

Project code: KCCG11
Client: Kerry County Council
Date: June 2011

Archaeological Survey of Kilmore Burial Ground, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry.

Surveyors: Ann Frykler & Robert Hanbidge
Report Author: Robert Hanbidge

Project code: KCCG11
Client: Kerry County Council
Date: July 2011

Archaeological Survey of Kilmore Burial Ground, Ballyduff, Co. Kerry.

Surveyors: Ann Frykler & Robert Hanbidge
Report Author: Robert Hanbidge
Report Status: Final

CONTENTS	Page
SUMMARY	3
1 INTRODUCTION	4
2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	5
3 METHODOLOGY	6
4 THE RESULTS	7
4.1 Boundaries	7
4.2 Entrance	7
4.3 Pathways	8
4.4 Desire Lines	8
4.5 Named Headstones and Plots	8
4.6 Unnamed Headstones and Plots	8
4.7 Unnamed Gravemarkers	9
4.8 Miscellaneous Items	9
4.8 (i) Possible Bullaun Stone	9
4.8 (ii) Miscellaneous Items	9
5 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT/ CONSERVATION	10
BIBLIOGRAPHY	11

FIGURES

Figure 1	Site location map extract with RMP sites
Figure 2	Extract from OS 1st Edition 1846, Sheet 009
Figure 3	Extract from OS 2nd Edition 1898, Sheet 009-02
Figure 4	Archaeological Survey Plan of Kilmore Graveyard

PLATES

Plate 1	General View of Graveyard from southeast
Plate 2	View of seating area from southwest
Plate 3	Exterior view of western boundary wall, from southwest
Plate 4	Interior view of eastern boundary wall, from southwest
Plate 5	Interior view of northern boundary wall from northwest
Plate 6	Interior view of western boundary wall
Plate 7	Interior view of southern boundary wall, from northeast
Plate 8	Exterior view of northern boundary wall from northeast
Plate 9	View of entrance from east
Plate 10	Detail to plaque flanking entrance from east
Plate 11	Grave No.1, from east
Plate 12	Grave No. 7, from east
Plate 13	View of possible font-bullaun (Miscellaneous No. 02), from northwest
Plate 14	View of memorial cross (Miscellaneous No. 01) from south

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Named Graves
Appendix 2	Unnamed Graves
Appendix 3	Unnamed Tombs
Appendix 4	Miscellaneous Items
Appendix 5	Attached DVD

SUMMARY

Townland:	Kilmore
Parish:	Killury/Causeway
Barony:	Iraghticonnor
Local name of graveyard:	Kilmore Burial Ground also knows as “the Cillín”
NGR:	84679/137748
RMP No.:	KE009-002
No. of named tombs:	0
No. of unnamed tombs:	0
No. of lintelled graves:	0
No. of named headstones and plots:	1
No. of unnamed headstones and plots:	0
No. of named gravemarkers:	0
No. of unnamed gravemarkers:	19
No. of architectural fragments:	0
No. of cross slabs:	0
No. of font/bullaun stones:	1
No of miscellaneous items:	1

1 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological survey conducted at Kilmore Burial Ground/ The Cillín, Ballyduff, Co. Kerry (NGR: 84679/137748) (Figure 1). The work was undertaken on behalf of Kerry County Council, in accordance with survey specifications provided by the client.

The report comprises a detailed survey including boundaries, location of paths and desire lines, gravemarkers, tombs, architectural fragments, remains of churches or buildings, dangerous areas of ground collapse and a photographic survey of headstones and gravemarkers linked back to survey drawings. Also included are written descriptions of buildings, cross-slabs and early enclosures; statements on the condition of buildings; suggested suitable/necessary remedial action that may be needed to secure these structures; breaches of the boundary walls, open or collapsed tombs and the condition of paths and entrance gates. A photographic survey of damaged and dangerous structures or features is also included.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Kilmore Graveyard also known as the 'Cillín' (Plate 1) is located within the townland of Kilmore, Co. Kerry, situated approximately 4 km to the southwest of Ballybunion and approximately 4 km to the northwest of the village of Ballyduff. The surrounding land is relatively flat with the notable visible rise in the landscape which includes Knockanore Mountain situated approximately 8 km to the northeast.

The graveyard is located on the coast at the point where a small unnamed stream enters the sea. During high tide the seawater covers almost half of the seaward facing boundary wall. The graveyard is recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as KE009-002.

