage Officer

Introduction

In October 2021 Fingal Heritage Office commissioned Sinéad Begley & Associates to conduct a heritage audit of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula to identify heritage sites and features, and to provide recommendations on the best way to highlight and interpret these. It is intended that this report will provide a framework and promote a strategic and consistent approach to the development of heritage resources and interpretative materials for residents and visitors to the area. The value placed on heritage by the local community is evident in the action of local groups and individuals involved in recording, communicating, protecting and celebrating the unique character of Donabate and Portrane. Consulting the community was a key part of the heritage audit and the process and findings are detailed in Section 9.

“Heritage gives us a sense of place and is there to be experienced and enjoyed as part of everyday life by everyone in the community. We are surrounded by natural heritage including landscapes, geology, habitats, wildlife and the distinctive coastline and islands off the coast of Fingal. Clues to the past and traces of previous generations are reflected in archaeological sites, monuments, historic houses and demesnes, local history, music and folklore across the county... heritage tells the story of the place you were born, or now live, and how it has changed and developed over thousands of years.” Fingal Heritage Plan 2018-2023¹

Heritage Audit Study Area

The Donabate-Portrane Peninsula is bordered to the north, east and south by coast and to the west by the M1 motorway. Townlands include Turvey, Beaverstown, Rahillion, Portrane, Portrane Demesne, Burrow, Quay, Balcarrick, Ballymastone, Ballisk Common, Newbridge Demesne, Lanistown, Kilcrea, Corballis, Seapoint and Ballymadrough. In 2016 the Donabate Electoral Division had a population of 9,399², a figure which is likely to continue to increase due to planned housing development in the area.

The Donabate-Portrane Peninsula consists of approximately 5,000 acres (Fingal County Council, 2019: 15) and lies between Rogerstown Estuary to the north and Malahide Estuary, both of which are designated as Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas because of the birds and habitats found there. Turvey Nature Reserve, the woodlands and wetlands around St Ita's Campus and the meadows and parkland of Newbridge Demesne are also rich in biodiversity and natural heritage. The maritime heritage of the area is rich with Martello Towers at Balcarrick and

¹ Source: Fingal Heritage Plan 2018-2023 https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-11/fingal-heritage-plan-2018-2023_heritage_plan_web.pdf

² Source: Central Statistics Office <https://cso.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4d19cf7b1251408c99ccde18859ff739>

Tower Bay, and fascinating folklore associated with shipwrecks, smuggling, and the cliffs and caves of the coast.

There is a history of settlement on the peninsula dating as far back as the Mesolithic period. Neolithic artefacts have been recorded in many of the townlands including Donabate, Lanistown, Turvey, Ballymadrough, Kilcrea and Balcarrick (Fingal County Council, 2019: 15). The study area contains a wealth of recorded monuments from sub-surface enclosures, holy wells, churches, and graveyards to tower houses, harbours and tidal mills.

Both Donabate and Portrane have historic cores with medieval church sites at St Patrick's Church (Church of Ireland) in the Square in Donabate, and St Catherine's Church in Portrane. The area has significant architectural heritage with assets ranging from the stained-glass windows by Harry Clarke in St Patrick's Catholic Church, to the Victorian architectural detail, craftsmanship and artistry of the buildings of the former St Ita's Hospital.

The history of the community can be traced from the arrival of Christianity, through Viking and Norman times, up to the arrival of English landowners and is reflected in the early stone churches, demesnes, and field patterns of the peninsula. Local history of the 18th and 19th centuries is a microcosm of wider Irish history, from the tumultuous events of the Rebellion of 1798 and the famine, to the Easter Rising of 1916.

[Report and Inventory of the Archaeological Assets of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula](#)

In addition to this heritage audit a detailed study of archaeological sites on the peninsula was undertaken in 2021 by Trim Archaeological Projects on behalf of Fingal County Council, supported by the Community Monuments Fund. A total of 65 sites are on the National Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) from the 16 townlands surveyed for the study. These range in date from the earlier prehistoric (late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age), to post-medieval. The focus of the report is on the accessibility of the sites for the public. Themes and narratives have been suggested to aid interpretation and connection to these sites (O'Carroll, 2021: 1). Details of the inventory are included in Section 2 and Appendix 1.

Where sites from the archaeological inventory are referenced in this report the site number is included e.g., Stella's Tower (Site 12.1).

[Structure of Report](#)

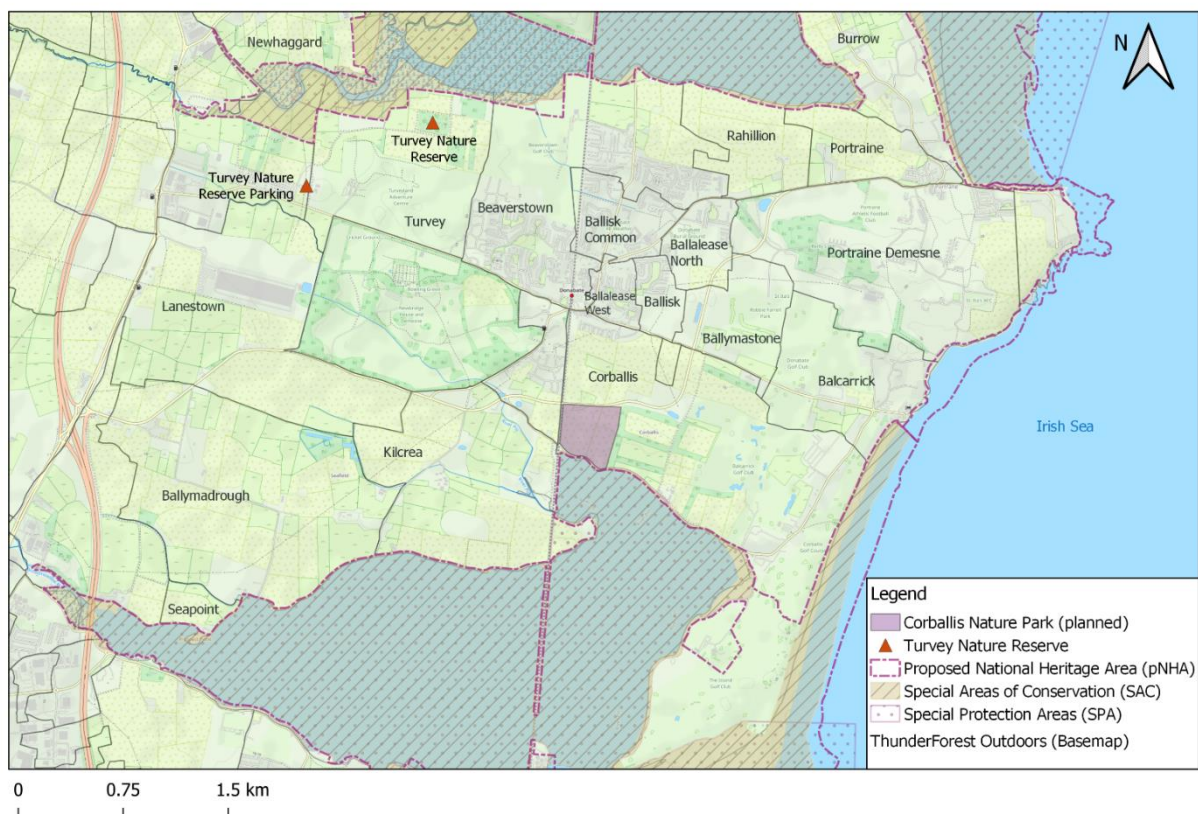
The rich and varied natural heritage, wildlife, habitats, and geology of the peninsula are covered in Section 1. Community-led projects to protect and enhance natural heritage are also featured. The Inventory of Archaeological Sites is set out in Section 2. In Section 3, a timeline of life on the

Donabate-Portrane Peninsula sets out the development of the area, in the context of Irish history. Evidence of early settlers in Neolithic times and key sites including early churches, holy wells, and Medieval sites such as Lanistown and Stella's Tower are explored.

Section 4 considers the heritage houses and lands at Turvey, Portrane, Newbridge, Seafield, Corballis and Kilcrea and the influence of land owners including the Cobbes, Barnewalls and Evans families. The evolution of the villages of Portrane and Donabate and defining events in local history including the famine, the arrival of the railway to Donabate and the construction of the former St Ita's Hospital Complex are covered in Sections 5 and 6.

The rich maritime history of the area from mills, harbours, and quays to smuggling, shipwrecks and the Martello Towers are detailed in Section 7. Section 8 is about the social and cultural heritage of the area including sports, music, arts and folklore and features community-led projects to protect built and cultural heritage. The findings of the community consultation are set out in Section 9 followed by the recommendations for heritage interpretation in Section 10.

Study Area Map³



³ Base map: OSM Thunderforest Outdoors: <https://qms.nextgis.com/geoservices/449/>. License URL: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>. Copyright text: Maps © Thunderforest, Data © OpenStreetMap contributors. Copyright URL: <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright>. Terms of use URL: <http://www.thunderforest.com/terms/>. Data: SAC & SPA: NPWS Data (Creative Commons) <https://www.npws.ie/maps-and-data/open-data-policy>

1. Nature and Biodiversity of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula

The Donabate-Portrane Peninsula is rich in terms of natural heritage, geology, landscape, and biodiversity. The estuaries and coast that surround the peninsula are protected because of the range of birds, plants, habitats, and remarkable rock formations that are found there. From the Burrow beach to Corballis, and the woodlands around St Ita's Campus to the parkland and meadows of Newbridge House, nature provides an important amenity for the community and visitors alike.

Rogerstown Estuary

Rogerstown Estuary, which lies to the north of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula is a small, narrow estuary separated from the sea by a sand and shingle bar (Portrane beach and the Burrow). The estuary is divided by the Dublin-Belfast railway viaduct, which was built in the 1840s. The Ballyboghil and Ballough rivers flow into the estuary and salinity ranges from seawater to freshwater. Saltmarsh fringes parts of the estuary, while salt meadows and wet, brackish fields lie along the tidal river, with dunes along the sand spit at the Burrow in Portrane. Sea-purslane, Glasswort, Beaked Tasselweed and Common Cord-grass are some of the characteristic plants found in the estuary.



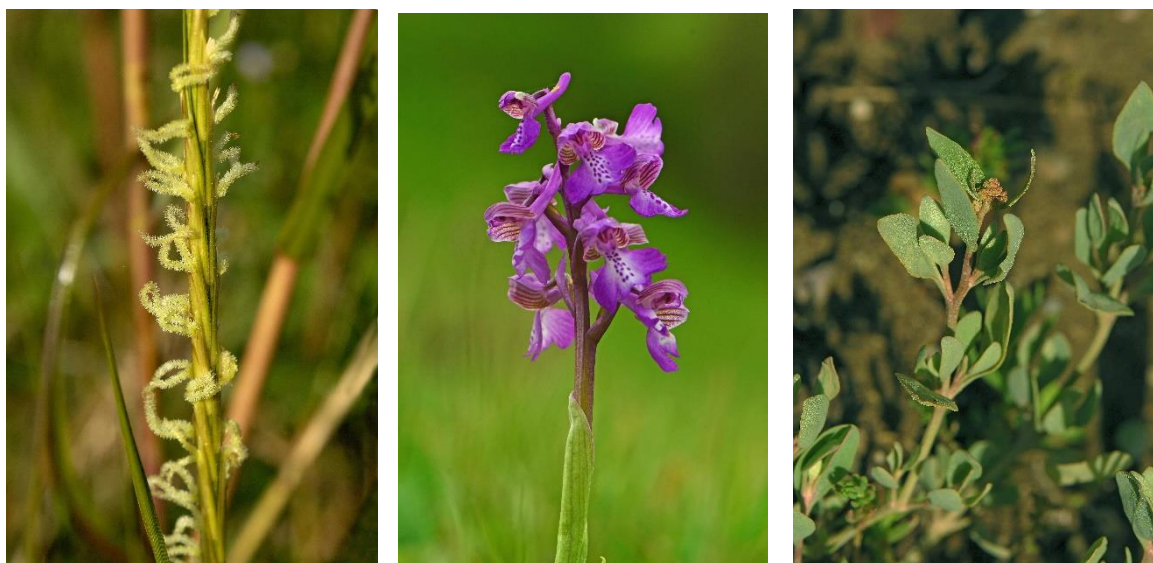
Rogerstown Estuary viewed from Turvey Nature Reserve. Marram Grass

Rogerstown Estuary, which is a **Ramsar Convention Site**⁴ is also a designated **Statutory Nature Reserve** and a **Special Area of Conservation (SAC)**⁵ under the EU Habitats Directive. This is because of the range of habitats it provides, specifically estuary, tidal mudflats and sandflats, Salicornia mud,

⁴ The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands is the intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Almost 90% of UN member states, from all the world's geographic regions, have acceded to become "Contracting Parties" <https://www.ramsar.org/>

⁵ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000208>

Atlantic and Mediterranean salt meadows, and sand dunes, stabilised by Marram grass. A number of protected plant species including Hairy Violet, Meadow Barley and Green-winged Orchid were also recorded in the 2013 site synopsis for this SAC.



Common Cord-grass, Green-winged Orchid and Sea Purslane, © Zoë Devlin www.wildflowersofireland.com

Rogerstown Estuary is also a **Proposed Natural Heritage Area** (Site 000208)⁶ and was designated as a **Special Protection Area (SPA)**⁷ under the EU Birds Directive because of an internationally important population of Brent Geese and nationally important populations of Greylag Geese, Shelduck, Shoveler, Oystercatcher, Ringed Plover, Grey Plover, Knot, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit and Redshank.

Malahide Estuary

Malahide Estuary, the estuary of the River Broadmeadow, which lies to the south of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula, has a similar range of habitats to those of Rogerstown Estuary. It is designated as a **Special Area of Conservation (SAC)**⁸ and a **Proposed Natural Heritage Area** (Site 000205)⁹ and is a popular area for water sports and coastal walks. The railway bridge has resulted in the lagoonal character of the inner estuary, which attracts Mute Swans and high numbers of ducks and diving birds including Great Crested Grebe, Goldeneye, Red-breasted Merganser and Pintail duck¹⁰. Much of the outer part of the estuary is well-sheltered from the sea by a large sand spit, known as the Island, where the Balcarrick and Island Golf courses are situated.

⁶ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/maps-and-data>

⁷ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY000208.pdf>

⁸ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY000205.pdf>

⁹ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/maps-and-data>

¹⁰ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY004025.pdf>

Estuaries provide rich feeding grounds for wading and diving birds, ducks, and geese. Low tides expose sand and mud flats to provide food sources including algae, worms, snails, fish, and shellfish. Saltmarshes offer roost sites at high tide and Malahide is a **Special Protection Areas (SPA)**¹¹ under the EU Birds Directive because of the wetland and water birds found there.



Brent Geese

Rogerstown and Malahide form part of a mosaic of estuaries on the east coast (including Dublin Bay Biosphere) that supports an internationally important population of Light-bellied Brent Geese. Each year these winter visitors travel over 5,000km¹² from Arctic Canada and Greenland to Ireland in November and remain until April. The birds feed on green seaweeds found on the estuary shore and on grass in parks and green spaces.

Turvey Nature Reserve

Turvey Nature Reserve, which lies along the Rogerstown Estuary between the M1 and Beaverstown Golf Club, features allotments, walkways, hedgerows, hay meadows, picnic areas¹³ and Fingal Forest (planted by local volunteer groups and schoolchildren)¹⁴. While Fingal County Council has been developing the Reserve since 2008, conservation measures in the parklands are focused on restoring the natural hydrology¹⁵ of the site so nature can take its course. In 2015 embankments to the south of the river were levelled to allow very high tides to flood on to grassland to mitigate the effects of climate change. This increased saltmarsh habitat and will protect housing upstream from the effects

¹¹ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY004025.pdf>

¹² Source: Dublin Biosphere <https://www.dublinbaybiosphere.ie/about/>

¹³ Source: <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/Donabate%20LAP%202016%20-%20Text%20Part%202.pdf>

¹⁴ Source: <https://birdwatchireland.ie/app/uploads/2019/03/Site-Guide-Rogerstown-Estuary.pdf>

¹⁵ National Geographic describes hydrology as the study of the distribution and movement of water both on and below the Earth's surface, as well as the impact of human activity on water availability and conditions <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/hydrology/>

of extreme weather¹⁶. Creating more ponds or open water of varying depths can benefit birds including Mute Swan, Coot, Moorhen, Heron, Kingfisher, Dabchick and Mallard¹⁷.



Mute Swans at Turvey Nature Reserve. Photo courtesy of Alain Rochecouste



A Glossy Ibis, one of the more unusual visitors to the area. Photo by John Doyle (@natureshots.jp on Instagram). A mobile nest hut for Sand Martins, small swallow-like birds that visit Ireland in Summer and breed in burrows dug into river banks or quarries¹⁸.

¹⁶ Source: Irish Times Sat, Nov 21, 2015 <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/environment/let-it-flood-an-irish-wetland-experiment-1.2435139>

¹⁶ Source: Fingal independent, May 22, 2021 <https://www.independent.ie/regional/fingalindependent/lifestyle/council-working-to-arrest-decline-of-bird-species-in-fingal-40435351.html>

¹⁸ Source: Birdwatch Ireland <https://birdwatchireland.ie/birds/sand-martin/>

There are plans to graze horses and pigs in Turvey Nature Reserve as this helps to break up the surface of the ground allowing a more diverse range of plants to grow in the grassland. Grazing of cattle in the fields that border the river has enhanced the habitat for birds including Skylark, Meadow Pipit, Reed Bunting, Yellowhammer and Lapwing¹⁹.

Beaverstown Nature Reserve and Corballis Nature Park

An additional 25-acre nature reserve is being developed by Fingal County Council at the end of Beaverstown Lane, close to the golf course. The reserve will be managed to provide new, undisturbed feeding and roosting areas for a range of wintering birds and breeding birds with declining populations²⁰. The wetland will also receive re-routed surface water from the Kingsland housing estate.

The Donabate Local Area Plan (2016)²¹ refers to the development of Corballis Nature Park, which will be managed as a natural landscape with pedestrian and cycle routes, so the area continues to play host to a variety of birds and wildlife. Sustainable drainage measures will be incorporated in the form of a wetland area to provide a suitable habitat for wildlife, as well as an amenity for the community. At the time of writing An Bord Pleanála had not reached a decision on the Corballis East housing development, adjacent to the nature park²².

Find out more

- *The Birdwatch Ireland Site Guide, a one-day itinerary to Rogerstown Estuary by Sean Pierce* <https://birdwatchireland.ie/app/uploads/2019/03/Site-Guide-Rogerstown-Estuary.pdf>
- *For more information on birds visit* <https://birdwatchireland.ie/irelands-birds-birdwatch-ireland/list-of-irelands-birds/>
- *For more information on wildflowers visit* <http://www.wildflowersofireland.net/>

The Burrow Beach, Portrane

Portrane is a barrier-island system, meaning it is a sand dune spit that separates the sea from a coastal lagoon or estuary (Stori, O'Mahony, 2021: 10). Burrow beach is a highly valued local recreational resource and Portrane is a popular North County Dublin beach resort enjoyed by summer visitors and those who stay at local caravan and mobile home parks. However, with global

¹⁹ Source: <https://birdwatchireland.ie/app/uploads/2019/03/Site-Guide-Rogerstown-Estuary.pdf>

²⁰ Source: Fingal independent, May 22, 2021 <https://www.independent.ie/regional/fingalindependent/lifestyle/council-working-to-arrest-decline-of-bird-species-in-fingal-40435351.html>

²¹ Source: Donabate LAP (2016), <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/Donabate%20LAP%202016%20-%20Text%20Part%202.pdf>

²² Source: RTE <https://www.rte.ie/news/dublin/2022/0204/1277762-donabate/>

climate change causing an increase in sea levels and more extreme storm events Burrow beach is now considered to be continually retreating because of coastal erosion (RPS, 2020a: 2). The issue is posing a serious threat to property in the Burrow and since the 1950s a number of dune restoration and coastal monitoring programmes have been implemented (Stori, O'Mahony, 2021: vii).



SeaBees (erosion defences) on the beach at Portrane (View toward Lambay Island)

Initiatives included construction of a sand ladder pathway by the local community with the help of Fingal County Council in 2007. Recent assessments recommend the installation of groyne structures (to reduce the volume of sand lost), beach re-nourishment with sand, and the construction of flood walls and embankments to deal with the problem (RPS, 2020b: 23).

Find out more

- Visit the Fingal consultation portal and the virtual consultation room at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/coastal-defence-proposals-portrane-rush>
- Local filmmaker Dara O'Leary produced a documentary film, 'Living on the Edge', to highlight the effects and impact of coastal erosion for residents in the village of Portrane. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtezEdXL5yU>

Coastal erosion is also affecting wildlife including birds and butterflies. Little Terns are a rare summer visitor from Africa, that nest on shingle or sandy beaches. Only a few colonies are found in

Ireland, with the majority breeding in Counties Louth, Wicklow, and Wexford.²³ Since the 1990s Fingal County Council and Birdwatch Ireland, Fingal Branch have collaborated in an effort to encourage the Little Tern to breed on the tip of the Burrow beach.

In 2021 the Little Tern Conservation Project in Portrane, managed by Bird Watch Ireland, Fingal Branch implemented a range of measures to protect the birds from predators and disturbance



including providing wardens, erecting netting and ropes fences, and raising awareness among the community of these vulnerable visitors. The commitment and coordinated effort of those involved ensured that the nests and chicks were protected, and the birds managed to breed successfully (Kavanagh and Lynch, 2021).

Little tern



Common Blue, Small Heath, and Small Blue butterflies from The Irish Butterfly Book by Jesmond Harding (2021). Jesmond Harding and John Lovatt have been monitoring the butterflies of the dunes at Portrane (and Donabate to a lesser extent) since 2007. The Common Blue, Small Heath and Small Blue butterflies can be seen in the sunny, south facing dunes of the Burrow in the summer months.

There is a reduction in dune habitat at Portrane because of coastal erosion and ecological threats from non-native or invasive plants such as Sea Buckthorn, Clematis, Common Sycamore and Buddleia. This is having a negative impact on butterflies. Butterflies are particular about the plants on which they feed and lay their eggs. For example, the Small Blue butterfly lays its eggs on Kidney Vetch, while the Common Blue feeds on Common Bird's-foot-trefoil. As a result, the vegetation of the dunes is an important aspect of their habitat. In 2018, drought and heat reduced the amount of

²³ Source: Birdwatch Ireland <https://birdwatchireland.ie/birds/little-tern/>

Kidney Vetch, which is the sole food plant of the larvae of the Small Blue. In June of that year the number of these butterflies fell from over 400 adults to just four individuals²⁴.



Kidney Vetch at Portrane from The Irish Butterfly Book by Jesmond Harding (2021). Common Bird's-foot-trefoil

Find out more

- *The Irish butterfly book YouTube channel*
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAsccyG6hcaiioGBx_pRyKA
- *Butterfly Conservation Ireland* <http://butterflyconservation.ie/wp/>
- *Wildflowers of Ireland* <http://www.wildflowersofireland.net/>

Geology and Soil

The geology of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula is varied and remarkable because of the mix of volcanic rocks, fossil rich limestones, sandstones, glacial deposits, and complex geological structures. The cliffs at Portrane have drawn the attention of residents and visiting geologists for centuries, including Sophia Parnell-Evans of Portrane House:

“Her interest in marine science had also led her to build a unique collection of Irish seashells and to entertain members of the Geological Society of Dublin who would come to Portrane to study the cliffs.” (Ronan, 2021c: 30)

The local bedrock consists of three different formations; the Malahide Formation (shales, siltstones, sandstones, and thin limestones); the Donabate Formation (red coarse lithic sandstone and quartz-pebble conglomerate); and the Portrane Volcanic Formation (basalt to andesite sheets, tuffaceous

²⁴ Source: Butterfly Conservation Ireland <https://butterflyconservation.ie/wp/2019/06/23/>

sedimentary rocks, pebbly mudstone, limestone breccias and black shale)²⁵. Malahide point is also a geological heritage site because of the dunes and beach that form a spit across the mouth of Malahide Estuary.

During the Ordovician period (from 490 to 450 million years ago) lava cooled to form green, flecked Andesite rock, and volcanic ash formed the Tuff rocks of Portrane. This lava and volcanic ash were deposited in a shallow sea rich in corals and other sea creatures, which can now be seen as fossils in the cliffs. During the Silurian period (from 450 million to 415 million years ago) mud was deposited in the sea and formed shale rocks. During the lower Carboniferous Period (approximately 350 million to 320 million years ago) sea levels fluctuated and sand, mud and fossil remains were deposited at different times and eventually became different rock types, which are layered together. Movement of the Earth's plates led to rocks folding, and as a result rocks of different ages appear side by side throughout the study area.

Much of the soil is a glacial till or boulder clay from sandstone and shale rocks, which was deposited during the last ice age when glaciers moved over the land. There are also some silts and clays associated with the estuaries, some alluvium around the rivers, and sand, which forms the dunes and beaches.²⁶

Find out more

- *The Geological Heritage of Fingal*

https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/GSI_DOWNLOAD/Geoheritage/Reports/Fingal_Audit.pdf

²⁵ Source: Donabate Local Area Plan (2016) Appendix 2, page 25 <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/Donabate%20LAP%202016%20-%20Appendices.pdf>

²⁶ Sources: The Geological Survey of Ireland website www.gsi.ie including County Geology of Ireland: Dublin, and GSI Map Viewer. The Ordnance Survey of Ireland www.geohive.ie

Tower Bay to Donabate Beach



The cliff path from Tower Bay to Donabate. Photo courtesy of Alain Rochecouste

The section of Portrane shore stretching from Tower Bay along Ladies' beach to Donabate beach is designated as a **Proposed Natural Heritage Area** (Site 0001215)²⁷ and is known in geological terms as an inlier; a structure where older rock is surrounded by younger rock. The older part at the northern end is an area of volcanic rocks with limestone, while shale and grit form the younger part of the formation to the south.



Greylag Goose, Grey Seal, Puffin. Photos by John Doyle (@natureshots.jp on Instagram)

²⁷ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/nha> Site Synopsis, Site Name: Portrane Shore, Site Code: 001215

Grey seals can be seen swimming off the coast as Lambay Island supports the principal breeding colony on the east coast of Ireland. Both Grey and Common Seals frequent the island's intertidal shorelines, where coves and caves are used for resting and moulting. The privately owned Island, which lies 4km from Portrane is designated as a **Special Area of Conservation**. It also qualified as a **Special Protection Area** because of its internationally important breeding seabirds (including Guillemot, Razorbills, Kittiwakes and Puffins) and the Greylag Geese that spend the winter there²⁸. These two conservation designations are collectively known as the Natura 2000 network.²⁹



*The rock formation known locally as the Camel's Hump. Sea Mayweed © Zoë Devlin
www.wildflowersofireland.com*

The wildlife is typical of a rocky shore with brown, green, and red algae or seaweed, and marine invertebrates including Mussels and Lugworm. Oystercatcher, Gulls and Turnstone feed along the shore and the grassy areas are dotted with Thrift, Sea Campion, Sea Beet, Kidney Vetch, and Sea Mayweed.



Turnstone and Oystercatcher. Photos by John Doyle (@natureshots.jp on Instagram)

²⁸ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY000204.pdf>

²⁹ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/conservation_objectives/CO004069.pdf



Thrift, Sea Beet, Sea Campion © Zoë Devlin www.wildflowersofireland.com

Cliffs, Caves and Cures

The cliffs between Tower Bay and Ladies' beach have long been a source of fascination for local people and visitors alike.

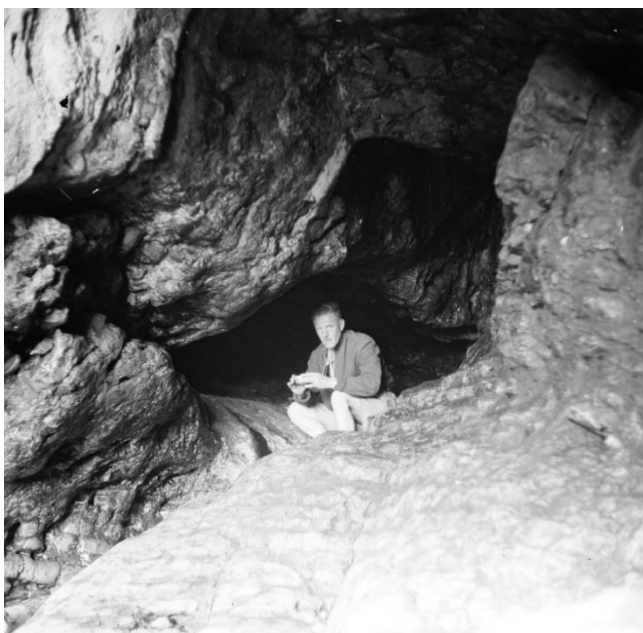
"The coast is remarkably grand and bold, and the sea has worked its way into the rocks, so as to form several excavations of large extent, in one of which is a well of curious fresh water, called Clink." Samuel Lewis (1837)³⁰

The local names given to the caves and rock formations along this stretch of shore reflect how the landscape has caught the imagination of local people for centuries. The Chink Well (Site 14.2), a holy well, was reputed locally to cure whooping cough. Other caves and rock formations including the Mermaid's Churn, the Bleeding Pig and the Priest's Chamber inspired accounts by locals included in the National Folklore School's Collection during the 1930's. Today the local arts community including the Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival and the Chinkwell Writers have embraced local heritage in naming their groups.



The Bleeding Pig and the entrance to the caves viewed from the beach. Photos courtesy of Mick Mongey

³⁰ Source: 1837 Topographical Dictionary of Ireland by Samuel Lewis <https://www.libraryireland.com/topog/P/Portrane-Nethercross-Dublin.php>



"Along the coast at Portrane there are many interesting caves, and inlets, But one of great interest is the cave where the Chink well is. This well is a scooped hole in a rock, which always supplies fresh spring water...The strange thing about this well is, that at high tide, the sea surrounds it, but it does not affect the waters of it, which still remain sweet and fresh." Mr Michael McMahon³¹

The Chink Well, Portrane. Photo by Maurice Curtin. The Photographic Collection, F024.06.00067

<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbeg/16630> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.

"The Mermaid's Churn is situated on the South East of Portrane coast. It is a deep hole down in the depths of the rocks and it is exactly the shape of a Churn. It has been said that in ages long past it was made by a volcanic upheaval. However, according to old people's tales, it is supposed to have been a churn in which the Mermaids used to churn the foam when the tide was full in. If you listen at the top of this cave you will hear a noise just like the churning of milk, and this is how it got the name of the Mermaid's Churn. It is about two hundred yards from tower Bay, close to the big flat rock, and can easily be seen." Mrs Phelan³²

"Amongst those numerous caves is an important cave called the Priest's Chamber. Old people of the district say that in the penal days priests used to celebrate Mass in this cave and it was also the hiding place of these unfortunate fugitive priests. Some nearby cave were also occupied by the priests but its believed that this particular cave known as the priest's chamber was their headquarters, and it was also where they performed their religious services. There is a very small entrance to this cave, and any explorer would find it hard to enter." Mr Thomas Ivers³³

"Bleeding Pig a well known rock from which water drips red. - probably due to composition of rock. The rock itself is the shape of a pig - hence the name." Mrs Julia Bates and Mr John McAllister³⁴

³¹ The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 267 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498569/4384994/4498572> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.

³² The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 265 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498569/4384992> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.

³³ The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 271 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498569/4384999/4498574?ChapterID=4498569> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.

³⁴ The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 317 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498592/4385050> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.

St Ita's Campus Woodlands and Wetlands

St Ita's Campus and Portrane Demesne, which are designated as an **Architectural Conservation Area** are a defining feature of the character of Portrane. The lands around also contain significant findings from recent archaeological excavations, including Neolithic and Bronze age settlements and a possible cist burial site. In 1838 Portrane Demesne included a deer park and designed landscape, which surrounded the mansion of the Evans family. It was described by D'Alton as follows:

"It commands prospects at the land side of nearly the whole of Fingal, while the seaward views are relieved and enlivened by the islands of Lambay and Ireland's Eye... This demesne comprises some of the best lands in the county, and its plantations, though so much exposed, thrive with unusual vigour. Pretty avenues and paths have been designed through the woods..." D'Alton (1838: 312)

The lands include the site of the new National Forensic Mental Health Service (NFMHS) and the HSE are in the process of implementing biodiversity measures as part of a management plan for the woodland and wetlands. Nesting sites for Swifts, Swallows, Sparrows and Starlings have been integrated into the design of the new hospital buildings and perimeter walls. The landscaping around the new hospital includes pollinator friendly plants for foraging bees, butterflies, and hoverflies.



Nest boxes in St Ita's Campus woodland. Buzzard, photo by John Doyle (@natureshots.jp on Instagram)

Other measures include control of invasive plant species, which compete with native species and hamper regeneration of the existing woodland. Conifers are being thinned to increase light to the forest floor and five areas of new native woodland featuring over 15,000 native trees have been planted near the walled garden and round tower, incorporating butterfly glades. Large meadows of native wildflowers have also been established in the fields around the round tower and water tower.

Bat boxes erected in the woodlands are in use by bat species including Leisler's bat, Common Pipistrelle and Soprano Pipistrelle. Bird boxes for many species including tit, robin, thrush, Barn Owl and Great Spotted Woodpecker have also been erected. Buzzards can be seen flying in the area and trail cameras have recorded badger, fox, and wood mice³⁵. A new wetland has been created to the south of the hospital and the wetland habitats to the north have been enhanced and diversified with the creation of several pools. The wetlands are being winter grazed by Highland Cattle to open up the grassland and restore diversity. These wetlands also naturally attenuate the surface water runoff from the new hospital and ensure it is clean before entering local watercourses.

Donabate Beach



Pyramidal Orchid, Sea Holly, Autumn Gentian, Hound's-tongue, Sea Aster and Sea Purslane © Zoë Devlin
www.wildflowersofireland.com

The sandy beach at Donabate stretches from the Martello Tower at Balcarrick to the tip of the sand spit known as the Island, which stretches south across Malahide Estuary. The beach is popular with

³⁵ Source: Public notice on site at the cliff walk from Tower Bay to Donabate, February 2022 (Faith Wilson, Ecologist).

locals and there are a number of golf clubs in the area (Donabate, Balcarrick, Corballis, Beaverstown and the Island). From the dunes to the stony shore the area is rich in plant life including a number of rare and unusual plants. Marram grass plays an important role in stabilising the dunes with its root system and Orchid's, Sea Holly and other plants bring colour and biodiversity to this coastal habitat³⁶.

Nature at Newbridge Demesne



Newbridge House and Demesne. Photo by Mark Broderick

Newbridge House and Demesne, the only surviving intact 18th century demesne landscape in Dublin, has remained practically unaltered in over 230 years and has significant value in terms of the biodiversity and agricultural heritage of the peninsula. A strategy is currently being developed for conservation of rare Irish farm breeds at Newbridge (cows, sheep, pigs, and horses) and an ecological study is underway to outline the main features of ecological significance in terms of habitats or species which should be considered in plans for the development or management of the property.

Newbridge was laid out in the mid-18th century and is one of the earliest examples of the naturalised landscape that was fashionable from 1750 to 1790. The previously formal landscape was replaced with features including clumps of trees and meadows, and the orchard was relocated to a 5-acre walled garden to the rear of the house (Fingal County Council 2019: 19).

Today many of the original features which remain intact, including woodland, parkland, a deer park, and the Pill river provide a diverse range of habitats for wildlife. The tree collection on the estate, for

³⁶ Source: National Parks and Wildlife Service <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY000205.pdf>

example the Holm Oak, are important in terms of biodiversity, with some trees predating the designed landscape. Even the old farm buildings on the site provide roosts and nest sites for bats and birds. The conservation value of the demesne is further reflected in the selection of woodland on the site as a location for the release of Red Kites as part of efforts to reintroduce this bird of prey³⁷. The meadow grassland was also judged to be in the top twenty of over 800 semi-natural grassland sites surveyed in 2010 for a National Parks and Wildlife Service study (Fingal County Council, 2019: 98-99).

