Archaeological Survey, Kildrum, Dingle, Co. Kerry.



November 2010

Client:

The Heritage Office, Kerry County Council, County Buildings, Ratass, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

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KE043-130 church and graveyard

Surveyors:

Daire Dunne Tighearnach Dunne

Written by:

Laurence Dunne

Contact details:

3 Lios na Lohart, Ballyvelly, Tralee, Co. Kerry. Tel.: 0667120706 E-mail: lar@ldarch.ie Web Site: www.ldarch.ie

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Townland: Kildrum

Parish: Kildrum

Barony: Corca Dhuibhne

Local name of graveyard: Kildrum

XY Co-ords: E441240, N603514

RMP No.: KE043-130 Church & graveyard

No. of named tombs: 18

No. of unnamed tombs: 24

No. of lintelled graves: 29

No. of graveslabs: 2

No. of named headstones: 57

No. of unnamed headstones: 288

No. of notched headstones: 18

No. of holed stones: 3

No. of cross slabs: 12

No. of quartz stones: 17

1. Introduction

Kildrum Church and Graveyard was surveyed using a Magellan ProMark 3 Rover and Base station (Plate 1) and presented in Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM). The GPS graveyard survey datasets were exported using Hangle software from GPS Ireland and then exported into AutoCAD and finished using Adobe Illustrator. Reference numbers mentioned in the main body of the report relate to the ID point given when the survey was undertaken (see A3 plan, Figure 4). A digital photographic record and surname database was also compiled to complement the cartographic survey (Appendix 1). Digital photographs of the features within the graveyard are referenced in the appendix and all photographs are provided on the attached disc.

The survey was undertaken with due regard to:

- Conservation principles as produced by ICOMOS in the Venice and Burra Charters
- The publication in 2004 of the Architectural Heritage Protection-Guidelines for Planners by the DoEHLG
- The heritage objectives as outlined and adopted in the current Kerry County Council Development Plan 2009-2015, Built Heritage (Chapter 10).

The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe was signed at the Granada Convention in 1985 and ratified by Ireland in 1997. The conservation aims as stated in the Burra Charter are for the retention or restoration of historical significance with the minimum of physical intervention and that such intervention work be reversible, maintain the structure's character and setting and that all conservation works should be undertaken following comprehensive research.

An information booklet on care and maintenance for tombs should be compiled and supplied to the relevant parish church.

All of these graveyards are recorded monuments protected under the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and under the jurisdiction of Kerry County Council. All proposed works should be carried out by experience competent personnel under expert archaeological / architectural guidance and supervision. As these sites are recorded monuments conservation and restoration works can only be carried out under licence from the National Monuments Service of the Dept. of Environment, Heritage and Local Gov.

2. Site Location & Description

Kildrum Graveyard is situated on the N side of the Dingle Peninsula 4km NE of Dingle (Figure 1 & Plates 1 - 3).

It is situated on an elevated site at 50m OD on the lower ENE slopes of Leathaoibh with views S over Dingle Harbour and Mount Brandon to the NE.

Kildrum Church and Graveyard is a protected site, recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP, KE043-130). No physical remains of the medieval church are visible above ground today.

Kildrum is recorded in the Papal Taxation list of 1302-07, *Kendromma Value 13s 4d Tenth 16d* (Cal Docs Ire, 1302-07, Vol 5. 297; King 1931, 191; O'Sullivan 1931, 46; Cuppage 1984, 267).

A record from 1615 records that the church at Kildrum was standing '*The Vicaradges of Garfynnagh and Kildrom, valor £3 both, sequestered to Nicholas Averie, minister, both Church and Chancell upp*' (Hickson 1874, 29). The minister, Mr. Nicholas Averie also had the livings of Stradbally and Ventry (*ibid* 27). The incumbent minister for Garroonagh and Kildrom was Sigismund Corkeran (ibid 30).

In 1756 Charles Smith records that Kildrum Church was in ruins '*Kildrum, three parts vicarial, the church in ruins. Patron: the Bishop. Proxy 5s'* (Smith 1756, 39).

An account of Kildrum by Lewis in 1837 records 'The living is a vicarage, in the diocese of Ardfert and Aghadoe, and in the patronage of the Bishop: the rectory is improprite in Lord Ventry. The tithes amount to £110. 15. 4., of which two-thirds are payable to the impropriator and the remainder to the vicar. There is a glebe of seven acres. The ruins of the old church still remain in the burial-ground.' (Lewis 1837, 88).

The small oval graveyard of Kildrum and its associated glebe land is denoted on the 1st Ed. OS map, sheet 43 of 1841 (Figure 3). No vestige of the medieval church is denoted.

John O'Donovan, writing in August 1841, records 'No part of the walls of the church which bore this name now remains, but its site is pointed out in the graveyard in the townland of Ballyeightragh' (O'Donovan 1983, 94).

In 1844 the protestant minister for Kildrum was the Rev. W Curtis, Newcastle West (O'Sullivan 1931, 186).

By 1896 the oval enclosure evident on the 1st Ed. Map of 1841 encompassing Kildrum Graveyard had been replaced and the graveyard extended and enclosed by the addition of two boundary walls, making the graveyard more angular and defined (Figure 4).

An interesting account relating to Kildrum by O'Sullivan citing Foley in 1907 records 'It is now nearly one hundred years since the graveyard of Kildrum contained traces of an ancient Christian church in ruins... but owing to people, at hurried interments, occasionally taking stones off its walls, all traces of this church have disappeared. Within this graveyard rest the mortal remains of the holy missionary, Father Herbert, who, in the Irish language, was commonly called An Brathair Rebárdach. Under the pretence of being a wool buyer this friar went amongst the people of the district administering the rites of the Catholic Church, during the darkest days of the penal laws.

Here also many interesting monumental headstones and flags are to be found. There are slabs to the memory of two men named Rowland Rice, apparently father and son, one dated 20th April, 1737, and the other, 19th November, 1750' (O'Sullivan 1931, 398 & Plates 4-5).

Apparently Fr. Herbert or Harbert was born at Burnham near Dingle Harbour and was ordained on the continent and was brought into Ventry Harbour in a vessel containing smuggled goods. He was buried in the family grave of Maurice Connor Carhoo in Kildrum graveyard (*ibid* 619). The family grave of Maurice Connor Carhoo was not discovered in the course of this survey. It may be one of the several tombs that now have no name plaques on them. The words *An Bráthair Rebárdach* are a puzzle and may possibly translate as Brother Robert. In the course of this survey an 18th century headstone was recorded in close proximity to the Rice graves. Its short inscription reads: *Francis Herbert 1767* (Plate 6 & Figure 5). Whether this is the same individual is difficult to say but possibly a coincidence.

Other notable clerics interred in Kildrum were Fr. James Divine who was P.P. of Aunascaul who died in 1871 (Plate 7 & Figure 5) and was buried beside his brother Rev. Michael Devine, P.P. Dingle (*ibid* 232).

Another contemporaneous headstone from 1873 recounts a drowning in Dingle Harbour. The slate headstone that surmounts tomb 94 reads: *Sacred to the memory of John Mc-Donnell who was drowned in Dingle Harbour on the 25th day of May 1973, aged 50 years* (Plate 8 & Figure 5).

