Rathcoole Housing Development

Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
Appendix 13.1 – Heritage Gazetteers

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Appendix 13A Heritage Gazetteers

Table 1. Archaeological Monuments within Study Area

SMR No.	Type	Townland	Description	ITM E N
DU021-033	Redundant record	Rathcoole	According to Ua Broin (1943, 82) there was a curving depression on the commons land S of Rathcoole close to what he refers to as a winding passage. This feature he interpreted as the 'rath of cumhal'. The 'winding passage' is a naturally formed valley of a stream. There are no surface indications to suggest that there was any man-made feature here (Healy 1974, 24).	702406 726382
DU021-030006	Redundant record	Rathcoole	There is no evidence in file to corroborate this entry. Listed in RMP (1998) as 'Dwelling possible'. It may be based on the 17th Down Survey reference to four houses in 1655. The record has been re-assessed and the evidence is not adequate to include this site in the revised RMP (Geraldine Stout 08/12/2011).	702166 726778
DU021-030005	Graveslab	Rathcoole	Austin Cooper's mentions a second cross inscribed graveslab at Rathcoole church (DU021-030001-) (Price 1942, 54). The precise location of this monument is unknown.	702422 726827
DU021-030001	Church	Rathcoole	The present Church of Ireland is located on the crest of the early burial ground with the S, long side, of the church excavated into and standing below the surrounding ground level. To the S and W there are extensive views of the foothills of the Dublin mountains with views to the N and E somewhat restricted by adjacent buildings. The church occupies the site of medieval parish church which was assigned in the 13th century to St. Patrick's Cathedral (Ball 1905, 125). In 1630 the church was described as in 'good repair' (Ronan 1941, 72). As well as a very fine vault, several table tombs and grave-markers dating to the 18th and 19th century within the graveyard there is a granite stone cross (DU021-030003-) and holed stone (DU021-030006-) embedded in the ground surface, SE of the church. Austin Cooper's diaries from the 18th century (Price 1942, 54) also describes a graveslab decorated with an incised cross (DU021-03005-). The precise location of this monument is unknown. Rathcoole Church site was described by Ní Mharcaigh (1997, 275) as follows; 'There is now no trace of the medieval church of Rathcoole, and no account of its size or appearance can be traced. The site is now occupied by a small churchyard surrounding an eighteenth-century church. In the churchyard is an equal-armed granite cross, bearing worn concentric arcs'.	702427 726843
DU021-030009	Holed stone	Rathcoole	A holed stone located 6m NE of the granite cross (DU021-030004-) within the graveyard (DU021-030002-) at Rathcoole. The stone is embedded in a sloping ground surface to the SE of the church (DU021-030001-), There are with extensive views to the S and W but views to the N and E restricted by adjacent houses. It comprises a thin slab just 0.1m in depth, roughly shaped along its long edges but somewhat rounded at the top, measuring 0.73m in height, and 0.62m wide with a central sub-circular perforation (Wth 0.24m x H 0.2m).	702447 726839
DU021-030003	Cross-slab	Rathcoole	Cross-slab decorated with a ringed-cross which was later converted into a free-standing cross which resulted in the removal of the lower sections of the ringed-cross when the arms of the cross were created. Located in Rathcoole Church of Ireland graveyard (DU021-030002-) ESE of the medieval church site (DU021-030001) and lying just SSE of a holed stone. There are extensive views S and W to the foothills of the Dublin mountains with those to the N and E restricted with adjacent buildings. This granite cross measures 0.85m high and approximately 0.65m wide and 0.25m in depth with a broad shaft, wide top and shorter arms to both sides. First identified by Austin Cooper in 1780, according to Ó hÉailidhe (Swords 2009, 81) in antiquity an original graveslab (L.	702442 726836

			1.61m x 0.67m x 0.25m) was cut down to form a free-standing cross. Ó hÉailidhe compares it with his group B graveslabs - distinguished by the use of crosses with double raised rings (Ó hÉailidhe 1973) and dating to the 9th century. Considering the depth of the cross at Rathcoole and the similarity of its form to other comparable examples such as the undecorated cross at Newcastle it has been classified here as a cross rather than a graveslab. It comprises a Latin cross, orientated NE to SW with decoration on a single face, the NE one. The decoration is in low relief and comprises indistinct reliefs at the top of the stone and part of the cross centre with paired grooved arcs extending from the centre of the cross downwards towards the base of the cross arms - similar to the upper half of a ringed cross in low relief.	
DU021-030002	Graveyard	Rathcoole	This walled, roadside graveyard in Rathcoole village encloses the site of a medieval parish church (DU021-030001-). The ground surface within rises towards the N, with the current church set on and dug into the crest of the burial ground. As well as a fine vault, several table tombs, and gravemarkers dating to the 18th and 19th century within the graveyard there is a granite stone cross (DU021-030003) and holed stone (DU021-030) embedded in the ground surface both at the SE of the church. Austin Cooper's diaries from the 18th century (Price 1942, 54) also describes a stone with traces of a granite cross near a graveslab in the present C of I churchyard (DU021-03005-).	702444 726822
DU021-030008	Settlement cluster	Rathcoole	The borough of Rathcoole was established by the Archbishops of Dublin as early as 1242 (McNeill 1950, 67). An extent of 1326 states that there were 66 burgesses (ibid 183-4). The settlement form is linear and consists of a single main street. A triangular marketplace was located at the W end of this.	702018 726758