Community Action for Natural Heritage

Initiatives to protect the Little Terns nesting on Burrow beach and efforts to monitor and record



butterfly populations demonstrate the value of community action for heritage. Here are some other examples of how the community is working to enhance and protect natural heritage and the local environment in Donabate and Portrane.

Staff and students at **Donabate Community College** have been enhancing the school grounds with the help of parents, neighbours and local businesses, who have donated plants, materials and equipment. From upcycling old benches to creating new habitats for insects and birds, the focus is on sustainability. Construction of raised beds for vegetables is underway in the new school garden and an orchard is also planned.

Small Blue butterfly at the Burrow. Photo courtesy of John Lovatt

OWLS (Outdoor, Wildlife, Learning and Survival) is a children's nature charity based in Dublin, with a flagship site at Turvey Nature Reserve. OWLS was founded in 2010 to encourage and facilitate children and families to enjoy local nature and heritage. OWLS offer school visits, after school clubs and activity camps during the school holidays and mid-term breaks (www.owls.ie).

Donabate and Portrane Tidy Towns³⁸ group are committed to improving the look and ethos of the peninsula through actions including planting, landscaping, painting, recycling waste, and encouraging biodiversity. The group have been working on a range of projects including litter picking and planting pollinator friendly flowers in the village and surrounding areas.

³⁷ Source: North County Leader <http://www.northcountyleader.ie/2011/08/02/welcome-return-of-red-kites-to-north-county/>

³⁸ See <https://www.facebook.com/donabatetidytowns>

Portrane Village Renewal Group (PVRG) and Tidy Towns³⁹ are working to foster community spirit, and promote, develop, and protect the interests of the village and its surrounding area. The group are actively involved with numerous stakeholders regarding projects for the village, these include Fingal County Council, St Ita's Campus and the National Forensic Mental Health Service. The group are involved in developing and maintaining flower planting areas, upgrading old building and walls and litter picking, along with measures to enhance biodiversity in the area.

The group supported the development of a **Biodiversity Action Plan for Portrane**, by Wildlife Surveys Ireland, for Fingal County Council. A range of possible actions by the community identified to enhance biodiversity include butterfly friendly zones, continuing the Fingal Bee Corridor by including pollinator plants in the grassland at the Brook, and creating an avenue of heritage apple trees along the proposed new access path to Stella's Tower.



Planting in Portrane (boat donated by Lynders), and an insect habitat provided by Portrane Village Regeneration Group (PVRG) and Tidy Towns

For more information on what you can do to support biodiversity visit the following links:

- ***Find what individuals, schools, businesses, and community groups can do for biodiversity*** by visiting the National Biodiversity Data Centre website www.biodiversity.ie
- ***Gardening for Biodiversity*** is a free booklet to help everyone to help wildlife in their gardens from the Local Authority Heritage Officer Network with support from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Heritage Council <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2020-04/gardening-for-biodiversity-booklet.pdf>

³⁹ See <https://www.facebook.com/portranevillagerenewalgroup/>

2. The Archaeology of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula

A detailed study of archaeological sites on the peninsula was undertaken in 2021 by Trim Archaeological Projects on behalf of Fingal Co. Council, supported by the Community Monuments Fund. The focus of the report is on the accessibility of the sites in terms of the wider public. The full report can be accessed in digital format on the Fingal County Council website at

<https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2022-05/cmf21-3-df001-archaeological-audit-report.pdf>

A total of 65 sites have been placed on the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) from the 16 townlands surveyed for this study. These range in date from the earlier prehistoric (late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age), to post-medieval. Twenty sites were found through excavation, 12 through analysis of aerial photography, and the remaining 33 sites were either visible in the field and mapped on the Ordnance Survey maps or were known from historic records. This number is not static, sites may well be added in the future as they become known through development led work, or through other studies.

The Inventory of Sites

The purpose of the inventory is to collate the available information on the known archaeological sites in the area, provide information regarding accessibility, and suggest themes and narratives to assist in interpretation. The inventory is presented in a series of tables which were derived from accessing data on the Historic Environment Viewer on the National Monuments website www.archaeology.ie, from the Heritage Maps portal on the Heritage Council's website www.heritagemaps.ie, which also hosts data on excavations and geophysical surveys conducted in Co. Dublin, and from the www.excavations.ie website. References contained within the National Monuments entries are given, as are references to excavation reports or excavation bulletins where that information is available.

Table 1 and a Map of Sites (at the end of this section): Lists the 65 sites which are on the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) available at <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>. Sites are organised by townland and by SMR number, a site number is given to them, and their site type and locational information is shown. The site number is used to locate them on the accompanying map, colour coded by access level (Accessible, partially accessible, excavation report only, aerial photo only, inaccessible).

Table 2 (Appendix 1): Lists all Excavation Licences for which a report was received by the National Monuments Service

This table lists excavation licences for which a report has been received by the National Monuments Service for the relevant townlands. A summary of findings derived from www.excavations.ie, the licence holder's name, relevant web links and an SMR number if applicable are listed.

Table 3 (Appendix 1): Details of Sites and Monuments Record Sites

This table gives information on all sites which have been given SMR status including a description as given in the National Monuments Service files, accessibility level and relevant references. Sites are colour coded to indicate if the monument is upstanding and visible, only partly visible, only known from aerial photographs or discovered through excavation.

Table 4 (See Section 10): Suggested Themes by which to interpret the archaeological heritage of Donabate – Portrane.

Figure 1: Map of all known sites from the SMR, colour coded according to level of accessibility (www.heritagemaps.ie).

| Table 1: List of sites on the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) at https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/ by townland | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Number | Access | SMR No. | Class | Townland | ITM Easting | ITM Northing | Irish Grid Easting | Irish Grid Northing |
| 1.1 | Y | DU012-008---- | Martello tower | BALCARRICK | 725098 | 749241 | 325174 | 249218 |
| 1.2 | N | DU012-041---- | House - 16th/17th century | BALCARRICK | 724837 | 749705 | 324913 | 249682 |
| 2.1 | P | DU012-013001- | Church | BALLYMADROUGH | 720481 | 748575 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.2 | P | DU012-013002- | Graveyard | BALLYMADROUGH | 720480 | 748572 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.3 | N | DU012-014---- | Castle - motte | BALLYMADROUGH | 721142 | 748977 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.4 | P | DU012-042--- | Tide mill - unclassified | BALLYMADROUGH | 719776 | 747664 | | |
| 3.1 | N - R | DU012-084---- | Ring-ditch | BALLYMASTONE | 723679 | 749981 | 323755 | 249958 |
| 3.2 | N - R | DU012-085---- | Ring-ditch | BALLYMASTONE | 723695 | 749978 | 323771 | 249955 |
| 3.3 | N - R | DU012-088---- | Enclosure | BALLYMASTONE | 723504 | 749918 | 323580 | 249895 |
| 4.1 | N | DU008-026---- | Quay | BEAVERSTOWN | 723194 | 751593 | 323270 | 251571 |
| 4.2 | N - R | DU012-066---- | Habitation site | BEAVERSTOWN | 722599 | 750048 | 0 | 0 |
| 4.3 | N - R | DU012-067---- | Enclosure | BEAVERSTOWN | 722599 | 750048 | 0 | 0 |
| 4.4 | N - R | DU012-083---- | Excavation - miscellaneous | BEAVERSTOWN | 722673 | 750145 | 322749 | 250122 |
| 5.1 | N | DU008-028---- | Chapel | BURROW (Nethercross By.) | 724669 | 751675 | 0 | 0 |
| 5.2 | N | DU008-029---- | Ritual site - holy well | BURROW (Nethercross By.) | 724723 | 751538 | 0 | 0 |
| 6.1 | N | DU012-019---- | Earthwork | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | 723050 | 749124 | 323126 | 249101 |
| 6.2 | N | DU012-020---- | House - 16th/17th century | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | 723406 | 748700 | 0 | 0 |
| 6.3 | P | DU012-070- | Burial | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | 723488 | 747478 | | |
| 6.4 | N - R | DU012-086---- | Burnt mound | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | 723496 | 749419 | 323572 | 249396 |
| 6.5 | N - R | DU012-087---- | Burnt mound | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | 723385 | 749419 | 323461 | 249396 |

| Number | Access | SMR No. | Class | Townland | ITM Easting | ITM Northing | Irish Grid Easting | Irish Grid Northing |
|--------|--------|---------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 6.6 | N - R | DU012-097---- | Ring-ditch | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | 723499 | 749530 | 323575 | 249507 |
| 7.1 | Y | DU012-005001- | Church | DONABATE | 722482 | 749979 | 0 | 0 |
| 7.2 | Y | DU012-005002- | Castle - tower house | DONABATE | 722497 | 749981 | 0 | 0 |
| 7.3 | Y | DU012-005003- | Graveyard | DONABATE | 722490 | 749966 | 322566 | 249943 |
| 7.4 | Y | DU012-005004- | Wall monument (present location) | DONABATE | 722482 | 749975 | 0 | 0 |
| 7.5 | N - R | DU012-082001- | Excavation - miscellaneous | DONABATE | 722490 | 750031 | 322566 | 250008 |
| 7.6 | N - R | DU012-082002- | Structure | DONABATE | 722487 | 750034 | 322563 | 250011 |
| 7.7 | N - R | DU012-082003- | Structure | DONABATE | 722487 | 750035 | 322563 | 250012 |
| 7.8 | N - R | DU012-082004- | Structure | DONABATE | 722484 | 750033 | 322560 | 250010 |
| 8.1 | P | DU012-016001- | Church | KILCREA | 721676 | 748839 | 0 | 0 |
| 8.2 | P | DU012-016002- | Graveyard | KILCREA | 721679 | 748831 | 321754 | 248808 |
| 8.3 | N - AP | DU012-017---- | Enclosure | KILCREA | 721855 | 749059 | 0 | 0 |
| 8.4 | N | DU012-018---- | Tide mill - unclassified | KILCREA | 722197 | 748671 | 0 | 0 |
| 8.5 | N - AP | DU012-072---- | Ring-ditch | KILCREA | 722093 | 748600 | 322169 | 248577 |
| 9.1 | N - AP | DU012-006---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | 721394 | 749205 | 0 | 0 |
| 9.2 | N - AP | DU012-073---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | 720427 | 749890 | 320502 | 249867 |
| 9.3 | N - AP | DU012-074---- | Ring-ditch | LANESTOWN | 721155 | 749430 | 321230 | 249407 |
| 9.4 | N - AP | DU012-075---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | 720535 | 749497 | 320610 | 249474 |
| 9.5 | N - AP | DU012-076---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | 720509 | 749546 | 320584 | 249523 |
| 9.6 | N - AP | DU012-077---- | Field system | LANESTOWN | 720553 | 749440 | 320628 | 249417 |
| 10.1 | N - AP | DU012-012002- | Field system | LISSENHALL GREAT | 719428 | 748458 | 0 | 0 |
| 10.2 | P | DU012-047---- | Tide mill - unclassified | LISSENHALL GREAT | 719560 | 747639 | | |
| 11.1 | Y | DU012-004---- | Castle - tower house | NEWBRIDGE DEMESNE | 720918 | 749661 | 0 | 0 |
| 11.2 | P | DU012-060---- | House - 18th/19th century | NEWBRIDGE DEMESNE | 721573 | 750082 | 0 | 0 |
| 12.1 | Y | DU008-030---- | Castle - tower house | PORTRAINE | 725093 | 751122 | 0 | 0 |
| 12.2 | Y | DU008-031001- | Church | PORTRAINE | 725284 | 750988 | 0 | 0 |

| Number | Access | SMR No. | Class | Townland | ITM Easting | ITM Northing | Irish Grid Easting | Irish Grid Northing |
|--------------|--------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 12.3 | Y | DU008-031002- | Graveyard | PORTRAINE | 725277 | 750978 | 325353 | 250955 |
| 12.4 | N | DU008-031003- | Bullaun stone | PORTRAINE | 725268 | 750988 | 325344 | 250965 |
| 12.5 | P | DU008-058---- | House - 18th/19th century | PORTRAINE | 724957 | 750928 | 325033 | 250905 |
| 13.1 | P | DU012-009001- | Church | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | 725586 | 749870 | 0 | 0 |
| 13.2 | P | DU012-009002- | Ritual site - holy well | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | 725574 | 749865 | 0 | 0 |
| 13.3 | N - R | DU012-095001- | Habitation site | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | 724800 | 750001 | 324876 | 249978 |
| 13.4 | N - R | DU012-095002- | House - Bronze Age | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | 724798 | 749996 | 324874 | 249973 |
| 13.5 | N - R | DU012-095003- | Pit | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | 724810 | 750020 | 324886 | 249997 |
| 13.6 | N - R | DU012-096---- | Fulacht fia | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | 725131 | 749991 | 325207 | 249968 |
| 14.1 | P | DU008-032---- | Burial | QUAY | 725868 | 750895 | 325944 | 250872 |
| 14.2 | P | DU012-007---- | Ritual site - holy well | QUAY | 725917 | 750097 | 0 | 0 |
| 14.3 | P | DU012-007001- | Cave | QUAY | 725917 | 750097 | 0 | 0 |
| 14.4 | P | DU012-010---- | Martello tower | QUAY | 726263 | 750561 | 0 | 0 |
| 15.1 | Y | DU008-027---- | Windmill | RAHILLION | 723551 | 751362 | 323627 | 251340 |
| 15.2 | N - AP | DU008-089---- | Enclosure | RAHILLION | 723614 | 751350 | 323690 | 251328 |
| 16.1 | N | DU008-024001- | Castle - tower house | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | 721157 | 750900 | 0 | 0 |
| 16.2 | N | DU008-024002- | House - 16th/17th century | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | 721156 | 750893 | 0 | 0 |
| 16.3 | N - AP | DU008-025---- | Enclosure | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | 721353 | 751248 | 321428 | 251225 |
| 16.4 | N | DU008-083---- | Burial | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | 721283 | 750788 | 321358 | 250765 |
| Colour codes | | Accessible | Partly accessible | Excavation Report | Aerial Photo Not accessible | | Not accessible | |

3. Timeline of Life on the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula

From Early Settlers to the Arrival of Christianity

The Fingal coastline has appealed to settlers for millennia because of the low-lying landscape, access to rivers and the coastline, easy landing points, sheltered bays and headlands, nearby offshore islands, and fertile soils (Cronin, 2010: 6). A naturally occurring supply of flint pebbles has also been attractive to settlers since the earliest times (Baker, 2019: 7). During the **Mesolithic period (8000-4000 BC)** in Ireland, people mainly followed the coast, lakes and rivers in search of food as the country was mostly covered in forest (Resurrecting Monuments, 2019: 13), so it is hardly surprising that the known archaeological record of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula stretches back to this period and includes finds of flint used by early settlers (O'Carroll, 2021: 2).



Lambay Island. Photo by John Doyle (@natureshots.jp on Instagram)

During the **Neolithic period (4,000 BC to 2,500 BC)** farming, which is still a key feature of life on the peninsula to this day, replaced hunting and gathering as the means for providing food. Settlers arrived from Europe⁴⁰ and the Irish landscape changed as forests were cleared so fields could be cultivated. Evidence of this period was uncovered in 2002, when shards of early Neolithic pottery and some flints were excavated at Beaverstown (Site 4.2). During archaeological monitoring and

⁴⁰ Source: Ask About Ireland <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/arts-literature/art-artists/art-in-ireland/irish-art-through-the-age/stone-age/index.xml>

excavation for the Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment Scheme (close to St Ita's Campus) a domestic settlement was found and radiocarbon analysis from one of the pits returned a Neolithic date (Site 13.5). In 1942 burnt human bones interpreted as the remains of a funeral pyre (Site 14.1) were found on the beach, close to the graveyard of the former St Ita's Hospital.

During the **Bronze Age period (2,500 BC to 500 BC)** another wave of immigration brought settlers skilled in metal work to Ireland. Bronze (a combination of copper and tin) was stronger than stone and easier to work with⁴¹. The copper ore deposits of nearby Loughshinny, which were mined in the 18th and 19th century, are likely to have been the focus of activity during this period (Baker, 2019: 7). Archaeological discoveries from the period typically include domestic sites such as fulacht fia (pits used for cooking), enclosures and campsites as well as burial and ritual monuments.

The Bronze Age saw the introduction of 'Beaker pottery,' shards of which were found along with burnt bone, during excavation of an enclosure at Beaverstown in 2002 (Site 4.3). Archaeological evidence of the early community of the peninsula includes a Bronze Age house, and a fulacht fia (cooking pit) with hazel charcoal and fire cracked stones, discovered at Portrane (Sites 13.4 and 13.6). There are no sites or finds dating to the **Iron Age Period (500 BC to 500 AD)** within the study area. However, there are two impressive promontory forts from this period with multiple ramparts at Lambay and Drumanagh, near Rush. This suggests that the coastline was well fortified, with a sizeable population to construct such impressive works⁴².

Fingal and the Romanised World



Amphorae and pottery fragments found at Drumanagh, Loughshinny. Photos by Christine Baker

In recent years archaeological research and finds along the Fingal coast suggest links, such as trading, to Roman Britain. Roman coins were unearthed in the 19th century on Ireland's Eye and in

⁴¹ Source: National Museum of Ireland <https://microsites.museum.ie/bronzeagehandlingbox/bronze-age.html>

⁴² Source: Fingal County Council <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Donabate-Portrane%20HLC%20Text.pdf>

the 1920s several burials accompanied by weaponry and jewellery including a sword, shield and a beaded torc were found during work on the harbour at Lambay (Baker 2019: 8). In 2018 and 2019, Fingal County Council's Community Archaeology Programme uncovered combs dating from the Iron Age and pottery dated to between the late 1st and 3rd centuries AD, during digs at Drumanagh Promontory fort in Loughshinny⁴³.

The Arrival of Christianity

Christianity was introduced into Ireland mainly from Roman Britain during the 5th and 6th centuries AD at the time of the collapse of the Roman Empire. St Patrick is said to have arrived in Ireland early in the 5th century and is associated with Fingal through St Patrick's Island, a small island off Skerries (Walsh 1888: 5). St MacCuillin, a member of the Ciannacht Clan and a native of the area, is also said to have founded a church in Lusk prior to his death in 496 AD (Archer, 1975: 18). In the 6th century St Colmcille introduced Christianity to Lambay (then known as Rechru or Reachrann) and appointed St Colman as Deacon (Bates, 2001: 39).

"The church of Rechru became so important as to stamp its name upon the neighbouring peninsula. The name Rechru was in time called Port-Rechru – Portrane – i.e., the landing place of, or for, Rechru." (Walsh, 1888: 8) ⁴⁴

A church associated with St Colman was recorded by John O'Donovan of the Ordnance Survey in the 1830s as being north-west of Lanistown Castle. This was confirmed through geophysical survey as part of the Fingal What Lies Beneath project⁴⁵. During the same period St Nessan founded a monastery on Ireland's Eye, previously known as Inis Faitheann or Grassy Island (Resurrecting Monuments, 2019: 53). The church there dates from the 8th century.

St Mochuda's Well and the Chapel Bank

Swords and Lusk were important monastic centres and there were a number of churches on the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula. According to local tradition St Mochuda built a chapel close to a holy well (Site 5.2) at the site known as the Chapel Bank in the Burrow (Site 5.1), which is named "site of R.C. chapel" on the 1837 Ordnance Survey map. This may have been a chapelry of the monastery at Lusk, and St Colman's church (North-west of Lanistown Castle, Newbridge Demesne) was a chapelry of the monastic settlement at Swords (Bates, 2001: 39).

⁴³ Source: Fingal County Council <https://www.fingal.ie/digging-drumanagh>

⁴⁴ Source: Ask About Ireland http://askaboutireland.ie/aai-files/assets/ebooks/145_Fingal-and-its-Churches/145_Fingal-and-its-Churches.pdf

⁴⁵ Source: Fingal County Council <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2020-05/what-lies-beneath-leaflet.pdf>

The well was a natural spring with a rough stone setting located in reeds just above the high tide mark, where St Mochuda is said to have travelled to pray in solitude⁴⁶. St Mochuda's Well attracted pilgrims on Lammass Sundays, to celebrate the harvest and some believed that a white eel lived in the healing waters (Bates, 2001: 205). During the 18th and 19th centuries a religious rite held at holy wells known as a Pattern⁴⁷ took place in Portrane. The Pattern was a popular event for the local community, but the festivities drew the disapproval of the clergy and the Pattern ceased early in the 20th century (Bates, 2001: 169) as this excerpt from the National Folklore School's Collection during the 1930's recounts:

"This holy well is known as St. Cudgets well and up to 30 or 40 years ago a pattern was held annually. Great crowds of people assembled, and the day was merrily spent singing Irish airs and dancing to Irish music. Many people found new life at this once famous pattern. The old residents of the Burrow bewail the passing of the pattern even yet, and sigh regretfully when asked to describe it."
Mr J. Kinsella⁴⁸

There are several other pre-Norman ecclesiastical sites located within the peninsula including the churches at Kilcrea (Site 8.1), Ballymadrough (Site 2.1) and St Canice's at Portrane (Site 13.1). These church sites probably received direction and would have been influenced from the major ecclesiastical centres located at Swords and Lusk. Although there are no longer any surface indications of a holy well (St Canice's or Kenny's Well) it appears on the Ordnance Survey maps in 1837 and 1909 beside a chapel site in a field of pasture above the cliff edge at Portrane (Site 13.1 - 13.2). This chapel was replaced before the Normans arrived by St Canice's church at Portrane on the site where St Catherine's Church now stands (Bates, 2001: 67).

The church at Kilcrea (Site 8.1), the overgrown ruins of which remain today, was described in 1888 as an ivy clad ruin measuring only 18 by 28 feet (Walsh, 1888: 25).

"Despite its unimposing appearance, it is undoubtedly the most ancient structure on the peninsula." (Moylan, 1960: 23)

The overgrown site of Ballymadrough church and graveyard lie north of Malahide Estuary (Site 2.1). The townland name of Ballymadrough may come from Bealach M'eadrog, meaning the pass of Edar, (possibly connected to Ben Eadair, or Howth) (Bates, 2001: 99). Curiously, as local historian Peadar Bates points out, the graveyard has a single gravestone from 1777, bearing the same date as the

⁴⁶ National Monuments Service: <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

⁴⁷ National Museum of Ireland: <https://www.ouririshheritage.org/content/archive/place/miscellaneous-place/irelands-holy-wells#:~:text=Rituals%20known%20as%20%E2%80%98patterns%20%E2%80%99%20generally%20included,%2F%20washing%20or%20drinking%20from%20the%20Holy%20Well.>

⁴⁸ The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 273 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498569/4385001/4498575?ChapterID=4498569> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under [CC BY-NC 4.0](#)

only remaining stone in Kilcrea graveyard (2001: 39). The name of Hearse Road is said to derive from the macabre practice of body snatching from the graveyard during the 19th century.⁴⁹

During the **Early Medieval period (500 to 1100 AD)** the peninsula formed part of the geographical region of Brega. From the 7th until 11th centuries, the overkingship of Brega was dominated by Slí na Ádeo Sláine, a dynasty of the Southern Uí Néill (Byrne, 1973). Ringforts became a feature of many farms in the Irish countryside. Ringforts or raths are roughly circular areas defined by an earthen bank and external ditch or a wide stone wall, which enclosed the house and other buildings of a farmer⁵⁰. Dun, rath and lios denote an earthen banked fort and feature in some of the townland names of the peninsula. For example, Ballalease may derive from Baile an Lios, the town of the fort and Rahillion may derive from Rath Oileain, the Island fort (Bates, 2001: 9) or Rath Chuillinn⁵¹, the Island of the holly. There are several other possible ring forts in the area located at Lanistown, Kilcrea, Turvey and Lissenhall (Fingal County Council 2019: 15). It is said locally that the remains of the fort at Raheen point at the end of Beaverstown Road survived until quite recently (Bates, 2001: 9). Moylan (1960) also mentions the remains of a rath at Ballisk on the site of the Lamb brothers' fruit farm.

Tuath Tuirbhe and the Gobán Saor

In early Christian times, the Cianachta Bec occupied the peninsula, and their chieftain for a period was Tuirbe Tragmár (Turvey of the Strands), father of the Gobán Saor. The townland name of Turvey originates from Tuath Tuirbhe (Fingal County Council 2019: 15). Legend has it that Tuirbe Tragmár used to throw his axe or hatchet, into the tide to stop the sea advancing. During construction of the former St Ita's Hospital in the late 1800s workers uncovered the skeleton of a large man in a tomb, that many believed to be the remains of Tuirbe.

"In making excavations for the foundations of the building the workmen found a sepulchral chamber, linked with long stones. The long passage, also lined with stone led to it, and in the chamber was the skeleton of a man of a large size."
(Moylan, 1960: 27)

The Gobán Saor, architect of churches and oratories in the 7th century, was born in Turvey around 560 AD. This early and renowned resident of the peninsula is according to tradition buried in Derrynaflan, County Tipperary. The involvement of other locals, known as the 'youths of Turvey' in the slaying of King Colmán Rímid in 604 AD is also mentioned in the ancient manuscript the Annals of

⁴⁹ Source: History of the Parish of Donabate (1986: 3), Production Team: W. O'Brien, P. Murphy, N. Dempsey, U. Reilly, P. Reilly, T. Doyle, A. Dempsey. Available at Donabate Library.

⁵⁰ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/history-heritage/monuments-built-heritage/our-legacy-of-ancient-mon/ringforts/>

⁵¹ Source: <https://www.logainm.ie/en/16814>

the Four Masters (Ronan, 2021a: 137-141). Tradition also has it that the High King of Ireland was killed in a battle at Turvey; a nearby field is named Ardee, possibly from Ard-Rí meaning High King (Bates, 2001: 32).

The Vikings and Anglo-Normans

The Vikings

The first wave of Viking invaders arrived from Norway in 795 AD. The opportunities for landing close to rich ecclesiastical centres such as Lusk, and the surviving placenames of Scandinavian origin suggest extensive Norse activity in Fingal (Baker, 2019: 9). For example, the name Howth is derived from “Hoved” the Scandinavian for “a head” (Hurley, 2009) and Skerries comes from “Skere” meaning “rocky reef or Islands”. Ireland’s Eye and Lambay derive from the Old Norse word “Ey” meaning island, and “lamb” because ewes were grazed there in spring (Resurrecting Monuments, 2019: 53).

Vikings plundered the monasteries of Inis Patrick in Skerries and invaded Lambay Island and by the middle of the 9th century had settled in Fingal, establishing bases in Howth and Malahide before conquering Dublin in 836 AD (Fingal County Council, 2019: 15). Portrane appears to have formed part of the territory conquered by Sitric Silkenbeard, a Hiberno-Norse king of Dublin, who fought against Brian Boru in the Battle of Clontarf in 1014⁵². In 1040 he endowed the land to Donatus, Bishop of Dublin, for the establishment of Christ Church⁵³. The grant of land was confirmed later by Strongbow, and Archbishop Laurence O’Toole was in the possession of Christ Church until 1204 (Moylan 1960: 24).

It is believed that Knockaman Hill, the highest point in the Burrow, where locals gathered centuries later to talk, play cards and music, may have been the site of a battle between the Vikings and the Normans as bones and weapons were discovered there.

“Knockaman Hill situated in the Burrow that part of Portrane next to Rush and facing Lambay Island is a much mentioned place in this district. The Danes came over from Lambay and plundered the old church - the remains of which are still seen nearby. A great battle was fought on the Hill. When the present road to the Burrow was being made to re-place the old one nearer the sea and consequently flooded, many skeletons were dug up as the workers approached this hill. Farther

⁵² Source: Trinity College Dublin <https://dh.tcd.ie/clontarf/Sitric%20Silkenbeard:%20Hiberno-Norse%20King%20of%20Dublin>

⁵³ Source: The Grey Square Architectural Conservation Area Statement of Character <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Portrane%20Grey%20Square%20ACA%20SoC.pdf>

inland at least one stone coffin has been dug up – thought to contain the remains of some warrior killed in this battle...” By Julia Bates and John McAllister⁵⁴

Knockaman Hill is also said to be where the Revenue Commissioners later encountered smugglers during the 18th century, in a confrontation that went down in local history (Bates, 2001: 205).

The Anglo-Normans



The bell tower at St Patrick's Church (Church of Ireland) in Donabate, and Lanistown Castle at Newbridge Demesne

“For Fingal Christianity the change was only out of the Danish frying-pan into the Norman Fire. It was five centuries more of bloodshed, misrule, and godlessness.” (Walsh, 1888: 74)

The Anglo-Normans arrived in Ireland in 1169 at the invitation of Diarmuid MacMurrough, King of Leinster who wanted to seize power back from High King Ruráí O'Connor. Subsequently, the union between Strongbow and Diarmuid's daughter prompted King Henry II of England to visit Ireland to establish his authority⁵⁵. Hamund MacTurkil, the last Danish King of Dublin, who had lands in Fingal including Portrane, was executed having formed an army in Norway and returned to Ireland. Large estates were granted to secular and ecclesiastical lords. In 1183 Archbishop of Dublin John Comyn established the archiepiscopal manor at Swords which included a large portion of the lands of Donabate and Portrane. In the 13th century Richard de la Cornere was the archbishop's steward in the manor of Turvey and was tenant of 500 acres at Ballisk (Bates, 2001: 12). The de Bathe family

⁵⁴ The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 315. Image and data © National Folklore Collection, UCD
<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498592/4385048>

⁵⁵ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://askaboutireland.ie/learning-zone/secondary-students/cspe/history-of-ireland/index.xml>

were granted the lands of Lanistown in 1376 (Fingal County Council, 2019: 15) and according to Dalton the Barnewall family was in possession of Corballis in the 14th century (Bates, 2001: 105).

Later medieval settlement is evident in three tower houses of the 15th century which remain. Portrane Castle or Stella's Tower (See Portrane Village), the Tower at St Patrick's Church in Donabate, and Lanistown Castle in the grounds of Newbridge House were fortified homes of wealthy landowners or their tenants.

An unusual artefact of this period was recovered from Kilcrea, near Donabate and is currently in the National Museum of Ireland. A whalebone plaque, probably used as a book cover was inscribed with dragons, animals, and figures. The late 16th century figures are dressed in *"sleeveless jerkins with long skirts and doublets with padded sleeves"* (Baker, 2010: 52).

Lanistown Castle

Over the centuries Lanistown or Lanestown Castle served a number of purposes. From 1376 the de Bathe family held the lands and castle, a name derived from the Anglo-Norman family of de Launey, who owned a manor there in 1297. The castle probably dates back to the mid-15th century and several generations of the de Bathe family held the land until the 16th century (Fingal County Council 2019: 15). The Castle was used as a dining hall by the Cobbe family of Newbridge House in the 18th century, and later as a cattle shelter in the 1960s.



Many local placenames and the convent, Grace Dieu appear in **John Speed's Map of County of Leinster with the city of Dublin 1610**. Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France or Source gallica.bnf.fr / BnF ⁵⁶

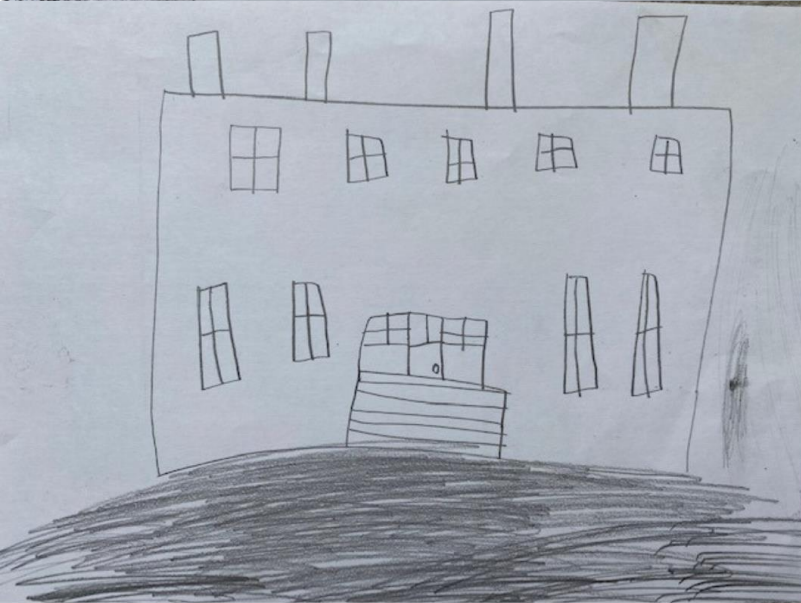
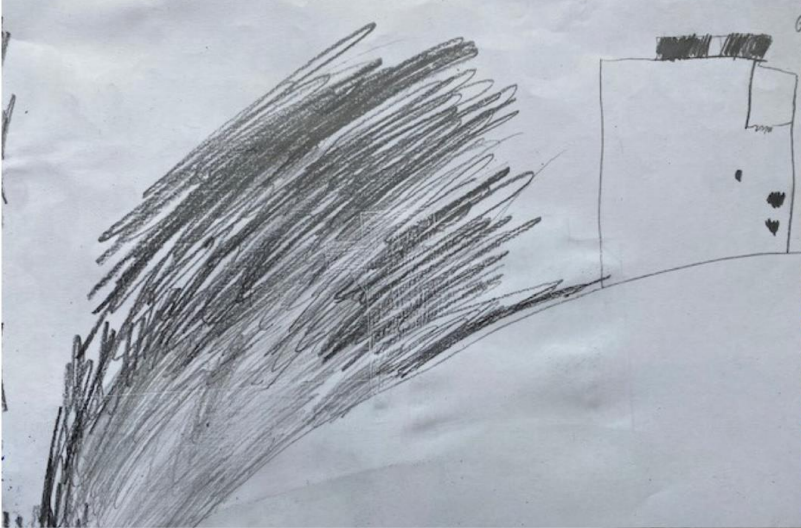
⁵⁶ Source: French National Library <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53056982f/f1.item.r=john%20speed%20leinster.zoom?lang=EN#>



The Normans introduced rabbits or “coney” as they called them, to Ireland in the 12th century, a fact reflected in the the use of “warren” and “burrow” in placenames. When Pope Clements granted the lands at Portrane to the Diocese of Dublin in 1197 the Canons of Christchurch received 100 rabbits (reared for their meat and fur) from the warren in Portrane as part of a compromise (Moylan 1960: 24).

Extract from William Petty, *The County of Dublin 1685*, **French National Library**, Source: [gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France](https://gallica.bnf.fr/Bibliothèque nationale de France)⁵⁷ showing a “Cunyborgh” or rabbit warren at the Burrow, Portrane

⁵⁷ Source: French National Library <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53056450d/f1.item.r=dublin.zoom>



4. Heritage Houses, Demesnes and Estates of the Peninsula

The actions of Cromwell in Ireland meant that British Protestant “planters” had taken control of the majority of land after it was confiscated from the Irish, and the Catholic English gentry. The victory of William III of Orange at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690 sealed this Protestant dominance⁵⁸. During the 17th century the transfer of lands brought about changes in land ownership in the parish of Donabate. The Barnewalls retained lands at Turvey and during the 18th century the Evans family arrived to Portrane and the Cobbe family to Newbridge Demesne. These three families continued to be major landowners on the peninsula until the end of the 19th century (Fingal County Council 2019: 17). Over the years farming activity at these estates and at other significant houses of the peninsula at Corballis, Kilcrea and Ballymadrough, has contributed to the shaping of the field patterns, roads, and settlement patterns of the peninsula (O’Carroll, 2021: 2).