Two men killed at Caherquin during the Civil War in 1923, Tom Sullivan of Ballinanig and Robert McCarthy of Monaree are buried together in the old burial ground at Kildrum (*ibid* 507; Plate 9 & Figure 5). O'Sullivan was aged 22 and McCarthy 24 years of age when they were killed. The headstone, (1131), records that McCarthy's Christian name was Domhnaill (Donal) not Robert (?).

Kildrum old burial ground is also the resting place of John Curran. A modern headstone (84) records: *John Curran N.T. Ventry 1852-1935. Archaeologist and Patriot.* John Curran was a keen archaeologist and friend of Prof. R.A.S Macalister, Harold Leask and others (Sugrue 2002). He was a keen oghamist and recorded many archaeological sites on the Dingle Peninsula. His unpublished manuscript *Record of the Ancient Monuments on the Promontory of Dingle, Co. Kerry* c. 1907-33 is in the OPW, Dublin. His daughter Agnes Curran, 1900-1932, *Cumann na mban* is also interred in the same family grave (Plate 10 & Figure 5).

In keeping with several other Kerry graveyards there is a memorial to an Irishman that served with the American armed forces. The headstone surmounting tomb 193 records the death of John O Dowd, New York, PVT 148 INF. September 27 1918 in the second last month of WW1 (Plate 11 & Figure 5).

Today, Kildrum has increased slightly with the addition of a modern graveyard section abutting the old burial ground at the SW (Figure 5).

3. Kildrum Graveyard

3.1 General

The graveyard at Kildrum comprises an old medieval burial ground and a new modern small section attached at the SW (Figure 5). Kildrum graveyard is substantially higher than the outside laneway (Plate 3).

It was clear, in the course of this survey, that substantial works have been undertaken Kidrum Graveyard in the recent past including: re-surfacing the laneway, rebuilding the laneway boundary wall, construction of new ramped entrance and installation of galvanised iron railing. It was also evident that the interior of the old burial ground had been severely cleared of vegetation cover throughout, use of widespread broad spectrum weed-killer and the covering of several old graves with railway sleepers (Plates 3, 12-14).

The modern section was opened around the mid 1940's as the two earliest graves (33 & 29) of Patrick Devane and Michael Sears, recorded in the course of this survey, dated to 1946. The new graveyard is ridiculously small and is now practically full. All of the graves settings and headstones are in good condition.

The old medieval burial ground is in a poor state of repair with several of the forty-one tombs recorded manifest as grassy mounds (Appendix 1). Others require render repairs and some have problems with encroaching grass. Furthermore, within the old burial ground there are a number of exposed lintelled graves, several of which are open and collapsed (Plate 15). During the recent clearing work in Kildrum a number of the open lintelled graves were covered with old railway sleepers (Plate 14). However, the use of railway sleepers is not the best way to go about the problem and indeed can exacerbate matters in the long term. Old railway sleepers are impregnated with creosote which is a known carcinogen. They are also dangerous and slippery when wet. The covering of collapsed graves should only be carried out under expert archaeological advice and guidance and with material sensitive and suitable for the requirements.

The old graveyard is studded with around three hundred small unnamed headstones, notched grave markers and cross-slabs that are disposed around the interior (Plate 13 & Figure 5). The spatial and density patterning of these gravemarkers most likely reflect the location of the medieval church and also the oval enclosure that is evident on the 1st Ed OS map of 1841 (Figure 3). The presence of seventeen unhewn stones of white quartz in close proximity to the cross slabs and holed stones may reflect re-use of the old burial

ground as a ceallúragh or Children's Burial Ground.

Growth, in the form of dense grass has re-established itself across the entirety of the old burial ground obscuring or masking many of the small gravemarkers and other collapsed open graves. Consequently, much of the interior of the old burial ground is difficult and dangerous to traverse especially as, apart from a single perimeter pathway and a minor informal spur there are no other paths (Plate 12 & Figure 5). Negotiation around the old medieval graveyard is achieved with difficulty as there are no formal pathways and only a short informal spur path to the interior as well as an intermittent perimeter path, both of which are manifest by the use of weed killer (Plates 3, 12 & 13).

3.2 Medieval Church of Kildrum

There are no visible, above ground, coherent, remains of the medieval church of Kildrum today. The last record of the visible ruins of the church at Kildrum was in 1837 (Lewis 1837, 88). While Foley maintains that the stones of the church were used during hurried burials (see above). There were no architectural fragments from the church recorded in the course of this survey. This is unusual as generally fragments were reused as burial markers and in the construction of tombs. Similarly, there are physical remains of the oval enclosure denoted on the 1st Ed OS 6" Map of 1841 (Figure 3). Examination of the completed layout plan for Kildrum (Figure5), with the earlier enclosure that was denoted on the 1st Ed OS map overlain, does enclose the majority of the earlier features. A further concentration in the area around the Rice graves may also be indicative of the location of the medieval church.

There is a distinct possibility that Kildrum dates from the Early Medieval period, similar to the results from the writer's recent graveyard survey at nearby Raheenyhooig, Burnham.

3.3 Recommendations

The grass in the old graveyard should be cut low by non-bladed strimmers and kept low by regular cutting especially in the interior of the graveyard as it is studded with low gravemarkers, cross slabs, holed stones and quartz. The use of weed killer should be prohibited. Other recommendations are recorded hereunder in their respective sections.

4. Approach to Kildrum

Access to Kildrum Graveyard is dangerous. Kildrum lies at a crossroad junction at the end of a very straight fast section of the R559, 4km NW of Dingle (Plate 16). Furthermore, there is a fast downhill approach from the NW, i.e. from the Ballyferriter / Murrioch direction, (Plate 17 & Figure 1). Access off the roadside to the steep uphill graveyard is difficult and dangerous due to the speed of vehicles and lack of parking facilities. No dedicated carparking is available and motorised visitors park alongside the busy roadside (Plate 16).

The recently tarred steep laneway that leads up to the graveyard has no off-road carparking or no place for vehicles to turn. Visitors, have to leave their cars along the main road (R559). Otherwise they have to reverse down a steep slope and out onto the main road with extreme difficulty and danger.

4.1 Recommendations

Advance signage for Kildrum Graveyard should be installed. Traffic speeds should be reduced or other traffic calming measures undertaken. Adequate, safe carparking with turning ability should be provided inside or outside or both.

5. Entrance

The entrance comprises two modern green / black painted iron gates set between a square capped and rendered pier in good order and a modern galvanised pier attached to a stone wall (Plate 18 & Figure 5). The approach to the gate for vehicles is too sharp and is without an external safe recess to temporarily park while opening the gate pair of gates. Furthermore, access through the narrow 2.9m wide gateway and immediately onto the steep incline, increases the difficulty. There is no separate pedestrian stile provided.

At the top of the steep laneway there is another entrance into the modern graveyard section. Entrance at the SW is gained via a pair of matched iron gates set between modern capped piers. A water tap and container are provided beside the gates on the interior (Plate 19).

No waste collection or storage facilities are provided.

5.1 Recommendations

The gateway entrance area should be widened and setback to accommodate proper safe vehicular access.

A separate pedestrian swing-stile or squeeze stile should be constructed at the roadside entrance.

Waste storage and collection facilities should be provided.