The graveyard has a sub-rectangular shape in plan. The majority of the boundary walls are constructed from rubblestone, however the seaward facing sides have been reinforced with render battering at the base. Concrete steps to the east of the boundary wall give access to the beach.

A seating area is provided overlooking the beach to the east of the graveyard (Plate 2).

Only one definite headstone with an associated plot was visible, and this did not have a visible inscription surviving. No other inscribed graves were present and therefore it not possible to ascertain the oldest grave present. According to locals there is an associated record book for the graveyard which holds information on those interred within the burial ground. There is also local knowledge of those interred in the graveyard.

One internet reference from the Kerryman Newspaper mentions Alfred Faulkner Wheelhouse, a Junior 7th Engineer in the Mercantile Marine on board the S.S Lusitania. He was killed when the Lusitania was sunk by a German submarine in 1915. The website refers to his parents Matilda Wheelhouse and Frederick Faulkner Wheelhouse, buried within 'Kilmore Burial Ground, Near Ballyduff' (www.kerrylibrary.ie).

3 METHODOLOGY

The site survey was carried out on 18 May 2011 by a team of two surveyors.

An electronic survey was conducted on the Irish National Grid using a Trimble GPS& GLONASS R6 base and rover. The GPS was supplemented with a Leica TCR407 Total Station and Panasonic Toughbook Rugged Tablet PC with Penmap software when necessary due to tree cover and any resulting loss in GPS signal. All grave plots, gravemarkers, headstones and tombs were surveyed in plan as were any structural remains, boundary walls, openings, paths and desire lines. Finished survey files were exported to AutoCAD where final edits were made. A digital copy of the drawings is provided on DVD (Appendix 5).

Individual graves and/or associated markers or headstones were assigned a unique grave number on the digital survey whether the latter was being carried out using GPS or with a Total Station and Panasonic Toughbook. This unique grave number is also used to in to identify the individual graves within the database (see below).

The photographic elements of the survey were accomplished using a Canon Power Shot A650 IS digital camera. The camera was set to assign a consecutive sequence of unique photo numbers throughout the survey. These numbers were cross-referenced with unique database entries and in a hard copy photo register. The photographic survey encompassed all extant structures/remains, boundaries, entrance gates, damaged/dangerous structures or features as well as individual graves and grave furniture. All photographs are provided on DVD (Appendix 5).

All descriptive data relating to the survey was entered into a custom-designed Microsoft Access relational database, which comprises of four linked tables. One table relates to the graveyard, one to the individual graves within it and one to all other significant features surveyed within that graveyard; the final table is a register of all photographs. The database allows all relevant information for the graveyard (and its internal features) to be linked together; entries can also be queried by item type e.g. named and unnamed, tombs, headstone, gravemarker, miscellaneous. Appendices have been generated automatically from the database using filtered reports.

The descriptions throughout the database and within this report were compiled using standard National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) terminology and methodology where suitable, with guidelines and techniques from other established UK and Irish government sources being respected throughout (RCHME 1996; DEHLG 2001; RCAHMS 2004; EH 2004 and 2006; NIAH 2006). In addition, terminology and methodology was cross referenced to standard texts of buildings archaeology and architectural history (Robertson 1990; Curl 1999; Morris 2000).

4 THE RESULTS

4.1 Boundaries

The boundary walls surrounding the graveyard are of roughly dressed mortared rubble stone with rubble stone coping (Plates 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7). However there are parts of the wall where inappropriate rendering, containing large aggregates has been applied (Plate 6). The northern boundary wall has been reinforced with render and has a substantial base batter on the seaward facing sides to diffuse the wave power which impacts there (Plate 8).

For the most part the boundary walls survive in good condition.

Recommendations

Continued maintenance of the walls using materials and skills which are sympathetic to the character of the historic rubblestone walls.

Spraying or broadcast application of herbicides on the walls must be avoided. Spot-spraying can be used to control noxious weeds but the cheapest and most wildlife-friendly solution is to manually clip any rambling weeds such as brambles, ivy, etc. on the walls. The "Guidance for the Care Conservation and Recording of Historic Graveyards" issued by the Heritage Council (2010) states the following:

"Spraying of herbicides to control weeds or grass is very undesirable as it kills native plants and the insects that live on them and may poison birds and animals that either come in contact with the chemicals or eat seeds and insects that have been sprayed. These chemicals can also cause pollution of streams by being washed into nearby drains, As most historic graveyards are relatively small in area it is usually feasible to use more environmentally-friendly plant control methods such as hoeing or digging or pouring on boiling water. Boiling water should not be used on or very close to graves or headstones."