Eventually the land act of 1923 (and subsequent developments) saw tenant farmers take ownership of land across Ireland. In Donabate the Evans and Barnewall estates were taken over completely by tenants, and the Cobbe estate was much reduced (Bates, 2001: 240).

Turvey House



In 1190 the Norman Archbishop of Dublin John Comyn established the convent of Grace Dieu which became a school for daughters of the nobility of the Pale. At the Dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII in the 16th century, the convent of Grace Dieu was granted to Patrick Barnewall. Some years later it is said his son Christopher went on to build a manor house at Turvey using stones from the convent and the Barnewalls owned lands at Turvey for over 300 years (Bates, 2001: 16-17).

The Barnewall Plaque, which stood over the entrance to the yard at Turvey House, now in Donabate Historical Society Museum in Newbridge Demesne

In 1968 Turvey House, which was of immense architectural and historical value came into the possession of the Office of Public Works. Despite a preservation order, the house was destroyed and eventually demolished with the loss of three centuries of history. The house featured hidden

⁵⁸ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/digital-book-collection/digital-books-by-subject/history-of-ireland/dowling-hedge-schools-of-/index.xml>

passages, a Jacobian staircase, and an Elizabethan fireplace. Local tradition had it that the tunnels connected to Corballis House, the cliffs at Portrane, and Swords Castle (Bates, 2001: 30-32). Nancy Dempsey recalls visiting the house when it became vacant, where her grandfather had been a gardener from 1881-1916:

“I also went down into the shell well, an underground passage in front of the house, now sadly disappeared. The interior was beautifully decorated with various coloured shells.” (Dempsey, 2017: 6)

Joseph Daw and the Murders at Turvey

Thomas Cobbe’s diary tells of the notorious murder of an elderly couple (the Sherwins) and their son in 1770 at Turvey village by Joseph Daw, a local farm labourer (their grandson who was injured in the attack also died later). Daw was subsequently arrested by Sheriff Robert Birch of Turvey House, executed and hung in irons in Butler’s Meadow opposite Maid’s Bridge (now known as Daw’s bridge). According to local folklore Joseph Daw was raised by the Sherwin family after his parents died when the boat they were travelling on was shipwrecked. The boat is thought to have been lured onto the rocks during stormy weather by locals using a lantern that appeared to be the light of a moving ship (in safer waters). One version of events suggests that a member of the Sherwin family may have been involved in causing the shipwreck and the death of Daw’s parents. In 1933 human remains in irons, thought to be Daw, were found at the river bank by a local man who was fishing. The macabre events resulted in the emergence locally of the expression “he’s no Daw,” meaning he’s no fool. (Bates, 2001: 32-33).

Corballis House⁵⁹

The townland of Corballis (Cor Baile), or town of the round hill⁶⁰, and Baltra (Baile an Traigh), or town of the strand (Bates, 2001: 105), lie to the south of the peninsula. Corballis House (Site 6.2), which is of Tudor origin, is thought to be the oldest surviving inhabited house in the area and was associated with the Burnell and Netterville families in the 16th and 17th centuries. The Down Civil Survey (1656-58)⁶¹ described the house as slated with stables, a barn, an orchard, and a garden (Moylan, 1960: 23) and it appears on Rocque’s Map of 1760⁶². Oak beams or ships timber salvaged from a local wreck support the ground floor ceilings and a cannon ball, thought to be from the 1641

⁵⁹ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

⁶⁰ Source: <https://www.logainm.ie/en/16795>

⁶¹ Taken in the years 1656-1658, the Down Survey of Ireland is the first ever detailed land survey on a national scale anywhere in the world. The survey sought to measure all the land to be forfeited by the Catholic Irish in order to facilitate its redistribution to Merchant Adventurers and English soldiers <http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/>

⁶² Source: <http://www.dublinhistoricmaps.ie/maps/1600-1799/index.html>

rebellion was removed from the wall during renovation. In 1870 the house was leased by Lancelot Smith and the family remained there into the 20th century (Bates, 2001: 105-112).

Find out more about the Smith family <https://williamsmithfamilyhistory.com/family-stories/william-smith-blackhall-1867-1946/>



Lancelot Smith and family pictured at Corballis House in 1889 or 1890, by kind permission of Jean McNulty
<https://williamsmithfamilyhistory.com/>

Kilcrea House⁶³

The townland of Kilcrea (Cill meaning church)⁶⁴ was referenced as early as the 14th century as



belonging to the Abbot of the House of the Blessed Virgin Mary. While the current dwelling house at Kilcrea dates to the 1800s, the lands were granted to the Earl of Kildare in 1594 when there were two watermills there (Site 8.4) (Bates, 2001: 100-101).

Bridge at site of tidal mill (Site 8.4). Photo courtesy of Finola O'Carroll

The house and mill appear on Rocque's Map of 1760⁶⁵. Seaweed, a valuable commodity during famine times, was collected by local farmers along the shores at Kilcrea and used as fertiliser. There

⁶³ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336025/kilcrea-house-fingal>

⁶⁴ Source: <https://www.logainm.ie/en/16797>

⁶⁵ Source: <http://www.dublinhistoricmaps.ie/maps/1600-1799/index.html>

were even confrontations with farmers from neighbouring Rush, who came with horses and carts at night to collect it (Bates, 2001: 142). Before the railway viaduct was built in the 1840s, the tide came almost as far as Kilcrea House. Sluice gates were installed to provide flood protection and the mill, which was operated at the time by a tenant of the Cobbes closed (Bates, 2001: 100).

Seafield House⁶⁶

In May 1711, John Arthur of Cabra in Dublin invited a niece of his wife who had recently returned from France to act as a tutor in French to his son, Master Benedict Arthur⁶⁷. Arthur eloped with Catherine Hackett in 1712 when he was seventeen and she was in her late thirties and allegations of seduction and abduction followed their secret marriage (Ronan, 2021b). Sometime around the 1730s Benedict Arthur built Seafield House, a Palladian Villa (at Ballymadrough) using the proceeds of the sale of land at Cabra and Pelletstown (Bates, 2001: 98). The Ballymadrough lands were sold in three lots in 1851 when the Hutchinson family took possession of Seafield House and Demesne (Bates, 2001: 99).

Newbridge House and Demesne⁶⁸

Newbridge Demesne is the only surviving intact 18th century demesne landscape in County Dublin.



Newbridge House

The Georgian Villa, designed landscape, farmyard and walled garden are rare examples of a historic estate and have a long connection with the original owners, the Cobbe family. The Demesne, which includes a number of recorded monuments (Lanistown Castle and the previous house that stood on the site dating to the end of the 17th century) is also designated as an Architectural Conservation Area in the Fingal Development Plan. The original Newbridge House was built between 1698 and 1705, and the current house, designed by Scottish architect James Gibbs (and not Richard Castle as had been suggested) was completed in 1752.

⁶⁶ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336024/seafield-house-ballymadrough-donabate>

⁶⁷ The Case of Benedict Arthur, Esq; (Dublin, c.1715)., Marsh's Library Exhibits, accessed April 19, 2022, <https://www.marshlibrary.ie/digi/items/show/481>

⁶⁸ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329001/newbridge-house-newbridge-demesne>

The Cobbe family originated in Hampshire in England and Charles Cobbe came to Ireland in 1717 to serve as chaplain to his cousin, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Cobbe, who became Archbishop of Dublin in 1743, first bought land at Newbridge, Lanistown and Haggardstown in 1736. He was succeeded by his younger son, Thomas, who became MP for Swords. Thomas and his wife, Lady Betty extended Newbridge House during the 1760s to add a drawing room to display their growing collection of art and treasured objects (a common practice at the time).

Having retired and moved to Bath, Thomas Cobbe visited Newbridge sporadically and around 1809 the management of the House and Demesne was taken on by his grandson Charles Cobbe. Charles and his wife Frances Conway set about restoring the house. Their only daughter, Frances Power Cobbe (1822–1904), a writer, feminist, and advocate of social reform, was involved in a successful campaign for Cambridge University to allow women to enrol (Ronan, 2021c: 52).

In 1985 Dublin County Council (later Fingal County Council) bought Newbridge Demesne from the Cobbe family and work began on repair and conservation. Newbridge House hosts the County Show, Flavours of Fingal and attracts over 100,000 visitors annually. A diverse calendar of events take place throughout the year from Culture Night to St Patrick's Day. The croquet lawn at Newbridge was refurbished in 2017 and is now in regular use by the community.

The interiors and collections including the Red Drawing Room and Cabinet of Curiosities are amongst the best preserved in Ireland and have inspired a range of collaborative events with Fingal Arts Office. In 2021 the inaugural Guest⁶⁹ exhibition, which invites contemporary art curators to engage with the collections posed the question *“What would Lady Betty be collecting if she were alive today?”*. The Red Drawing Room also featured in one of a trilogy of short films *“This is What We Call Progress”* a public art commission that reflected on the impact of global migration.



Anthony Haughey and the Global Migration Collective, Assemble – A Film Trilogy (2020) Commissioned under Fingal County Council's Public Art programme. “This is What We Call Progress” takes the audience to the Red Drawing Room of Newbridge House. One of the last custodians of this Anglo-Georgian house was Frances Power Cobbe, who was a writer, social reformer, and suffrage campaigner. In this sequence a group of young local women activists, from a collective called My Sisters Keeper, articulate, and assert the positive role African women have played in feminist discourse and human rights.⁷⁰ Photo by Louis Haugh

⁶⁹ Source: <http://fingalarts.ie/public-art/guest-at-newbridge-house/>

⁷⁰ Source: Fingal County Council <https://www.fingal.ie/news/new-public-art-commission-assemble-film-trilogy-anthony-haughey-global-migration-collective>



The Servant Quarters Experience at Newbridge House, a Fáilte Ireland funded project exploring the lives of women that worked as domestic staff at Newbridge House. Alice Rekab, Family Bodies from the Guest Exhibition 2021. Photo by Louis Haugh

The farm at Newbridge hosts a large collection of farm machinery from the locality, which is currently being catalogued by Curator Cathal Dowd Smith, with the assistance of the local farming community. The square and cobbled courtyard, which was designed by Robert Mack (built around 1790) features a dairy, a carpenter's shop, a forge, stables, and a labourer's cottage complete with original tools, implements and furniture⁷¹.



Vintage farm tools, machinery, and equipment

One of the most significant aspects of the collections at Newbridge is an archive of Cobbe family papers including diaries, personal and family correspondence and documents dealing with landlord-tenant relationships, not only on the Donabate peninsula, but also in counties Wicklow and Louth

⁷¹ Source: Ask about Ireland <https://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/history-heritage/architecture/architecture-in-fingal-du/newbridge-house/>

and other parts of Fingal. The period in the first part of the 19th century when the Cobbes served as magistrates at the Swords petty sessions, gives an insight into the type of petty crime prevalent at the time. This archive resulted in Peadar Bates publishing a substantial book in 2007, *"The Wayward Children of Charles Cobbe, 1781-1857"*. Today, the archive and the other collections at Newbridge, provide an invaluable insight into landlord-tenant relationships and the economic and social history of the peninsula, and beyond.

The House and Demesne, which are woven into the social fabric of the peninsula even feature in local folklore:

"Newbridge House on the other side of the road from Turvey is also supposed to be haunted. An ancestor of the present owner, Mr Cobbe, is supposed to drive past the front door at midnight in a coach, drawn by headless horses - the only sound made being the opening and shutting of a gate." Mrs Julia Bates and Mr John McAllister⁷²

Find out more

- *Newbridge House and Demesne Conservation Plan*
- *Newbridge House and Farm* <https://www.newbridgehouseandfarm.com/newbridge-house/a-brief-history/>
- *A video from the Fingal Heritage from Above series, exploring the history, aerial views, and beautiful surroundings of Newbridge Demesne*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jKPc16v1LcQ>
- *A video about the Red Drawing Room and conservation of the 1828 curtains*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3pUJsJoJM6g>
- *Flavours of Fingal, the County Show* <https://flavoursoffingal.ie/>

Portrane House and Demesne

The Civil Survey of 1654 records a 160-acre farm at Portrane, which was in the possession of the Archbishop of Dublin and had an old castle with an adjoining thatched hall, a small barn, a stable and a cowhouse. Trinity College Dublin had an interest in the area as they were granted lands in 1649 including the northern part of the Burrow and the grounds around the old church. Mr Ralph Wallis, who was in possession of the lands at the time of the survey sold his interest to Eyre Evans in 1728⁷³.

⁷² The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 318 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498592/4385051> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.

⁷³ Source: Fingal County Council <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/St%20Itas%20ACA%20Final%20Version%20Dec2013.pdf>

Hampden Evans and the 1798 Rebellion

During the 1730s Eyre Evans, who was of Welsh extraction, built a red brick Georgian mansion on the 460-acre estate, known as Portrane House or Mount Evans (Moylan, 1960: 26). Eyre's son Hampden Evans was Colonel of the Rotunda Division of the United Irishmen during the 1798 Rebellion, and a friend of both Robert Emmet and Wolfe Tone. Local people were also active in the Rebellion and reports referencing the parish of Donabate were sent to Dublin Castle warning that the local priest, Luke Teeling, was a "great intimate" of Evans (Bates, 2001: 139).

According to Archer the beginning of the 1798 Rebellion was signalled in Fingal when the Dublin Belfast mail coach was held up at Santry, but the role of the county in the struggle may not be fully reflected in historical accounts.

"Tradition, however, supplies information which credits the men of Fingall with much further action than the historians have chronicled." (Archer, 1975: 84)

Following a spell in prison in Scotland after the Rebellion, Hampden Evans lived in exile in Hamburg and Paris with his wife Margaret and their daughters. His son George Evans, who later became High Sheriff of Dublin and an M.P. in the British House of Commons, managed the Portrane estate (Bates, 2001: 228-230).

Sophia Parnell-Evans and the Widow's Tower



In 1805 Sophia Parnell, daughter of Sir John Parnell of Avondale, County Wicklow (and great aunt of Charles Stewart Parnell) married George Evans, possibly having met in Paris, while he visited his family there. Sophia and her brother William, a wealthy, liberal, and unconventional pair, had gone travelling in France following the death of their father (Ronan, 2021c: 14-15).

Portrane House or Mount Evans. Photo courtesy of Peadar Bates

While women could not pursue a career in politics at the time Sophia had a strong interest in social justice and she and her husband supported Catholic emancipation and the abolition of tithes, a fee paid by tenant farmers to the Church of Ireland⁷⁴. Sophia had a strong interest in access to education and during the 1820s the couple established the boys' and girls' schools in Donabate.

⁷⁴ Source: National Archives <http://titheapplotmntbooks.nationalarchives.ie/search/tab/home.jsp>

George died in 1842 and was buried, alongside his father in St Catherine's Church. His heartbroken widow commissioned architect George Millar to design the 100-foot round tower at Portrane as a monument to her husband, which became known as the Widow's Tower. The tower, which was built during a revival of interest in Celtic architecture, originally featured a marble bust of George Evans by the sculptor Christopher Moore (Ronan, 2021c: 46-48). Sophia died in Paris in 1853 and she was buried with her husband George in St Catherine's Church. In 1885 the estate was bought by Count James Considine, a Clare landowner (Moylan 1960: 27). After the former St Ita's Hospital was built Portrane House was initially the residence of the Medical Superintendent but was demolished in the late 20th century (Fingal County Council 2008: 6).

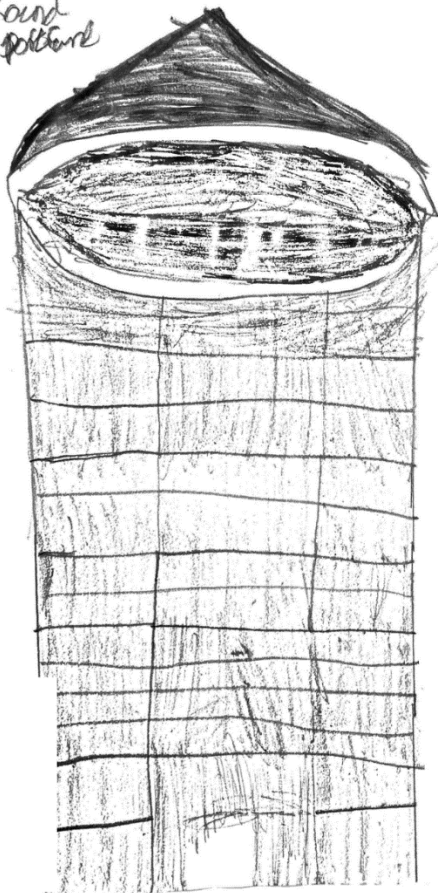
The Famine

During the famine, the generosity of Sophia Evans to her tenants and the innovative way that William Kelly, steward of the estate, managed the lands at Portrane helped mitigate the effects on the people of the peninsula. Measures included reverting to manual labour to provide work for labourers and using alternative crops to make bread. In 1845 three quarters of the potato crop in Fingal was lost to blight and from 1841-1851 the population fell by up to 20% in the surrounding areas. Over the same period population fell by less than 1% in Donabate and Portrane. Kelly was subsequently invited to share his methods for cultivating alternative crops and maximising yield by the Irish Farming Association (Ronan, 2020: 267-271).

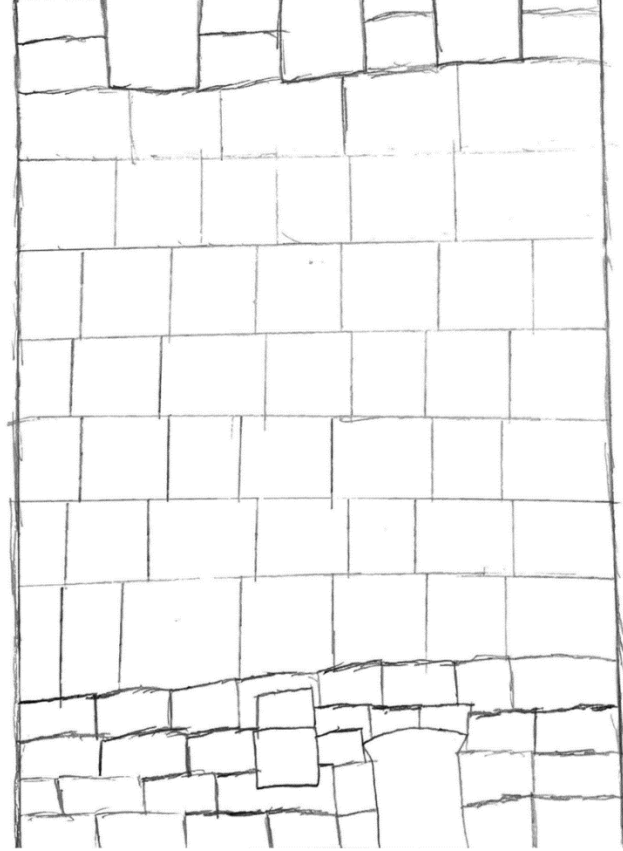
In 1879 the Land League, in which Charles Stewart Parnell, a grand nephew of Sophia was involved, was founded, and became one of the most important mass movements in Irish history for working class people. Among its aims were fair rent, fixed tenure and free sale⁷⁵, which would afford tenants more secure, fairer conditions.

⁷⁵ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://www.askaboutireland.ie/learning-zone/primary-students/looking-at-places/mayo/michael-davitt/the-land-league/>

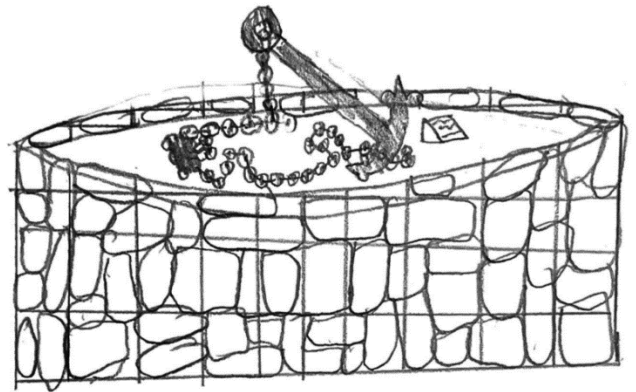
The Round
tower picture



Lonestown
Castle



Anchor.
Portrae



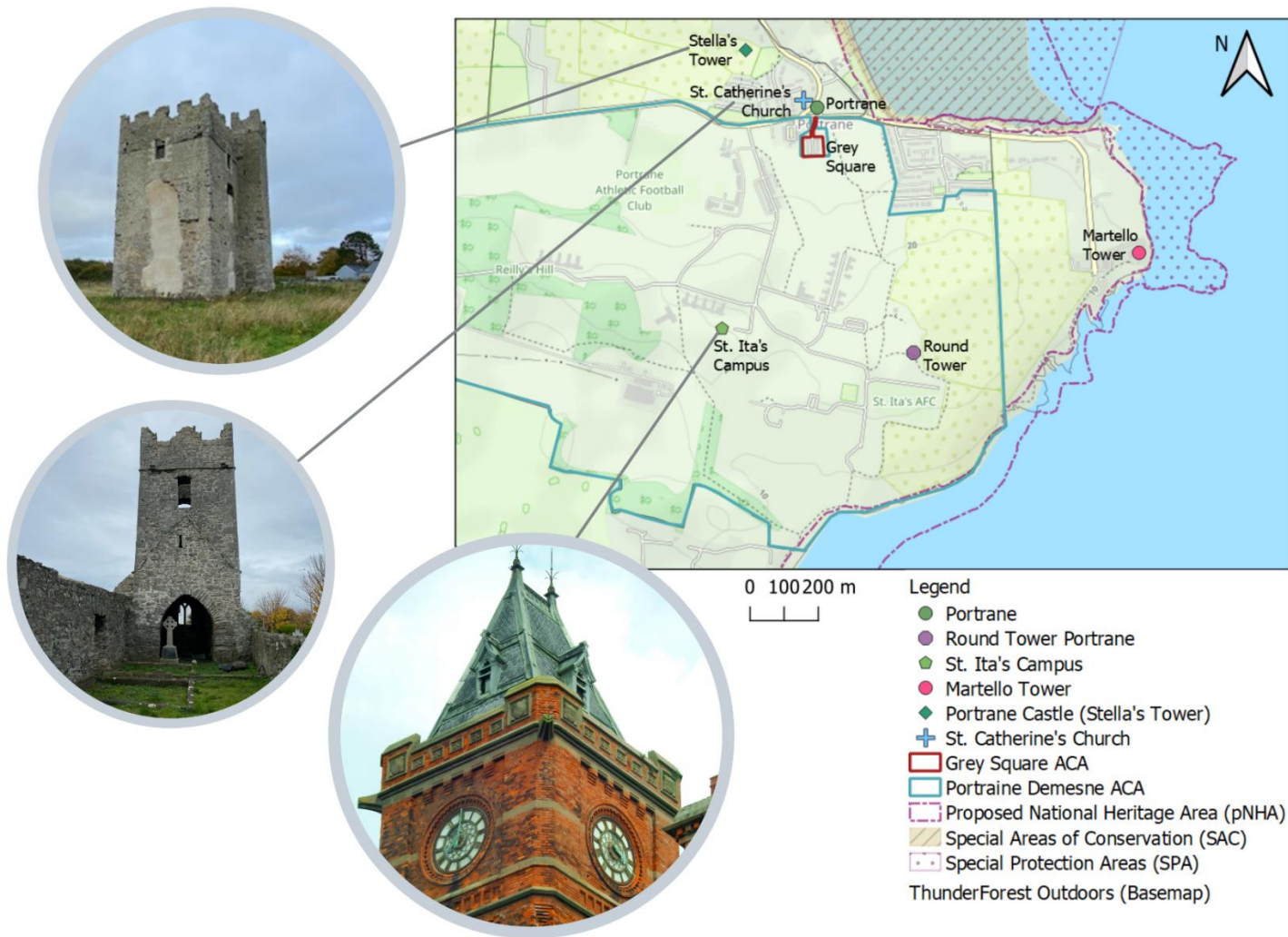
st. patricks church donabate



Round Tower
Portran



Portrane Map



Base map: OSM Thunderforest Outdoors: <https://qms.nextgis.com/geoservices/449/>. License URL: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>. Copyright text: Maps © Thunderforest, Data © OpenStreetMap contributors. Copyright URL: <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright>. Terms of use URL: <http://www.thunderforest.com/terms/>. Data: SAC & SPA: NPWS Data (Creative Commons) <https://www.npws.ie/maps-and-data/open-data-policy>

5. Portrane and the Burrow

Portrane a quiet, picturesque seaside village set against a backdrop of coasts, cliffs, and caves with remarkable geology and natural heritage, has a long and rich heritage with evidence of Neolithic and Bronze Age settlements (See also Early Settlers). Features of the designed landscape of Portrane Demesne including the woodland paths and walled garden still survive. The Burrow, which became a popular North County Dublin beach resort in the 20th century, is associated with St Mochuda's chapel and well as far back as early Christian times. The eventful maritime history which encompasses the Martello Towers, smugglers caves and cottages, and the sinking of the Tayleur off Lambay Island contrasts sharply with the peaceful setting.



Stella's Tower and St Catherine's Church, Portrane

The village sits around the historic medieval core of St Catherine's Church (Site 12.2) dating from the 14th century and Stella's Tower (Site 12.1), a 15th century tower house. There are several other sites in the area recorded on the National Monument Services Sites and Monuments Record⁷⁶, including the house that appears on the Down Survey (1655-6) at Balcarrick (Site 1.2) or Baile na Carraige (the town of the rock). The remains of the original house are possibly incorporated into the present early 18th century house.

⁷⁶ National Monuments Service <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

St Catherine's Church

St Catherine's Church (Site 12.2), which has a small walled graveyard (Site 12.3) was built in the 14th century in Portrane village. Hampden, Margaret, George, and Sophia Evans of Portrane Demesne are buried in the graveyard. Archaeological excavation at the graveyard prior to installing lighting uncovered medieval and post-medieval pottery and fragments of flint and shell. A possible bullaun stone (Site 12.4) was identified within the ground floor of the tower in 1992. The purpose of bullaun stones, which are associated with early medieval ecclesiastical sites, is unclear but folklore has it that women sometimes 'cured' people by rolling the stones⁷⁷. After the dissolution of the monasteries the nuns of Grace Dieu retained the rectory of Portrane until 1577. In 2021 Fingal County Council undertook conservation works at St Catherine's Church.

Buried in Fingal is an Interactive map illustrating the locations of all burial grounds in the Fingal and internment records for St Catherine's Church
<https://buried.fingal.ie/burial-ground-locations/portrane/>

Stella's Tower

The Inquisition of 1541 described the 15th century tower house at Portrane as having a threshing house, hemp yard and haggard. A century later it was recorded as having a thatched hall adjoining, a small barn, a cowhouse and one garden plot. The Civil Survey (1654-6) describes this site as an "old castle" owned by the "Parsonage of Portrane"⁷⁸. The nuns from Grace Dieu are thought to have lived in the Castle after the dissolution of the monasteries (Bates, 2001: 19). Later in 1712 Stella (Esther Johnston), a close friend of Dean Jonathan Swift of St Patrick's Cathedral lived there, and the last inhabitant was Lady Acheson who died in 1735 (Baker, 2012: 12-14).

The entrance passage to the tower is defended by a murder hole, a common feature in medieval castles. The original fireplace remains, and the upper portion of the tower has 17th and 18th century brick additions including a chimney⁷⁹. The tower is also known locally as Bob's Castle, after a subsequent owner of the lands. Geophysical survey (16R0228) was undertaken in the vicinity of Stella's Tower and identified a series of potential archaeological features that may be associated

⁷⁷ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/environment-geography/physical-landscape/man-and-the-landscape-in/stones-and-slabs/bullaun-stones/>

⁷⁸ Source: National Monuments Service <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

⁷⁹ Source: National Monuments Service <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

with its use. In 2021 Fingal County Council undertook the conservation of the tower house protecting it into the future.

Find out more

- *A video on the 2020 restoration of Stella's Tower & St Catherine's Church, Portrane*
<https://youtu.be/iq50cilj1zc>

St Ita's Campus



The former St Ita's Hospital. Photo courtesy of James Bannon

The former St Ita's Hospital and the lives of the people who lived and worked there have been woven into the social history of the community and there is abiding interest and concern for the future of the site. The artists involved in the Resort Revelations artist's residency in Portrane in 2021 reflected on this connection:

"During our explorations of St Ita's history, it became clear that the communities of Portrane and Donabate had a great affection for the [former]hospital: families worked there, and it formed an identity... that described how it fostered a great care for each other." Resort Revelation artists in residence (2021)⁸⁰

The former hospital brought business to the village of Portrane and some of the businesses that remain today have their origins in the enterprising spirit of the local people of earlier times. The Brook Pub was built by William Keeling in 1896, who moved his store from a small, thatched house close by. The Phoenix Brewery (in James Street, Dublin) supplied the pub with porter and the Brook remains today in the premises built later by Pat Weston and Tommy Bates (Bates 2001: 206). In 1722 John Lynders made an agreement with the Archbishop of Dublin for the grant of land for a garden and house on the coast at Portrane (Bates, 2001: 241) and today Lynder's Mobile Home Park caters

⁸⁰ Source: Resort Revelations <https://resortresidency.com/future-happiness/>

for visitors that holiday in Portrane. Over the last century the village, which has retained the character valued highly by the local community, has continued to grow with the addition of housing developments at Longstone Park, St Catherine's, Seaview, and Tower View Heights.

In the early 1890's the "Governing Board of Lunatic Asylums in Ireland" purchased the Evans estate from James Considine to build a new asylum, ending the Archbishops of Dublin's interest in the site, which dated back to the 12th century (Fingal County Council 2013: 4). At the time, the conditions in the Richmond Hospital, which were overcrowded and unsanitary, required an auxiliary hospital to be built within 20 miles of Dublin, close to a railway station and with an ample water supply (Bates, 2001: 169).

In August 1894, an architectural competition was held and the winner, George Ashlin (president of the RIAI from 1902 to 1904⁸¹) proposed a vast complex of Victorian red brick buildings, with a high level of architectural detail, craftsmanship and artistry.



Architectural details. Photos courtesy of James Bannon

Work commenced in 1896 on constructing the hospital itself, and a range of ancillary buildings including cottages, larger houses, farm and industrial buildings. The design reflects the approach to psychiatric healthcare in Ireland at the time.

"At the time of construction, the [former] hospital was seen as a model for the care of the mentally ill. The historic buildings show on the one hand the highly institutionalised and segregated approach, but also the progressive notions of the benefits to the patient of an isolated location with sea views and clean air."
Fingal County Council (2013: 65) ⁸²

The site also contained a number of buildings designed by the prominent hospital architect Vincent Kelly in the 1950s. The design of the concrete water tower, built in 1967 to replace the reservoir, was influenced by the Modernist architecture of Le Corbusier. A number of housing schemes were

⁸¹ Source: Dictionary of Irish Architects 1720 – 1940 <https://www.dia.ie/architects/view/72/ASHLIN,+GEORGE+COPPINGER>

⁸² Source: Fingal County Council <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/St%20Itas%20ACA%20Final%20Version%20Dec2013.pdf>

built in the grounds for the staff, dating mostly to the early part of the 20th century. These include Red Square, the two terraces of twelve single-storey, yellow brick nurses' cottages⁸³ along the main avenue, and Grey Square, which is also a designated **Architectural Conservation Area**⁸⁴ (ACA).

During the 20th century St Ita's, which had 2,000 patients and over 300 live-in staff had a full range of services on site including a bakery, a butcher, a tailor, a hairdresser, a laundry, a shoe-repair service, and a fire station. Food was produced from the 300 acres of farmland and gardens, as a form of occupational therapy for patients, and there was also a dairy. The complex also included an Anglican Chapel and Catholic Church, a morgue, and burial ground.

Towards the turn of the 21st century the number of patients housed in St Ita's dramatically reduced and large parts of the original building complex fell into disuse. By 2013, there were no patients in the original buildings, some of which were in use for administrative purposes. Between 1922 and 1989 about 5,000 residents were buried in the hospital's cemetery on Seaview Park Road. In 1989, a headstone was erected in the field in memory of all who were buried there.

Today the former St Ita's Hospital Complex and Portrane Demesne is a designated **Architectural Conservation Area** (ACA), not only because of its architecture but because of its historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social, and technical interest.

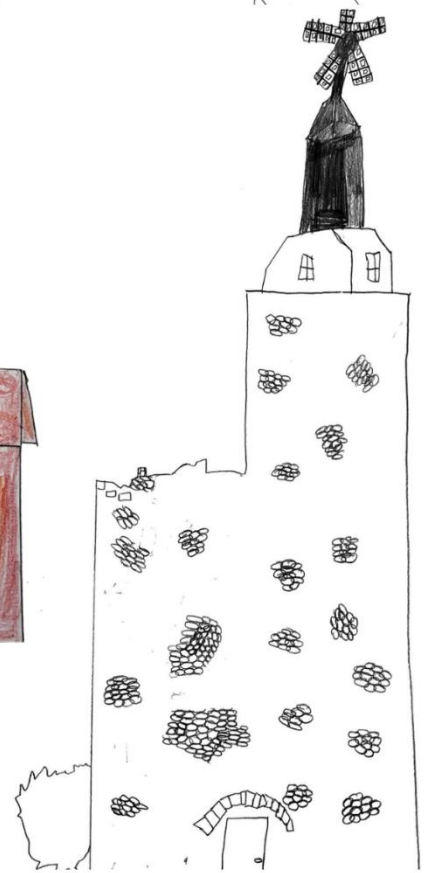
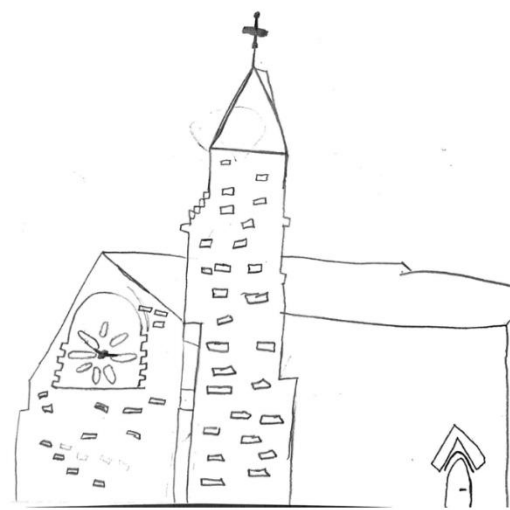
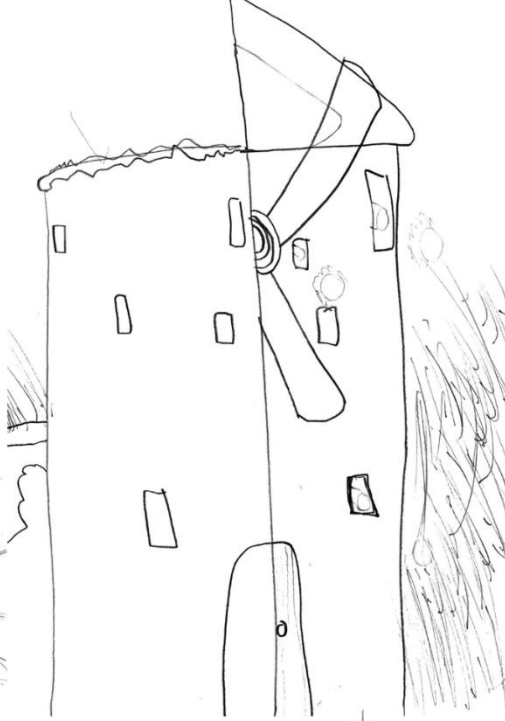
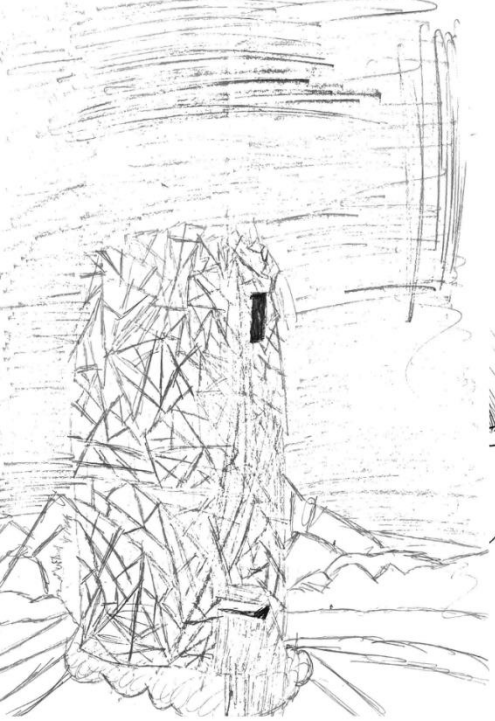
PLEASE NOTE: While the former hospital (which was based in the red brick buildings) is no longer in operation the HSE provides healthcare services on a 24-hour basis at St Ita's Campus. Groups or individuals considering heritage projects that relate to the site would need to consult the Operations Department on 01 9210518. All photos of the former St Ita's Hospital featured were taken prior to 2013.