6. Boundaries

The new modern graveyard at Kildrum is enclosed along the access laneway by a high mass-concrete wall, built in two sections one over the other, with the bottom section noticeably battered outwards. Otherwise all the other boundaries of Kildrum, old and new, are enclosed with a drystone wall that varies in height from as low as 0.50m to an average of 1.1m in height, capped with horizontal flagstones (Plates 2, 12 & 20). A long section of the old boundary that runs NE-SW beside the laneway is surmounted by a recently installed galvanised iron railing. This section of the boundary was severely cut back and scarped out to accommodate the installation of the protective railing (Plate 3). Furthermore a new ramped entrance has also been constructed in the same stretch of old boundary walling replacing at least two step-stiles that are now defunct (Plate 21 & Figure 5). This new ramped entrance is ridiculously situated as it leads immediately and directly into a dense cluster of tombs and graves that are impossible to avoid-a cul-de-sac of tombs (Plate 22).

Several sections of the old boundary wall are in rag order with some breaches evident here and there (Plate 20 & Figure 5).

6.1 Recommendations

The old rubble stone boundary wall should be sensitively repaired with similar local sandstone and lime mortar and its capping replaced. This work should only be undertaken under archaeological supervision and by masons with a proven track record of repairing and restoring similar historic walls.

7. Pathways

The new graveyard section is level and amply served with gravelled paths (Plate 2).

However, inside the old medieval graveyard there are no formal paths. Although along the perimeter a strip has been partially cleared and spread with weed killer while an irregular spur also extends into the interior (Plates 12 & 14 & Figure 5).

Negotiation around and through the interior of the old burial ground is difficult and dangerous as the ground is very uneven and bumpy due to very old burials, tombs and gravemarkers. Furthermore, there are many exposed, partially open and collapsed lintelled graves as well as numerous small unhewn gravemarkers.

7.1 Recommendations

The old medieval section of Kildrum requires a network of narrow pathways to access the interior of this graveyard labyrinth. The current *ad hoc* perimeter path should be properly constructed under archaeological advice and supervision. New pathways should be narrow and follow the routes of least physical resistance. The layout, definition, construction of new paths within the old burial ground at Kildrum should only be undertaken by experienced personnel under the full time strict supervision and guidance of an experienced licensed archaeologist as the site is littered with ancient remains and full of tombs and lintelled graves. The use of weed killer to maintain some semblance of a path should cease.

8. Named Tombs

There are eighteen named tombs in the old medieval burial ground (Plates 7 & 23; Appendix 1 & Figure 5). The majority of them are constructed with local rubble stone and rendered and are generally of the simple box and strong-box variety. Six named tombs are heavily or partially grass covered and in need of repairs. The render on others also needs to be repaired while grass is establishing itself on several others. Tomb (1038) records the death of James Devine. The inscription reads: *Sacred to the memory of James Devine Who Departed This Life On The 16 Of March 1892 Aged 70 years R.I.P.* There is a small and unusual cross inscribed at the top of the memorial slab that is integrated into an IHS monogram. Father James Devine was parish priest of Annascaul and was interred

beside his brother Michael Devine who was P.P. in Dingle (see above). However, O'Sullivan (1931, 232) records his death as 1871 which is at variance with the 1892 dated recorded here. Unless this is a different James Devine as there is no mention on the memorial slab that he was a priest? The tomb is partially open.

8.1 Recommendations

The tombs should be repaired and restored. Repairs to tombs should be undertaken by experienced masons with a proven track record of working on historic structures and in the use of lime mortar etc. This work should only be carried out under expert archaeological advice and supervision as it is most likely that architectural fragments from the medieval church of Kildrum are incorporated within the tombs.

9. Unnamed tombs

Twenty-four unnamed tombs (Appendix 2 & Figure 5) were recorded in the old medieval burial ground. Ten of which are manifest as low grass covered mounds while two others (103 & 128), partially built with red brick, are also heavily covered with grass (Plate 24). It is likely that many of these tombs were constructed with architectural fragments from the now disappeared medieval church.

9.1 Recommendations

Specialist work is required to preserve, repair and restore many of unnamed tombs at Kildrum. Several will require careful rebuilding.

Grass covering some of the tombs should only be fully removed as the primary element of an agreed inclusive strategy of repairs and other conservation and restoration works. This work should be undertaken with expert archaeological advice and guidance.

It is possible that local information would furnish some of the names associated with these unnamed tombs. This information should be collected and entered into the database.

10. Lintelled graves

There are twenty-three lintelled graves dispersed around the old burial ground partially exposed, open or collapsed (Plate15; Appendix 3 & Figure 5). Many of them are marked with unhewn unnamed headstones. Several have been covered with inappropriate old railway sleepers (Plate 14).

10.1 Recommendations

The exposed lintelled graves should be repaired properly by masons experienced in historic structures under archaeological expert advice and supervision. The use of railway sleepers should be discontinued and existing sleepers replaced with more appropriate materials including local sandstone flagstones or, where appropriate, concrete lintels. The graves should then be covered with earth, re-sodded or re-seeded. The unhewn grave markers should be left *in situ*. This will preserve the graves and make the graveyard easier to negotiate.

11. Grave Slabs

Two mid-eighteenth century graveslabs of red sandstone were recorded side by side in the old medieval burial ground at Kildrum (Appendix 4 & Figure 5). These rectangular low set grave slabs record the deaths of Rowland Rice and his son Rowland Junior in 1737 and 1750 respectively (Plates 4-5). This unusual pair of graveslabs, have the IHS monogam set within gabled fields at the top of the slabs, while at the base they have encircled skull and cross-bones motifs. The occurrence of the skull and cross bones motif is uncommon in Kerry graveyards.

The inscriptions are situated in the centre of the slabs and read:- *Here Lyeth The Body Of Rowland Rice Who Dyed The 20 Aprill 1737. The other inscription reads: Rowland Rice Junior 'Ber The 10th 1750.* There are two scroll motifs or peltae on either side of the 1750.

11.1 Recommendations

No recommendations necessary

12. Named Headstones

There were forty-four named headstones recorded at Kildrum graveyard, the vast majority of which are associated with formal grave settings (Appendix 5, Figure 5 & Plate 2). All the headstones are in general good condition with only 8 illegible. The modern graveyard is now almost completely full. Some of the grave settings in the old burial ground are suffering from neglect and grass has established itself on several (Plate 23). A number of other interesting late 18th and early 19th century headstones, some with crosses inscribed on them, were also recorded. Unfortunately they only record the initials of the deceased and are therefore categorised as illegible (Appendix 4).

12.1 Recommendations

Grass has encroached around the gravestones in the old burial ground partially covering the graves and the grave settings. This should be cut back and kept low and the settings clearly defined. The illegible headstones should be cleaned properly and the inscriptions recorded and added to the database.

13. Unnamed Headstones

There were two hundred and eighty nine unnamed headstones (HWN & Appendix 6) in total recorded in the course of this survey. All of the unnamed headstones comprise simple grave markers of unhewn local sandstone and are disposed around the entirety of the old burial ground (Figure 5). Some of them mark a number of lintelled graves (Plate 25). Many of them are difficult to see due to dense grass and it is likely that several others are as yet undiscovered.

13.1 Recommendations

These unhewn gravemarkers form a particular type of grave marker and are an important part of the life function and history of the graveyard. The grass in the interior of the graveyard around these graves should be cut low and maintained at a lower level so that these graves have a greater visibility which also helps in greater safety while walking and in the designing of and construction of interior informal and

formal paths.

