

The Heritage of Delgany, Co. Wicklow

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For

Delgany Community Council

Supported by

funding assistance from The Heritage Council



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



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Cover image: The 'Hamlet of Delgany', from the *Tourists' Illustrated Handbook for Ireland*, 1859

Executive Summary

This heritage research and survey has been compiled for Delgany Community Council to assist with the preparation of a Community-led Village Design Statement (VDS) for the village of Delgany, Co. Wicklow. It has been supported by funding assistance from The Heritage Council. In accordance with the approach described in the Heritage Council's Community-led VDS Toolkit the research addresses the requirements of Step 1 of the Toolkit by examining the history and evolution of Delgany and identifying its heritage features.

Delgany is a small nucleated village built into the hillside overlooking the Three Trouts Stream River Valley and Drummin Hill to the south. It has distinct and strong historic character as a result of continuous human occupation from at least the early Christian period up to modern times, comprising ritual, settlement, ecclesiastical and landscape design activity. Its early monastic origins are reflected in the curving street pattern, with all roads radiating from the monastic core. It was established as a village under the patronage of the La Touche family of Bellevue and later by local clergymen and the Carmelite nuns and a supporting local population, their influence reflected in the historically important buildings dating from late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and the everyday vernacular features such as the village pump, numerous cottages, high stone walls and other discrete surviving remnants of the past such as high boundary walls, granite kerbstones, a wheel guard, a mushroom stone and granite piers and capstones. These features and their setting contribute to the Delgany's intrinsic character.

Delgany's unique character is recognised by its designation as an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) in the Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013-2019 which comprises the larger part of the existing village core. The ACA statement of character captures the character of the village:

The character of Delgany Village is of local historical interest containing many historical buildings and features. The village is also of considerable social and cultural interest within the settlement of Greystones-Delgany as a distinctive and attractive place. The buildings within Delgany Village do not follow any formal geometric layout, but rather adhere to the contours of the land and the alignment of the old roads. The southern edge of the village street is largely undeveloped and open with some views to the south through and over wooded lands.

The village of Delgany is set on steep slope which rises up from the Three Trout's Valley. The village buildings are principally located on the northern side of the street with south facing aspect overlooking the Three Trout's Valley. The ground rises to the north behind the village. Many of the buildings sit on large plots with considerable lands to the rear. Some of these lands are currently used for off-street parking or consist of large private gardens. The burial ground associated with Christ Church, Delgany is a Recorded Monument and represents an important publicly accessible green space in the village.

Stylebawn House, The Rectory and Westgate have notable private gardens.

The ensemble of buildings does not represent a limited or homogenous style, but a diverse yet harmonious collection of rubble wall and rendered two storey buildings in a vernacular style. The village contains a number of Victorian style shop fronts that were inserted into the original elevations. The two churches were constructed of cut stone with high degrees of ornamentation in a gothic revival style.

(See Appendix 1 for full text)

In a rapidly changing environment, historic villages have a cultural significance which is important to be passed onto our successors and warrant protection. All parties involved in development of the Delgany must regard the ACA and the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage features within it as a unique and special non-renewable resource. It must be ensured that new development contributes in a positive manner to the historical layout and streetscape and that the integrity of its setting must be regarded as an integral part of the existing environment that is to be rigorously enhanced, protected and managed.

It is the unique character that the people of Delgany wish to protect and enhance through the development of a Community-led VDS. Ultimately the Community-led VDS will be used as a guide to sensitive, good quality development, which will enhance both the historical character of the area and the amenity of those who enjoy it.

The success of the Community-led VDS will be marked by an integrated understanding (amongst the local authority, planners, developers and locals), appreciation and respect of the unique archaeological elements and cultural heritage significance of Delgany Village.

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Introduction

This heritage research and survey of the village of Delgany was undertaken by Bryn Coldrick (Amergin Heritage) and Siobhan Deery of Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Limited to assist the Delgany community with the preparation of a Community-led Village Design Statement (VDS) for their village. In accordance with the approach described in the Heritage Council's Community-led VDS Toolkit, the research addresses the requirements of Step 1 of the Toolkit by examining the history and evolution of Delgany and identifying its heritage features.

The archaeological and historical desk study draws on material previously compiled by the Delgany community, Judith Flannery's history of the parish (Flannery 1990) and on traveller accounts and research in gazettes, newspaper archives and other sources. The study sets out a summary of the town's archaeology, its historical development and explores its surviving historic environment. A walk over survey of the village was also carried out to assess present topography and land use within the village and to identify any non-designated archaeological or cultural heritage features with little surface expression.

Delgany is located in County Wicklow between the Glen of the Downs and Greystones, overlooking the Three Trout River valley. Flannery describes Delgany as "one of the prettiest villages in all Co. Wicklow" (Flannery 1990:9), while others have referred to it as "an archetypal rural enclave", "a village of character", "an attractive old world village with charm and rural atmosphere", and "a Heritage landmark". Adjectives such as "ancient" and "historic" are regularly applied. As we will see, these accolades are not new, as nineteenth- and early twentieth-century directories, tourist handbooks and advertisements also referred to Delgany as a "charming little village", "a pretty hamlet", "an attractive village", "the romantic Village of Delgany", "the picturesque Village of Delgany" and so on.¹

¹ From *Slater's Directory* (1846), the *Tourists' Illustrated Handbook for Ireland* (1859), *Thom's Directory* (1921), *Saunders Newsletter* (08/03/1809) and *Saunders Newsletter* (13/02/1828) respectively.