Find out more

- St Ita's Former Hospital Complex and Portrane Demesne Architectural Conservation Area Statement of Character* <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/St%20Itas%20ACA%20Final%20Version%20Dec2013.pdf>
- *The Grey Square Architectural Conservation Area Statement of Character* <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Portrane%20Grey%20Square%20ACA%20SoC.pdf>

⁸³ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11330003/saint-itas-hospital-portrane-demesne-portrane>

⁸⁴Source: Fingal County Council <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Portrane%20Grey%20Square%20ACA%20SoC.pdf>



The Donabate church



Donabate Map



Base map: OSM Thunderforest Outdoors: <https://qms.nextgis.com/geoservices/449/>. License URL: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>. Copyright text: Maps © Thunderforest, Data © OpenStreetMap contributors. Copyright URL: <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright>. Terms of use URL: <http://www.thunderforest.com/terms/>. Data: SAC & SPA: NPWS Data (Creative Commons) <https://www.npws.ie/maps-and-data/open-data-policy>

6. Donabate Village

The 1837 Topographical Dictionary of Ireland by Samuel Lewis described Donabate as a parish “containing 386 inhabitants, of which 221 are in the village”⁸⁵. The original fabric and character of Donabate Village is still evident and numerous buildings from the 18th to 20th centuries remain in use today. The Square forms part of the Donabate, Newbridge Demesne **Architectural Conservation Area (ACA)** and retains its old-world charm.



“Donabate is a small but interesting village and parish... It has a station on the Great Northern Railway system, about ten miles north of Dublin, and two miles from the sea at Portrane. The largest lunatic asylum in Ireland is within the parish at Portrane. Dr Cullinan is Chief Medical Officer. There are two excellent National Schools. There is another church at Balheary, on which £350 were spent on restoration in 1910.” Porter’s Guide and Directory for North County Dublin, 1912

The Square Donabate, 1903. Photo courtesy of Donabate Historical Society Museum

St Patrick’s Church of Ireland Church, Donabate⁸⁶

There are numerous possible origins of the name Donabate including Domhnach an Bhaid, the church of the boat, possibly derived from people crossing the estuary by boat to attend mass, and Dun Dha Bhaid, the fort of two boats (Bates, 2003: 11). The name Donabate first appears in the 13th century, and the village grew around a medieval ecclesiastical centre (Fingal County Council 2019: 15). St Patrick’s Church (Church of Ireland) along with the graveyard and tower (which may have served as the monastic community's watch tower and belfry⁸⁷) are located in the Square in Donabate. The first stone church, which was built on the site in the 13th century (possibly as a replacement for St Colman’s Church) was administered by the Reverend De St Martin in 1240. St Patrick’s was in the possession of the monastery of Grane until the dissolution of the monasteries (Bates, 2001: 39-40).

⁸⁵ Source: 1837 Topographical Dictionary of Ireland by Samuel Lewis <https://www.libraryireland.com/topog/D/Donabate-Balrothery-Dublin.php>

⁸⁶ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336011/the-cottage-the-square-donabate-donabate>

⁸⁷ Source: Parishes of Swords, Clonmethan, and Kilsallaghan, with Donabate and Lusk website <http://swords.dublin.anglican.org/donabate.php>

St Patrick's fell into disrepair during the Cromwellian period and today a church that was built in the late 17th century and extended in the 18th century stands on the site. The Cobbe family of Newbridge House were the main benefactors of the church and had a private crypt in the tower. When the church was extended the family added a private pew to the gallery, which is decorated in ornate stucco plasterwork⁸⁸. The stone head on the exterior of the church is said locally to be St Patrick, but may be Edward IV, who died in 1483. The stained-glass windows were added in the 1890s followed by the sundial over the door in the 19th century. The Vicarage⁸⁹ or Glebe House on Turvey Avenue was built in 1810.



Plasterwork in the Cobbe's Gallery. St Patrick's Church of Ireland Church, Donabate

St Patrick's Catholic Church, Donabate



From the early part of the 18th century, when bishops and regular clergy were banned under penal laws, secular clergy served the parish of Donabate from a mass house in a thatched cottage in Donabate.

The Parish Hall, which was previously the Catholic church of 1804

⁸⁸ Source: Parishes of Swords, Clonmethan, and Kilsallaghan, with Donabate and Lusk website <http://swords.dublin.anglican.org/donabate.php>

⁸⁹ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329005/the-vicarage-donabate>

Father Luke Teeling, who was Parish Priest of Donabate from 1802-1824, was instrumental in replacing the penal days church on land donated by the Lord Trimleston, a Catholic and member of the Barnewall family of Turvey House. The Evans family of Portrane Demesne may also have contributed to fund construction of the church (Bates, 2003: 18-24). The church built in 1804, beside Donabate Cemetery⁹⁰ became the Parish Hall, a hub of local community activity where the Library Committee for Donabate was established in 1906. An anti-conscription meeting was held there in 1917 and over the years the hall has hosted dances, concerts, garden produce displays and dog shows. In the 1940s a boxing club trained and held tournaments there under the direction of a Mr Warrington. The hall also provided the initial office for the Donabate and District Credit Union when it opened in 1968⁹¹.



St Patrick's Catholic Church, Donabate built in 1903. Photographs taken by Michael Cullen, commissioned by Fingal County Council.⁹²

The 1804 church was replaced in 1903 with the distinctive red-brick church⁹³ building that stands in the village today.

⁹⁰ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336016/donabate-cemetery-beaverstown-donabate>

⁹¹ Source: History of the Parish of Donabate (1986: 9, 91), Production Team: W. O'Brien, P. Murphy, N. Dempsey, U. Reilly, P. Reilly, T. Doyle, A. Dempsey. Available at Donabate Library.

⁹² The copyright of this image rests with Fingal County Council for reproduction or use in a variety of mediums including print, presentations, banners, website.

⁹³ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329006/saint-patricks-roman-catholic-church-ballalease-west-donabate>

*“One of the most ornate in Ireland; it is built of red brick with stone facings and roofed with red tiles in the ancient Gothic style... The present beautiful little edifice was constructed from designs of Mr. George O'Connor, Architect, the builders being Connolly and Son, Contractors, Dominick Street, Dublin. It was opened by the Archbishop of Dublin (Dr. Walsh) in 1903. It cost about £6,000, and since the date of construction about £1,000 by the addition of a new high altar of Carrara marble, with carved panels from the life of St. Patrick.” **Porter's Guide to Dublin, 1912** ⁹⁴*

The church features a stained-glass window “Suffer little children,” which was designed by Harry Clarke in 1925 and paid for by the Men’s Sodality. The piece continues to inspire and in 2017 the Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival organised an exhibition of works by artists, photographers, quilters, the ICA, jewellery makers and metal workers responding to Clarke’s creation⁹⁵.

Find out more

- *Harry Clarke’s stained-glass windows in St Patrick’s Catholic Church Donabate*
<https://www.harryclarke.net/donabate>
- *Buried in Fingal is an Interactive map illustrating the locations of all burial grounds in the Fingal and internment records* <https://buried.fingal.ie/burial-ground-locations/donabate/>

Schools and Education

During the 18th century the penal laws, which restricted religious, political, and economic liberties



led to the development of hedge schools. These schools often met in private houses and barns rather than outdoors as the term 'hedge' school suggests. Catholic schools were prohibited from 1723 to 1782 but the 1798 Rebellion and the peaceful Catholic Emancipation movement led by Daniel O'Connell resulted in reforms in the 19th century.

The Cottage⁹⁶ and water pump⁹⁷ in the Square are listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

In 1831 the National School system was established resulting in the decline of hedge schools and the dominance of Catholic Church run national schools⁹⁸. A hedge school may have existed in the Burrow

⁹⁴ Source: Porter's Guide and Directory for North County Dublin 1912 <https://dublin1850.com/porter1912/page10.html>

⁹⁵ Source: Heritage Council <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/news/events/harry-clarke-a-window-on-the-peninsula>

⁹⁶ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336011/the-cottage-the-square-donabate-donabate>

⁹⁷ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336001/donabate-donabate>

⁹⁸ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/digital-book-collection/digital-books-by-subject/history-of-ireland/dowling-hedge-schools-of-/index.xml>

and references to a school in Donabate, which ran under the patronage of Archbishop Cobbe from 1813 to the late 19th century can be found in the Newbridge House Archive (Bates, 2001: 122-123). Frances Power Cobbe, a powerful advocate of education for girls and women, taught there during the famine and spoke highly of the pupils:

“...boys and girls were exceedingly clever and bright. They caught up Ideas, were moved by heroic or pathetic stories and understood jokes to a degree quite unmatched by English children of the same humble class...” (Bates, 2021: 123)

Sophia and George Evans who supported Catholic emancipation and the abolition of tithes, had a strong interest in access to education, and in the 1820s they founded two schools. The schools were based on the Lancastrian system, where the teacher taught older pupils, who in turn taught their younger peers in small groups (Ronan, 2020: 175). In his 1837 Topographical Dictionary of Ireland Samuel Lewis describes the schools, which were open to all religious sects as follows:

“About 120 children are educated in two public schools, of which one for boys is supported by G.Evans Esq., by whom the school-house, a neat rustic building, situated in a garden of about an acre in extent, was erected... the other school for girls, is supported by Mrs. Evans, who built the school house... at a proper age the children are taught embroidery, and several very elegant dresses and aprons have been worked here, one of which was for the Majesty Queen Dowager Adelaide.” Samuel Lewis (1837) ⁹⁹

Subsequently in 1914 a national school¹⁰⁰ was built on the Portrane Road, which has since been converted into apartments.

Ballisk

The suffering of the less privileged people of the peninsula was reflected in the writings of Frances Cobbe, who described the conditions in Ballisk Village where the poor of the area lived. Ballisk, to the north of Donabate Village had crooked, straggling streets, made up of mud cabins with thatched rooves, built on poorly drained land in an area prone to flooding (Bates, 2001: 191-95). Before the famine the field labourers of the area lived on a diet of oatmeal, griddle bread, potatoes and buttermilk (Bates, 2001: 146). Moylan (1960: 31) recounts being told by locals about a poor widow from Ballisk, who on her death bed left her cast iron griddle to the people of the village in return for a prayer for her soul. It became known locally as the “All Souls Griddle” or “Holy Griddle” and was in great demand for baking cakes on All Souls’ Night, which became renowned for their taste.

⁹⁹ Source: 1837 Topographical Dictionary of Ireland by Samuel Lewis <https://www.libraryireland.com/topog/P/Portrane-Nethercross-Dublin.php>

¹⁰⁰ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329014/portrane-national-schools-portrane-road-ballalease-north-donabate>



Warington's House, Main Street and the thatched house, Beaverstown are listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

There are some fine examples of older houses remaining in the village which feature in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage including a thatched house¹⁰¹ in Beaverstown, Beaverstown House¹⁰² and Warington's House¹⁰³ on Main Street.



Smyth's Bridge House and Donabate Railway Station

Some of the buildings that housed early businesses and crafts people included a house and blacksmith's forge¹⁰⁴ on Hearse road. In 1947 Smyth's Bridge House bearing a plaque of the date it was established (1759), was described by Moylan (1960: 29) as the only shop on the peninsula. The Bridge House had to be demolished and rebuilt to accommodate the building of the Dublin-

¹⁰¹ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329015/beaverstown-donabate>

¹⁰² See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329010/beaverstown-house-beaverstown-donabate>

¹⁰³ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage [https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329007/ tons-house-main-street-ballalease-west-donabate](https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11329007/tons-house-main-street-ballalease-west-donabate)

¹⁰⁴ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336026/donabate-donabate>

Drogheda Railway in the 1840s, and in 1861 Thomas Smyth, a local farmer and shop keeper renovated the house and shop extensively (Bates, 2001: 112). It is said that the tiny window panes in Smyths were installed to withstand the vibrations from passing trains.¹⁰⁵

The Railway

The Drummond Commission, established in 1836 by the British government to consider railway development in Ireland, identified a need for two major trunk routes from Dublin to Belfast and Dublin to Cork, with branches to Limerick and Galway. Despite the country being in the grips of the famine, track mileage rose from 65 to over 360 miles during the period from 1844-48¹⁰⁶. Work commenced in 1840 on the Dublin Drogheda line, and negotiations took place to compensate local landowners and tenants in the area.

“There was no stopping progress and the railway was forced through the village and onwards up along the coast, heading for Drogheda. The battle to stop it however made comrades-in-arms of the Cobbes and Sophia Evans and following the opening of the line, an agreement was reached between the two families to share the annual cost of establishing a post-office in the village” (Ronan, 2020: 247).

The railway line opened in 1844 and included a small station at Donabate, which was later expanded following the opening of the former St Ita’s Hospital. There was a horse drawn wagonette (known as the Brake), and later a bus service, for people commuting to the hospital. Supplies of coal were brought to St Ita’s by horse and cart and milk from the dairy was sent to the hospital at Grangegorman by rail each day.¹⁰⁷ Today Donabate Railway Station¹⁰⁸, the Station Master's House¹⁰⁹, the railway bridge, and the signal box continue to add to the character of the village and feature in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.

¹⁰⁵ Source: History of the Parish of Donabate (1986, 62), Production Team: W. O’Brien, P. Murphy, N. Dempsey, U. Reilly, P. Reilly, T. Doyle, A. Dempsey. Available at Donabate Library.

¹⁰⁶ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/environment-geography/transport/0-Transport/steaming-into-the-future/>

¹⁰⁷ Source: History of the Parish of Donabate (1986, 62), Production Team: W. O’Brien, P. Murphy, N. Dempsey, U. Reilly, P. Reilly, T. Doyle, A. Dempsey. Available at Donabate Library.

¹⁰⁸ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336015/donabate-railway-station-beaverstown-donabate>

¹⁰⁹ See also National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/11336018/donabate-railway-station-beaverstown-donabate>



“The Strike Breakers”- Coal being loaded for the former St Ita’s Hospital at Donabate Railway Station during the workers strike in 1913. The Station Master. Photos courtesy of Donabate Historical Society Museum

The 1916 Rising

During the 1916 Rising men and women from across Fingal were members of the Irish Volunteers, the Irish Citizen Army and Cumann na mBan. They played important roles in these organisations and instigated the events that became known as the Battle of Ashbourne, which was the largest engagement outside Dublin City during Easter Week 1916. Thomas Ashe, a native of Kerry and school teacher in Lusk, was Commandant of the 5th Battalion (Fingal Brigade) of the Irish Volunteers. Ashe died in 1917 as a result of being force fed while on hunger strike in Mountjoy Prison.

“Lusk Company of the Irish Volunteers was established on 19 May 1914 and had 40 members under Edward Rooney. The Lusk Company Irish Volunteers trained in Donabate at the home of the McAllister family, leading local nationalists...”
Fingal and the 1916 Rising (Fingal County Council 2016)¹¹⁰

On Easter Monday, 24th April, a small group of volunteers attempted to destroy Rogerstown Railway Bridge with explosives, making another unsuccessful attempt two days later. The Royal Irish Constabulary barracks in Donabate was also attacked on Thursday, 27th April when a constable was wounded, and a small number of rifles was seized. In the months following the Rising, almost 150 Fingallians were arrested and sent to internment camps including Frongoch (in Wales), where most were held until June 1917.

¹¹⁰ Fingal and the 1916 Rising <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Fingal%20Education%201916%20-%20A5%20-%20Web%20Version.pdf>

Find out more

- *Fingal and the 1916 Rising* <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Fingal%20Education%201916%20-%20A5%20-%20Web%20Version.pdf>
- *The Military Archives list of those with recognised service during Easter Week 1916* https://www.militaryarchives.ie/fileadmin/user_upload/MSPC/2020/Easter_Week_Veterans_1916_recognised_service-09_Nov_2020.pdf
- *Roll of Honour of those who died during Easter Week 1916* https://www.militaryarchives.ie/fileadmin/user_upload/MSPC/documents-34/Roll_of_Honour_1916_Rebellion_Dead.pdf
- *Roll of Honour of surviving participants of the 1916 Easter Rising* <https://microsites.museum.ie/rollofhonour1916/default.aspx>
- *Fingal and the Fight for Irish Freedom* <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/1916%20Fingal%20the%20Fight%20for%20Irish%20Freedom%20Article.pdf>
- *Easter 1916 - Fingal Fights for Freedom by the Chinkwell Writers' Group* <https://www.independent.ie/regionals/fingal/independent/entertainment/fingals-role-in-rising-told-in-new-local-book-35042467.html>

Lamb Brothers Fruit Farm and Orchards

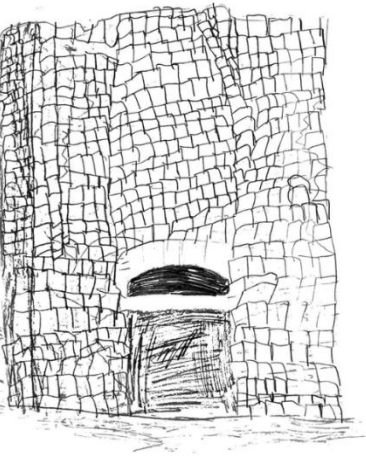
The Lamb brothers' fruit business and the Fruitfield and Old Time Irish Marmalade recipes can be traced back to 1886 when they started making jams and marmalades for the Irish market. The Lambs



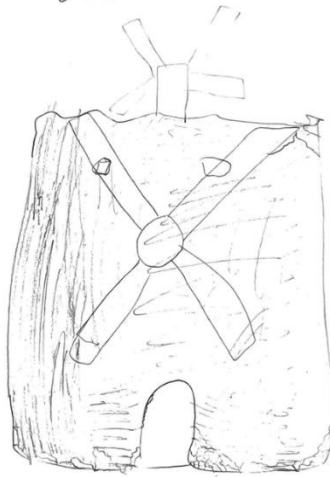
were a Quaker family from Oxfordshire who started with a farm in Armagh and eventually expanded to Dublin buying farms in Rathfarnham in 1917. The Lambs bought the land at Ballisk and Beaverstown from Lancelot Smith in the early 1930s and developed a soft fruit farm and orchards, which covered 400 acres by the 1950s. Lambs continued to provide employment for permanent staff and seasonal fruit pickers in Donabate until 1982 when the company went into voluntary liquidation (Bates, 2001: 176-177).

Lamb's jam labels from the collection at Donabate Historical Society Museum at Newbridge House

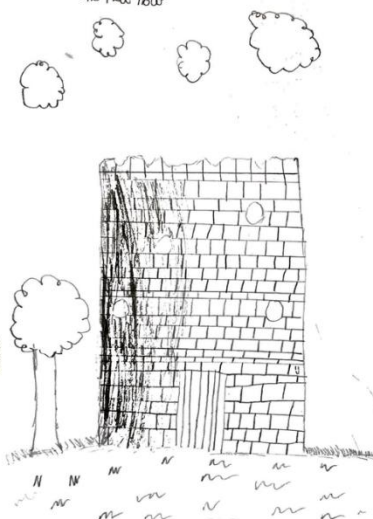
new mill



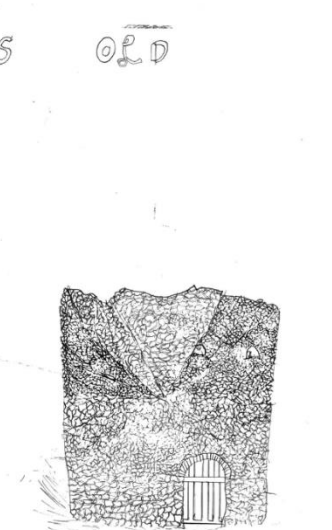
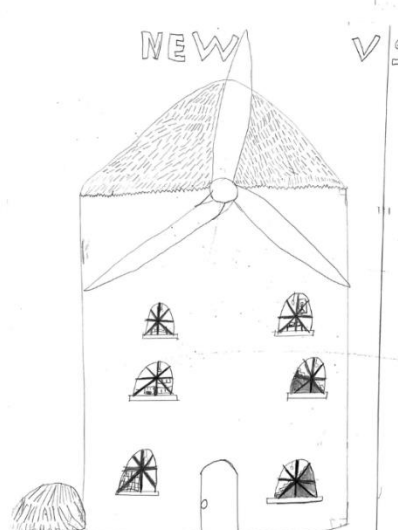
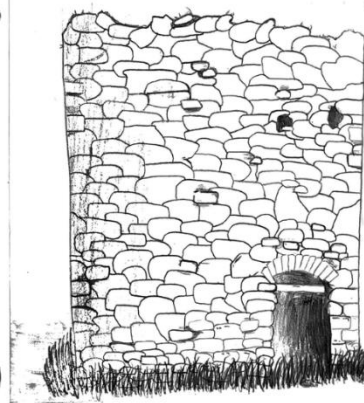
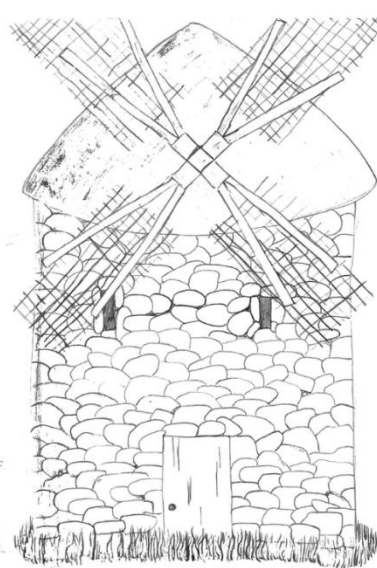
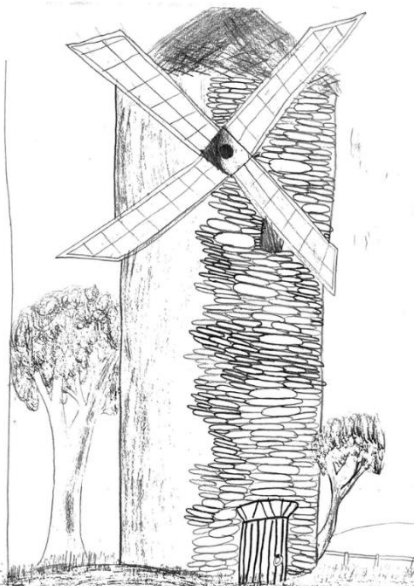
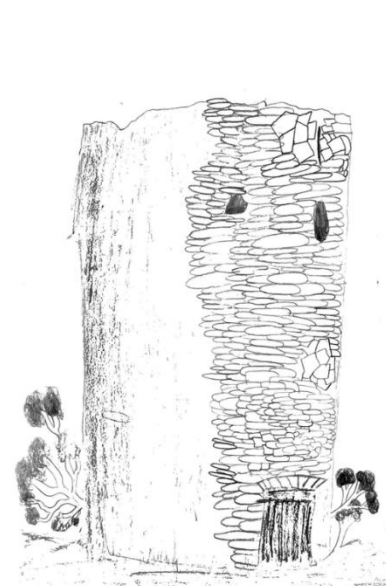
my old mill



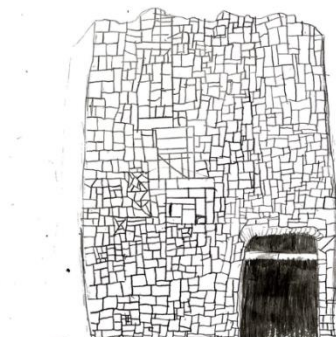
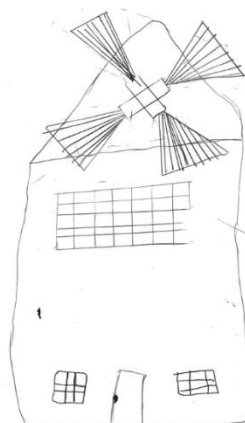
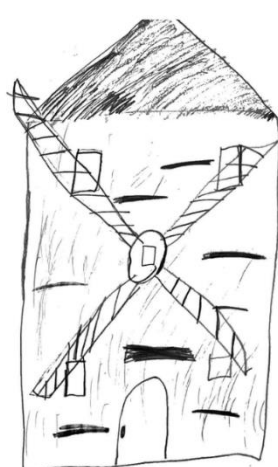
the mill row



the mill as it was when it was in use



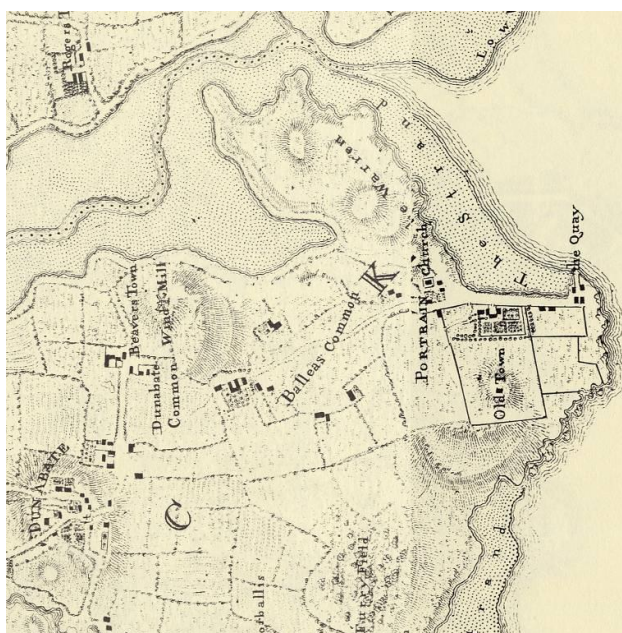
NEW VS OLD



7. Maritime and Coastal Heritage

The peninsula, which is surrounded on three sides by the sea, has rich maritime and coastal heritage with evidence of farming and fishing activity in mills and quays along the coast. Moylan (1960: 30) describes three corn mills on the peninsula: at Baltray; on Rogerstown Estuary behind Turvey; and Carr's Windmill (called after a tenant farmer and built around 1740). The tower of Carr's or McAllister's windmill, as it is also known, still stands overlooking the estuary at the north end of the peninsula at Rahillion. Tidal mills existed at Lissenhall, Ballymadrough and Kilcrea (Sites 10.2, 8.4 and 2.4), though nothing visible remains.

Mills, Harbours, and Quays



Extract from Rocque's Map of 1760 and Carr's / McAllister's Mill at Rahillion. Photo courtesy of Maura Quirke

A quay is recorded at Beaverstown (Site 4.1), and the remains of a historic pier at Quay Road are visible on Rocque's Map of 1760¹¹¹. Hampden Evans (of Portrane Demesne) built a pier at the quay in Portrane in 1775 with the aid of a Parliamentary grant of £500 (Fingal County Council, 2013: 5). He also built a salt house, possibly to attract shipping and fishing boats to the peninsula (Ronan, 2021c: 62).

Malahide was a trading port from at least the 14th century and had a substantial goods trade, including smuggling. By the 1850s the main business there was fishing with some exportation of

¹¹¹ Source: <http://www.dublinhistoricmaps.ie/maps/1600-1799/index.html>

grain and importation of coal to Newport Harbour at the north-west of Broadmeadows close to Seafield House, which at one stage had its own harbour master (Cronin, 2010: 7). In 1838 a schooner carrying coal ran aground at Corballis, which the coastguard took charge of as duty was owed on the cargo (Bates, 2001: 211). The construction of the railway viaduct in the 1840s ended coal trading to Newport (Cronin, 2010: 7).

Martello Towers

In 1798 Napoleon's troops landed in Mayo, and although unsuccessful the attack resulted in construction of coastal defences in the form of Martello towers, twelve of which are dotted along the coastline and Island's off Fingal. The design of the towers was inspired by a French 16th century defensive tower located at Cape Mortella on the Island of Corsica, which had proved resistant to attack by the English¹¹².



Martello Tower at Balcarrick. Photo courtesy of Alain Rochecouste

The Fingal Martello towers, which were built to a circular plan¹¹³ usually consisted of two main rooms and held ammunition and food supplies. The location of the towers was chosen based on a good defensive position offering a suitable vantage point against a possible invasion¹¹⁴. The tower at

¹¹² Source: James Joyce Tower & Museum <https://joycetower.ie/our-stories/martello-tower/>

¹¹³ Source: Fingal Coastal Architectural Heritage Project <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Fingal%20Coastal%20Architecture%20Study.pdf>

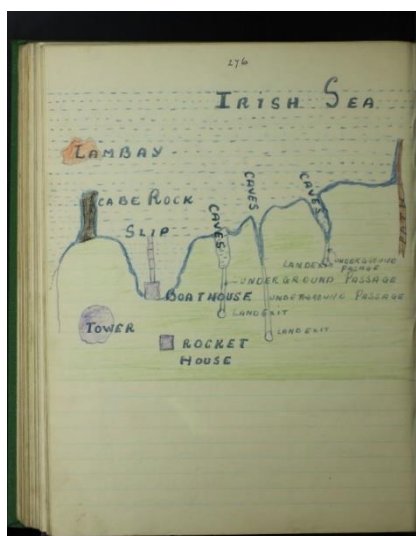
¹¹⁴ Source: Ask About Ireland <https://askaboutireland.ie/learning-zone/secondary-students/geography/regional-geography/man-and-the-landscape-in/martello-towers/index.xml>

Balcarrick was in the charge of the Royal Artillery until at least 1830. John King rented the tower from 1896 and bought it in 1909. After the end of the Napoleonic Wars the Martello at Tower Bay, which is now in residential use, was occupied by a gunner. By 1826 the tower was in the ownership of the Coast Guard and retained by the War Department into the 20th century.¹¹⁵

Smuggling

"Smuggling was carried on to a large extent along the coast in ancient times. The caves afforded a safe place & it easy to land there. On dark nights ships stole into "Tower Bay" and soon all the caves nearby were filled with costly wines, brandies & tobacco. This smuggling gave rise to the need for secret tunnels to the "big house" near by." By Julia Bates and John McAllister¹¹⁶

During the Napoleonic Wars smuggling was rife in the waters around the southern and eastern coasts of Ireland so the British Government established the Preventative Water Guard in 1809. The Guard operated small boats along the shore to intercept smugglers who had escaped the larger Revenue boats, but smuggling continued to thrive.



Fingal was a well-known centre for smuggling and the creeks and caves of Portrane were no exception. According to local tradition the house at Site 12.5, located south of the road into Portrane was a smuggler's cottage in the 1720s.

In 1771 after making a seizure including 800 casks of tea and brandy, revenue officers were besieged by over 500 smugglers at Knockaman in the Burrow. Another incident at Ballymadrough in 1741 resulted in locals relieving revenue officers of a haul of tobacco (Bates, 2001: 151). *Sketch-Map of Smuggling Caves on the coast at Portrane¹¹⁷*

Find out more

- Bolton J. (2008) Martello Towers Research Project <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Martello%20Towers%202008.pdf>
- Bolton J., Carey T., Goodbody R. & Clabby G. (2012) *The Martello Towers of Dublin. Dublin, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown & Fingal County Council. Available in Fingal Libraries*

¹¹⁵ Source: National Monuments Service <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

¹¹⁶ The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 323 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498592/4385057> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under [CC BY-NC 4.0](#)

¹¹⁷ The Schools' Collection, Volume 0789, Page 276 <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498569/4385004/4498576?ChapterID=4498569> by Dúchas © National Folklore Collection, UCD is licensed under [CC BY-NC 4.0](#)

- *Military Archives* <https://www.militaryarchives.ie/collections/online-collections/maps-plans-drawings-collection-1702-2007>

The Burning of the Coast Guard

The original Portrane Coast Guard Station, which was built in 1822 and had a staff of five men, was later replaced in 1912 by a new terrace of four stone-built houses at the current location overlooking the bay. The station was designed by John Howard Pentland, who remodelled the GPO completing the work just two weeks before the Easter Rising of 1916. The Coast Guard Station was destroyed by the IRA on 18 June 1921 as described in this excerpt from *The Burning of the Coast Guard* by Fingal Libraries:

“At the stroke of midnight on 18 June 1921, the six Coast Guard stations at Skerries, Loughshinny, Rush, Rogerstown, Portrane and Malahide were silently approached by groups of IRA men ready to undertake a simultaneous attack. The raiding parties lay in wait, having cut the telephone wires to ensure no one could raise the alarm. When the command was given they rushed into stations up and down the coast, taking the Coast Guards by surprise. The Guards and their families, who lived onsite, were told to leave immediately and the stations were set alight. As dawn broke the following morning, flames were still licking what was left of the stations.”

After the incident, the station was never repaired but was sold as private residences. The Captain's House was bought in 2009 and renovated and the boathouse and slip way still stand on the beach at Tower Bay.



The former Coast Guard Station at Tower Bay. Dishes salvaged from the Tayleur, which are now in Donabate Historical Society Museum, courtesy of the Dockrell family and Laddie deJong

Find out more

- *The Burning of the Coast Guard* <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2021-06/burning-of-coast-guard-stations.pdf>

The Sinking of the Tayleur

The Tayleur, a passenger ship with capacity for close to 700 passengers and crew, was built in 1853 in Warrington. The ship set out on her maiden voyage from Liverpool, bound for Melbourne, Australia on 19 January 1854 with Captain Noble at the helm. The ship, which it later transpired had a poorly adjusted compass, ran into strong winds and struck a rocky reef off Lambay Island. Only 282 passengers (mostly men) survived and some of the victims were buried on Lambay. In 1959 the wreck was found by the Irish Sub-Aqua Club and items subsequently salvaged included pottery, the ships bell, and the binnacle, which holds the ships compass and navigational equipment (Bates, 2001: 212-214). Some salvaged items are on display in Donabate Historical Society Museum at Newbridge House.

Find out more

- In this video Laddie deJong recounts his experience of diving to salvage items from the wreck of the Tayleur <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=the+tayleur&docid=608041123069439647&mid=29AF48559CC9A089F2C729AF48559CC9A089F2C7&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>
- Fingal Coastal Architectural Heritage Project <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Fingal%20Coastal%20Architecture%20Study.pdf>

A Community Commemoration of Local Heritage

In 2018 Portrane Village Renewal Group (PVRG) and Tidy Towns secured funding under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme (from the Department of Rural and Community Development) for the anchor installation in the centre of the village as a tribute to capture the remarkable and rich history of Portrane.