4.2 Entrance

Access to the graveyard is through a small pedestrian entrance which is situated within the eastern boundary wall.

This entrance consists of square-profile dressed rubblestone and tooled limestone gate piers with dressed rubble limestone coping that support a recent single-leaf timber battened gate with a central cross motif (Plate 9). Unfortunately this gate was locked at the time this survey was carried out. Entrance to the graveyard is only possible through a historic stile which is located immediately to the south of this entrance. This stile is comprised of projecting flagstones protruding from the wall in both the east and west elevations, which form steps to provide access over the wall (Plates 4 and 8).

Recommendations

The development of a more suitable method of securing the graveyard which would enable the unlocking of the gate would vastly improve access. Though the stile is usable, this method of entering the graveyard is hazardous and is not suited to everyone. Access via the gate would allow for a

greater number of visitors to the graveyard. The area is frequented by many tourists who access the beach beside the graveyard.

4.3 Pathways

There is one primary pathway which partially extends around the edge of the graveyard (Plate 4). This pathway has a partial gravel surface.

Recommendations

The replenishment of gravel on the pathways would greatly enhance the visual appeal of the graveyard and would also help in preventing weed growth on the paths. This would also negate the requirement for herbicide use on the paths.

Spraying or broadcast application of herbicides on the paths must be avoided. Spot-spraying can be used to control noxious weeds but the cheapest and most wildlife-friendly solution is to manually clip any rambling weeds such as brambles, ivy, etc. around the walls.

4.4 Desire lines

There are no desire lines at Kilmore Graveyard.

4.5 Named Headstones and Plots

Only one named headstone with an associated plot (Grave No. 1) was recorded within Kilmore Burial Ground.

The plot at Grave No. 1 is constructed from low render enclosing walls with an associated iron reinforced render headstone (Plate 11). The plot survives in poor condition; it appears that the plot may have been deliberately destroyed considering the ruined nature of the plinths, rendered basin and headstone. According to locals, this grave belongs to a young girl from the Traveller community with the family name 'Spring'.

Recommendations

Restoration of the plot and the installation of a new headstone would greatly enhance the appearance of the graveyard and would be respectful to the young girl buried here. Any such works should be aware of the high potential for the discovery of further human remains. Any ground works should be conducted under the supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist particularly given the potential for the uncovering of children's remains, which can be difficult to distinguish.

4.6 Unnamed Headstones and Plots

There were no visible unnamed headstones or defined unnamed plots identifiable on the surface of Kilmore Burial Ground. However according to locals there is a child from the Keating Family buried in the north-western corner of the graveyard.

Recommendations

The erection of a plaque to inform visitors would be the most unproblematic method of recognising those interred within the graveyard and would result in no disturbance to the ground.

Continued maintenance of the graveyard.

4.7 Unnamed Gravemarkers

There are 19 unnamed gravemarkers within Kilmore Burial Ground. All of these consist of simple locally sourced stone, usually beech cobbles or split stone slabs which are placed in the ground e.g. Grave No. 7 (Plate 12). The majority of these gravemarkers were in good condition.

Recommendations

Continue graveyard maintenance to ensure gravemarkers remain visible.

4.8 Miscellaneous Items:

4.8 (i) Possible Bullaun Stone

Miscellaneous No. 02: Situated outside the graveyard on the beach to the west a possible font/bullaun (Plate 13) is located in the tidal zone. This font/bullaun is situated on the edge of a medium sized earth fast boulder. The font is medium sized measuring approximately 20 cm both in diameter and depth. Given the location of this feature in close proximity to a graveyard, it is likely that this is indeed an archaeological object. However there is some potential that it is natural given its location on a stony tidal beach. Water movement can cause smaller stones to spin in a natural depression on larger rocks, a process which is known to have caused natural basins that resemble archaeological font/bullauns. Further investigation is required to establish the archaeological potential of this feature.

4.8 (ii) Miscellaneous Items

Miscellaneous No. 01: Mounted on the interior of the northern boundary wall was a large white memorial cross (Plate 14). The positioning of the cross on the seaward facing boundary is also significant, as its outline would be clearly visible against the landscape if viewed from the sea.