14. Notched unnamed headstones

There were eighteen notched, unnamed headstones (Appendix 7 & Figure 5) recorded in the course of this survey at Kildrum. They are disposed around the interior of the old burial ground and within the limits of the earlier enclosure denoted on the 1st Ed OS map of 1841 (Figure 3). Many of them are difficult to see due to dense grass.

All of the notched headstones are simple grave markers of unhewn local sandstone that have a distinct notch on the top of the stone-sometimes with side notches also (Plates 26-28). These headstones date from the medieval period and are the most basic cross form of burial marker recorded in graveyards. Notched headstones have been recorded by the writer in several graveyards in Kerry and indeed as far away as St. Colman's Graveyard on Inishbofin Island off the Connemara coast (Dunne 2007). A re-used notched gravestone was excavated by the writer from the base of a medieval slab-lined grave in Smerwick (Dunne, 2005).

14.1 Recommendations

These unhewn notched gravemarkers form a particular type of medieval grave marker and are relatively unknown and little studied aspect of medieval funerary practice. They are an important element of medieval archaeology that has hitherto been absent from study and recording. The grass in the interior of the graveyard around these notched headstones should be cut low and maintained at a lower level so that they have a greater visibility which also helps in greater safety while walking.

15. Cross Slabs

Twelve previously unrecorded cross-slabs were plotted and recorded in the old medieval burial ground. A thirteenth cross slab that was noticed at the start of Feb 2010 prior to any survey work, could not be found due to grass cover later (Plate 29). The missing cross-slab is deeply incised with a Latin cross with exaggerated T-bars to both arms. The head of the cross runs up onto the top of the slab into a pronounced notch, a feature shared with two other cross-slabs (see below 1115 & 1124).

These crosses comprise small inscribed slabs and other roughly shaped cross forms (Appendix 9 & Figure 5).

Three cross-slabs (1099, 1100 & 1102, Plates 30-32) are 'Tau' cross forms. The crosses are roughly shaped and similar to others at nearby Raheenyhooig and Kilmalkedar and are possibly Early Medieval. Cross-slab 1099 has a pronounced notch at the top as well as distinct curving sides that creates a more finial like resemblance (Plate 32).

Cross-slab (1121), of local green sandstone, is anthropomorphic in form with roughly made rounded truncated type arms and head and is also possibly Early Medieval, 0.56m x 0.47m x 0.05m (Plate 33).

Two other cross-slabs (1115 and 1124) have shared characteristics in that they both have crosses that extend up into notches at the top of the stones, a feature that is also noted on the missing cross-slab (Plate 29). Cross-slab 1124 is made from unhewn local red sand-stone with an incised Latin cross with a T-bar at the base of the shaft and downturn bars to both arms (Plate 34). Cross-slab 1115 has a simple Latin cross that extends up and incorporates a notch at the top of the stone (Plate 35).

Three similar cross-slabs of slate (1128, 1129 & 780) display simple lightly incised Latin crosses on them. Cross-slab 1129 has T-bar terminals (Plates 36-38).

Cross-slab 1130 lies loose on the ground. This uniform, sandstone flag, 0.74m x 0.19m x 0.04m, has a lightly incised Latin cross with T-bar terminals. Under the shaft is a horizon-tal stroke beneath which are the letters JA eccentrically disposed (Plate 39).

Cross-slab 1127 stands partially obscured beside a modern headstone (1141). It has a Latin cross, partially concealed by moss, deeply incised on a rectangular sandstone slab, 0.60m x 0.41m x0.10m (Plate 40).

Cross-slab 92 situated near the eastern limits of the old burial ground is a triangular sandstone, 0.54m x 0.32 X 0.09m, with a wide incised plain Latin cross (Plate 41).

15.1 Recommendations

All the headstones should be archaeologically illustrated.

The grass in the interior of the graveyard around these cross–slabs should be cut low and maintained at a lower level so that they have a greater visibility which will in turn help in greater safety while walking. After the grass it cut the missing cross-slab should be found, recorded, plotted and illustrated.

16. Holed Stones

Three holed-stones, (1098, 1120 & 1122), were recorded within the old burial ground at Kildrum (Plates 42-44, Appendix 8 & Figure 5).

Holed-stone (1098) of slatey-sandstone, 0.43m x 0.23m x 0.065m, has a double perforation, one at the top and the other at the base. Both perforations are small and uniform, diameter of upper perforation 20mm and bottom 28mm (Plate 42).

The double perforation is unusual and not accounted for at other sites. There is a distinct possibility that it is a re-used stone selected because of the perforations for use as a burial marker for an un-baptised child in the ceallúragh area of the old burial ground.

Holed-stone (1120) of local sandstone with a small hour–glass perforation, diameter 25mm, centrally disposed. The stone is somewhat gable shaped of un-dressed sandstone 0.46m x 0.41m x 0.045m (Plate 43 & Figure 5). Interestingly there is a small circular notch at the top of the stone as well that may reflect either a deliberate notch or a broken previous attempt at perforation. This notched section of the slab has also been roughly trimmed.

The third holed-stone (1122) is stylistically at variance with the previous two in that it could or should possibly be categorised as a perforated cross-slab? The local sandstone, 0.46m x 0.39m x 0,07m, has a narrow shaft that expands into a somewhat dome shaped head. Centrally disposed is a large hour-glass perforation with an external diameter of 80mm decreasing to 30mm at the centre or narrow neck of the hour-glass (Plate 44). The holed stone (1122 has) been trimmed and shaped into a variant cross-form that may be a skeumorph of the two definitive Tau cross-slabs, both of which are situated beside the holed-stone at Kildrum (Plate 13).

Holed or perforated stones where found are generally associated with early ecclesiastical sites. They are not very common and not well understood. It is possible that these small low slab forms reflect a re-use of the earlier graveyard as a ceallúragh and may have only an incidental relationship to the earlier site. Some notable examples of perforated early cross inscribed pillars slabs and ogham stones at found at Reask, Kilfountain and Kilmalkedar. However, these are stylistically and morphologically at variance with the

ones discovered at Kildrum and indeed, nearby at Raheenyhooig and Garfinny. The Dingle Archaeological Survey also recorded a holed stone in the nearby, early ecclesiastical site of Maumanorig, that is now, unfortunately, missing.

These small holed-stones may reflect some form of rites of passage i.e. Limbo or associated with the difficulty of childbirth or some other associated liminal hierophany.

16.1 Recommendations

The grass in the interior of the graveyard around these holed-stones should be cut low and maintained at a lower level so that they can enjoy a greater visibility and cultural appreciation and protection.

17. Quartz Stones

Seventeen white unhewn quartz stones were recorded in the course of this study (Plate 13, Appendix 10 & Figure 5). Quartz has been recorded from many early ecclesiastic sites and have been found on *leachta* often as water rolled pebbles. On Illauntannig and Skellig they were used to make crosses over the entrances to oratories. The use of quartz is also associated with marking the graves of un-baptised children in *ceallúraigh* or Children's Burial Grounds. It is in this context that they have been recorded at Kildrum as there are a number of features that indicate that the interior of Kildrum was re-used as such. Including, several early cross forms, holed stones and notched stones that are clustered together in the interior (Figure 5). Quartz stones are rarely or incidentally recorded on archaeological sites and in general terms only.