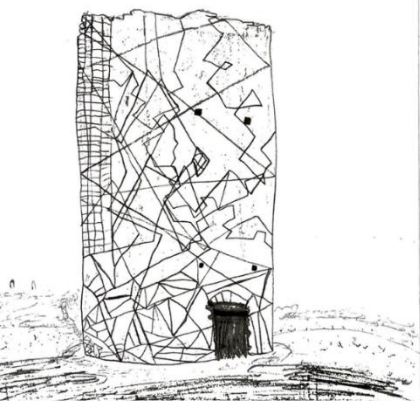


“The monument features an anchor from the RMS Tayleur and the latitude and longitude co-ordinates of the location of the wreck. The outer stone-filled semi-circular gabion sections are broken up with paths leading into the central platform. These paths face north, south, east, and west, leading the eye to various aspects of local history. Stella’s Tower or Bob’s Castle lies to the north, Lambay Island, and the location where the RMS Tayleur was shipwrecked lie to the east. The Round Tower Memorial in the grounds of the former St Ita’s Hospital lies to the

south. St. Catherine’s Church and graveyard founded by the Anglo-Normans in the 14th century lies to the west. The red brick used in the raised flowerbeds came from repurposed buildings within St Ita’s Campus. The slate monolith symbolises a further connection with the RMS Tayleur, as slate was used as part of the ship’s ballast.” Portrane Village Renewal Group (PVRG) and Tidy Towns

Now

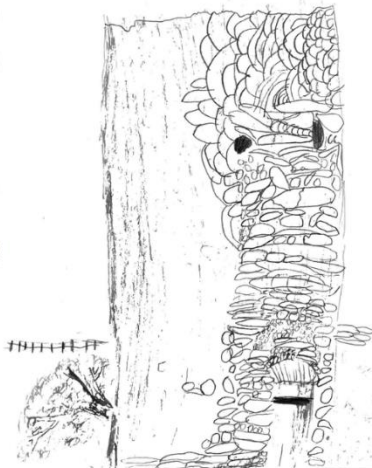
1100



Back then



Now

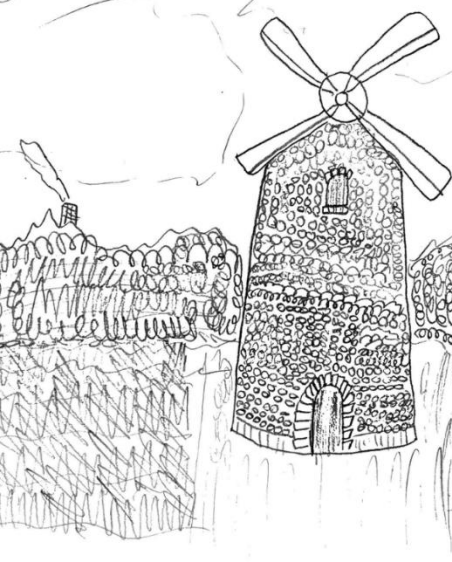


Before

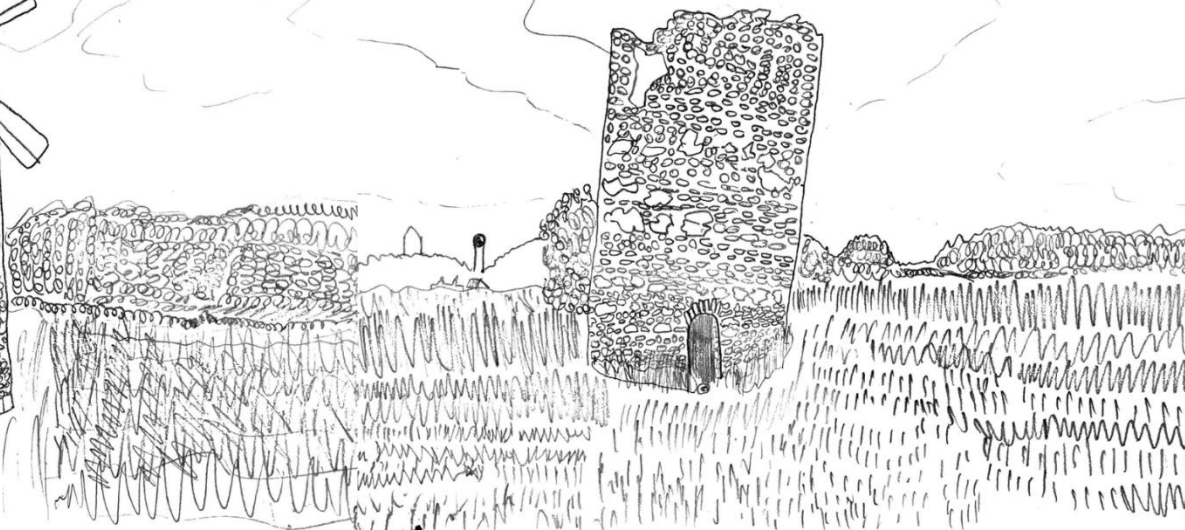


cm

1719



2020



8. The People of the Peninsula - Social History and Culture

Community Arts, Literature and Music

There is a longstanding, vibrant and lively interest in culture and heritage among the community of the peninsula, from sport, music and performance to visual arts and crafts. Today a range of local community-based groups are involved in cultural heritage from drama, art and photography to traditional music. The expression of creativity is very often linked to or inspired by local heritage, and this is reflected in the names of local groups such as the **Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival**, the **Tower Singing Circle**, and the **Chinkwell Writers**.



Rochecouste

The **Donabate & Portrane Dramatic Society**, which was established in 1936 has been entertaining the community since. Traditional music classes and performances are offered by **Leithinis Donabate Portrane CCÉ**. Other groups including **Through the Lens**, the **Donabate Portrane Photographic Group** and the **Donabate Quilters** have exhibited their work in venues including Donabate Library and local churches.

Nancy Dempsey, local historian, and author. Photo courtesy of Alain

The **Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival** committee was formed in 2013 by a group of local people to help promote the arts on the peninsula of Donabate-Portrane. The aim of the Festival is to bring together different cultural groups and enable them to reach a wider audience within their community. The committee has brought together different local groups to collaborate on projects from 1916 Commemorations to International Women's Day.

A number of local historians and authors including **Peadar Bates, Nancy Dempsey and Gerard Ronan** (who are referenced extensively in this report) have documented the people and places of the peninsula in their writing. Fingal Libraries **Battle of the Book** reading programme is designed to encourage children to read, gain confidence and discuss a common book to encourage reading for life. The books selected for the 2021-2022 programme are **"The Legend of Gobán"** and **"The Legend of Joseph Daw"** by Gerard Ronan (part of the **"Tales of Old Turvey"** series). Pupils from both St Patrick's Boys' National School and Scoil Phádraic Cailíní in Donabate took part.

Over the years the peninsula has been the backdrop for a number of film and TV productions, probably most notably **Father Ted**, when the car park at Tower Bay was the location for the Funland

fairground on Craggy Island. The cliffs and coves of the Portrane shore also featured in the film “The Secret Scripture”¹¹⁸.

Find out more

- **Peadar Bates** has written a number of books including, “Donabate and Portrane – a History”, “St Patrick’s Church, Donabate, Celebrating 100 Years” and “The life of Charles Cobbe 1781-1857”.
- **Nancy Dempsey** has written and illustrated “Rambles”, which takes the reader on a journey through the life of this local woman born in the Burrow, Portrane in 1926.
- **Gerard Ronan** has written the following books, available at https://www.amazon.co.uk/Gerard-Ronan/e/B001KIH9IW/ref=dp_byline_cont_pop_book_1
Local History: The Round Towers of Fingal.
Historical Biographies: William Kelly of Portrane, The Seduction of Benedict Arthur, Sophia Parnell-Evans – Feminism, Politics and Farming in 19th Century Portrane, Margaret Evans - Poet of Portrane.
Tales of Old Turvey Children's Series: The Legend of Gobán, The Legend of Joseph Daw, Lucky Kate, The Old Man and the Tower.
- **History of the Parish of Donabate (1986), Production Team: W. O’Brien, P. Murphy, N. Dempsey, U. Reilly, P. Reilly, T. Doyle, A. Dempsey.** Following a series of talks in the senior citizens’ centre in Donabate in 1983, this eight-issue collection of traditions, memories, customs, local characters, places, and events was compiled and offers a fascinating insight into the social history of Donabate. Available at Donabate Library.

The Donabate Mummers

Mumming is a masking or masquerade tradition associated with Fingal, involving the enactment of a traditional play with stock characters, many of which are found in European carnival tradition. Fingal Mumming involves straw costumes and the main characters in the play evolved in the 1950s to represent Ireland and England. Dr May of Swords, a GP who held a clinic in a cottage in the Square in Donabate (Dempsey, 2017: 144), is said to have revitalised the tradition¹¹⁹ when he started the Swords Mummers Festival. The competition sparked the formation of other groups in St Margaret’s and Balbriggan and brought competing teams in from other counties¹²⁰. Mumming is included in the National Archive of Intangible Cultural Heritage and there is interest locally in reviving the songs of the Donabate Mummers.

¹¹⁸ Source: Portrane Shoreline Heritage Trail leaflet by Mick Mongey (See Appendix 3)

¹¹⁹ Source: National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage <https://nationalinventoryich.chg.gov.ie/mummers-of-fingal/>

¹²⁰ Source: Fingal Independent 28 October 2015 <https://www.independent.ie/regionals/fingal/independent/entertainment/tradition-of-the-men-with-straw-masks-34141444.html>

Artists in Residence at Lynder's Mobile Home Park

Fingal Arts Office's **Resort Residency** (and the commissioning programme **Resort Revelations**) began in 2014 and is hosted by Lynder's Mobile Home Park (close to Tower Bay). The programme is supported by local organisations including the **Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival**. Each year a curated selection of artists whose work has resonance with local culture and history are invited to explore the Donabate-Portrane peninsula and the strong community spirit that exists. Initially the artists explored the potential of what could be created from this opportunity to reside and return:

*"The fascinating omni-presence of the former Victorian Psychiatric Hospital St Ita's has influenced artists from Jonathan Swift to Beckett. The initial invitation to artists for Resort Residency in 2014 asked them to consider the site of a holiday destination and its proximity to the hospital —the visitor / visited, one who came and went or never left." **Resort Residency 2021**¹²¹*

The programme has resulted in fine examples of interpreting local heritage through community-based arts.



Deirdre O'Mahony: A Perishable Picnic (2017), an exploration of food production and its future in North County Dublin when space is in short supply. Mary Conroy & Joanna Hopkins: Special Area of Conservation, as part of An Urgent Enquiry (2019). Drawing attention to the conservation efforts being carried out in the Fingal area for both humans and wildlife, to highlight the existence, fragility, and importance of all the creatures who call the Fingal coastline 'home'.

¹²¹ Source: Resort Residency <https://resortresidency.com/future-happiness/>



John Conway: Future Happiness (2021) invites the viewer to look forward while prompting consideration of the present moment, with a site-specific work titled Future Happiness, a phrase contained in a letter by Jonathan Swift to his love Stella, after whom this famous Portrane landmark is named. Gareth Kennedy: The Origins & Uses of Round Towers (2016)

Find out more

- *The Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival* <http://bleedingpig.ie/>
- *Leithinis Donabate Portrane CCE* <https://leithinis.com/events/>
- *Through the Lens, the Donabate Portrane Photographic Group* <https://www.throughthelens.ie/members/>
- *The Fingal Mummers* <https://vimeo.com/6770373>
- *Resort Revelations* <https://resortresidency.com/>
- *Donabate Portrane Community Council's listing of Cultural Groups* <https://donabateportranecommunity.com/cultural-groups/>

Sport

"The entire area of the Burrow, Portrane and Donabate was always a great place for football. There was a team called the Shillelaghs in the Burrow around the late 1880's." Nancy Dempsey (2017: 11)



Club crests depict aspects of local Heritage for example, the raven of Fingal, the round tower at Portrane and Newbridge House, Donabate

From the first G.A.A. team in Portrane in the 19th century to **Lambay Sports & Athletics**, founded in 2011 the heritage of the peninsula is reflected in the names and crests of local soccer, golf, hockey and athletics clubs. Sport is woven into the community and culture of the peninsula with some of the older clubs, which continue to thrive today having their roots in the former St Ita's Hospital.

The **Shillelaghs Gaelic football team**, which was established in 1889 shortly after the formation of the G.A.A. (in 1884 in Thurles), was made up of players from the Burrow and Portrane (their counterparts in Donabate were said to be busy with a fife and drum band). The team, who played their home matches in the valley between the dunes were nick-named the "Sandy Boars". In 1910 the club became the **Stars of Fingal** and went on to win the Fingal League in 1912-13 (Bates, 2001: 171-173). In 1924 a new club was formed which took the name of the patron saint of the parish, Saint Patrick and today **St Pat's GAA Club** has 1,200 members¹²².



Hockey team photograph from 1919 outside the former St Ita's Hospital

St Ita's /Portrane Hockey Club gained formal recognition when the men's team entered the Leinster League in 1919 following the Great War, but there is evidence that hockey was first played in Portrane by women. In 1937 the club won the Irish Junior Cup and gained senior status in the same year¹²³.

The peninsula has two soccer clubs: **Portrane Athletic Football Club** and **St Ita's Athletic Football Club**. Soccer was played in the former St Ita's Hospital as far back as 1906 (Bates, 2001: 173) and the home grounds remain at St Ita's Campus, with additional grounds in Ballymastone. The club (which

¹²² Source: <https://stpatsgaa.com/history>

¹²³ Source: <https://portranehockey.com/index.php/history/>

had nearly 40 teams playing league football and futsal in 2021) operated in the main, as a senior (adult) club until the late 1980s when it fielded its first underage teams.

While the original cricket club on the peninsula (formed in 1925) ceased in the 1960s (Bates, 2001: 174) **Swords Cricket Club**, which is one of the youngest clubs in Fingal, formed in 2011 is now based in Newbridge Demesne.

The coastal location and sand spits of the peninsula have seen the development of a number of golf courses. The **Island Golf Club** was founded in 1890, with members initially travelling from Malahide by boat. Around 1906 some of the staff of the hospital started a six-hole course at Balcarrick, which expanded onto Cobbe lands in 1926. The opening of the road to Corballis in the 1930s made the courses more accessible (Bates, 2001: 175). The **Corballis Links Golf Club** has a century old history¹²⁴ and **Donabate Golf Club**, which was founded in 1925 moved to its present location in 1939¹²⁵. Dublin and County Golf Club, founded in 1972 became **Balcarrick Golf Club** on the opening of their new nine-hole course in 1992¹²⁶. **Beaverstown Golf Club** was developed on land that had been the Lamb Brothers' fruit farm, bought in the early 1980s when the business ceased. The first course was shaped through the orchards on the site.¹²⁷

The National Folklore School's Collection (Donabate Schools)

The National Folklore School's Collection is a collection of folklore compiled by schoolchildren in Ireland in the 1930s with accounts of local heritage, customs, and beliefs. You can read accounts from Donabate and Portrane about St Mochuda's Well, ghost stories, cures, and healers at the links below:

- *Donabate school B:* <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498569/4384988>
- *Donabate School C:* <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4498592>

Community Action for Heritage

Donabate Historical Society Museum

Donabate Historical Society, which was founded in the 1950s established the Donabate Historical Society Museum at Newbridge House. The Museum, which is run on a voluntary basis by members of the society, brings together a remarkable and eclectic collection of artefacts and photos from the

¹²⁴Source: <https://corballislinks.com/>

¹²⁵ Source: <https://donabategolfclub.com/about-us/>

¹²⁶ Source: <https://www.balcarrickgolfclub.com/course/>

¹²⁷ Fingal Independent 20 July 2010 <https://www.independent.ie/regionals/fingal/independent/localnotes/beaverstown-celebrates-its-25th-in-style-27803759.html>

area ranging from flints and arrowheads thought to date from 5000 BC to pottery and porcelain salvaged from the wreck of the Tayleur (1854).



Plaque from Maid's Bridge (Daw's Bridge) with an inscription indicating that the bridge was built in 1570 by the wife of the late Sir Christopher Barnewall (a Knight). Delph recovered from the Tayleur, courtesy of the Dockrell family and Laddie deJong

The society assisted with gathering the Newbridge House collection of farm machinery, tools, and vehicles on display throughout the farm. Local farmers were generous in donating pieces to the collection on the understanding that it would be on view to the public. This provides an insight into the agricultural heritage of the peninsula.

Fingal Vintage Society

Fingal Vintage Society, based on Turvey Avenue in Donabate, was founded in 2000 and has 120 members. The group meets monthly, attends vintage shows and events and restores agricultural equipment and vehicles, many of which are from the local area. Some members have mini collections, and examples of the society's restoration work are included in the collection at Newbridge House and Farm. The group have an annual harvest day event at Skerries Mills where



they demonstrate harvesting crops using traditional methods and display equipment from the 1920s to the modern day.

Harvest Day at Skerries Mills. Photo courtesy of Fingal Vintage Society

Naming of Local Housing Developments

Members of the local community are working to ensure that developers can choose meaningful names for new estates, which reflect traditional field names. A number of locals are involved in preparing a map showing field names in the Donabate-Portrane area. As Neil Dempsey explains:

“Donabate is changing very fast. Where there were fields and lanes there will shortly be housing estates, apartment blocks and roads. Old Donabate will be gone for ever, buried beneath concrete. But we can save the spirit of Donabate. We can ensure that those who come to live here will have addresses that stretch back into the days when Donabate was a rural wilderness. Instead of being generic and meaningless, the addresses of those who come to live here can have soul and reflect the names that the people of Donabate used to refer to the fields that surrounded them. Names like ‘The Pike Field’ and ‘Longacre’”.

Find out more

- *If you have any ideas, or would like to contribute in any way, contact Neil Dempsey at neildempsey@gmail.com*
- *The Fingal Fieldnames Project aims to record, analyse, and publish the fieldnames of Fingal in order to safeguard this invaluable cultural heritage asset for future generations. See handbook and recording sheet here <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/fingal-fieldnames-project> and the results to date here <https://meitheal.logainm.ie/fingal-fieldnames/>*

9. Consulting the Community

As part of the heritage audit a Community Liaison Group of individuals and representatives of local groups with an interest in heritage was convened. The group provided local knowledge, assisted with identifying and contacting groups and organisations in the area, and with engaging the wider community in consultation. As it was not possible to hold public meetings (because of COVID-19) an online survey of the community was undertaken to establish the aspects of heritage people are curious about and the types of heritage interpretation that would be of interest.

Local arts, music and heritage groups, community organisations, and sports clubs were invited to respond to and share the survey, which was promoted locally with the assistance of the Community Liaison Group, and local County Councillors. Paper copies of the survey were made available in Donabate Library and Donabate Portrane Community and Leisure Centre. Where COVID-19 restrictions allowed, the researcher met outdoors with local groups and individuals to visit sites or discuss community heritage projects.

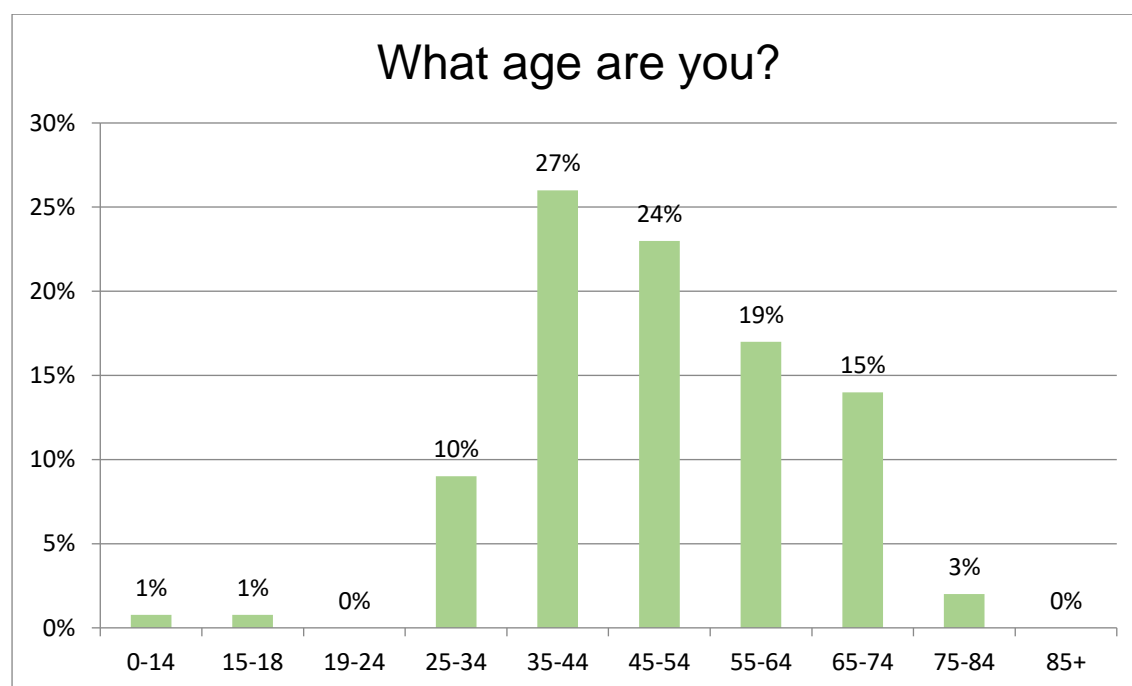
As part of the community consultation primary school children from fifth class in St Patrick's Boys' National School, and sixth class in Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School took part in online workshops provided under the Heritage in Schools Scheme. Heritage Specialists Una Halpin and Aengus Kennedy worked with the children and their teachers to explore the themes of geology, landscapes, building materials, birds, and biodiversity. The pupils involved engaged very enthusiastically, visited local heritage sites like Carr's Mill and took part in drawing workshops. The children very kindly provided the wonderful artwork of the birds, wildlife and built heritage of the peninsula that appears throughout the report.

Donabate Community College also engaged with the heritage audit process and shared the work the school is doing on developing the school orchard and garden thus enhancing biodiversity in the grounds.

A total of 142 completed responses were received to the online survey including seven responses provided on behalf of sports, arts, and community groups in the area.

- *95% of survey respondents live on the Donabate/Portrane peninsula*
- *52% are male, 45% are female, 1% would prefer not to say (2% did not answer)*

Survey respondents' age



Based on 135 responses

What aspect of local heritage are people most interested in or curious about?

Survey respondents were asked to rate their interest in the following aspects of heritage on a five-point scale from very interested to not interested. The ratings shown in the table below reveal strong interest in all aspects of heritage, particularly archaeological sites and monuments, the built heritage of the villages of Donabate and Portrane, and local history, people, and placenames.

Aspects of the history and heritage of Portrane and Donabate, which respondents are most interested in or curious about

| Aspect of heritage | Very interested | Quite interested | No opinion | Not very interested | Not interested | NO response |
|---|-----------------|------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| <i>Archaeological sites and monuments</i> | 70% | 23% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 5% |
| <i>The old buildings and architecture of Donabate village</i> | 68% | 24% | 4% | 0% | 0% | 4% |
| <i>The old buildings and architecture of Portrane village</i> | 66% | 27% | 3% | 1% | 0% | 3% |
| <i>Local history, people, and placenames</i> | 66% | 25% | 4% | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| <i>Legends, stories, and folklore</i> | 63% | 26% | 7% | 1% | 0% | 3% |
| <i>Nature reserves and biodiversity</i> | 58% | 30% | 4% | 1% | 1% | 6% |
| <i>Maritime / coastal heritage</i> | 56% | 36% | 3% | 1% | 0% | 4% |
| <i>Music, arts, and culture in the area</i> | 41% | 41% | 9% | 4% | 0% | 5% |

Based on 135 responses

There is a high level of interest among respondents in various local places including Newbridge House and Demesne and the former St Ita's Hospital. A smaller, but still significant proportion of

respondents are very interest in Turvey Nature Reserve, Stella's Tower and Rogerstown and Malahide estuaries. A wide range of other local landmarks were mentioned as of interest by respondents including Lanistown Castle, Carr's Mill, the Martello towers, St Catherine's Church, St Patrick's Church of Ireland Church, and St Patrick's Catholic Church.

Local places that people are most interested in or curious about

| Aspect of heritage | Very interested | Quite interested | No opinion | Not very interested | Not interested | No response |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Newbridge House and Demesne | 73% | 24% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 2% |
| The former St Ita's Hospital | 70% | 18% | 6% | 2% | 0% | 4% |
| Turvey nature reserve | 49% | 35% | 4% | 2% | 0% | 10% |
| Stella's Tower/Bob's Castle | 47% | 30% | 15% | 1% | 0% | 7% |
| Malahide and Rogerstown Estuaries | 39% | 41% | 7% | 4% | 0% | 9% |

Based on 135 responses

Aspects of maritime or coastal heritage were also highlighted by respondents including the coastguard station, the lifeboat house, the cliffs and caves of Portrane shore, the Chink Well, coastal fields, and Lambay Island. Other comments related to the importance of protecting the character of the area during future development.

"Please keep Donabate/Portrane as special as it has always been its charm lies in keeping the villages as key centres supported with sustainable houses and four story apartments. Please don't destroy our villages with high rise oxo boxes for future generations."

The heritage associated with the names of townlands was also raised.

"There is a wealth of heritage in placenames (logainmneacha). Every Irish townland has an original Gaelic name which has meaning for the area. These were changed to English versions in the 1800s which hide the true meaning. These logainmneacha should get more prominence."

Groups and organisations

The groups and organisations that responded to the survey have a high level of interest in all aspects of heritage, particularly cultural heritage such as music, arts, legends, and folklore, and maritime or coastal history. They also expressed strong interest in local history, people and placenames, nature reserves, biodiversity, and architectural and archaeological heritage. They would like to see a diverse range of heritage assets highlighted.

"The link between Newbridge House and Portrane and the history around [the former] St Ita's Hospital and the way it linked into the community, i.e., the farm, dairy, etc."

"Sporting Heritage is important to us."

“Local Songs and stories.”

“Vernacular housing on the peninsula, Old Church Kilcrea, Martello towers, Stone outbuildings at Smyths pub, old farm buildings and sheds, water pumps, stone walls.”

“Heritage from land to sea - connecting built & natural and cultural together seamlessly - tours trips walks etc that are connecting maybe in a circular route with a variety of medium from apps to signposting with a uniform approach.”

“Celebrate the social history as much as possible - have people engaged with it.”

Some groups that responded to the survey expressed interest in specific heritage projects, such as revival of the songs of the Mummerys. Others suggested larger projects like the provision of an interpretive centre, (with coffee shop and meeting rooms) on the grounds of Stella’s Tower to highlight the link with Jonathan Swift, the Tayleur and the Cobbe family. Comments reflect the importance of highlighting and protecting a diverse range of heritage assets from better known sites like the Martello towers to vernacular housing, stone walls and water pumps. The need for public consultation on heritage projects on the peninsula was also raised.

Primary school children

Primary school children that took part in heritage workshops were asked to complete a follow up survey and 73 responses were received. Survey results reflect a strong interest in all areas of heritage among pupils especially old buildings, archaeology and nature and biodiversity.

Aspects of the history and heritage of Portrane and Donabate, which primary school children are most interested in or curious about

| <i>Aspect of Heritage</i> | <i>Very interested</i> | <i>Quite interested</i> | <i>Not very interested</i> |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Old buildings, archaeology (e.g., castles, towers, old houses, and churches)</i> | 26% | 62% | 12% |
| <i>Nature, wildlife, and biodiversity</i> | 32% | 38% | 30% |
| <i>Local people through the ages</i> | 22% | 49% | 29% |
| <i>Legends, stories, and folklore</i> | 32% | 28% | 40% |
| <i>Placenames</i> | 18% | 29% | 53% |

Sites of particular interest to school children surveyed include Turvey Nature Reserve, Newbridge House and Demesne, and the former St Ita's Hospital. Other places mentioned as of interest included St Catherine’s Church, thatched cottages, Donabate Train Station, Lambay Island, Tower Bay beach, and the round tower and Martello tower in Portrane.

Local places that primary school children are most interested in or curious about

| <i>Local Places</i> | <i>Very interested</i> | <i>Quite interested</i> | <i>Not very interested</i> |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Turvey Nature Reserve</i> | 44% | 42% | 14% |
| <i>Newbridge House and Demesne</i> | 43% | 39% | 18% |
| <i>The former St Ita's Hospital</i> | 42% | 29% | 29% |
| <i>Malahide and Rogerstown Estuaries</i> | 17% | 39% | 44% |
| <i>Stella's Tower/Bob's Castle</i> | 17% | 37% | 46% |

Comments also reflect an interest in the people and social history of the peninsula:

"Local people seem very interesting."

"Very far back like Vikings."

"Emigrants."

"I'm interested also with people in the hospital."

What approaches to interpreting heritage do people favour?

The results of the community survey suggest that people are interested in engaging with local heritage in a diverse range of ways particularly heritage signage at sites of interest, heritage festivals, events, and exhibitions, and printed and online leaflets and maps.

Respondents interest in various approaches to interpreting heritage

| <i>Approach to interpretation</i> | <i>Very interested</i> | <i>Quite interested</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Not very interested</i> | <i>Not interested</i> | <i>No Response</i> |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Heritage signage</i> | 67% | 23% | 4% | 0% | 1% | 5% |
| <i>Heritage festivals, events, and exhibitions</i> | 61% | 27% | 7% | 1% | 0% | 4% |
| <i>Information leaflet with map</i> | 54% | 29% | 7% | 3% | 1% | 6% |
| <i>Interactive online map with videos and photos</i> | 47% | 33% | 13% | 0% | 1% | 6% |
| <i>Audio trail / podcast</i> | 47% | 26% | 13% | 5% | 1% | 8% |
| <i>Murals, sculpture, or public art</i> | 43% | 25% | 16% | 6% | 1% | 9% |
| <i>Smart phone QR codes linked to videos</i> | 42% | 24% | 18% | 7% | 1% | 8% |
| <i>Workshops for schools with heritage experts</i> | 40% | 33% | 18% | 2% | 1% | 6% |
| <i>Virtual tours (online)</i> | 38% | 30% | 19% | 5% | 2% | 6% |

Comments reflect people's interest in a mixture of more traditional approaches, online formats, and trails.

"Read local history books and attend local historical society meetings."

"A heritage trail would be very beneficial for the peninsula with so many walking groups visiting the peninsula. Also, a walking tour for these groups."

"I think that QR codes attached to the individual heritage sign would be great as the information would be instant."

“An online map (like an overlay on Google Maps) would be perfect, easy to access and maintain.”

“An Interactive map overlay on Google maps with a wiki style addition process to let local knowledge to be added. I have learnt more from locals since moving to the area beyond what is recorded in societies.”

“Many railway platforms have a display board outlining interesting facts and history of the area, e.g., Malahide Station.”

People suggested a range of events, from guided walks, talks, poetry, and drama (e.g., plays in the park) to story tellers, commissioned video and a heritage stand at Flavours of Fingal (the County Show). It was also suggested that the tourist map leaflet developed by Fingal County Council Tourism Department (with input from the community) be distributed locally.

Suggestions for communicating heritage included providing an information point or office, or an arts and cultural centre, sharing information through social media, and a newsletter from Fingal County Council.

“Tourism/Heritage office with information about all aspects & areas of heritage.”

“Heritage information point, possibly library, community centre, village town centre.”

The importance of providing access to local heritage sites by safe walking and cycling routes and inclusive approaches that provide opportunities for people of all ages and demographic groups to engage were also raised.

“Involve local amateur historians and longtime residents in the creation of resources, initiatives, and events. Also have a wide age range of people informing the process and engaging with it, as well as initiatives targeted at a variety of demographic groups. Currently the majority of culture/resources and events in the Donabate and Portrane area appear to be targeted or designed to address the interests of people of retirement age...”

“Infrastructure. Make sure that we can walk or cycle safely to heritage sites.”

“Also, provide walk trails and cycle paths in all Donabate areas. Turvey avenue and New Road (way to the Beach) as example and really danger for walking and cycle.”

Primary school children’s ranking of various approaches to heritage interpretation on a three-star scale (three being highest) shows a clear preference among this age group for interactive hands-on learning through events, engaging with experts, creative and arts-based interpretation, and online formats.

How primary school children would like to learn more about the heritage of the area

| Approach to heritage interpretation | 3 stars | 2 stars | 1 star | Average star rating |
|---|---------|---------|--------|---------------------|
| Heritage festivals, events, and exhibitions | 63% | 23% | 14% | 2.49 |
| Meet heritage experts (in school or at a heritage site) | 41% | 36% | 23% | 2.18 |
| Murals, sculpture, or public art | 39% | 34% | 27% | 2.13 |
| Interactive online map with videos and photos | 33% | 33% | 33% | 2 |
| Trail with smart phone QR codes linked to videos | 25% | 34% | 41% | 1.84 |
| Research - Interview older people, look at old maps | 22% | 38% | 40% | 1.82 |
| Leaflet with a map and information | 18% | 43% | 39% | 1.79 |
| Heritage signs | 19% | 38% | 43% | 1.76 |
| Virtual tours (online) | 24% | 24% | 52% | 1.71 |

While discussing approaches to interpretation with one of the participating classes, the Heritage Specialist conducting the workshops noted that while information signs, leaflets and maps were mentioned, pupils were not particularly interested in these ways of engaging with heritage. Pupils were more interested in options like having a tour guide to tell them about an area, hearing or reading stories about the past, and engaging with interactive maps and videos. The pupils enjoyed a visit to Carr's Mill with their teachers, where they looked closely at the stonework and sketched the building. They were also interested in using digital programmes like Minecraft to explore what an old building used to look like or to recreate models themselves. Pupils were very interested in the idea of heritage festivals where they would get to engage in hands on activities related to their heritage (the idea of sampling different foods from the past was raised). The children made the following suggestions about engaging with local heritage:

"Real life visits to sites, hands on work and fun stuff."

"A nature walk and heritage, maybe with an expert."

"Scary history."

"Stones and old tools also fossils."

"Talk to elderly locals, and they might tell you about what life was like years ago."

"Search it up on Google or I could read a book about it."

Concerns raised during consultation in relation to specific heritage assets

"The Well... is on Marsh Lane in the Burrow and unfortunately is almost completely grown over at this stage. It would be fantastic to see it restored and cared for again. The Chapel Bank is also overgrown and again it would be wonderful to see it restored." Received by email from local resident

Over the course of the consultation interested groups and individuals raised concerns about the threat of damage, lack of maintenance, or destruction of the following sites or heritage assets, the majority of which are in private ownership:

- The round tower at Portrane.
- St Mochuda's well and Chapel Bank, which are covered over.
- The church and cemetery at Kilcrea, which is overgrown.
- The terraces of nurses' cottages on the road into St Ita's Campus.
- The tower house at St Patrick's Protestant Church.
- A cottage on Turvey Avenue, close to Donabate Village.
- The possible threat posed by development to Rogerstown Estuary and Turvey Nature Reserve.
- Damage to the meadowland habitat in Newbridge Demesne as a result of the timing of hosting Flavours of Fingal.
- Loss of pastureland and hedgerow habitat for birds.

Other concerns or issues raised related to:

- The possibility of there being unmarked graves of the victims of the sinking of the Tayleur in the area.
- Lack of recognition of local historical figures e.g., Hampden Evans and his involvement in the 1798 Rebellion.
- Blocking of public access by road to Rogerstown Estuary.

Members of the public can report possible damage or threat to monuments at this link

<https://archaeology.ie/monument-protection#Report>

10. Interpreting Heritage, Suggested Themes and Guidance

Interpretation of our built, natural, and cultural heritage should:

- Provoke curiosity and interest
- Relate to the everyday experiences of the audience
- Reveal a memorable message

While different groups and organisations that engage in heritage interpretation will have specific areas of interest and may have to source funding (and meet funding criteria) to implement projects, a wide range of factors need to be considered in planning and implementing heritage interpretation that is engaging and appropriate for the target audience.