5 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT/ CONSERVATION

The following recommendations are made in relation to the on-going and future management and conservation of the graveyard at Kilmore Graveyard:

- The broadcast application of weed killers to aid in preventing weed growth to the walls and paths of this graveyard should be avoided. The fresh application of herbicides to the walls, considering the only entrance is through a stile, puts the unknowing visitor in direct contact with the sprayed surface which could lead to health issues.
- The replenishment of gravel on the pathways would greatly benefit the grounds.
- Restoration of the only plot and headstone at Grave No. 1 would enhance the appearance of the graveyard and ensure that the burial is commemorated.
- The publication: The care and conservation of graveyards by the Office of Public Works should be consulted prior to any maintenance work on the burial grounds being carried out.
- An information board presenting historical and archaeological information would make an excellent addition to the site.
- An information board on the possible dangers associated with site including the cliff faces and the hazards of the stile would be of benefit. The inclusion of a tide timetable and the instalment of a life buoy close to the graveyard are also necessary.
- Any proposed ground works should be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Curl, J. S. 1999 *Dictionary of architecture*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Dept of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2005 *Architectural heritage protection – guidelines for planning authorities*. Stationery Office, Dublin.

Dept of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2001 *Architectural heritage protection – guidelines for planning authorities*. DRAFT.

English Heritage 2004 *Measured and drawn – techniques and practices for the metric survey of historic buildings*. English Heritage, London.

English Heritage 2006 *Understanding historic buildings*. English Heritage, Swindon.

Heritage Council, 2010 *Guidance for the Care Conservation and Recording of Historic Graveyards* [online]. Available:

http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/events/heritage-council-corporate-events/view-event/article/guidance-for-the-care-conservation-and-recording-of-historic-graveyards/?tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=6&cHash=d796785fc7 {accessed 09 June 2011}

Morris, R.K. 2000 *The archaeology of buildings*. Tempus, Stroud.

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage 2006 *National Inventory of Architectural Heritage handbook*. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin.

National Inventory Architectural Heritage 2011 *County Survey Index* [online]. Available: <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/Surveys/Buildings/CountySurveyIndex/> [Accessed: 19 June 2011]

Office of Public Works 1995 *The care and conservation of graveyards*. Stationery Office, Dublin.

RCAHMS 2004 *Survey and recording policy*. RCAHMS, Edinburgh.

RCHME 1996 *Recording historic buildings – a descriptive specification*. RCHME, London.

Robertson, B. and White, A. 1990 *Architecture and ornament: a visual guide*. Design Press, New York.

Internet Resources

<http://www.kerrylibrary.ie/www1w.asp> (Accessed 18 June 2011)



Figure 1. Kilmore: Site location map extract with RMP sites.