Source: National Monuments Service

Table 2. Protected Structures within Study Area

RPS No	Name/Address	Description
310	Church of Ireland, Rathcoole	Church, Graveyard & Walled Enclosure (RM)
311	Rathcoole Garda Station, Rathcoole	Detached Five-Bay Two-Storey Garda Station
312	Main Street, Rathcoole	Semi Detached Three Bay Single Storey House
316	Rathcoole Health Centre, Rathcoole	Detached Five Bay Two Storey House
305	Rathcoole House, Main Street, Rathcoole	House, & Adjacent Underground Passage
330	Former Paper Mill, Saggart	Chimney & Storage Building
332	Saggart	Mill Pond & Mill Tail Race

Source: South Dublin County Council

Table 3. Architectural Conservation Areas within Study Area

ACA No.	Name	ITM E N
ACA001	Rathcoole Village	702098 726765

Source: South Dublin County Council

Table 4. NIAH structures within Study Area

NIAH No	Townland	Description	Appraisal	Date	Rating
11213019	Rathcoole	Semi-detached three-bay two-storey house, c.1840. uPVC casement windows, one in enlarged opening. uPVC door. Roughcast rendered walls with smooth rendered base course. Hipped artificial slate roof with central smooth rendered chimney stack.	This house forms a strong group with its eastern neighbour, retaining much original fabric and showing the former character of the village street, with street-fronted dwellings lacking any parallel commercial usage.	1840	Regional
11213020	Rathcoole	Semi-detached four-bay two-storey house, c.1840, now unoccupied. Smooth rendered walls. Boarded-up windows and doors. Hipped slate roof with brick chimney stack. Ruined outbuilding to north.	This house forms a strong group with its western neighbour, retaining much original fabric and showing the former character of the village street, with street-fronted dwellings lacking any parallel commercial usage.	1840	Regional
11213021	Rathcoole	Semi-detached three-bay single-storey house, c.1820. Metal casement windows. Timber door. Smooth rendered walls with smooth rendered base course. Pitched slate roof with red brick chimney stack.	Though partly refurbished, this house adds welcome variety to the streetscape due to its modest size and continuity of use as a dwelling.	1820	Regional
11213022	Rathcoole	Semi-detached three-bay single-storey house, c.1820. Painted rubble walls with smooth rendered base course. Boarded-up windows and doors. Pitched slate roof with smooth rendered chimney stack. Rubble wall to north.	Though in poor condition, the retention of its original proportions and many materials makes this house an important reminder of how the streetscape of Rathcoole has changed with time.	1820	Regional
11213029	Rathcoole	Detached five-bay two-storey Garda Síochána station, c.1930. Roughcast rendered walls with smooth rendered base course. uPVC casement windows. The centre three bays to the ground floor have round-headed blind recesses, with door to each east and west bay set back in a recessed porch with render surround. Hipped slate roof with smooth rendered chimney stack. Flat-roofed extensions to rear. Traditional cast-iron Garda Station street lamp in front lawn.	This traditional-style Garda Síochána station is attributed to T.F. O. Rippingham on stylistic grounds. Rippingham worked as an architect with the Ministry of Finance, Northern Ireland from 1922, having previously worked for the Office of Works in London. It is possible that the design was originally prepared by him but it was built by the Free State government after the Treaty. It is a fine example of a type used throughout the 1920 and 30s for police stations in Ireland, carefully proportioned with simple attractive ground floor detail.	1930	Regional