Guidelines for Interpretation

The first step for any interpretive projects should be to review Fingal County Council's guidance on best practice, procedures, and requirements for the development of heritage signage and heritage



trails in Fingal. The guidance gives advice on what is involved in developing heritage signage or a heritage trail, tips for content, and permissions that are needed. **The first question is: Do you really need signage?** There are many ways to interpret heritage from guided walks, audio tours and Apps to festivals and heritage events. Fingal County Council has developed a suite of signage that is being utilised throughout the County to form recognisable information points and visual coherence. **It should be noted that Fingal County Council must approve all signage content.**

Sample of signage from Balbriggan Heritage Trail

Find out more

Fingal County Council Heritage Signage & Heritage Trail Guidance is available here

<https://www.fingal.ie/news/heritage-signage-heritage-trail-guidance-fingal-county-council>

The Heritage Council Bored of Boards publication gives lots of ideas for how to interpret local heritage https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/content/files/bored_of_boards_1mb.pdf

The Canal and River Trust Interpretive Toolkit is a useful resource for planning interpretation

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/media/library/9817-interpretation-toolkit.pdf>

Suggested Themes for Interpretation

Based on the heritage audit, the community consultation, and the accessibility of the sites the following themes are suggested for interpretation of heritage sites and assets on the peninsula. This is not a definitive or prescriptive list but is intended to identify key opportunities and provide suggestions for how to highlight aspects of heritage that people are curious about, which are accessible.

Theme 1: Local Landmarks - Exploring the Built Heritage and Social History of Portrane Village and Donabate Village

The findings of the community consultation reflect a strong interest in the built heritage of the villages of Donabate and Portrane, local people, legends, stories, and folklore. An opportunity exists to promote awareness of the rich built heritage of both Donabate village and Portrane village, which local people pass every day and to tell the story of a resilient community. The social history of the area mirrors many of the key events of Irish history from the arrival of Christianity to colonisation, and from the famine to independence.

The history of the community of the peninsula is very well documented in the writings of Peadar Bates, Gerard Ronan and Nancy Dempsey. There is an opportunity to highlight interesting figures from local history, for example Frances Cobbe, Sophia Parnell-Evans, and William Kelly, who have already been extensively researched and written about in publications by local authors.

The collection of traditions, memories, customs, and local characters compiled following a series of talks in the senior citizens' centre in Donabate in 1983 is another great source of information. The lives of lesser-known local people, for example the women who worked as domestic staff at Newbridge House that were the focus of the recent "Servant Quarters Experience" would be of equal interest in this context. The Cobbe family archive also contains a wealth of information on local social history.

A combination of methods could be used to highlighting the key heritage sites in Donabate and Portrane (detailed in Sections 4 and 5) such as guided walks, talks, heritage signage at landmark buildings, audio guides, discreet QR codes linked to online information, or a printed leaflet with a map. The following are relevant examples of different approaches to interpretation, which may provide inspiration:

Cuilcagh to Cleenish memory map including music, stories, history, old and new community-made films, recordings, and photographs gathered by the community <https://www.c2c.org.uk/>

Abbeyleix Climate Action Walk with QR codes on handmade ceramic tiles at sites of interest linking to an interactive, online story map with short, animated videos

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/b2f26a64a6e84b1c8ed418bbc206d1d6>

Swords Heritage Trail Audio Guide Abarta heritage <https://www.abartaheritage.ie> assist communities in producing audio guides and audio books for example the Swords Heritage Trail <https://www.abartaheritage.ie/swords-heritage-trail-audio-guide/>

Castleknock Virtual Heritage Tour is a 15-minute video tour <https://youtu.be/qjNZJKFxJZE> developed and produced by Castleknock Tidy Towns that captures Castleknock's past in a way that will appeal to young and old, whether a history or heritage buff, or not.

Balbriggan Heritage Trail uses a combination of interpretive panels (in the format approved by Fingal County Council) and a detailed brochure available online or from the local tourist office <http://visitbalbriggan.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Balbriggan-heritage-trail-brochure.pdf>

Theme 2: Coastal and Maritime Heritage

The coastline of the peninsula is remarkable in terms of landscape, biodiversity, geology, cliffs, caves, and holy wells. There is also a rich range of archaeological and built heritage assets including tidal mills, windmills, old quays, the Martello towers, and the round tower. Coastal walks and beaches are popular with local people and visitors alike and an opportunity exists to interpret the rich and diverse coastal heritage of the peninsula. There are already a number of trail maps and leaflets developed for the peninsula:

The **Portrane Shore Heritage Trail** (Unpublished) devised by Mick Mongey for the section of coast from Tower Bay to Donabate consists of a trail map and leaflet. The trail highlights the natural, built and cultural heritage along the route from the geology, cliffs, holy wells and ecology to St Ita's Campus and the Round Tower. This trail could be further developed using QR codes along the route to link to additional information online (See Appendix 3 for leaflet and map. For more information contact sinead@begley.ie).

Fingal Tourism have also developed a **Donabate-Portrane peninsula leaflet and map** for the section of coast from Tower Bay to the end of Donabate beach with input from local groups. Contact info@fingaltourism.ie.

The **Letterfrack Poetry Trail** is an example of a leaflet and map that can be downloaded from a website, which features recordings of poets reciting their work. The walker is guided to a series of plaques containing a poem at locations around the village and environs of Letterfrack, and the forest

area of Connemara National Park <https://www.sportireland.ie/outdoors/walking/trails/letterfrack-poetry-trail>

Theme 3: What Lies Beneath? Interpreting the Archaeological Heritage of the Peninsula

The findings of the community consultation reflect strong interest in archaeological sites and monuments on the peninsula, which is hardly surprising given the rich archaeological assets of the area.

The key accessible or visible sites, which also happen to be close to routes well used by walkers are Lanistown Castle (Site 11.1), the possible footprint of the original Newbridge House (Site 11.2), St Catherine's Church and graveyard (Site 12.2 – 12.3), Carr's Windmill (Site 15.1), Stella's Tower (Site 12.1), the Martello Tower at Balcarrick (Site 1.1), and St Patrick's Church of Ireland Church and graveyard in Donabate (Sites 7.1 - 7.3). The geophysical surveys undertaken of the areas around Lanistown Castle, and Stella's Tower provide evidence of associated structures and could be drawn on for interpretive projects. There is an opportunity to envisage how these buildings looked in their heyday, what other structures were attached or close-by and how they functioned.

As described in the Inventory of Archaeological sites in Appendix 1, the vast majority of the 65 sites are privately owned and inaccessible to the public. In many cases nothing remains to be seen above ground so the approach to interpretation needs to take this into account. For example, where physical remains no longer exist or visitors can't see or access the sites in question heritage signage is not an appropriate or cost-effective option.

For sites that have no surface expression or cannot be physically visited aerial photography, excavation or historic records can inform other types of interpretation including talks, publications, an App, a video, a website, or a digital story map. Tables 2 and 3 in Appendix 1 provide links to detailed information on sites from the inventory.

Useful links

*The Heritage Council's **Adopt a Monument Scheme** helps communities become actively involved in the conservation and interpretation of their local archaeological and cultural heritage sites. The scheme provides expertise, mentoring and support so the chosen monument can serve as a focal point for heritage-related, educational and recreational activities, encouraging greater interpretation and understanding <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/projects/adopt-a-monument>*

***St Doulagh's Church 3D virtual tour** by the community archaeology group Resurrecting Monuments demonstrates the use of technology in allowing the viewer to visualise and engage with sites remotely <https://resurrectingmonuments.wordpress.com/>*

Possible Sub-themes and Narratives for Interpreting Archaeological Sites

Table 4. Suggested Themes by which to Interpret the Archaeological Heritage of Donabate - Portrane

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Colour codes for SMR Column | Upstanding | Aerial Photo | Excavation | Not extant, may be buried remains |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|

Accessibility Y: Accessible P: Partly accessible N: Not accessible N-R: Excavation report N-AP: Aerial photo

| Number | SMR No. | Class | Townland | Access | Energy | Farming & food | How we lived | Defence | Liminal space | Ritual | Death & burial |
|--------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|----------------|--------------|---------|---------------|--------|----------------|
| 1.1 | DU012-008---- | Martello tower | BALCARRICK | Y | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 | DU012-041---- | House - 16th/17th century | BALCARRICK | N | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | DU012-013001- | Church | BALLYMADROUGH | P | | | | | | | |
| 2.2 | DU012-013002- | Graveyard | BALLYMADROUGH | P | | | | | | | |
| 2.3 | DU012-014---- | Castle - motte | BALLYMADROUGH | N | | | | | | | |
| 2.4 | DU012-042- | Tide mill - unclassified | BALLYMADROUGH | P | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | DU012-084---- | Ring-ditch/Hut-site | BALLYMASTONE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 3.2 | DU012-085---- | Ring-ditch | BALLYMASTONE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 3.3 | DU012-088---- | Enclosure | BALLYMASTONE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | DU008-026---- | Quay | BEAVERSTOWN | N | | | | | | | |
| 4.2 | DU012-066---- | Habitation site | BEAVERSTOWN | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 4.3 | DU012-067---- | Enclosure | BEAVERSTOWN | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 4.4 | DU012-083---- | Excavation, miscellaneous | BEAVERSTOWN | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 5.1 | DU008-028---- | Chapel | BURROW (Nethercross By.) | N | | | | | | | |
| 5.2 | DU008-029---- | Ritual site - holy well | BURROW (Nethercross By.) | N | | | | | | | |
| 6.1 | DU012-019---- | Earthwork | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | N | | | | | | | |
| 6.2 | DU012-020---- | House - 16th/17th century | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | N | | | | | | | |
| 6.3 | DU012-070- | Burial | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | P | | | | | | | |
| 6.4 | DU012-086---- | Burnt mound | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 6.5 | DU012-087---- | Burnt mound | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 6.6 | DU012-097---- | Ring-ditch | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | N - R | | | | | | | |

| Number | SMR No. | Class | Townland | Access | Energy | Farming & food | How we lived | Defence | Liminal space | Ritual | Death & burial |
|--------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|----------------|--------------|---------|---------------|--------|----------------|
| 7.1 | DU012-005001- | Church | DONABATE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 7.2 | DU012-005002- | Castle - tower house | DONABATE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 7.3 | DU012-005003- | Graveyard | DONABATE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 7.4 | DU012-005004- | Wall monument | DONABATE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 7.5 | DU012-082001- | Excavation - miscellaneous | DONABATE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 7.6 | DU012-082002- | Structure | DONABATE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 7.7 | DU012-082003- | Structure | DONABATE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 7.8 | DU012-082004- | Structure | DONABATE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 8.1 | DU012-016001- | Church | KILCREA | P | | | | | | | |
| 8.2 | DU012-016002- | Graveyard | KILCREA | P | | | | | | | |
| 8.3 | DU012-017---- | Enclosure | KILCREA | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 8.4 | DU012-018---- | Tide mill - unclassified | KILCREA | N | | | | | | | |
| 8.5 | DU012-072---- | Ring-ditch | KILCREA | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 9.1 | DU012-006---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 9.2 | DU012-073---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 9.3 | DU012-074---- | Ring-ditch | LANESTOWN/Newbridge Demesne | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 9.4 | DU012-075---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 9.5 | DU012-076---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 9.6 | DU012-077---- | Field system | LANESTOWN | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 10.1 | DU012-012002- | Field system | LISSENHALL GREAT | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 10.2 | DU012-047---- | Tide mill - unclassified | LISSENHALL GREAT | P | | | | | | | |
| 11.1 | DU012-004---- | Castle - tower house | NEWBRIDGE DEMESNE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 11.2 | DU012-060---- | House - 18th/19th century | NEWBRIDGE DEMESNE | P | | | | | | | |
| 12.1 | DU008-030---- | Castle - tower house | PORTRAINE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 12.2 | DU008-031001- | Church | PORTRAINE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 12.3 | DU008-031002- | Graveyard | PORTRAINE | Y | | | | | | | |
| 12.4 | DU008-031003- | Bullaun stone | PORTRAINE | N | | | | | | | |
| 12.5 | DU008-058 | House - 18th/19th century | PORTRAINE | P | | | | | | | |

| Number | SMR No. | Class | Townland | Access | Energy | Farming & food | How we lived | Defence | Liminal space | Ritual | Death & burial |
|--------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|----------------|--------------|---------|---------------|--------|----------------|
| 13.1 | DU012-009001- | Church | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | P | | | | | | | |
| 13.2 | DU012-009002- | Ritual site - holy well | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | P | | | | | | | |
| 13.3 | DU012-095001- | Habitation site | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 13.4 | DU012-095002- | House - Bronze Age | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 13.5 | DU012-095003- | Pit | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 13.6 | DU012-096---- | Fulacht fia | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | N - R | | | | | | | |
| 14.1 | | Ritual site - holy well | QUAY | P | | | | | | | |
| 14.2 | DU008-032---- | Burial | QUAY | P | | | | | | | |
| 14.3 | DU012-007001- | Cave | QUAY | P | | | | | | | |
| 14.4 | DU012-010---- | Martello tower | QUAY | P | | | | | | | |
| 15.1 | DU008-027---- | Windmill | RAHILLION | Y | | | | | | | |
| 15.2 | DU008-089---- | Enclosure | RAHILLION | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 16.1 | | House - 16th/17th century | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | N | | | | | | | |
| 16.2 | DU008-024001- | Castle - tower house | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | N | | | | | | | |
| 16.3 | DU008-025---- | Enclosure | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | N - AP | | | | | | | |
| 16.4 | DU008-083---- | Burial | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | N | | | | | | | |

To aid in interpretation Table 4 suggests themes or categories for the archaeological sites in the report and inventory¹²⁸, which are broadly self-explanatory. **Energy** refers to the mills (one windmill, three possible tidal mills) but these also relate to **Farming and Food** production. **Ritual** covers holy wells, church, sites, ring-ditches, graveyards, and the record of a bullaun stone. Some of these obviously occur within the **Death and Burial** theme also. Likewise, **Liminal Space** cross cuts with burial and with some ritual sites. Not all coastal sites are seen as liminal, Martello towers for example are in the **Defence** category.

Houses, whether medieval, post-medieval or prehistoric sit within **How we Lived**, though again some cross over with defence. Unsurprisingly the broadest category is **How we Lived**. There are excavated remains of prehistoric houses, medieval dwellings and tower houses, and post-medieval houses. It would be equally possible to introduce themes around status and wealth.

¹²⁸ Source: Report and Inventory of the Archaeological Assets of the Portrane-Donabate Peninsula. Trim Archaeological Projects Ltd. Commissioned by Fingal County Council (2021). See Appendix 1.

Promoting Heritage in Schools

The consultation with primary school children shows a clear preference among this age group for interactive hands-on learning through visits to sites and engaging with experts, as well as an openness to creative and arts-based interpretation, and online formats. Creative suggestions included using digital programmes like Minecraft to explore what an old building used to look like or to recreate models or heritage festivals with hands-on activities like sampling different foods from the past. Heritage projects aimed at schools should be cocreated with teachers and students to capture their creative ideas and to seek advice on the practicalities of implementation.

Useful links

The Heritage Council's Heritage in Schools Scheme provides a panel of over 100 Heritage Specialists who offer virtual workshops and primary school visits throughout the country. The Specialists, areas of expertise range from bats to whales, and from Vikings to storytelling, traditional singing, and dance <http://www.heritageinschools.ie/>

OWLS (Outdoor, Wildlife, Learning And Survival) offer school visits, after school clubs and activity camps during the school holidays and mid-term breaks www.owls.ie

Access and Inclusion

It is important to consider making heritage interpretation accessible to people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds, and to people with disabilities. Fingal has a relatively young and culturally diverse population and heritage can be a way to support new communities to engage with their area, through a sense of place. For example, Newbridge House and Farm are popular amenities with families, including those who are new to the area. Guided walks and talks can be a relatively inexpensive way to connect people with heritage. There is no shortage of local heritage experts and knowledgeable members of the community who could be invited to get involved.

Online, interactive story maps and virtual site visits allow stories to be told and make information accessible to everyone including people with impaired sight, hearing, and mobility. This approach can also bring events of the past to life and allow people to visualise heritage sites that no longer exist.

Useful links

Heritage Council guidance on access and inclusion considerations
<https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/advice-and-guidance/resource>

Connecting People with Heritage on Safe and Accessible Routes

There is an opportunity to tap into people's curiosity by interpreting local heritage along safe and established routes on the peninsula, for example the walk from Tower Bay to Donabate beach. Sites connected by green infrastructure and safe pedestrian pathways, lend themselves to heritage trails and guided walks. Groups or organisations planning heritage trails or walks should consider the routes set out in the **Donabate Local Area Plan (LAP)** (Section 4 Green infrastructure) and the **Slí na Sláinte** route that is currently being developed by community groups and organisations in the area.

The LAP plan sets out a network of approximately 30km of looped cycleways and pedestrian linkages from the LAP lands to the Village Centre, the Rail Station, existing residential areas and schools, Newbridge Demesne, Turvey Nature Reserve, St Ita's Campus, and the beaches at Donabate and Portrane.

Three key priority green routes or loops have been identified:

- **Turvey / Newbridge Loop:** Connecting Turvey and Corballis LAP lands, Donabate Village and Train Station, Newbridge Demesne, Turvey Nature Reserve (10km)
- **Rahillion / St Ita's Loop:** Connecting Portrane Village and beach, St Ita's Campus, Rahillion and Ballymastone LAP lands, Fingal Coastal Way (Rogerstown Estuary north of Rahillion), Donabate Village and Train Station (9km)
- **Fingal Coastal Way (Malahide and Rogerstown Estuary):** This route will run along the length of the entire coastline of Fingal. The section running along the Donabate Peninsula will connect Malahide Estuary to Donabate and Portrane beaches and northwards to the bridge over the Rogerstown Estuary (12km). Planning has been received for the Malahide to Newbridge Demesne section of the coastal way and route selection is underway for the next phase northwards.

Current developments include extending the cycling infrastructure from Donabate/Distributor Road east towards Portrane Village along the R126 and assessment of Tower Bay car park for expansion of secure bicycle parking facilities.

For full details and route maps visit:

<https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/Donabate%20LAP%202016%20-%20Text%20Part%201.pdf> (Page 34)

<https://dev.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/Donabate%20LAP%202016%20-%20Text%20Part%202.pdf>

Slí na Sláinte is an initiative of the Irish Heart Foundation, which aims to increase the number of people walking or running for their health. Since 2019 a group of people and organisations in the area including Active Age, Lambay Sports & Athletics, Donabate-Portrane Men's Shed and Donabate Portrane Community & Leisure Centre, have been working to develop this initiative locally with the aim of promoting and developing safe routes suitable for walkers and runners of every ability. A number of routes in the village and Newbridge Park have been identified ¹²⁹. A number of obstacles were identified by the Irish Heart Foundation route assessor in the village leading to the park, and in terms of achieving circular routes, which the group are working to resolve with Fingal County Council. These routes offer potential for both health and heritage interpretation.

Highlighting Heritage in Community Spaces, and Heritage Properties

Well used civic and public spaces offer potential venues for exhibitions, public art, murals, and events e.g., Donabate Railway Station, Donabate Library and Donabate Portrane Community and Leisure Centre. Other historic buildings including the parish hall and churches in Donabate are community hubs which may have potential for heritage interpretation through events and exhibitions or displays (permanent or temporary). Newbridge House, Demesne and farm offer opportunities for a range of indoor and outdoor heritage events, interpretation, and community engagement, with collections that reflect the cultural, agricultural, and social history of the area.

Collaboration to Celebrate Local Heritage

There are already some great examples of interpreting and communicating local heritage through initiatives by local groups including the Bleeding Pig Cultural Festival, the museum established by Donabate Historical Society, and the Fingal Vintage Society's harvest day at Skerries Mills. Community-based arts projects like Resort Revelations have also resulted in creative approaches to exploring local natural, cultural, and built heritage. These initiatives demonstrate the value of collaborative approaches. Forums such as the Donabate-Portrane Community Council can continue to facilitate partnership and coordination among groups interested in heritage interpretation projects.

All interpretive projects should include a communication element to promote local heritage. Methods ranging from traditional media, social media, local networks of community groups, sports clubs, schools, parks, heritage properties, Donabate Library and Donabate Portrane Community & Leisure Centre, could be used to target as wide and diverse an audience as possible.

¹²⁹ Source: <https://communitylocals.ie/sli-na-slainte-routes-for-donabate/>

Relevant Plans and Policies

The following plans and policies should be considered and consulted by those planning heritage interpretation projects in Donabate-Portrane:

- **Fingal Heritage Plan** <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/heritage-plan-2018-2023>
- **The Local Area Biodiversity Action Plan for Portrane-Donabate** (pending publication by Fingal County Council)
- **The Donabate Local Area Plan**, which sets out plans for green infrastructure for walking and cycling <https://www.fingal.ie/donabate-local-area-plan-2016>
- **Urban Centre framework plan for Donabate**, which seeks to provide a vision for Donabate town centre, improve and enhance the Main Street area, and guide careful urban improvement. It is envisaged that the Plan will highlight the distinctive character of Donabate and its setting on the peninsula, identify current issues, and outline a programme of actions which have been agreed with the community.

<https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/donabate-urban-framework-plan>

Funding and Support for Community Heritage Projects

Project costs and funding sources are a key consideration when designing and implementing heritage interpretation. While community groups may be able to produce events or guided walks, developing heritage signage is likely to require professional input for example, design, construction, or translation of text into Irish.

The cost of a project will depend on the choice of interpretive media and the amount of work that the commissioning group can undertake themselves. Interpretive panels cost in the region of 2,500 – 3,000 euro per sign, require maintenance and are most suited to areas where there is something to see, with a high throughput of people and a relatively low risk of vandalism. Similarly, producing digital interpretation using websites, videos, Apps, or audio guides is likely to require professional expertise, which needs to be included in project costings. If producing leaflets, guides, or publications the cost of design, print, promotion, storage, and distribution needs to be considered.

The following are potential funding opportunities for local heritage projects.

- **Fingal County Council Community Grants** and funding guide <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/community-grants-and-funding>
- **Heritage Council** funding opportunities including the **Community Heritage Grants Scheme** <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding>
- **The Community Monuments Fund** <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d21e3-community-monuments-fund-2022-call-for-projects/>. Contact Heritage Officer Christine.Baker@fingal.ie

- **Creative Ireland** offers opportunities for people of all ages across Ireland to engage with creative projects in their local areas <https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/>
- **Fingal County Council** grants for owners/occupiers of protected structures, proposed protected structures and structures within Architectural Conservation Areas. Contact Architectural Conservation Office at conservation@fingal.ie
 - **Stitch in Time Grant** (minor works and repairs) <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2021-11/stitch-in-time-grant-info.pdf>
 - **Historic Structures Fund** <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/historic-structures-fund-hsf>
 - **Built Heritage Investment Scheme** <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2021-11/bhis-2022-circular.pdf>

Useful Contacts

Fingal Heritage Officer: The Heritage Office celebrates Fingal's heritage, provides advice and information on heritage issues, develops policies and priorities for the identification, protection, conservation, and enhancement of Fingal's heritage, collects and collates heritage data, and promotes and supports heritage awareness and education throughout the county
christine.baker@fingal.ie (01) 8905691

Fingal Biodiversity Officer: hans.visser@fingal.ie (01) 8905605

Architectural Conservation Office: conservation@fingal.ie

Fingal Local Studies & Archives: archives@fingal.ie (01) 8704496

Donabate Library: donabatelibrary@fingal.ie (01) 8905609

Appendix 1. Archaeological Inventory Tables

The Location

The landscape of the Donabate-Portrane-peninsula is characterised by its coastal position, relatively flat land, and marshy estuarine margins to south and north. Along its east coast a long stretch of sandy beach gives way to a rocky promontory and back to a sandy coastline. The coastal perimeter thus varies in character with the northern and southern coasts being estuarine, and the eastern coast rising from an extensive sandy beach in Burrow townland at the north end, to an elevated rocky peninsula in Quay townland with extensive views across to Lambay, south through Portraine Demesne, dropping gently to the beach at Balcarrick and Corballis where it meets the estuary of the Broadmeadow River. The Dublin-Belfast railway line bisects the peninsula and divides those estuarine zones into an inner and an outer zone. It is possible to walk the inner shore of the estuary at Corballis and to walk or cycle from there to the Kilcrea gate into Newbridge Demesne. There is a lovely coastal walk from beneath the M1 motorway along the shore of Seapoint townland, around to Ballymadrough, and up through Kilcrea, then looping back via Lanestown.

The entire east coast can be walked, and this takes the walker directly past a number of sites, including the two Martello towers in the area. The north shore, which is the south shore of Rogerstown estuary, is less accessible. The village of Portrane in the northeast is still relatively small, with housing extending north through Burrow townland. The lands around the new National Forensic Mental Health Service in St. Ita's, Portrane, contain significant new findings from recent excavations, including a possible cist burial. This area is used by walkers also. Donabate has expanded significantly in recent years and will expand further. A new road has been built skirting Donabate on the south and east sides and it is notable that this is much used for walking.

The peninsula has been dominated by farming activity, and probably to a lesser extent by fishing. Three substantial estates were formed there, Portraine Demesne, Newbridge Demesne and Turvey. There were significant houses also in Corballis, Kilcrea and Ballymadrough. These have all contributed to the shaping of the field patterns, roads and settlement patterns of the area, and the owners of these places were probably substantial employers and landlords.

The Known Archaeology

The upstanding archaeological remains are predominantly medieval to post-medieval in date; the possible exceptions are holy wells whose origins may be much earlier. Both of the settlements of Donabate and Portrane have historic cores with medieval church sites in both and there is a medieval tower house also in Portrane. The central part of the coastline is bracketed by two Martello towers in Quay and Balcarrick townlands. Inland Newbridge Demesne contains a medieval tower house and possibly the remains of a 17th – 18th century house within the present building footprint. Three further church sites with accompanying graveyards are known, though their condition varies from partly upstanding to entirely sub-surface. A fourth church site with a nearby holy well is no longer accessible or visible and a holy well within a cave is located on the rocky coastline at Quay townland. The coast is also the location of two of the three human burials found in isolation in the area. The substantial remains of the tower of a windmill stand overlooking the estuary at the north end of the peninsula at Rahillion and a recently provided path to it is well used. Records of two mills said to have been tidal are known and these sites are on the SMR, though nothing visible remains to be seen. While the known archaeological record of the peninsula stretches back to the Mesolithic period represented by finds of struck and worked flint, all the non-

historical sites are sub-surface. In dealing with the archaeological heritage of the region the story would be fleshed out somewhat by including the stray artefacts that have been recorded.

The sub-surface archaeology is less easy to definitely categorise unless it has been excavated and dated. All available records of excavations that have taken place in the catchment area have been listed with links to the Excavation Bulletin report. The current updating of the County Dublin digital archive of archaeological reports should make this information easily available.

Enclosures, ring-ditches, fulacht fia, field systems, possible hut sites as well as medieval structures and undated human remains have all been excavated in the peninsula. Significant archaeological work was carried out to inform the Local Area Plan (LAP) for Donabate. As a result of this a large area to the south and east of Donabate was investigated through geophysics, test excavation and full excavation. Similarly, archaeological work in advance of the Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste-Water Treatment scheme uncovered prehistoric features in Portrane Demesne. Development for private housing, apartment schemes, road-widening and so on has also added to the number of monuments known. All are tabulated in the inventory. However, even where the dates of these features may not be definitely known, the activity which brought them into being, and the aspect of life to which they may relate can be conjectured and woven into a story of the place.

Accessibility

As stated above accessibility is not just a matter of being able to physically access a place, though in terms of presenting a site and engaging the local community with local heritage, it's clearly the preferred situation. Virtually all the sites are privately owned, with some exceptions such as those within Newbridge Demense DU012-004----, Lanestown or Lanistown Castle, the possible footprint of an 18th – 19th Century house within Newbridge House itself (DU012-060 and Stella's Tower (DU008-030) in Portrane. Monuments coded green in the access column are those which can be fully accessed, that is they are upstanding, accessible to the general public, though not necessarily into their interiors, and are either publicly owned (Newbridge Demesne), are relic or current churches (Portrane and Donabate), are on the foreshore (Balcarrick – which is in private ownership, but its exterior is visible and accessible) or on land to which public access has been provided (Rahillion). There are 10 of these records, but in reality these constitute six individual locations.

A further 15 are partly accessible, these are coded orange. These are sites which can be seen from a public space, or sites which may exist still but in modified form and are visible, but not fully accessible.

Sites which were discovered through excavation and where some information can be accessed are coded blue. Of the 20 sites discovered through excavation three are not included in this code; two are burial sites which can be accessed on the foreshore by reference to the NMS website location, but also as little information is easily available on them. The third site excluded is also a burial, but in this instance neither the site nor the report is accessible.

Eleven sites are known because they were recognised through analysis of aerial photography. These are coded dark blue. In some instances it seems that the extent of the sites is possibly greater than that given in the site's description. It is possible to compare aerial photographs from different years and the sites appear and disappear according to soil and crop conditions when the photographs were taken. This could be something that individuals can explore themselves, or children as part of school projects.

Table 2: List of Excavation Licences for which a report was received by the National Monuments Service

This table lists all licences issued for which a report has been received by the NMS for the relevant townlands. The licence number, site name, summary of findings derived from excavations, ie, licence holder's name, relevant web links and SMR number if applicable are listed. A total of 50 licences or extensions to licences were issued for which a report has been received at the time of writing. Of these 15 did not produce an archaeological result; of the remaining 45 licences issued 17 resulted in SMR numbers being given to features uncovered, but multiple SMR numbers could result from one licence. It is possible that further SMR numbers will be issued following the submission and evaluation of these reports, at least 15 further sites have been uncovered.

Table 3: Details of Sites and Monuments Record Sites

This table gives information on all sites which have been given SMR status; a description as given in the NMS files, relevant references and short notes from the site visit are then listed and two columns are colour coded; the first column giving the SMR no is coded to indicate if the monument is a) upstanding and visible, b) only partly visible, c) only known from aerial photographs or d) discovered through excavation. The last column is coded to indicate the accessibility level.

| Table 2: List of Excavation Licences for which a report was received by National Monuments Service | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 19E0469 | BALCARRICK - Excavation Licence | 2019:437: No archaeology | Ian Russell and Deirdre Murphy | https://excavations.ie/report/2019/Dublin/0029218/ | | | |
| 19E0351 | BALLISK - Excavation Licence | 2019:516: Pit of uncertain date | James Hession | https://excavations.ie/report/2019/Dublin/0029508/ | | | |
| 19E0518 | BEAVERSTOWN - Excavation Licence | 2019:648: No archaeology | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2019/Dublin/0029907/ | | | |
| 02E1872 | BEAVERSTOWN ROAD, DONABATE, CO. DUBLIN | 2004:0499: No archaeology | Emmet Stafford | http://excavations.ie/report/2004/Dublin/0011625/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/02E1872.pdf | | |
| 14E0419 | Beaverstown Td; Donabate; Turvey Avenue | 2014:493: monitoring of topsoil strip, no archaeology | Dominic Delaney | https://excavations.ie/report/2014/Dublin/0025231/ | | | |
| 14E0419ext | Beaverstown Td; Donabate; Turvey Avenue | 2015:393: Further monitoring, no archaeology found | Dominic Delaney | https://excavations.ie/report/2015/Dublin/0025238/ | | | |
| 11E0333 | Beaverstown, Donabate, Co. Dublin | 2011:180: No archaeology | Dave Bayley | http://www.excavations.ie/re | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ | |

| | | | | port/2011/Dublin/0022347/ | ArchaeologyReports/11E0333.pdf | efore_ArchaeologyReports/GeophysicalReports/07R0257.pdf | |
|-------------------|---|--|----------------|---|---|--|-------------------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 02E1708 | BEAVERSTOWN, DONABATE, CO. DUBLIN, beside train station | 2002:0508: An assessment of a potential development site revealed prehistoric and post-medieval activity, finds included flint flakes, iron objects and corroded copper alloy coin | Ines Hagen | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2002/Dublin/0007825/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/02E1708_1.pdf | | DU012-066- --- |
| 02E1708ext | BEAVERSTOWN, DONABATE, CO. DUBLIN, beside train station | 2003:483: Monitoring topsoil removal under same licence | Ines Hagen | http://excavations.ie/report/2003/Dublin/0009818/ | | | |
| 03E1634 | BEAVERSTOWN, DONABATE, CO. DUBLIN, beside train station | 2003:484: Excavation of features uncovered in testing (02E1708). Neolithic and Bronze Age activity including pits and part of a curvilinear ditch. Burnt bone was recovered from one pit, one sherd of Beaker pottery and some late bronze age pottery came from the ditch | Ines Hagen | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2003/Dublin/0009819/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/03E1634.pdf | | DU012-067- --- |
| 02E1708ext | BEAVERSTOWN, DONABATE, CO. DUBLIN, beside train station | 2004:0500: Monitoring topsoil removal under same licence | Teresa Bolger | http://excavations.ie/report/2004/Dublin/0011626/ | | | |
| 04E0185 | BEAVERSTOWN, DONABATE, CO. DUBLIN, beside train station | 2004:0501: Pits containing medieval and post medieval pottery, including Frechen ware, and deposits of shell including sea and landsnail shell. Two pits | Kevin Lohan | http://excavations.ie/report/2004/Dublin/0011627/ | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2004/Dublin/0011627/ | | DU012-083- --- |

| | | contained cockleshells and little else. | | | | | |
|-------------|---|--|-----------------|---|---|----------------------------|---------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 02E1708ext | BEAVERSTOWN, DONABATE, CO. DUBLIN, beside train station | Monitoring after excavations | Ines Hagen | | https://heritage.maps.ie/documents/Therefore ArchaeologyReports/02E1708_2.pdf | | |
| 07E0650 | Corballis | 2007:451 - Site type: Enclosures, burnt mounds. No report is noted as being lodged with NMS as this is not recorded on Heritage Maps. The ITM ref in the bulletin entry is incorrect. Work in advance of housing development following on geophysical survey and work related to licence 06E0027. Two large enclosures indicated in the geophysical survey were targeted and the presence of ditches was confirmed in the test-trenches at both enclosure sites; the fills indicate that they are both of archaeological significance. A fragment of a copper-alloy object recovered from one of the ditch fills in the west enclosure may indicate a date in the early medieval period. The remains of two burnt mounds typical of the second millennium BC were also identified. | Gill McLoughlin | https://excavations.ie/report/2007/Dublin/0017427/ | | | |

| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
|----------------|--|---|-----------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| 17E0409 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2017:665: Burnt Mound site previously identified by test-excavations (17E0094). A sub-rectangular pit, C8, (1.89m NE/SW x 0.92m x 0.33m) is the most likely trough. A long (8.5m), narrow shallow channel, C14, fed into the pit, perhaps to control the water level in it. Several other shallow pits or possible post-holes, e.g., C3, C5, and C10, were identified with no obvious pattern to their location. Human bones (unburnt) were retrieved from the fill of pit C3, and the volume of skeletal material (8 fragments, 15g) suggests that this represents re-deposition of a partial or disturbed skeleton. Ash (fraxinus) charcoal from the fill (C9) of the trough (C8) returned a radiocarbon date of 1620-1500 cal BC 2δ. | Liam Coen | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027724/ | | | |
| 17E0608 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2017:646: Testing uncovered two discrete sites, both fulachta fiadh, subsequently excavated (Corballis 8, Fulacht fiadh, 18E0106; Corballis 9, Fulacht fia; 18E0107) | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027542/ | | | |
| 17E0408 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2017:664: Fulacht fia. The basal fill of the probable trough C7 (1.4m north-south x 1.1m x 0.3m in depth) returned a radiocarbon date of 2340-2140 cal BC 2δ. A single flint flake was retrieved from pit | Liam Coen | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027723/ | | | |