17.1 Recommendations

The grass in the interior of the graveyard around the white quartz stones should be cut low and maintained at a lower level so that they can enjoy a greater visibility and wider cultural appreciation of their use and function.

18. Summary of recommendations for future management/conservation of Kildrum graveyard

- Waste collection facilities should be provided.
- The gateway entrance area should be widened and setback to accommodate proper safe vehicular access.
- A separate pedestrian swing-stile or squeeze stile should be constructed at the roadside entrance.
- Advanced road signage should be provided as the road approach is very fast.
- A small off-road carpark and turning area should be provided at the upper SW limits beside the modern graveyard section or alternatively near the roadside entrance.
- A program of focussed archaeological conservation and repairs should be undertaken on the collapsed, partially collapsed, damaged, partially covered and grass covered named and unnamed tombs.
- The tombs should be repaired re-pointed, re-rendered and restored sensitive to their original construction. This work should be done under the supervision of an archaeologist qualified in this area or a conservation architect experienced in this field and may require Ministerial Consent.
- The exposed lintelled graves should be sensitively repaired with matching material and then covered with earth and re-sodded leaving the unhewn unnamed headstones *in situ*. Graves recently covered with inappropriate old railway sleepers should be sensitively replaced with local stone flags or concrete lintel slabs.
- The grass in the graveyard should be cut low by non-bladed strimmers and kept low by regular cutting especially in the interior of the graveyard as it is studded with low gravemarkers including: cross-slabs, holed stones and notched headstones.
- All the cross-slabs and holed stone should be archaeologically illustrated and researched.
- The illegible headstones should be properly professionally cleaned and any revealed inscriptions added to the database.
- New narrow pathways should be constructed as part of a wider plan for the old graveyard and should only be undertaken under archaeological advice and supervision and as an element of a wider comprehensive conservation plan.

- Repairs to the boundary walls should be undertaken by people with a proven track record in repairing dry stone walls.
- The use of broad-spectrum weed killer should decease immediately.
- An information booklet on care and maintenance for tombs should be compiled and supplied to the relevant parish church.
- It is likely that local information would furnish the names associated with unnamed tombs. This information should be collected.
- An information board similar to one already existing at Killury graveyard, in Lissycurrig townland near Causeway, should be established at a suitable location at the graveyard, most likely beside the entrance gate on its interior.
- The Care and Conservation of Graveyards, a publication from The Office of Public Works (OPW) is recommended reading for future maintenance of the church and graveyard.
- An informative booklet on Kildrum graveyard should be compiled by Kerry County Council and supplied to the relevant parish church. It should include helpful tips for parishioners on caring for the graveyard, and the individual plots, as well as giving advice about works which may professional services such as the cleaning of old headstones etc.

Note on Recommendations

All recommendations as set out above are recommendations only based on visual site fieldwork undertaken by the writer. No invasive or other intervention work was undertaken in the course of producing this report. Access into the surviving church tower was not possible as the entrance was boarded up. Ultimately, no responsibility will be accepted by the writer with regard to the undertaking of the conservation work as recommended in this report and based only on visual inspection. The ultimate decision on recommendations etc rests with Kerry County Council and the National Monuments Service of the Dept. of Environment Heritage and Local Government.

19. References

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20. Figures



Figure 1: Site location map. Extract from OS Discovery series 1: 50,000, sheet 70. Kildrum Graveyard encircled.

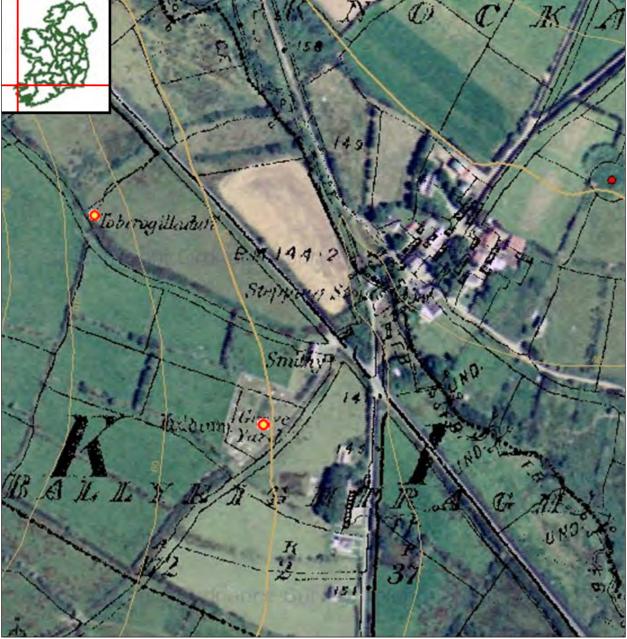


Figure 2: Ortho-image extract from National Monuments Service online database of recorded monuments.



Figure 3: Extract from OS 1st Edition 1841 map, sheet 43.

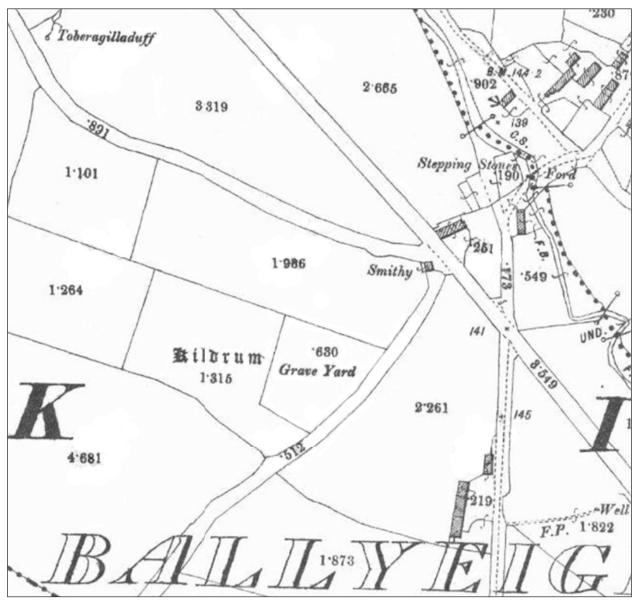


Figure 4: Extract from OS 2nd Edition 25" 1896, sheet.







Plate 1: View of interior of the old medieval burial ground at Kildrum from east.. Note Leathaoibh in background

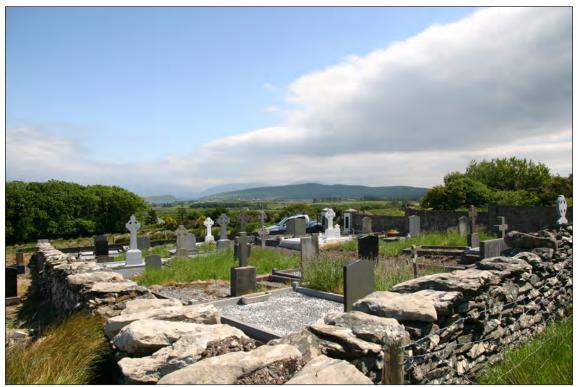


Plate 2: View from north-west corner of modern small section of Kildrum Graveyard. Note Dingle Harbour in background



Plate 3: View north-east along the south-east boundary of old medieval burial ground at Kildrum . Note modern railing and extent of scarping-out works. Further note Mount Brandon in background



Plate 4: View of the graveslab (1049) of Rowland Rice in the old burial ground at Kildrum who died in 1737 **Plate 5:** View of the graveslab (1054) of Rowland Rice Junior in the old burial ground at Kildrum who died in 1750