11213028	Rathcoole	Cast-iron vent pipe, c.1880, with fluted base, slender shaft and crown cap, located to roadside.	Prominently set at side of road, this cast-iron vent pipe adds variety to the streetscape. An increasingly rare element of the suburban fabric, particularly in such an intact state.	1880	Regional
11213025	Rathcoole	Detached single-cell gable-fronted Church of Ireland church, c.1740. Two-bay nave, three-bay west front with simple gable bellcote. Roughcast rendered walls with brick eaves and large granite footing. Double lancet diamond-paned stained glass windows set in segmental-arched surrounds to sides. Double lancet stained glass window set in a roll-moulded round-headed surround to east end. Timber tongue and groove door, with quatrefoil opening over and single lancets flanking, all with diamond-paned casement windows. To south elevation, small plaque near base of wall as a memorial to the remains of the son of the Earl of Meath, dated 1764. Pitched slate roof with raised gables. Plain barrel-vaulted interior with timber pews and pulpit, and polychrome tiled floor. Graveyard surrounding with gravestones dating from the late eighteenth century to the 1990s, and large yew tree. Boundary wall of stone rubble.	This Anglican church and surrounding graveyard have a commanding position above the road. The simple design and minimal enrichments show it to be a fine example of an eighteenth-century Anglican Church, enhanced by the well-maintained surroundings and, in particular, the Kennedy Family tomb to the north.	1740	Regional
11213026	Rathcoole	Detached single-cell gable-fronted mausoleum, built 1828. Snecked limestone walls with granite pilasters, the east and west have gabled pediments above, both with stone cross finials. A recessed cast-iron door leads into the tomb from the west and is set in a splayed surround of smooth limestone, to the north of which are the inscriptions of the names of those interred within, dating from 1828 to 1974. Above the door is a detailed carving of the coat-of-arms of the Kennedy Family. To the east is a partly recessed brick-dressed segmental-arched high set window.	This family tomb is set in a very commanding position within the churchyard and is easily seen from the main road, which hints to the status of the Kennedy family within the Rathcoole area. This elaborate piece of architecture to the north of the Church has been very well executed with the gabled pediments echoing the church. The memorial plaque with its collection of inscriptions is a highly unusual feature, not only of significant historical importance, but also as a testament to the stone carver's craft through history.	1828	Regional
11213027	Rathcoole	Detached five-bay two-storey over basement farmhouse, extant 1798, on a T-shaped plan; single-bay (single-bay deep) two-storey central return (north) on a bowed plan. Sold, 1831. Occupied, 1901; 1911. Sold, 1952. Resold, 1962. Now disused. Hipped slate roof on a T-shaped plan centred on half-conical slate roof (north), clay ridge tiles, paired roughcast central chimney stacks (north) on axis with ridge having capping supporting terracotta pots, and replacement uPVC rainwater goods on sawn-off paired timber consoles retaining cast-iron downpipes. Roughcast walls on cut-granite chamfered cushion course on roughcast plinth with rusticated cut-granite quoins to corners; rendered, ruled and lined surface finish (side elevations). Segmental-headed central door opening with remains of cut-granite step threshold, doorcase with paired stop fluted Ionic columns supporting dentilated cornice on blind frieze and moulded rendered surround framing temporary	A farmhouse erected by ---- Clinch representing an important component of the eighteenth-century domestic built heritage of Rathcoole with the architectural value of the composition confirmed by such attributes as the symmetrical footprint centred on a Classically-detailed doorcase showing the wire work of a pretty "peacock tail" fanlight; the diminishing in scale of the openings on each floor producing a graduated visual impression; and the remnants of coupled timber work embellishing the roof. A prolonged period of neglect notwithstanding, the form and massing survive intact together with quantities of the original fabric, both to the exterior and to the interior where contemporary joinery; and decorative plasterwork enrichments, all highlight the artistic potential of a farmhouse having historic connections with the Clinch family including John Clinch (1780-98) who was 'charged with being an officer in the rebel army [during the 1798 Rebellions]...convicted and executed' (The Freeman's	1798	Regional

		fitting retaining fanlight. Square-headed window openings with cut-granite sills, and concealed dressings framing temporary fitting replacing six-over-six timber sash windows. Square-headed window openings (north) centred on round-headed window opening with cut-granite sills, and concealed dressings framing temporary fittings replacing six-over-six timber sash windows centred on six-over-six timber sash window having fanlight. Set in unkempt grounds with rear (north) elevation fronting on to road.	Journal 2nd June 1798); and the Sheil family including Patrick Sheil (1756-1840); James Sheil Senior (1796-1876) 'late of Rathcoole House Rathcoole County Dublin' (Calendars of Wills and Administrations 1876, 656); and James Sheil Junior (1840-94) 'late of Rathcoole House Rathcoole County Dublin' (Calendars of Wills and Administrations 1894, 806).		
11213030	Rathcoole	Cast-iron hydrant, c.1860. Fluted shaft and domed cap. Decorative lion's head motif above make's mark. Painted green.	Prominently set at side of road, this standard type cast-iron hydrant is a pleasing addition to the streetscape.	1860	Regional

Source: National Built Heritage Service

Table 5. Previous Archaeological Investigations within Study Area

Licence No	Site	SMR No	Type	Period	ITM
02E1037	SAGGART: Gort Mhuire, Main Street	N/A	No archaeology found	N/A	702476 726530
02E1651	RATHCOOLE: 26 Beechwood Lawns	N/A	Town	Modern (AD 1750-AD 2000)	702604 726762
03E0846	RATHCOOLE	N/A	No archaeology found	N/A	702215 726792
02E0081	RATHCOOLE: Main Street	SMR 21:30	No archaeology found	N/A	702309 726830
14E0457	Rathcoole House, Main Street, Rathcoole	DU021-030	Medieval pits	—	702472 726886
07E1080	RATHCOOLE: Rathcoole House	DU021–030	Settlement cluster, Church, Graveyard and House - 17th century	Post Medieval (AD 1600-AD 1750)	702476 726889
18E0245	Main Street, Saggart	DU021-034	No archaeology found	N/A	703261 726643
24E1200	Rathcoole ETNS	N/A	No archaeology found	N/A	702530 726621

Source: excavations.ie