| | | C6. No animal bones were identified. | | | | | |
|-------------|--|--|-----------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 18E0106 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2018:589: a 40m x 30m was mechanically stripped and revealed thin deposits of blackened clay with burnt stone. Five pits/troughs were exposed and fully excavated. No artefacts recovered. | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0027644/ | | | |
| 18E0107 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2018:590: Fulacht fia comprising four pits and curvilinear feature filled with burnt stone, charcoal and silt. No artefacts recovered | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0027645/ | | | |
| 18E0108 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2018:591: Prehistoric pits and at least one structure marked by a ring of seven post-holes. A second structure may be indicated by two post-holes. A blue glass bead was recovered from a pit. | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0027646/ | | | |
| 18E0111 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2018:593: A large area 65m east-west x 40m was mechanically stripped of topsoil to reveal subsoil and a discontinuous spread of burnt stone and charcoal which covered 13 pits and post-holes mostly filled with burnt mound material. 20m away a possible kiln with a flue was excavated. A sherd of mid to late bronze age pottery was recovered from the topsoil. | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0027648/ | | | |
| 18E0112 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2018:594: Topsoil stripping revealed a dense cluster of pits and post-holes suggesting the partial remains of a structure. There were | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0027649/ | | | |

| | | several instances of paired post-holes. Many features contained charcoal, no finds were recovered. | | | | | |
|-------------|--|---|-----------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 18E0110 | CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | Following geophysical survey, thirty-five test trenches totalling 2,905 linear metres were excavated. Four archaeological sites were recorded in testing and were subsequently excavated under separate licences. | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0027647/ | | | |
| 17E0309 | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) - Excavation Licence | 2017:642: no archaeology found | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027538/ | | | |
| 17E0630 | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) - Excavation Licence | 2017:649; Bronze Age Settlement. The site is intended for a nature park incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems intended to serve future housing developments at the north of the proposed Donabate Distributor Road. It covers an area of c.13.6ha and is currently set out as a large sized field under tillage. A single RMP site (DU012-019) is located just beyond the eastern site boundary. The sites were excavated under licences 18E108, 110 - 112, and 18E208, see below. | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027546/ | | | |

| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
|----------------|--|--|-----------------|---|---|----------------------------|---------|
| 18E0208 | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) - Excavation Licence | 2018:595: Thirteen test-trenches were excavated to investigate the general potential of the site as well as a portion of the site adjacent to DU012-019 (Earthwork) that had undergone a geophysical survey (17R0170). A single area of archaeology was identified, a spread of burnt mound material/fulacht fiadh in Trench 7 measuring 11m north-east/south-west x 6m with a depth of 0.1m. The site has been preserved in situ. | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0027650/ | | 17R0170 | |
| 07E0185 | Donabate | 2007:459: No archaeology | Dominic Delaney | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2007/Dublin/0017435/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/07E0185.pdf | | |

| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| 17E0239 | DONABATE - Excavation Licence | 2017:500: Testing of proposed development area revealed ditches, pits, metalled surface and burial. The eastern portion of the site is within the zone of archaeological potential associated with St Patrick's Church, tower house, graveyard and wall monuments (DU012-005001-4). The testing results have shown that there is considerable multi-phased archaeological activity within the central and eastern part of this site. This is in the form of four substantial ditches, up to 12 smaller ditches, several small linear features (gullies, furrows and drains), two pits, a metalled surface, two spreads and a human skeleton. | Rob Lynch and Jane Whitaker | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0026789/ | | | |
| 18E0414 | DONABATE - Excavation Licence | 2018:732: The excavation exposed a spread of burnt mound material and associated troughs and pits indicative of probable Bronze Age burnt mound or fulacht fiadh activity. Tentative evidence of an associated shelter or wind break structure was also recorded. Post-excavation analysis will aim to obtain a date for the activity, which is likely to represent transient settlement dating to the Bronze Age. | Faith Bailey | https://excavations.ie/report/2018/Dublin/0029294/ | | | |

| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
|----------------|---|--|-----------------|---|---|---|---|
| 17E0094 | Donabate Distributer Road | 2017:619: Stage (i) Test Excavations undertaken in advance of the proposed Donabate Distributor Road Project. Testing was undertaken in March and April 2017. A total of 136 test-trenches were excavated within the site, amounting 6.24% of the land made available for the scheme. Three archaeological sites were identified. Corballis 1 is a 12m wide ringditch recorded at ITM 723506, 749519 Corballis 2 is a fulacht fiadh recorded at ITM 723496, 749419 in a previous phase of testing Corballis 3 is a fulacht fiadh recorded at ITM 723054, 749303 by test trenching The sites were subsequently excavated under separate licenses. | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027486/ | | | |
| 06E0027 | DONABATE LOCAL AREA ACTION PLAN, DUBLIN | 2006:562 - Ballymastone and Corballis; Possible prehistoric hut site, burnt-mound material and a fulacht fiadh with associated pits and drains | Christine Baker | http://excavations.ie/report/2006/Dublin/015307/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/06E0027_1.pdf | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/GeophysicalReports/05R0124.pdf | DU012-084- --- DU012-086- --- DU012-087- --- |

| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
|----------------|--|--|-----------------|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 06E0027 | DONABATE LOCAL AREA ACTION PLAN, DUBLIN | 2007:426: The four areas tested: burnt mound/fulacht fiadh and associated ditches (0.45–0.8m and 0.6m wide); a ditch (possibly forming a circular enclosure as much as 50m in diameter; 1m wide) and a large (4.1m by 1.3m) pit filled with midden-type material; a circular ditch enclosure (28m diameter, 0.3–0.9m-wide ditch) with a nearby pit; a circular ditch enclosure/ring-ditch (12m diameter, 0.6–1.15m-wide ditch), a possible round house/small ring-ditch (8m diameter, 0.6m-wide ditch) and a burnt spread/fulacht fiadh near to where another 8m 'hut circle' had previously been identified (Baker, <i>ibid.</i>). | William Frazer | https://excavations.ie/report/2007/Dublin/0017402/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/06E0027_2.pdf | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/GeophysicalReports/07R0177.pdf | DU012-085- --- DU012-088---- |
| 12E0253 | Donabate Td; Donabate; Newbridge Ave | 2012:196: No archaeology | Aidan O'Connell | http://excavations.ie/report/2012/Dublin/0023116/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/12E0253.pdf | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/GeophysicalReports/12R0096.pdf | |
| 17E0095 | Donabate, Beavertown | 2017:608: No archaeology | Aidan O'Connell | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027436/ | | | |

| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
|----------------|--|---|-----------------|---|---|---|---|
| 17E0407 | Donabate, CORBALLIS (Coolock By.) - Excavation Licence | 2017:662: Ring-ditch. c. 10.5m in maximum external diameter, had a narrow undug entrance to the south-west and another possible entrance represented by a causeway, c. 0.25m below the top of the cut, in the eastern arc. Scattered burnt and unburnt human and animal bone fragments were recovered throughout the charcoal-stained upper fills of the ring-ditch. Two burnt bone beads, a small glass bead and several small fragmentary copper-alloy pieces were also retrieved. No other archaeological features were identified in or around the ring-ditch. A piece of ash (fraxinus) charcoal from one of the lower deposits, C20, returned a date of 20-210 cal AD (95% 2σ). | Liam Coen | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0027710/ | | | DU012-097 |
| 11E0060 | Kilcrea, Co. Dublin | 2011:217: Monitoring close to a subsequently de-classified monument (DU012-061) did not uncover any archaeology. No archaeology | Melanie McQuade | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2011/Dublin/0022342/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/11E0060.pdf | | |
| 10E0121 | Lusk Waste Water Treatment Scheme, Co. Dublin. | Report details work at Portrane, Rogerstown and Whitestown. Pits, ditches and furrows were excavated in Portrane. A multi-period settlement site was also identified. | Melanie McQuade | | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/10E0121.pdf | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/GeophysicalR | DU012-095001- DU012-095002- DU012-095003- |

| | | | | | | eports/08R0029.pdf | DU012-096- --- |
|----------------|--|--|----------------|---|---|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 19E0452 | Portraine - Excavation Licence | 2019:617: monitoring of a cable lay, no archaeology found. | Finn Delaney | https://excavations.ie/report/2019/Dublin/0029826/ | | | |
| 17E0377 | PORTRAINE DEMESNE - Excavation Licence | 2017:284: The site was identified during a monitored topsoil strip (Licence Ref:17E0210) in advance of construction of the NFMHS on the St Ita's Campus in Portrane. A burnt spread covered pits, one lined with clay, one with wattle, a sub-circular slot trench with stakeholes which may have held a light wall and various other features. An old watercourse was identified close by. A quantity of lithics was recovered. | Red Tobin | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0026145/ | | | |
| 02E1451 | PORTRAINE, CO. DUBLIN | 2002:0648: Testing within the graveyard at St. Catherine's and immediately outside to facilitate the insertion of lighting revealed two shell deposits and a previously unknown wall. Work outside in the footpath showed that burials had extended beyond the present wall. | Ines Hagen | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2002/Dublin/0007964/ | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2002/Dublin/0007964/ | | |
| 17E0303 | Portrane Demesne - Excavation Licence | 2017:162: Possible cist burial, consisting of an earth cut pit lined with 12 upright slabs with 3 covering capstones. Further stone slabs suggest a corbelled element or covering cairn. Badly root | Red Tobin | https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Dublin/0025969/ | | | |

| | | affected as at the edge of the treeline. A lot of flint was recovered in the wider area. | | | | | |
|-------------|--|---|----------------|---|---|----------------------------|---------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 15E0171 | Portrane, (Gardian House, Burrow Road) | 2015:098: testing beside St Catherine's Church, Portraine. No archaeology | Jon Stirland | https://excavations.ie/report/2015/Dublin/0024372/ | | | |
| 12E0401 | Portrane, Burrow Road | 2012:243: No archaeology | Rob O'Hara | http://excavations.ie/report/2012/Dublin/0023206/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/12E0401.pdf | | |
| 15E0396 | Portrane, Portraine House & Demesne (Former St Ita's Hospital) | 2016:467: possible prehistoric structures and associated pits. The preliminary excavation results and finds are suggestive of scattered or marginal pre-historic activity, with later post-medieval agricultural and industrial activity also recorded on site. | Red Tobin | https://excavations.ie/report/2016/Dublin/0025689/ | | | |
| 15E0396ext | Portrane, Portraine House & Demesne (Former St Ita's Hospital) | 2016:469: The basement level of Portrane House and outbuildings including a subterranean service passage were exposed and recorded. | Red Tobin | https://excavations.ie/report/2016/Dublin/0025696/ | | | |
| 92E0009 | TURVEY | Testing uncovered some 'french' drains possibly associated with Turvey House. | Georgia Rennie | | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/Therefore_ArchaeologyReports/92E0009.pdf | | |

| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|---|---|----------------------------|--|
| 99E0690 | TURVEY AVENUE, DONABATE | <p>1999:176: Testing was carried out on the south side of Turvey road opposite St Patrick's to facilitate widening the footpath. A thick (max. 1.35m) depth of plough soil, of probable medieval date was found. No cultivation furrows or ridges were evident and there was no apparent stratification. No finds of medieval pottery were made from the plough soil, but a coin, identified by Michael Kenny as a 'Patrick' dating to 1564, was recovered.</p> <p>Pits containing food debris, bone and shell were uncovered in Trench 1. While these may relate to the cottages present on the north side of Turvey Avenue, there is a strong possibility that they are late medieval in date.</p> <p>Finds of more recent date were recovered from the upper black loam.</p> | Claire Walsh | http://www.excavations.ie/report/1999/Dublin/0004060/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/ThereforeArchaeologyReports/99E0690.pdf | | |
| 08E0155 | Turvey Avenue, Donabate, CO. Dublin | <p>2008:390: Turvey Avenue north of St Patrick's church was being widened. Several features including a large E/W running early medieval ditch, some pits and a possible kiln, a rectangular stone structure of later medieval date and what is believed to be the remains of a windmill or circular storage</p> | Helen Kavanagh | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2008/Dublin/0019404/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/ThereforeArchaeologyReports/08E0155.pdf | | DU012-082001- DU012-082002- DU012-082003- DU012-082004- |

| | | building were at the limits of the site. | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------|---|---|----------------------------|---------|
| Licence No. | Site Name | Excavation Bulletin No. and Notes | Licence holder | Excavations.ie | Link to exc. Report | Link to Geophysical report | SMR No. |
| 09E0155 | Turvey Avenue, Donabate, Co. Dublin. | 2009:305: Test-trenching for a new house produced nothing of archaeological interest. | David Sweetman | http://www.excavations.ie/report/2009/Dublin/0020640/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/ThereforeArchaeologyReports/09E0155.pdf | | |
| 93E0179 | TURVEY HOUSE | 1993:103: Monitoring of the removal of demolition rubble revealed three phases of castle/house construction at the site: 1. A 15th-century Tower House with angle-tower and barrel vault over ground floor. 2. A late 16th-century house. 3. An early 18th-century Georgian mansion. The garden level of Turvey House had withstood the demolition and preserved the outline of the building before its destruction. The upstanding walls averaged 2.2m in height. | Ben Murtagh | http://excavations.ie/report/1993/Dublin/001481/ | https://heritagemaps.ie/documents/ThereforeArchaeologyReports/93E0179.pdf | | |

| | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Colour codes for SMR Column in Table 3 | Upstanding | Aerial Photo | Excavation | Not extant, may be buried remains |
|---|------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|

| Table 3: Details of Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) Sites: Information on all sites which have been given SMR status; a description as given in the NMS files and relevant references | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|---|--|---------------|
| Site No. | SM R No. | Class | Townland | Description | References | Access |
| 1.1 | DU 012 - 008 ---- | Martello tower | BALCARRICK | Located at the end of Balcarrick Road, close to the water's edge at the north end of Donabate beach. The tower was in the charge of the Royal Artillery until at least 1830. John King rented the tower from 1896 and bought it in 1909 (Bolton et al. 2012, 163). It is a squat, cylindrical tower with a rendered finish. It has machicolation in place over the door and two string courses encircling the top. West facing door at ground level-some stone has been pulled out to accommodate metal door. Chimney and additional concrete blocks have been added to roof. Large south facing window infilled with concrete. | 1. Bolton, J., Carey, T., Goodbody, R., and Clabby, G. 2012 The Martello Towers of Dublin. Dublin. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and Fingal County Council. | Y |
| 2.3 | DU 012 - 014 ---- | Castle - motte | BALLYMADROUGH | Situated in a prominent position on the grounds of Seafield House. The site comprises an oval-shaped mound (22m N-S; 15m E-W; H 6m) with round top and steeply sloping sides. Planted with trees (Healy 1975, 25). | 1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin | N |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 4.1 | DU 008 - 026 ---- | Quay | BEAVERSTO WN | Immediately E of Raheen Point on the S side of Rogerstown estuary. The site formerly comprised two roughly parallel banks with a marshy hollow in between where the tide comes in. These banks measured c. 60m in extent. They are levelled and all that remains is this elongated hollow. | | N |
| 6.2 | DU 012 - 020 ---- | House - 16th/17th century | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | Located on the north shore of Malahide estuary. This two-storey building, rectangular in plan, incorporates a sequence of building phases some of which may date from the 17th century. A dwelling is marked on the Down Survey (1655-6) map at this location. The Civil survey (1654-6) mentions a 'slated house' at Corballis (Simington 1945, 50). There is an irregular pattern of windows in the building. According to the owner an ornamented window was discovered in the W end of the N wall during refurbishments to the house but is plastered over. Stone mullions were also unearthed in the grounds (Moylan 1961, 23-24). In one of the out-offices running S of the house there is the remains of a stairwell. | 1. Simington, R.C. (ed.) 1945 The Civil survey, AD 1654-1656. Vol. VII: county of Dublin. Dublin. Irish Manuscripts Commission. 2. Moylan, T.K. 1961 The peninsula of Portrane. Dublin Historical Record 16, 22-3, 37-49. | N |
| 7.1 | DU 012 - 005 001 - | Church | DONABATE | St Patrick's Church of Ireland church (1758) occupies the site of the medieval parish Church of Donabate. A reference from 1275 says there was a monastery of Grey Friars there (Walsh 1888, 196). The Civil Survey (1654-6) mentions the walls of a parish church (Simington 1945, 49). In 1838 there were still some remains of the earlier church to be seen alongside the present building (D'Alton 1838, 324-7). The 18th century church porch incorporates a medieval doorway (c.15th century) with a pointed arch of chamfered limestone and a plain stop. | 1. Walsh, Rev. R. 1888a Fingal and its churches. Dublin. William McGee. 2. Simington, R.C. (ed.) 1945 The Civil survey, AD 1654-1656. Vol. VII: county of Dublin. Dublin. Irish Manuscripts Commission. 3. D'Alton, J. 1838 (Reprint 1976) The history of the county of Dublin. Cork. Tower Books. | Y |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|----------|---|---|---|
| 7.2 | DU 012 - 005 002 - | Castle - tower house | DONABATE | There is a residential tower attached to the east end of St Patrick's C of I Church. It rises to three storeys with a stepped battlemented parapet level (ext dims. L 6.10, Wth 5.4). The cap house, which projects above the battlement level, contains the stairs. There is a carved head projecting from the exterior of the east wall at second floor level. The residential tower is entered through a pointed arched doorway with chamfered jambs which is located in the N. This shows signs of damage and repair. A wooden studded door is still in situ. The first floor chamber contains a wall press and a plain fireplace, the flue for which is carried on corbels in the N wall. Interior is lit by rectangular windows with chamfered granite jambs. Stairs to second floor are damaged. This chamber is lit by plain single slit opes (Healy 1975, 25). | 1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | Y |
| 7.3 | DU 012 - 005 003 - | Graveyard | DONABATE | Situated on high ground sloping down to north. The village green is to the south. This is a roughly square (Dim. c 40m) walled graveyard containing 18th-19th century memorials orientated E-W which are around all sides of the church (DU012-005001-) and residential tower (DU012-005002-). It is raised (1-1.5m) above the external ground level. part of the eastern graveyard wall has collapsed into back gardens of relatively new houses whose construction involved cut away of external ground level. | | Y |
| 7.4 | DU 012 - 005 004 - | Wall monument (present location) | DONABATE | There are 18th-century and earlier graveslabs in the porch of St Patrick's church of Ireland including one dedicated to John Fitzsimon (d. 1709) and a monument to Patrick Barnewall of Staffordstown and his wife Begnot de La Hoyde who died in 1592. The later contains an inscription and two coats of arms (Healy 1975, 25). | 1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | Y |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------|---|---|---|
| 8.1 | DU 012 - 016 001 - | Church | KILCREA | Within the graveyard is a plain rectangular building with the E gable and side walls still standing (Wth 5.40m, L 8.75m, max. H 3.50m). It is roughly built of blocks of conglomerate and limestone. It has splayed, single light windows in the E gable and E end of S wall. Entrance with door rebate survives on the S side (Walsh 1888, 239- 40; Moylan 1961, 23; Healy 1975, 25). Extremely overgrown. | 1. Walsh, Rev. R. 1888a Fingal and its churches. Dublin. William McGee. 2. Moylan, T.K. 1961 The peninsula of Portrane. Dublin Historical Record 16, 22-3, 37-49. 3. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 4. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | P |
| 8.2 | DU 012 - 016 002 - | Graveyard | KILCREA | Situated by a roadside near Malahide estuary. Within the graveyard is a plain rectangular building with the E gable and side walls still standing (DU012-016001-). The sub-rectangular is bounded by a modern concrete wall erected in the early 1990s (L 45m, Wth 30m). Accessed via an opening in the east wall across a drainage ditch. The graveyard is no longer used for burial and is extremely overgrown. | | P |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|---|
| 11.1 | DU 012 - 004 ---- | Castle - tower house | NEWBRIDGE DEMESNE | <p>Known as Lanistown Castle, the tower house is situated in a low-lying position inside the entrance gates of Newbridge House. This is a three storey tower house (ext. dims. E-W 8.10m, 7.9m E-W) with stepped battlements marked by a cornice and a projecting angle tower in the SW. Formerly entered through a pointed arched doorway on the N side. There is a barrel vault over the ground floor, which is lit by a pointed arched opening (now blocked) on the W side. The SW spiral stairs provides access to chambers, with corbelled roofs, carried on squinches. There is a fireplace at first floor level and machicolation carries a flue to the second floor. The windows are plain in general except for a pointed arched window with sandstone jambs in the S wall of the second floor. Traces of a lofted building survive on the E side (Healy 1975, 25; Moylan 1961, 40). The E side of the building extends (c.1m) and supported a mural passage, which originally led into a garderobe. This is a two-storey structure with first floor supported on a pointed arched vault in the northern half. The S portion is damaged. First floor is accessed from a doorway in the NE blocked. There is a small loft area with a high pitched gable over it. A 1776 survey shows large 1 storey residence to east-used into the 19th century when Cobbe family purchased tenants (John Grace) interest in surrounding lands and demolished house in c.1820. John O'Donovan told by Charles Cobbe in 1830s that there were extensive buildings to north and east of castle prior to demolition. There is a bulge in the wall of the northeast corner stairwell at first floor; disintegration in masonry and substantial hole subsidence at south east corner.</p> | <p>1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. 3. Moylan, T.K. 1961 The peninsula of Portrane. Dublin Historical Record 16, 22-3, 37-49. 4. McC. Dix, E.R. 1897. The lesser castles of Co. Dublin. The Irish Builder, Vol. 1, xxxix. 5. Mongey, M. (2019). LIVING IT UP IN LANESTOWN. Archaeology Ireland, 33(4), 40–44. https://www.jstor.org/stable/26844515</p> | Y |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|---|