Plate 6: View of the headstone (97) of Francis Herbert in the old burial ground at Kildrum who died in 1767



Plate 7: View of the dilapidated, partially open tomb (1038) of James Devine who died in 1892. This is possibly the burial tomb of Father James Devine P.P. Annascaul who was buried beside his brother Father Michael Devine P.P. Dingle



Plate 8: Close-up view of lichen covered headstone surmounting tomb 94. It records the death of John McDonnell who drowned in Dingle Harbour in May 1873 aged 50 years **Plate 9:** View of the grave for two local men Tomás Ó Súilobháin aged 22 and Domhnaill MacCarthaigh aged 24 who were killed in the Civil War in 1923





Plate 10: View of the modern headstone of John Curran N.T., archaeologist and patriot and also his daughter Agnes Curran

Plate 11: View of the lichen covered headstone of John O'Dowd Pvt. 148 INF in the American armed forces and who was killed in action 27 September 1918 just two weeks before armistice day , 11 November 1918

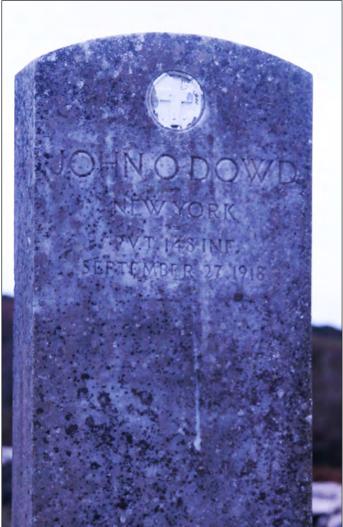




Plate 12: View from north-east corner of old burial ground in Kildrum. Note use of weed killer to try and maintain informal perimeter path



Plate 13: View of interior of old burial ground Kildrum, possibly reused as ceallúragh. Note cross-slabs holed stone, notched headstones and quartz. Note the widespread use of weed killer



Plate 14: View NE of old burial ground at Kildrum. Note the inappropriate use of old railway sleepers on lintelled graves. Further note the widespread use of weed killer



Plate 15: View of collapsed lintelled grave (1033) in the old burial ground at Kildrum



Plate 16: View of the straight fast approach to Kildrum Graveyard along R550 from Dingle. The only carparking is along widened road verge



Plate 17: View of fast downhill curving approach to Kildrum Graveyard from Ballyferriter / Murrioch direction along R550



Plate 18: View of interior of roadside entrance gates to Kildrum graveyard



Plate 19: View of interior of gateway into modern section of Kildrum Graveyard. Note water tap and bucket on right



Plate 20: View of breach in drystone wall along the north-east boundary of Kildrum Graveyard



Plate 21: View of recently constructed sloping ramp into the old burial ground at Kildrum



Plate 22: Entrance into old burial ground at Kildrum from recently constructed ramp. Note visitors are channeled directly onto the O'Mahoney family grave (90) and a culde-sac of built tombs and graves



Plate 23: View up along north-east limits of the old burial ground at Kildrum. Note breaches to boundary wall, remains of abandoned unused cement and other builder's rubbish. Further note grass encroachment on modern gravesetting etc



Plate 24: View of grass covered unnamed tomb (48) beside unnamed strong-box tomb (43) in old burial ground at Kildrum



Plate 25: View of interior of old burial ground at Kildrum from SW. Note widespread use of weed killer



Plate 26: View of notched grave marker (1109) in the old burial ground at Kildrum



Plate 27: View of notched grave marker (1096) in the old burial ground at Kildrum



Plate 28: View of notched grave marker (1106) in the old burial ground at Kildrum



Plate 29: View of unlocated cross-slab in the old burial ground at Kildrum



Plate 30: View of 'Tau' cross-slabs (1100 & 1102) in Kildrum Graveyard







Plate 32: Close up of 'finial type' cross-slab (1099) in Kildrum



Plate 33: View of anthropomorphic cross-slab (1121) in Kildrum



Plate 34: View cross-slab (1124) in Kildrum



Plate 35: View cross-slab (1115) in Kildrum



Plate 36: View of cross-slab (1128) in Kildrum



Plate 37: View of cross-slab (1129) in Kildrum



Plate 38: View of cross-slab (780) in Kildrum



Plate 39: View of cross-slab (1130) in Kildrum



Plate 40: View of cross-slab (1127) in Kildrum



Plate 41: View of cross-slab (92) in Kildrum



Plate 42: View of holed-stone (1098) in Kildrum



Plate 43: View of holed-stone (1120) in Kildrum



Plate 44: View of holed-stone (1122) in Kildrum

22. Appendix 1 Named Tombs

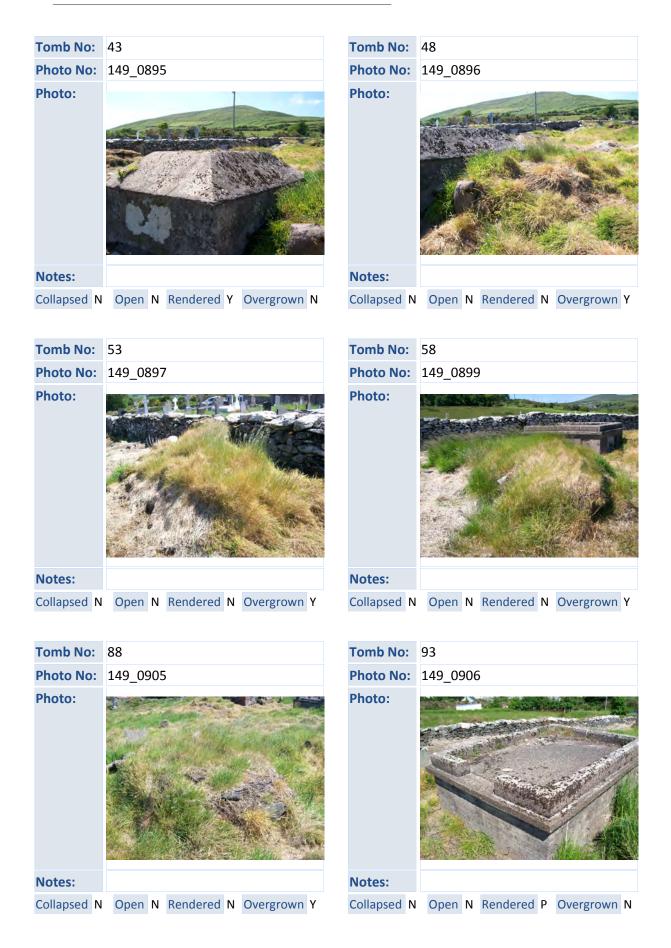
Surname: BEGLEY	Surname	CLEIRIG
Tomb No: 1043	Tomb No	
Photo No: 148_0028	Photo No	
Photo:	Photo:	
Notes:	Notes:	
Collapsed N Open N Rendered Y	Overgrown N Collapsed	N Open N Rendered N Overgrown N
Surname: DEVINE	Surname	GRIFFIN
Tomb No: 1038	Tomb No	: 208
Photo No: 148_0027	Photo No	: 149_0930
Photo:	Photo:	
Notes:	Notes:	
Collapsed N Open N Rendered Y	Overgrown N Collapsed	N Open N Rendered N Overgrown N
Surname: ILLEGIBLE	Surname	ILLEGIBLE
Tomb No: 246	Tomb No	: 63
Photo No: 149_0935	Photo No	: 149_0900
Photo:	Photo:	
Notes:	Notes:	
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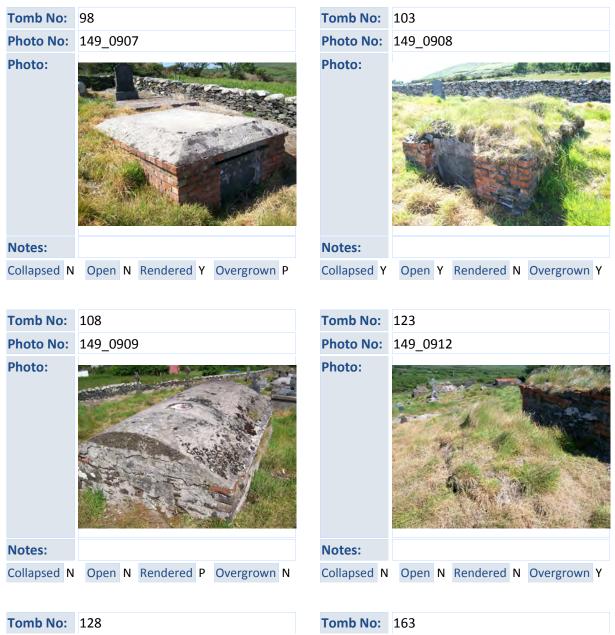
Surname:	KELLIHER	Surname:	LYNCH
Tomb No:	1078	Tomb No:	
Photo No:	148_0032	Photo No:	
Photo:		Photo:	
Notes:		Notes:	
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown Y	Collapsed N	Open N Rendered P Overgrown P
Surname:	MCDONNEL	Surname:	MORIARTY
Tomb No:	94	Tomb No:	198
Photo No:	IMG_4952 AND IMG_4953	Photo No:	149_0928
Photo:		Photo:	
Notes:		Notes:	
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown Y	Collapsed N	Open N Rendered Y Overgrown N
Surname:	MURPHY	Surname:	O'CONNOR
Tomb No:	133	Tomb No:	83
Photo No:	149_0914	Photo No:	149_0904
Photo:	TERES Sected To the Memory of PATRICK MURPHY ESOS.M.D.D Who departed this Lafe os the PERFY of Archidian Sect Age of S Years May his Some rest in Sec	Photo:	
Notes:		Notes:	
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown N	Collapsed N	Open N Rendered Y Overgrown N