Figure 2 - Kilmore Graveyard, Extract from OS 1st Edition 1846, Sheet 009



Figure 3 - Kilmore Graveyard, Extract from OS 2nd Edition 1898, Sheet 009-02

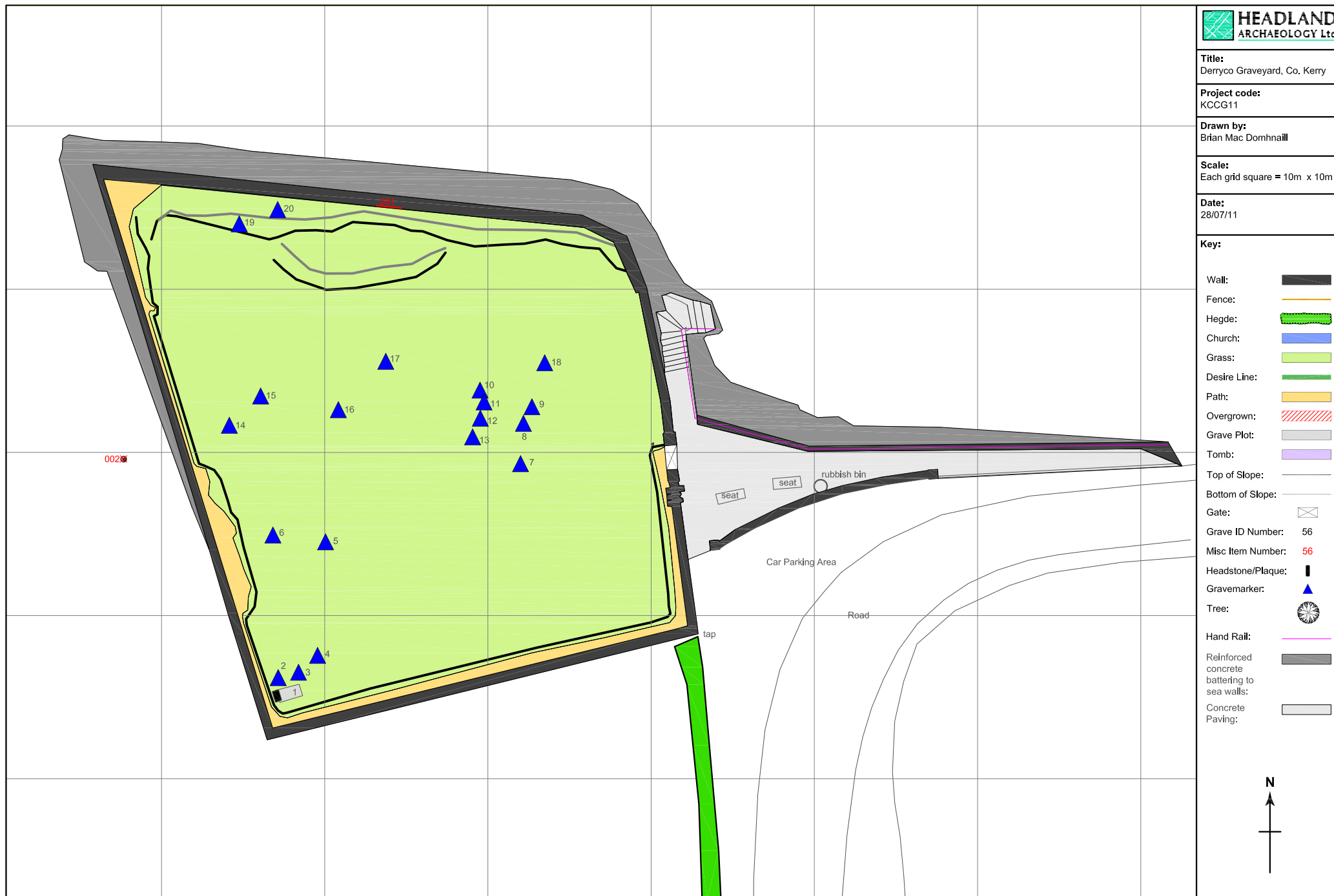


Figure 4 -Archaeological survey plan of Kilmore Graveyard, 2011.



Plate 1-General View of Graveyard from southeast



Plate 2-View of seating area from southwest



Plate 3-Exterior view of western boundary wall, from southwest



Plate 4-Interior view of eastern boundary wall, from southwest



Plate 5-Interior view of northern boundary wall from northwest



Plate 6-Interior view of western boundary wall



Plate 7-Interior view of southern boundary wall, from northeast



Plate 8-Exterior view of northern boundary wall from northeast



Plate 9-View of entrance from east



Plate 10-Detail to plaque flanking entrance from east



Plate 11-Grave No.1, from east



Plate 12-Grave No. 7, from east




Plate 13-View of possible font-bullaun (Miscellaneous No. 02), from northwest



Plate 14-View of memorial cross (Miscellaneous No. 01) from south

Appendix 1 - Named Graves

Grave_Type		Headstone
Grave_No	Family Name	Photo_Name
1	Spring	IMG_0001
Notes		
Broken headstone		
		

Appendix 2 - Unnamed Graves

Grave_Type	Gravemarker	
	Grave_No	Notes
	2	Single gravemarker
	3	Single gravemarker
	4	Single gravemarker
	5	Single gravemarker
	6	Single gravemarker
	7	Single gravemarker
	8	Single gravemarker
	9	Single gravemarker
	10	Single gravemarker
	11	Single gravemarker
	12	Single gravemarker
	13	Single gravemarker
	14	Single gravemarker
	15	Single gravemarker
	16	Single gravemarker
	17	Single gravemarker
	18	Single gravemarker
	19	Single gravemarker
	20	Single gravemarker

Appendix 3 - Miscellaneous Items

Type	Bullaun Stone
------	---------------

Misc_Item_No	Photo_Name
2	IMG_0033

Notes

Possible bullaun stone, could have been created naturally. Located outside the boundaries of the graveyard and is submerged by the sea at high tides



Type	Miscellaneous
-------------	---------------

Misc Item No	Photo Name
1	IMG_0021
Notes	
Memorial cross on the north graveyard wall	