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|---|---|
| 12.1 | DU 008 - 030 ---- | Castle - tower house | PORTRAINE | <p>Known as Stella's Tower, the tower house is located in a level field of tillage adjacent to St Catherine's housing estate. Inquisition of 1541 describes the castle as having divers buildings including a threshing house, hemp yard and haggard. The Civil survey (1654-6) describes this site as an 'old castle' owned by the 'Parsonage of Portrane' (Simington 1945, 148). It rises to three storeys with a spiral stairs tower in the NE corner that projects to the E. Built of coursed limestone masonry. Access is blocked (ext. dims. 6m E-W; 7.3m N-S). An unusual feature of the entrance on the N side is that the walls either side protrude to offset the doorway and the first floor level over sails the ground floor on this side of the towerhouse. A string course marks the parapet level. The upper portion has 17th century brick additions including a chimney. These may have been efforts to buttress this weakened side. The external east and south facades are exceptionally overgrown with ivy. The entrance passage is defended by a murder hole. There is a barrel vault over the ground floor. It contains an arched recess. There are wall presses and an original fireplace on the first floor. Interior is lit by plain opes in S wall.</p> | 1. Simington, R.C. (ed.) 1945 The Civil survey, AD 1654-1656. Vol. VII: county of Dublin. Dublin. Irish Manuscripts Commission. | Y |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------|---|---|---|
| 12.2 | DU 008 - 031 001 - | Church | PORTRAINE | <p>St Catherine's church is situated in a small walled graveyard north of road at Portraine village overlooking the Dublin coastline and Lambay Island. The church is rectangular in plan with an undivided nave and chancel, aligned E-W and a battlemented W Tower (int. dims. L 15.30m, Wth 5.35m). The N side of the church is largely re-built. The chancel end is inset on this side. Entrance through a round arched doorway in W end of S wall. Interior is lit by two single light opes in S wall with chamfered limestone jambs. There are sill remains of a wide E window. The W Tower stands to three storeys with a belfry stage and a battered exterior. It has a relatively small interior (int. dims L 3.5m, Wth 2.3m). W window has Y-shaped tracery. First floor is lit by a large plain almost flat arched window in S wall and a slit ope in the E facing wall. Similar opes in the second floor. There are carved heads on the N and S walls of the tower. Described as a ruin in 1630 (Ronan 1941, 68). The Civil survey (1654-6) mentions this as an 'old parish church' on the farm at Portraine (Simington 1945, 149; Mc Mahon 1991, 32). According to the 2011 structural survey, the battlements on the tower have suffered from considerable mortar wash out and require to be repointed. Some areas of exterior and interior arches need re-pointing (Nolan 2011).</p> | <p>1. Nolan, D. 2011 Structural Assessment & Proposals for Repair for Fifteen Archaeological Monuments in Fingal County Council Ownership, http://www.fingal.ie/media/Structural%20assessment%20of%20archaeological%20monuments%20in%20Fingal.pdf. 2. Ronan, M.V. 1941 Archbishop Bulkeley's Visitation of Dublin, 1630. Archivium Hibernicum 8, 56-98. 3. Simington, R.C. (ed.) 1945 The Civil survey, AD 1654-1656. Vol. VII: county of Dublin. Dublin. Irish Manuscripts Commission. 4. McMahon, M. 1991b Medieval church sites of north Dublin. Dublin. Stationery Office.</p> | Y |
|------|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|---|---|---|
| 12.3 | DU 008 - 031 002 - | Graveyard | PORTRAINE | A small walled, rectangular graveyard (L50m, Wth 25m) N of road at Portraine village overlooking the Dublin coastline and Lambay Island. It encloses the remains of a medieval church (DU008-031001-), the interior of which has been used for internments. There are 18th, 19th and 20th century grave memorials, running E-W around the church remains. Still in use. Archaeological test excavation was undertaken at the graveyard in advance of the insertion of lighting and associated ducting. Disarticulated human bone, medieval and post-medieval pottery and fragment of worked flint were recovered. Three archaeological deposits including two of shell were identified as well as a section of east-west limestone wall (Hagen 2002). | 1. Hagen, I. 2002, Final Report, Archaeological assessment, Portraine Graveyard. Licence 02E1451. Unpublished report submitted to the National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | Y |
| 14.2 | DU 012 - 007 ---- | Ritual site - holy well | QUAY | Known as the Chink well, this natural spring well is located deep in a sea cave below the boundary wall of Portraine Demesne. Accessible at low tide (Healy 1975, 25). Local belief that it had the cure for whooping cough or 'chin cough' (Skyvova 2005, 61). | 1. Skyvova, P. 2005 Fingallian Holy Wells. Fingal County Libraries. 2. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 3. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | P |
| 14.3 | DU 012 - 007 001 - | Cave | QUAY | There is a natural spring well located deep in a sea cave below the boundary wall of Portraine Demesne. It is accessible at low tide (Healy 1975, 25). | 1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | P |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---|---|---|
| 14.4 | DU 012 - 010 ---- | Martello tower | QUAY | Situated on the cliff edge E of Portraine above the slipway. After the end of the Napoleonic Wars, the tower was occupied by an invalid Gunner and in 1826 the tower was owned by the Coast Guard (Bolton et al. 2012, 167). It was retained by the War Department into the 20th century. It has been converted into a residence with a conservatory attached to the ground floor. Machicolation is in place above the entrance in the W. A chimney has been inserted (Kerrigan 1996, 175). | 1. Bolton, J., Carey, T., Goodbody, R., and Clabby, G. 2012 The Martello Towers of Dublin. Dublin. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and Fingal County Council. 2. Kerrigan, P.M. 1996 Gailey castle. Journal of the Roscommon Historical and Archaeological Society 6, 103-4. | P |
| 15.1 | DU 008 - 027 ---- | Windmill | RAHILLION | Located on a slight rise just south of Rogerstown estuary. A plain stone tower mill (diam. c. 5.20m, H c. 8m), with opposite doorways in the E and W. Rises to three storeys with slit windows lighting the ascent. Post-1700 AD. Geophysical survey (07R0257) was undertaken on lands surrounding the windmill. No features of archaeological interest were identified (Leigh 2007). | 1. Leigh, J. 2007, Geophysical Survey, Rahillion Lands, Donabate. Licence 07R0257. Unpublished report submitted to the National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | Y |
| 1.2 | DU 012 - 041 ---- | House - 16th/17th century | BALCARRICK | The Down Survey (1655-6) map shows a dwelling at Balcarrick. The remains of this are possibly incorporated into the present early 18th century house known as Balcarrick House which is situated along the coast S of Portraine. This is a two-storey oblong block with hipped roof, which is slated. According to the 1976 report the ground floor windows contained glazing bars. house has since been refurbished and windows replaced. | | N |
| 2.1 | DU 012 - 013 001 - | Church | BALLYMADROUGH | Located immediately north of Malahide estuary. The site comprises a raised oval area, aligned E-W (L 27m, Wth 22m, H 1.4m-1.8m) enclosed by a modern wall which appears to have replaced an earlier earthen enclosure. A rectangular sunken feature aligned E-W, towards W end of graveyard is probably the remains of the church (L 8.0m, Wth 6.9m) (Healy 1975, 25). extremely overgrown. | 1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | P |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---|---|-------|
| 2.2 | DU 012 - 013 002 - | Graveyard | BALLYMADROUGH | Located immediately N of Malahide estuary. The site comprises a raised oval area, aligned E-W (L 27m, Wth 22m, H 1.4m-1.8m) enclosed by a modern wall which appears to have replaced an earlier earthen enclosure. A rectangular sunken feature aligned E-W, towards W end of graveyard is probably the remains of the church (L 8.0m, Wth 6.9m). The graveyard is no longer used for burials. (Healy 1975, 25). The graveyard is very overgrown with only a single gravestone visible. According to Peadar Bates, local historian, the gravestone is that of William Massey 1777, MP for Swords. | 1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | P |
| 2.4 | DU 012 - 042 - | Tide mill - unclassified | BALLYMADROUGH | According to Flanagan there was a tidal mill at the junction of the townlands of Ballymadrough and Seapoint where they meet at the sea (1984, 108). A stream runs from this point towards Lissenhall Great. It is crossed by a double-arched stone bridge c.1750. There are no visible remains of a mill. | 1. Flanagan, N. 1984 Malahide: past and present. Malahide. Privately published. | P |
| 3.1 | DU 012 - 084 ---- | Ring-ditch | BALLYMASTONE | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 05R012) and test excavation (Licence no. 06E0027) to inform the Donabate Local Area Plan. A circular ditch (5.45m diam.) and possible post or pit were identified. Although no diagnostic material was recovered, it was interpreted on the basis of morphology as a probable prehistoric hut (Baker 2006, 17). | 1. Baker, C. 2006a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballymastone, Corballis Lands, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 06E0027). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 3.2 | DU 012 - 085 ---- | Ring-ditch | BALLYMASTONE | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 05R012) and test excavation (Licence no. 07E0650) to inform the Donabate Local Area Plan. A possible ring ditch (8m diam.) was identified. (Frazer 2007). | 1. Frazer, W. 2007a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballalease North, Ballymastone, Portraine, Ballisk Lands, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 07E00650). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---|---|-------|
| 3.3 | DU 012 - 088 ---- | Enclosure | BALLYMAST ONE | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 05R012) and test excavation (Licence no. 07E0650) to inform the Donabate Local Area Plan. A ditched (1m wide) circular enclosure (50m diam.) was identified. (Frazer 2007). | 1. Frazer, W. 2007a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballalease North, Ballymastone, Portraine, Ballisk Lands, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 07E00650). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 4.2 | DU 012 - 066 ---- | Habitation site | BEAVERSTO WN | An archaeological assessment in 2002 revealed prehistoric features. They comprised two distinct clusters of seventeen pits and post-holes forming a semi-circular arrangement spread over an area 8m N-S by 5m. Finds include sherds of early Neolithic pottery and some flint (Hagen, I, 2006, 117). | Incorrect reference on Heritage maps. See Exc. Bulletin 2002:508 and 2003:484. | N - R |
| 4.3 | DU 012 - 067 ---- | Enclosure | BEAVERSTO WN | An archaeological assessment in 2002 revealed a section of curvilinear ditch (L 15m, Wth 1.3m, D0.5-0.7m which produced Beaker pottery. Three features were revealed within the confines of the enclosure including a pit 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep which contained a small amount of burnt bone (Hagen, I 2006, 117). | Incorrect reference given on Heritage Maps. See Exc. Bulletin 2003:484 | N - R |
| 4.4 | DU 012 - 083 ---- | Excavation - miscellaneous | BEAVERSTO WN | This monument was excavated (Licence no. 04E0185) in advance of development. Characterised by a series of pits from which medieval pottery was recovered, the site was truncated by post-medieval activity including a curvilinear ditch from which a sherd of 17th century Frechen ware was recovered (Lohan 2002, 19). | 1. Lohan, K. 2004 Archaeological excavation Beaverstown, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 04E0185). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 5.1 | DU 008 - 028 ---- | Chapel | BURROW (Nethercross By.) | Named 'site of R. c. chapel' on the OS 1837 edition. Located on wasteland to the rear of a house and garden adjacent to track way that extends along the edge of Rogerstown estuary. This is an oval-shaped platform (diam. c. 50m, H 1m) with a rectangular hollow in E end. According to local tradition St. Mochuda built a church close to his well which lies S of the site (Ó Danachair 1958, 80, Healy 1975, 21). Overgrown. | 1. Ó Danachair, C. 1958 The holy wells of county Dublin. Reportorium Novum 2, 68-87; 2, No. 2 The holy wells of County Dublin: A supplementary list, 233-5. 2. Ó Danachair, C. 1958 Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 88, 153. 3. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 4. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | N |
| 5.2 | DU 008 - 029 ---- | Ritual site - holy well | BURROW (Nethercross By.) | Named 'site of R. c. chapel' on the OS 1837 edition. Located on wasteland to the rear of a house and garden adjacent to track way that extends along the edge of Rogerstown estuary. This is an oval-shaped platform (diam. c. 50m, H 1m) with a rectangular hollow in E end. According to local tradition St. Mochuda built a church close to his well which lies S of the site (Ó Danachair 1958, 80, Healy 1975, 21). Overgrown. | 1. Ó Danachair, C. 1958 The holy wells of county Dublin. Reportorium Novum 2, 68-87; 2, No. 2 The holy wells of County Dublin: A supplementary list, 233-5. 2. Ó Danachair, C. 1958 Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 88, 153. 3. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 4. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | N |
| 6.1 | DU 012 - 019 ---- | Earthwork | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | The OS 1837 and 1937 map editions show 'site of moat' on a break in slope overlooking Malahide estuary. There are no visible surface traces. | | N |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-------|
| 6.3 | DU 012 - 070 - | Burial | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | Situated on the W side of Malahide Island, a sandbar 400m E of the Malahide coastline. In 1950 P. J. Hartnett excavated an extended inhumation burial with some irregular stones covering the body. The grave was orientated NW-SE. Remains were accompanied by a rounded limestone pebble (Diam. 0.25m). Hartnett compared this pebble to a granite pebble found by him possibly accompanying a crouched inhumation at Hempstown Commons, Co. Kildare (Hartnett 1950, 197). The articulated body was extended on its back in a NW-SE direction with the head to the NW. The left forearm lay across the chest with the hand resting on the right shoulder and the right arm was fully extended at the side with the hand underneath the right hip. A brief report on the teeth suggest that the individual was twelve to sixteen years old (Cahill & Sikora 2011, 324-325). | 1. Cahill, M. and Sikora, M. (eds) 2011 Breaking ground, finding graves - reports on the excavations of burials by the National Museum of Ireland, 1927-2006, 2 vols. Dublin. Wordwell Ltd. in association with the National Museum of Ireland. 2. Hartnett, P.J. 1954a Malahide "Abbey", Co. Dublin. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 84, 179, 181. | P |
| 6.4 | DU 012 - 086 ---- | Burnt mound | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 05R012) and test excavation (Licence no. 06E0027) to inform the Donabate Local Area Plan. A spread of burnt mound material (4m diam.) was identified (Baker 2006, 10). This site was subsequently excavated with other sites in the vicinity, see entries under licence nos. 17E0094 and 17E0409 in Excavation licences sheet. | 1. Baker, C. 2006a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballymastone, Corballis Lands, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 06E0027). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. 2. Frazer, W. 2007a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballalease North, Ballymastone, Portraine, Ballisk Lands, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 07E00650). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|--|--|-------|
| 6.5 | DU 012 - 087 ---- | Burnt mound | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 05R012) and test excavation (Licence no. 06E0027) to inform the Donabate Local Area Plan. A spread of burnt mound material (7.5m diam.) was identified associated with a shallow ditch and circular pit (0.62m diam.) (Baker 2006, 12). | 1. Baker, C. 2006a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballymastone, Corballis Lands, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 06E0027). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 6.6 | DU 012 - 097 ---- | Ring-ditch | CORBALLIS (Nethercross By.) | Situated in tillage on the edge of the broad crest of a ridge, with extensive views in all directions. The sea is in view to the E and the Broadmeadow river estuary lies to the S. First identified in a geophysical survey in 2005 along with a burnt mound (DU012-086----) at the base of the slope to the S in the same field. Another burnt mound (DU012-087----) was identified in that geophysical survey in the adjoining field to the SW (Baker, 2006a; Frazer 2007a). Test excavations were carried out at the site in in 2006 (Licence No. 06E0027) and the ring-ditch was fully excavated in 2017 in advance of the construction of the Donabate Distributor Road by Liam Coen working with Archer Heritage Planning (Licence No. 17E0407). The site consists of a circular area (diam c. 16m) defined by an enclosing fosse which was recut. The first phase of activity consisted of the excavation of a ring-ditch defined by a broad, fairly deep v-shaped fosse. The fill of this was largely undifferentiated, comprising of a sterile fill which gave the appearance of having been backfilled very quickly after having been dug – there was no silting at the base. The upper ring-ditch which was recut into the earlier fosse was a shallow u-shaped fosse, filled with a darker, charcoal-rich fill with an entrance to the E. This was defined by two rounded terminals with a single central post pit at the centre. No features were recorded in the interior. A stone bead with a central waist somewhat reminiscent of a dumbbell bead, some lithics and burnt bone were recovered from the upper ditch fill. | 1. Baker, C. 2006a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballymastone, Corballis Lands, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 06E0027). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. 2. Frazer, W. 2007a Archaeological assessment, Donabate Local Area Plan, Ballalease North, Ballymastone, Portraine, Ballisk Lands, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 07E00650). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|--|---|-------|
| 7.5 | DU 012 - 082 001 - | Excavation - miscellaneous | DONABATE | This monument was excavated (Licence no. 08E0155) in advance of road widening. Three phases of archaeological activity were identified, the earliest of which was a wide linear ditch (exposed for 99m E-W) that ran along the base of the hill where Donabate church (DU012-005001-) and tower house (DU012-005002-) are located. Radiocarbon analysis of a sample of animal bone from the ditch fill returned an early medieval date (661-778 cal. AD). The second phase consisted of structures (DU012-082002-), drainage ditches and pits dated to the 13th – 14th centuries. An E-W ditch cut into the early medieval ditch and returned a later medieval date from an animal bone sample (1429-1473 cal. AD). The final phase consisted of a post-medieval circular building with a substantial stone footing (interpreted as a possible dovecote), ditches and a metalled path (Kavanagh 2011, 32). | 1. Kavanagh, H. 2011a Archaeological excavation at Turvey Avenue, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 08E0155). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 7.6 | DU 012 - 082 002 - | Structure | DONABATE | This monument was excavated (Licence no. 08E0155) in advance of road widening. Uncovered at the base of a hill where Donabate church (DU012-005001-) and tower house (DU012-005002-) are located, this was one of two adjacent structures situated on the edge of an early medieval ditch (DU012-082001-). Defined by an L-shaped dry-stone wall (5m E-W) the structure was associated with N – S drainage ditches from which a significant quantity of 12th – 14th century pottery was recovered (Kavanagh 2011, 13). | 1. Kavanagh, H. 2011a Archaeological excavation at Turvey Avenue, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 08E0155). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|--------|
| 7.7 | DU 012 - 082 003 - | Structure | DONABATE | This monument was excavated (Licence no. 08E0155) in advance of road widening. Uncovered at the base of a hill where Donabate church (DU012-005001-) and tower house (DU012-005002-) are located, this was one of two adjacent structures situated on the edge of an early medieval ditch (DU012-082001-). Defined by a rubble-wall collapse, a flagstone floor and the remains of a dry-stone wall (3m E-W) the structure was located immediately E of the second structure (DU012-082002-). Associated with N – S drainage ditches from which a significant quantity of 12th-14th century pottery was recovered (Kavanagh 2011, 14). | 1. Kavanagh, H. 2011a Archaeological excavation at Turvey Avenue, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 08E0155). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 7.8 | DU 012 - 082 004 - | Structure | DONABATE | This monument was excavated (Licence no. 08E0155) in advance of road widening. Uncovered at the base of a hill where Donabate church (DU012-005001-) and tower house (DU012-005002-) are located, this structure overlay the backfilled early medieval ditch (DU012-082001-). Defined by an L-shaped dry-stone wall (4.7m E-W x 2.7m N-S) the structure was associated medieval activity including a large sub-rectangular rubbish pit (2m diam.) from which 12th – mid-14th century and a silver farthing from the reign of Edward III (AD 1335-43) were recovered. (Kavanagh 2011, 14) | 1. Kavanagh, H. 2011a Archaeological excavation at Turvey Avenue, Donabate, Co. Dublin (Licence no. 08E0155). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 8.3 | DU 012 - 017 ---- | Enclosure | KILCREA | Situated under tillage on a gentle north facing slope. An aerial photograph (CUCAP, BDS 45) shows cropmark evidence for a roughly circular enclosure (diam. c. 30m) with irregularly shaped annexe attached. Also visible on Bing (Viewed 16/01/2015). Not visible at ground level. | https://www.bing.com/maps?osid=c272dc6b-d681-4423-b7c1-a070abe9709a&cp=53.477467~-6.164312&lvl=18&style=h&v=2&sV=2&form=S00027 | N - AP |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---|---|--------|
| 8.4 | DU 012 - 018 ---- | Tide mill - unclassified | KILCREA | The 1837 OS 6 inch map shows the site of Baltray Corn mill. The 1937 OS 6-inch map marks the 'highest point to which medium tides flow' at a point along a millrace E of Kilcrea House. There was some stone collapse at this point. This is probably the site of the tidal mill marked on Rocque's map of County Dublin (1756). The N side of the millrace is stone-walled (Flanagan 1984, 108). There have been works undertaken as evidenced on Bing maps (accessed 8/11/13). Extensive dredging and/or drainage insertion as far as can be ascertained. | 1. Flanagan, N. 1984 Malahide: past and present. Malahide. Privately published. 2. Rocque, J. 1756 An exact survey of the city and suburbs of Dublin. Available at https://libguides.ucd.ie/findingmaps/mapshistDublin Accessed on 5 January. 3. Rocque, J. 1760 An Actual Survey of the County of Dublin, on the same Scale, as those of Middlesex, Oxford, Berks and Buckinghamshire. Available at http://sdublincoco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e0c5595b033341dea7661e248d2e9ee9// [Accessed 21 September 2016] | N |
| 8.5 | DU 012 - 072 ---- | Ring-ditch | KILCREA | A circular ring-ditch visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). Located within low-lying reclaimed land north of Malahide estuary. No visible remains. | https://webservices.archaeology.ie/arcgis/rest/services/NM/NationalMonuments/MapServer/0/156578/attachments/6108 | N - AP |
| 9.1 | DU 012 - 006 ---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | Situated on a slight E-W ridge which is under tillage. An aerial photograph taken in 1970 (CUCAP, BDS 46) shows a roughly circular cropmark of a single-ditched enclosure (diam. c. 50m). Possibly a levelled ringfort. Not visible at ground level. | 1. CUCAP - Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs. Unit for Landscape Modelling, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge. 2. See Google earth 2018, also current Digital Globe on Historic Environ. Viewer. Shows enclosures with annexes? | N - AP |
| 9.2 | DU 012 - 073 ---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | A sub-rectangular enclosure visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). Located in relatively flat farmland near field boundary. Under crop. No visible remains. | https://webservices.archaeology.ie/arcgis/rest/services/NM/NationalMonuments/MapServer/0/156586/attachments/6109 | N - AP |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---|---|--------|
| 9.3 | DU 012 - 074 ---- | Ring-ditch | LANESTOWN | A circular ring-ditch visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). Located in relatively flat farmland near field boundary. Under crop. No visible remains. | https://webservices.archaeology.ie/arcgis/rest/services/NM/NationalMonuments/MapServer/0/156610/attachments/6110 | N - AP |
| 9.4 | DU 012 - 075 ---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | A sub-circular enclosure visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph together with another enclosure and a field system in the same field (DU012-076---- & DU012-077----) (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). Located towards western end of what is now a vast open field-relatively flat. No visible remains. | https://webservices.archaeology.ie/arcgis/rest/services/NM/NationalMonuments/MapServer/0/156660/attachments/6111 | N - AP |
| 9.5 | DU 012 - 076 ---- | Enclosure | LANESTOWN | A sub-circular enclosure visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph together with another enclosure and a field system in the same field (DU012-075---- & DU012-077----) (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). | https://webservices.archaeology.ie/arcgis/rest/services/NM/NationalMonuments/MapServer/0/156661/attachments/6112 | N - AP |
| 9.6 | DU 012 - 077 ---- | Field system | LANESTOWN | A field system visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph together with two enclosures in the same field (DU012-075---- & DU012-076----) (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). Located towards western end of what is now a vast open field-relatively flat. No visible remains. | https://webservices.archaeology.ie/arcgis/rest/services/NM/NationalMonuments/MapServer/0/156662/attachments/5585 | N - AP |
| 10.1 | DU 012 - 012 002 - | Field system | LISSENHALL GREAT | Located in low-lying tillage N of a stream, close to the Malahide estuary. An aerial photograph (CUCAP, BDS 48) shows cropmark evidence for a subcircular enclosure (diam. c. 60m) with two possible fields (DU012-012002-) attached to the E of it. Possibly of Early Christian date. Not visible at ground level. | 1. CUCAP - Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs. Unit for Landscape Modelling, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge. | N - AP |
| 10.2 | DU 012 - 047 ---- | Tide mill - unclassified | LISSENHALL GREAT | O'Flanagan (1976, 108) identified the site of a tidal mill in an area known as 'Mill Bank' on the Malahide estuary. Not visible at ground level. | | P |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|---|--|---|
| 11.2 | DU 012 - 060 ---- | House - 18th/19th century | NEWBRIDGE DEMESNE | A survey dated 1705 shows a schematic drawing of a large single storey house which is rectangular in plan with a pitched roof. It then belonged to John Forde of the City of Dublin (Bates 1988, 96). Possibly incorporated into the present building on this site. | 1. Bates, P. 1988 Donabate and Portrane: A History. | P |
| 12.4 | DU 008 - 031 003 - | Bullaun stone | PORTRAINE | In the 1992 report, a possible bullaun stone was identified within the ground floor of the tower of the medieval church at Portrairie (DU008-031001-). It is no longer evident. | | N |
| 12.5 | DU 008 - 058 ---- | House - 18th/19th century | PORTRAINE | Located south of road into Portrane. Local tradition that this was a 'smuggler's cottage' in 1722. Has been completely renovated and a large extension added. The wall plaque on beside entrance posts reads 'the Farmhouse 1722' | | P |
| 13.1 | DU 012 - 009 001 - | Church | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | This 'chapel site' is located in a field of pasture above the cliff edge at Portrairie (Healy 1975, 25). When ploughed large stones visible. Geophysical survey (Licence no. 08R0029) undertaken ahead of the Donabate-Rogerstown Waste Water Treatment Scheme identified a possible platform c70m north of present site identified as possible site of chapel. | 1. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 2. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | P |
| 13.2 | DU 012 - 009 002 - | Ritual site - holy well | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | Named on the OS 1837 and 1909 eds. There are no surface indications of this holy well. No tradition survives (Ó Danachair 1958, 80; Healy 1975, 25). St Kenny's well is mapped as adjacent to the chapel (DU012-009001-). Not visible at ground level. | 1. O'Danachair, C. 1958 The holy wells of Dublin. In Reportorium Novum 2 (1). 68-87. 2. Healy, P. 1975a Second report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha Teoranta. 3. Healy, P. 1975b Third report on monuments and sites of archaeological interest in county Dublin. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. | P |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---|---|-------|
| 13.3 | DU 012 - 095 001 - | Habitation site | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 08R029) and test excavation (Licence no. 10E0121) in advance of the Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment scheme. A settlement site extending over an area c. 65m E-W x 90m was identified and preserved in situ. It consists of a possible Bronze Age round house (DU012-095002-), pits, and enclosure ditch. Features to the N are likely to date to the Iron Age or later (McQuade 2011, 37). | 1. McQuade, M. 2011 Final report on archaeological monitoring and excavation, Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment Scheme (Licence no. 10E0121). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 13.4 | DU 012 - 095 002 - | House - Bronze Age | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 08R029) and test excavation (Licence no. 10E0121) in advance of the Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment scheme. A circular structure (6m diam.) was identified represented by a curvilinear slot trench and external postholes (average 0.18m diam.) located at irregular intervals. Located within an area of possible multi-period habitation (DU012-095001-) the structure is associated with an enclosure and a series of pits indicative of domestic occupation (McQuade 2011, 31). | 1. McQuade, M. 2011 Final report on archaeological monitoring and excavation, Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment Scheme (Licence no. 10E0121). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 13.5 | DU 012 - 095 003 - | Pit | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 08R029) and test excavation (Licence no. 10E0121) in advance of the Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment scheme. Located 20m N of prehistoric habitation (DU012-095001-) this monument consisted of domestic settlement characterised by a series of pits. Radiocarbon analysis from one of the pits returned a Neolithic date (2908-2638 BC cal.) (McQuade 2011, 22). | 1. McQuade, M. 2011 Final report on archaeological monitoring and excavation, Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment Scheme (Licence no. 10E0121). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--|---|--------|
| 13.6 | DU 012 - 096 ---- | Fulacht fia | PORTRAINE DEMESNE | This monument was subject to geophysical survey (Licence no. 08R029) and excavation (Licence no. 10E0121) in advance of the Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment scheme. Located on low-lying ground this monument consisted of an oval trough (1.6m x 1.23m, 0.4m deep) filled by charcoal rich silty clay with a high frequency of fire cracked stone. A sample of hazel charcoal returned an Early Bronze age date, 2272-2037 cal. BC. The burnt mound material associated with the fulacht fia survived as three thin spreads c. 3.3m N of the trough (McQuade 2011, 24). | 1. McQuade, M. 2011 Final report on archaeological monitoring and excavation, Portrane, Donabate and Lusk Waste Water Treatment Scheme (Licence no. 10E0121). Unpublished report. National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - R |
| 14.1 | DU 008 - 032 ---- | Burial | QUAY | In 1942 burnt human bones in a beach deposit were discovered at Portrane. This deposit comprised charcoal and ash interpreted as the remains of a funeral pyre (Mitchell, G. F. 1945, 112). | 1. Mitchell, G.F. 1945 Burnt human bones in beach deposit at Portrane, Co. Dublin. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 1975, 112. | P |
| 15.2 | DU 008 - 089 ---- | Enclosure | RAHILLION | A circular enclosure visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). Located towards the western limit of an east-west ridge overlooking Rogerstown estuary to the north and east of windmill (DU008-027---). | https://webservices.archaeology.ie/arcgis/rest/services/NM/NationalMonuments/MapServer/0/156614/attachments/6048 | N - AP |

| | | | | | | |
|------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| 16.1 | | House - 16th/17th century | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | Turvey House was an early 18th-century residence, which incorporated an earlier tower house and a late 16th-century house associated with the Barnewall family. It was demolished in 1987. However archaeological monitoring of rubble removal in 1993 revealed upstanding remains of these three phases of building on the present site. The tower house was extended to the S by the addition of an L-shaped building of late 16th-century date. Fragments of four original windows remain in situ, one of which is the sill for a three light window. An original doorway and fireplace was also revealed (Moylan 1961, 22-3, Murtagh 1993, 33-34;). The site is fenced off and overgrown. Remains of the walled and gated kitchen garden to the rear of the site. | 1. Moylan, T.K. 1961 The peninsula of Portrane. Dublin Historical Record 16, 22-3, 37-49. | N |
| 16.2 | DU 008 - 024 001 - | Castle - tower house | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | Turvey House was an early 18th-century residence, which incorporated an earlier tower house and a late 16th-century house associated with the Barnewall family. The castle was reputedly built from the stones of the nunnery of Grace Dieu (DU). It was demolished in 1987. However archaeological monitoring of rubble removal in 1993 revealed upstanding remains of these three phases of building on the present site. The earliest phase identified was the construction of a rectangular tower house (L 11.5m; Wth 8m) with an angle tower in the NW corner. There was a barrel vault over ground floor, now collapsed. The sections, which survive, show evidence of wicker-centring. Original features include a double garderobe chute in the N wall of the angle tower and a splayed window embrasure. The tower house was extended to the S by the addition of an L-shaped building of late 16th-century date. Fragments of four original windows remain in situ, one of which is the sill for a three light window. An original doorway and fireplace were also revealed (Moylan 1961, 22-3, Murtagh 1993, 33-34). The site is now fenced off and overgrown. | 2. Murtagh, B. Excavation Bulletin 1993:103 | N |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|--|---|--------|
| 16.3 | DU 008 - 025 ---- | Enclosure | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | An aerial photograph taken by in 1971 (FSI 587/588) shows part of a possible enclosure visible as a curving cropmark (diam. c. 100m). There is a corresponding curve in the nearby field boundary. The site is located in low-lying pasture close to Rogerstown estuary. Not visible at ground level. Now incorporated into Turvey Nature Reserve. Geophysical survey (Licence no. 06R0154) was undertaken to identify the extent and location of the enclosure site. However no clear responses suggestive of an enclosure were identified. Isolated responses were recorded probably the result of natural variations in the sub-soil (Leigh 2006, 2). | 1. Leigh, J. 2006, Geophysical Survey report: Turvey, Donabate Co. Dublin (Licence no. 06R0154). Unpublished report submitted to the National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, heritage and the Gaeltacht. | N - AP |
| 16.4 | DU 008 - 083 ---- | Burial | TURVEY (Nethercross By.) | In 1984 human remains were discovered on Turvey Estate. The human remains were discovered in a disused gravel quarry which had been converted to a cattle shelter (NMI Cahill & Sikora 2011, 474). | 1. Cahill, M. and Sikora, M. (eds) 2011 Breaking ground, finding graves - reports on the excavations of burials by the National Museum of Ireland, 1927-2006, 2 vols. Dublin. Wordwell Ltd. in association with the National Museum of Ireland. | N |


Appendix 2. Sites on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, Donabate-Portrane

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/>


| Heritage Asset | Location | Reg. No. | Coordinates |
|--|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| Round Tower, Portraine Demesne, Portrane, | Portraine Demesne, Portrane | Reg. No. 11330002 | 325643, 250346 |
| Former Saint Ita's Hospital | Portraine Demesne, Portrane | Reg. No. 11330001 | 325290, 250175 |
| Former Saint Ita's Hospital, Nurses' Home | Portraine Demesne, Portrane | Reg. No. 11330003 | 325271, 250679 |
| Gate Lodge, Saint Patrick's Football Grounds | Portraine Demesne, Portrane | Reg. No. 11329013 | 323934, 250739 |
| Beaverstown House | Beaverstown, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329010 | 323108, 250889 |
| Portrane National Schools | Portrane Road, Ballalease North, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329014 | 323438, 250463 |
| Thatched House | Beaverstown, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329015 | Not available |
| Water pump | Main Street, Ballalease West, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329009 | 322952, 250111 |
| Water pump | Main Street, Ballalease West, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329008 | 322953, 250115 |
| Warrington's House | Main Street, Ballalease West, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329007 | 322962, 250106 |
| Saint Patrick's Roman Catholic Church | Main Street, Ballalease West, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329006 | 322970, 250031 |
| Donabate Cemetery | Beaverstown, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336016 | 322851, 249960 |
| Donabate Railway Station | Beaverstown, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336015 | 322767, 249980 |
| Donabate Railway Station, Station Master's House | Beaverstown, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336018 | 322768, 249960 |
| Donabate Railway Station, Bridge | Beaverstown, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336014 | 322756, 249938 |
| Donabate Railway Station, Signal Box | Beaverstown, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329011 | 322748, 250022 |
| Smyth's Pub | Corballis (NS. BY.), Donabate | Reg. No. 11336022 | 322780, 249919 |
| The Cottage | The Square, Donabate, | Reg. No. 11336011 | 322584, 249900 |
| Water pump | Donabate | Reg. No. 11336001 | 322592, 249921 |
| Saint Patrick's Church of Ireland Church | Donabate | Reg. No. 11336013 | 322565, 249957 |
| The Vicarage | Donabate | Reg. No. 11329005 | 322401, 250062 |
| House (Forge/Smithy) | Donabate | Reg. No. 11336026 | 322285, 249466 |
| Mack's Bridge | Newbridge Demesne, Hearse Road, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336004 | 322039, 249413 |
| Newbridge Demesne | Newbridge Demesne, Donabate | Reg. No. 11329001 | 321652, 250039 |
| Newbridge Demesne - demesne walls/gates/railings | Newbridge Demesne, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336002 | 322049, 249367 |
| Newbridge demesne - bridge | Newbridge demesne, Hearse Road, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336003 | 321031, 249527 |
| Newbridge demesne - farmyard complex | Newbridge Demesne, Donabate | Reg. No. 11336005 | 321323, 249849 |

| | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Newbridge demesne - demesne walls/gates/railings</i> | <i>Newbridge Demesne, Donabate</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11329002</i> | <i>321623, 250091</i> |
| <i>Corballis House</i> | <i>Corballis (NS. BY.)</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336028</i> | <i>323483, 248689</i> |
| <i>Bridge</i> | <i>Kilcrea</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336027</i> | <i>322667, 248493</i> |
| <i>Kilcrea House</i> | <i>Kilcrea</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336025</i> | <i>321712, 248739</i> |
| <i>Seafield House</i> | <i>Ballymadrough, Donabate</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336024</i> | <i>321209, 248439</i> |
| <i>Seafield House, farmyard complex</i> | <i>Ballymadrough, Donabate</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336023</i> | <i>321153, 248448</i> |
| <i>Demesne walls/gates/railings</i> | <i>Ballymadrough, Donabate</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336009</i> | <i>315587, 245904</i> |
| <i>Bridge</i> | <i>Ballymadrough, Donabate</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336007</i> | <i>320415, 247807</i> |
| <i>Stables</i> | <i>Seapoint</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336006</i> | <i>320214, 247590</i> |
| <i>Water pump</i> | <i>Lanestown, Lissenhall,</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11336010</i> | <i>320116, 249356</i> |
| <i>Water pump</i> | <i>Turvey Avenue, TURVEY (NS. BY.)</i> | <i>Reg. No. 11329003</i> | <i>320551, 250710</i> |

Appendix 3. The Portrane Shore Heritage Trail by Mick Mongey





The Portrane Shore (Natural Heritage Area) Heritage Trail




For further information
Visit Fingal
<https://www.fingal.ie/heritage-publications>
Heritage Publications
<https://www.fingal.ie/heritage-online-and-publications>

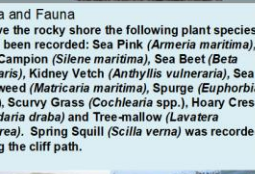

The Portrane Shore
The Portrane shore is a Natural Heritage Area and much of it can be enjoyed from the Portrane to Donabate Beach cliff walk which starts in the public Car Park at Tower Bay. The 2km walk takes about 25 minutes.


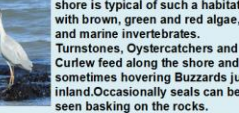


Beginnings
Ireland is made up of two 'halves', which were originally separated by an ocean that geologists call Iapetus. Between 400 (Silurian Period) – 500 (Ordovician Period) million years ago plate tectonic movement pushed the land masses on either side of the Iapetus Ocean together and Ireland's two halves converged and combined. The rocks of the Portrane Shore and Lambay Island offshore tell part of this story.



Flora and Fauna
Above the rocky shore the following plant species have been recorded: Sea Pink (*Armeria maritima*), Sea Campion (*Silene maritima*), Sea Beet (*Beta vulgaris*), Kidney Vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria*), Sea Mayweed (*Matricaria maritima*), Spurge (*Euphorbia* spp.), Scurvy Grass (*Cochlearia* spp.), Hoary Cress (*Cardaria draba*) and Tree-mallow (*Lavatera arborea*). Spring Squill (*Scilla verna*) was recorded along the cliff path.

The flora and fauna of the rocky shore is typical of such a habitat, with brown, green and red algae, and marine invertebrates. Turnstones, Oystercatchers and Curlew feed along the shore and sometimes hovering Buzzards just inland. Occasionally seals can be seen basking on the rocks.



1. Tower Bay Martello Tower
Designated 'North 7 Portrane' this Martello tower, now a private residence was built in 1804. Built as one of a series of coastal towers to defend Dublin the Portrane tower was equipped with one 24-pounder gun. In 1826 the tower was taken over by the coastguard, then known as the Water Guard to assist in their ongoing battle with smugglers in the locality.



6. Smugglers
This stretch of coast was a haven for smugglers particularly in the 18th century. The creeks and shores of Portrane were filled with smugglers to such a daring extent that in 1771 in one seizure, 75 chests and 20 casks of green and bohea tea and 111 casks of brandy were seized after which the "battle" of Portrane occurred in which hundreds of smugglers and Revenue officers were engaged.




2. Tower Bay as a Film Set
In the mid 1990s the car park in Tower Bay featured in the first ever episode of the TV series Father Ted ('Good Luck, Father Ted') as the location for the 'Funland' fairground on Craggy Island. The cliffs and coves of the Portrane shore also featured in the film 'The Secret Scripture'.



7. The Round Tower Folly
Visible just inland is the 30m high Celtic Revival round Tower which was built in 1844 by Sophia Evans of Portrane House, aunt of Charles Stewart Parnell, in memory of her husband George.




3. Lambay Island
4 km offshore lies Lambay Island the remains of an extinct volcanic island formed in the Ordovician period over 500 million years ago. In the Neolithic period over 5,500 years ago the volcanic porphyry rock on the island was quarried to make polished stone axes.



8. The Caves
This section of the Portrane Shore contains many small limestone caves that were created by underground rivers – but most have been modified by sea erosion. The Chink Well: Local belief that a pool of fresh water in this cave could cure the whooping cough. The Priest's Chamber: A cave with 2 levels, reputedly a hiding place for priests during the penal times. Here also is the Bleeding Pig.




4. Portrane Limestone
On the north side of this small cove thin beds of folded limestone can be seen. Silicified fossil shells and corals can be seen in some of the limestone on this section of the Portrane Shore.



9. St Ita's Hospital
Formerly known as Portrane Asylum, St Ita's has been a mental health hospital since its inception at the end of the 19th century and was considered in the early 20th century as a model of how psychiatric care should be provided. This section of coast is bordered by the impressive collection of Victorian red brick buildings that dominate the peninsula and are visible across the Malahide Estuary over 4km away.



5. The Camels Hump
This small promontory is known locally as 'The Camel's Hump'. With storms and associated erosion in recent years, this section of the original cliff path has had to be realigned.



References

- Archer, P. (1975) *Fair Fingall*. Dublin: An Taisce Fingall.
- Baker, C. (2010) *Antiquities of old Fingal*. Wordwell.
- Baker, C. (2012) *Fingal's Heritage Trails/Guide Sites. Communicating Fingal's Archaeological Resource*. Dublin: Fingal County Council. Available at <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/Communicating%20Fingals%20Archaeological%20Resource.pdf>
- Baker, C. (2019) *Archaeological Excavation Digging Drumanagh, Season II Preliminary Report Drumanagh Promontory Fort Loughshinny, Co. Dublin Consent no: C786 Excavation ref: E004805 Detection No. R0000443*. Dublin: Fingal County Council. Available at <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2020-01/prelim-report-season-ii-drumanagh-e4805-nov-2019.pdf>
- Bates, P. (2003) *St Patrick's Church, Donabate, Celebrating 100 years*.
- Bates, P. (2001) *Donabate and Portrane – A History*.
- Byrne, F. J. (1973) *Irish kings and high-kings*. London: St Martin's Press.
- Courtney, L., Goucher, K., Gowen (2007) *The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project of the Donabate-Portrane Peninsula*. Commissioned by Fingal County Council and the Heritage Council. Available at: <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Donabate-Portrane%20HLC%20Text.pdf>
- Cronin, J. (2010) *Fingal Coastal Architectural Heritage Project*. Commissioned by Fingal County Council. Available at <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Fingal%20Coastal%20Architecture%20Study.pdf>
- D'Alton, J. (1838) *History of the County of Dublin*. Dublin: Hodges and Smith.
- Dempsey, N. (2017) *Rambles*.
- Fingal County Council (2019) *Newbridge House and Demesne Conservation Plan*. Dublin: Fingal County Council.
- Fingal County Council (2013) *St Ita's Hospital and Portrane Demesne Architectural Conservation Area, Statement of Character*. Dublin: Fingal County Council. Available at <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/St%20Itas%20ACA%20Final%20Version%20Dec2013.pdf>

Fingal County Council (2008) *The Grey Square Architectural Conservation Area, Portrane, Statement of Character*. Dublin: Fingal County Council. Available at

<https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Portrane%20Grey%20Square%20ACA%20SoC.pdf>

Hurley, M. (2009) *Baldoyle, Portmarnock, Sutton, A Local History, Parts 1-3*. Published online; Smashwords.com edition.

Kavanagh, T. and Lynch, P. (2021) *Portrane Little Tern Project 2021*.

Moylan, T. K. (1960) The Peninsula of Portrane: Part I. *Dublin Historical Record*, 16 (1), 22–33. Dublin: Old Dublin Society. Available at <http://www.jstor.org/stable/30102698>

O'Brien, W., Murphy, P., Dempsey, N., Reilly, U., Reilly, P., Doyle T., Dempsey, A. (Production Team) (1986) *History of the Parish of Donabate*. Available at Donabate Library.

O'Carroll, F. (2021) *Report and Inventory of the Archaeological Assets of the Portrane-Donabate Peninsula*. Meath: Trim Archaeological Projects Ltd. Commissioned by Fingal County Council. Available at <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2022-05/cm21-3-df001-archaeological-audit-report.pdf>

Resurrecting Monuments (2019) *A guide to the Archaeology of Howth Peninsula, The story of Howth and its people*. Dublin: Resurrecting Monuments.

Ronan, G. (2020) *Sophia Parnell-Evans, Feminism, Politics and Farming in 19th Century Portrane*. Dublin: Fingal County Council Local Studies and Archives.

Ronan, G. (2021a) *Tales of Old Turvey, The Legend of Gobán*. Dublin: Fingal Libraries.

Ronan, G. (2021b) *The Seduction of Benedict Arthur*. Dublin: Fingal County Council Local Studies and Archives.

Ronan, G. (2021c) *The Round Towers of Fingal, Their Hidden History*. Dublin: Fingal County Council Local Studies and Archives.

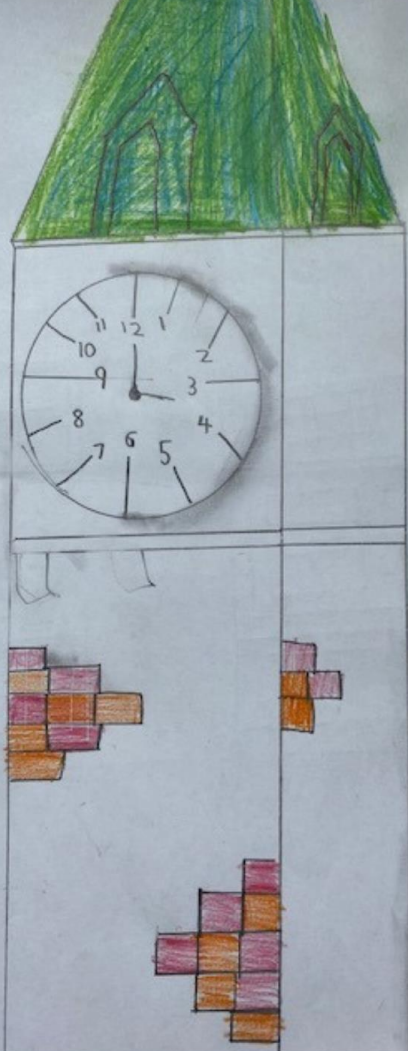
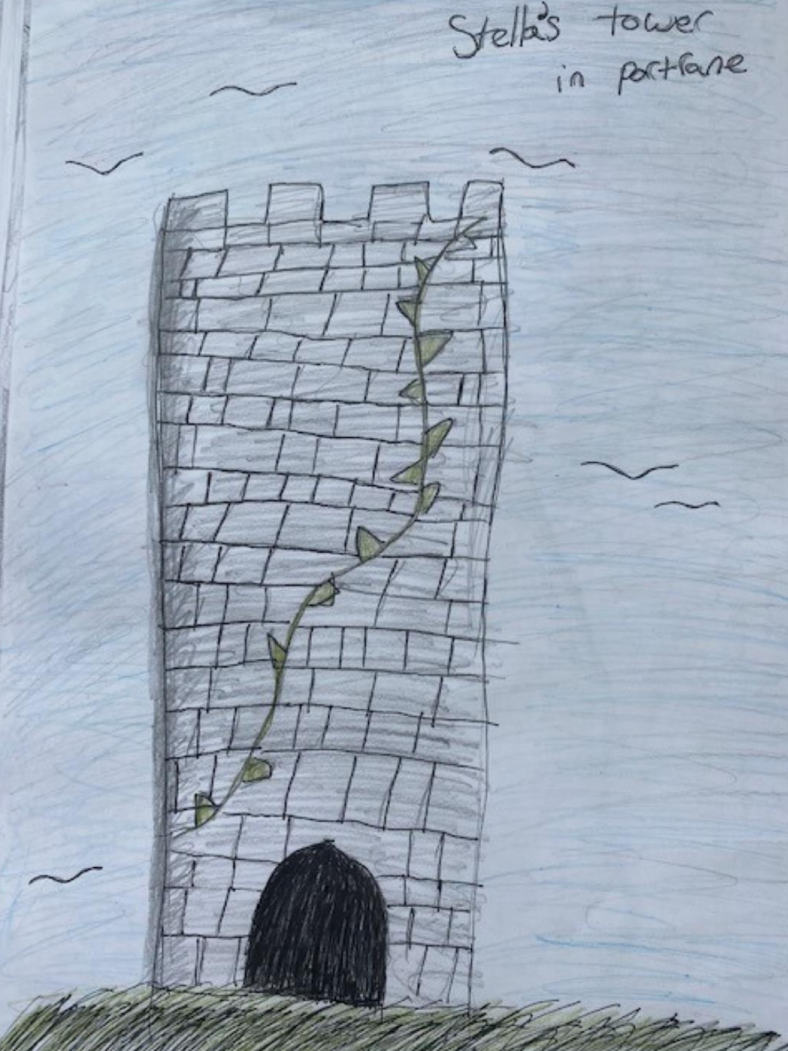
RPS (2020a) *Rogerstown Coastal Flood Erosion Risk Management Study - Stage 1: Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Assessment - Technical Report / IBE1480*. Commissioned by Fingal County Council. Available at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/coastal-defence-proposals-portrane-rush>

RPS (2020 b) *Rogerstown Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Management Study – Stage 1: Optioneering Report - Technical Report / IBE1480*. Commissioned by Fingal County Council. Available at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/coastal-defence-proposals-portrane-rush>

Stori, F. T. and O'Mahony, C. (2021) (*Coastal climate adaptation in Ireland: The effects of climate change in Portrane Fingal, Co. Dublin) and future perspectives*. Cork, Ireland: MaREI, the SFI Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine. Available at <http://hdl.handle.net/10468/12264>

Walsh, R. (1888) *Fingal and its churches: A historical sketch of the foundation and struggles of the Church of Ireland in that part of the County that lies to the north of the River Tolka*. Dublin: William McGee.

Stella's tower
in portlane



St Ita's
clock tower





FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY HALL, MAIN STREET, SWORDS
COUNTY DUBLIN

WWW.FINGAL.IE