Surname:	OH-UALLACAIN				
Tomb No:	168				
Photo No:	149_0922				
Photo:					
Notes:					
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown N				
Surname:	O'MURCADA				
Tomb No:	143				
Photo No:	149_0916				
Photo:					
Notes:					
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered Y Overgrown N				
Surname:	UI NIALLAGAIN				
Tomb No:	236				
Photo No:	149_0934				
Photo:					
Notes:					
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered Y Overgrown N				

23. Appendix 2 Unnamed Tombs









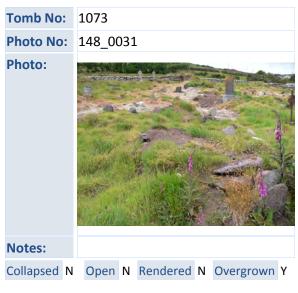




Tomb No:	213
Photo No:	149_0931
Photo:	
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Collapsed N	Open N Rendered Y Overgrown N

Tomb No:	241	Tomb No:	251
Photo No:	149_0936	Photo No:	149_0937
Photo:		Photo:	
Notes:		Notes:	
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown P	Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown P
Tomb No: Photo No:	261 149_0939	Tomb No: Photo No:	1059 148_0029
Photo:		Photo:	
Notes:		Notes:	
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered Y Overgrown N	Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown Y
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24. Appendix 3 Lintelled Graves

Grave No	Collapsed	Open	Overgrown
68	N	N	P
72	Ν	Ν	Y
73	N	N	N
75	Ν	N	Y
76	N	N	Y
77	Ν	Ν	Y
78	Ν	Ν	Ν
78	Ν	Ν	Ν
79	Ν	Ν	Y
80	Ν	Ν	Y
81	Ν	Ν	Y
85	Ν	Ν	Ν
86	Р	Р	Y
87	Ν	Ν	Y
89	Р	Р	Р
91	Ν	Ν	Y
113	Ν	Ν	Ν
113	Ν	Ν	Ν
118	Ν	Ν	Ν
118	Ν	Ν	Ν
138	Ν	Ν	Р
138	Ν	Ν	Ν
148	Ν	Ν	Ν
148	Ν	Ν	Ν
153	Ν	Ν	Ν
153	Ν	Ν	Ν
158	Ν	Ν	Y
158	Ν	Ν	Y
1033	Y	Y	Y

25. Appendix 4 Grave Slabs

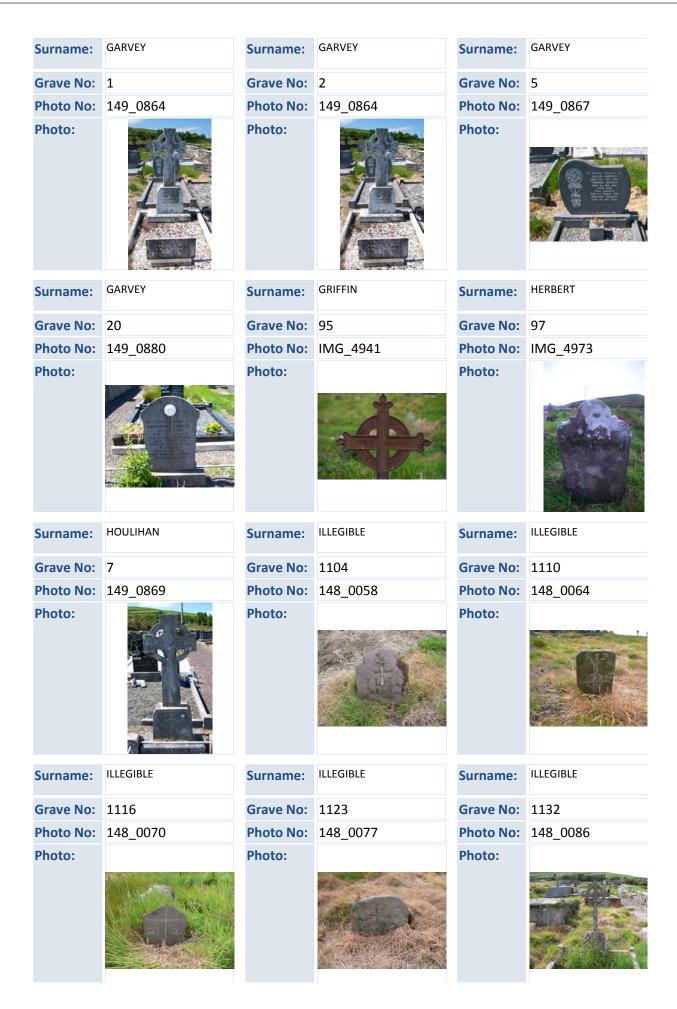
Surname:	RICE
Tomb No:	1049
Photo No:	148_0006
Photo:	
Notes:	

Surname:	RICE
Tomb No:	1054
Photo No:	148_0001
Photo:	
Notes:	

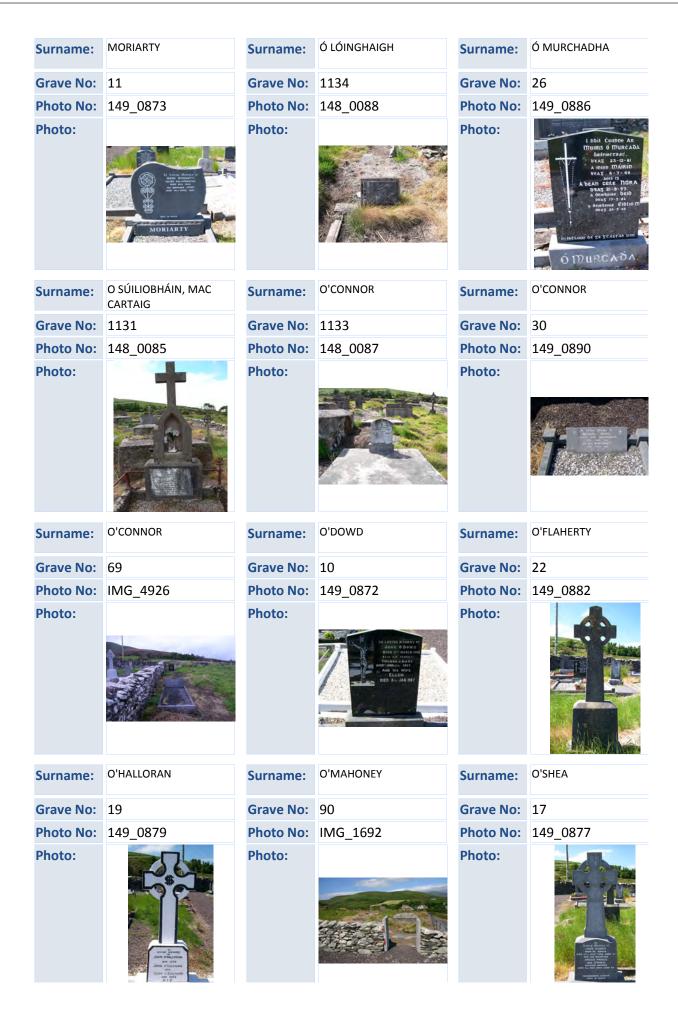
26. Appendix 5 Named Headstones

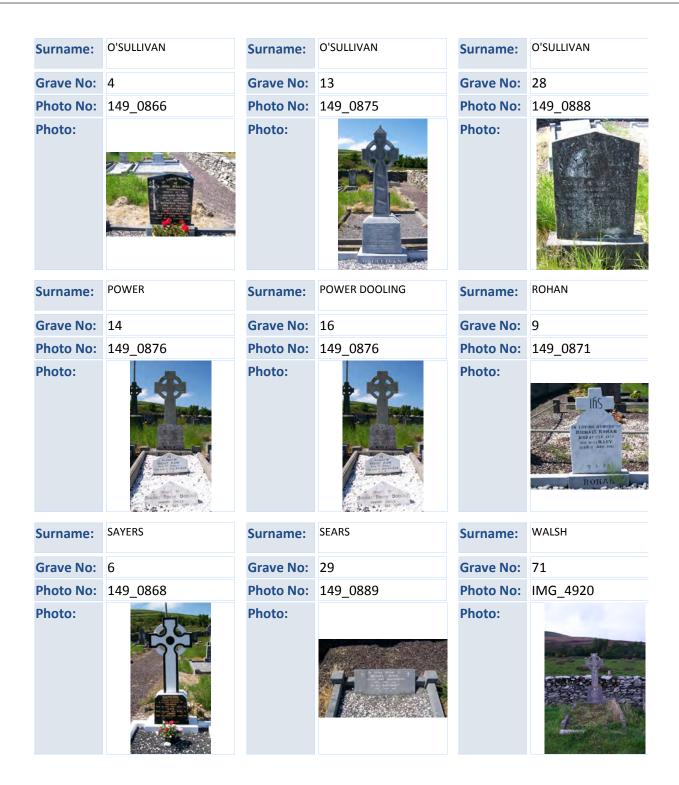
Surname:	ASHE	Surname:	BAKER	Surname:	BROSAN
Grave No:	15	Grave No:	12	Grave No:	1137
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Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	BROWN	Surname:	CURRAN	Surname:	DEVANE
Grave No:	1142	Grave No:	84	Grave No:	8
Photo No:	148_0096	Photo No:	IMG_9972	Photo No:	149_0870
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	<text></text>
Surname:	DEVANE	Surname:	DEVANE	Surname:	DEVANE
Grave No:	27	Grave No:	33	Grave No:	96
Photo No:	149_0887	Photo No:	149_0893	Photo No:	IMG_4943
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	DONEGAN	Surname:	FITZGERALD	Surname:	FLAHIVE
Grave No:	1141	Grave No:	18	Grave No:	25
Photo No:	148_0095	Photo No:	149_0878	Photo No:	149_0885
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	

Laurence Dunne Archaeology



Surname:	ILLEGIBLE	Surname:	ILLEGIBLE	Surname:	ILLEGIBLE
Grave No:	1135	Grave No:	1138	Grave No:	70
Photo No:	148_0089	Photo No:	148_0092	Photo No:	IMG_4921
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	LOIBHÉAD	Surname:	LOVETT	Surname:	LYNCH
Grave No:	21	Grave No:	99	Grave No:	24
Photo No:	149_0881	Photo No:	IMG_4955	Photo No:	149_0884
Photo:	Participation of the second seco	Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	MAC GINNEÁ	Surname:	MC CARTHY	Surname:	MC KENNA
Grave No:	1139	Grave No:	23	Grave No:	3
Photo No:	148_0093	Photo No:	149_0883	Photo No:	149_0865
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
					RE KENNA
Surname:	MC KENNA	Surname:	MHIC SHÍTHIGH	Surname:	MORAN
Surname: Grave No:			MHIC SHÍTHIGH 1140	Surname: Grave No:	MORAN 1136
	31		1140		1136





27. Appdenix 6 Unnamed Headstones

Grave No Notes	
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Grave No	Notos
	Notes
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28. Appendix 7 Notched Headstones



















ID No:	1111
Photo No:	148_0065
Photo:	
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ID No:	1112
Photo No:	148_0066
Photo:	
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ID No:	1119
Photo No:	148_0073
Photo:	
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ID No:	1125
Photo No:	148_0079
Photo:	
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ID No:	1126
Photo No:	148_0080
Photo:	
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29. Appendix 8 Holed Stones



ID No:	1120
Photo No:	148_0074
Photo:	
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30. Appendix 9 Cross Slabs



ID No:	780
Photo No:	IMG_4959
Photo:	
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ID No:	1128
Photo No:	148_0082
Photo:	
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31. Appendix 10 Quartz Stones



ID No:	1080
Photo No:	148_0034
Photo:	
Notes	







ID No:	1084
Photo No:	148_0038
Photo:	
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ID No: Photo No:	1088 148_0042
Photo:	
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ID No:	1089
Photo No:	148_0043
Photo:	
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ID No:	1094
Photo No:	148_0048
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ID No:	1095
Photo No:	148_0049
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