Historical Overview

Origins and Early History

There is some evidence indicating Neolithic and Bronze Age activity in the area between Delgany and Arklow. However, it would appear that the story of Delgany really begins in the Early Christian period when a religious cell was reputedly established here by St Mochorog, a Welsh missionary of royal British and Saxon descent. Flannery (1990) and others have noted that, according to the *Annals of the Four Masters*, this establishment was known as *Derge* (or *Dergne*) *Mogorog*.

The name *Derge* or *Dergne*, in which the ‘r’ is interchangeable with the letter ‘l’, reportedly means a red spot, and is reputed to derive from the colour of the local soil (Flannery 1990:13; see also *Thom’s Directory*, 1921). Flannery notes that there have been more than 30 variations of the name and its spelling over the years including *Deirgni*, *Delgenye*, *Tempall Delgne*, *Delganny*, and finally *Delgany* (Flannery 1990:12), to which we could add *Deloney*, *Dilling and Delling* (Civil Survey and Down Survey, 1650s; see Figure 8) and *Delgenny* (Taylor & Skinner 1777; Figure 18).

In 1838, the Ordnance Survey surveyor Eugene Curry (or O’Curry) noted that the present name is a variation of the original, which was *Deilginis* (“literally, the Island of Thorns”) but that “the place itself is totally annihilated” (Corlett & Mendlycott 2000:27). According to Curry, the Four Masters recorded that “Dun Deilginsi in the Country of Cualann was erected by Sedgha, one of the Milesian Chiefs” and that during an attack on Dublin by the Gaels in AD942 survivors “escaped in a few vessels to Deilginis”. Curry argues that this proves that *Deilginis* was an island, and says that locals pointed out to him some breakers about four miles east of Greystones which they referred to as “Delgany Bank”. He also noted “a dim tradition that there was a town called Delgany ... [that] was all swept away by the sea and that no one knows where it stood” (Corlett & Mendlycott 2000:27). Flannery rejects Curry’s association of *Deilginis* with modern Delgany, however, concluding “... it is now accepted that ancient Deilginis is Dalkey, not Delgany” (Flannery 1990:13).

Ecclesiastical Foundation

The exact date of St Mochorog’s establishment at Delgany would also appear to be uncertain, with writers variously attributing it to the late fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth centuries. Wright (1822) says that Mochorog “flourished about the year 492” (Wright 1822:43–44; see also Lewis (1840) and the *Tourists’ Handbook for Ireland*, 1859:18). However, Mochorog is also reputed to have given the last rites to St Kevin of Glendalough in AD618, which would make him about 150 years old at the time! Flannery puts his time in Delgany in the late sixth or early seventh century, a time when the present county of Wicklow was part of the territory of Hy-Bruin-Chulan (Flannery 1990:13).

According to tradition, Mochorog’s cell, which was one of several ancient cells and churches within a short distance, developed into a monastery and is apparently mentioned in the *Annals of Ulster*, *Martyrology of Tallaght* and *Annals of Lough Key*. Its precise location is unknown, but it is believed to have been in the vicinity of the old churchyard. The site of the foundation (RMP ref: WI013-004001) is located on a gentle south facing slope, below

the 60m contour line, overlooking the Three Trouts Stream valley. There is no trace of Mochorog's early church (which is likely to have been made of oak) or any later monastic buildings (Flannery 1990:14).

The oldest antiquity in Delgany is believed to be the granite cross shaft which stands in the old graveyard and is known locally as "the King's stone". The shaft is from a high cross, the head of which is missing, and it is attributed to the seventh century. It bears an inscription which is now partly indecipherable. Luckily, a rubbing made in 1871 recorded the inscription, which is a prayer in old Irish: *Ordo Dicu Ocus Maelo Dran Sair* ("Pray for Dicu and Maelodran the wright") (Flannery 1990:20). The archaeologist Christiaan Corlett postulates that these individuals may have commissioned and undertaken the erection of the cross or the building of a church at this site. It is situated to the north of the church and consists of the lower portion of the cross-shaft with rectangular section and chamfered edges (dimensions 1.87m; 0.47m x 0.3m)



Figure 1 Granite cross shaft

The ruins in the old graveyard are of a later nave (int. dims. 14m x 6.2m) and chancel church (int. dims. c. 7.4m x 4m), which Corlett considers to most likely be thirteenth-century and described by Curry as being "apparently of no great antiquity" (Corlett & Mendlycott 2000:27). Flannery writes that "If there was ever a monastery at Delgany it would probably have been destroyed at the time of the Reformation and consequent Suppression of the Monasteries, the stones being removed for use in other buildings" (Flannery 1990:20).



Figure 2 Ruins of the 13th century church

The trapezoidal graveyard (dims. 70m x (max.) 45m) is enclosed by a modern (nineteenth-century) wall, and contains several early eighteenth-century headstones.



Figure 3 An example of an early 18th century headstone

As well as the cross shaft, there is a large granite font in the old churchyard at Delgany that now forms part of a low wall outside the doorway of the church and which may be of antiquity. Furthermore, a bullaun stone comprising a large granite boulder with a small cup-shaped depression is also recorded nearby. Bullaun stones are

frequently associated with ecclesiastical sites and holy wells and may have been used for religious purposes.² There are also tantalising references to a subterranean passage that was apparently visible near the dispensary in Delgany as recently as 1878 that makes us wonder if there are souterrains here.³ In 1840, a holy water font was found embedded in the soil nearby and moved to Kilquade Chapel, and in 1872 a hoard of coins was apparently found by the side of Glen Road. The coins were mostly of the English kings of Mercia who ruled in the ninth century, and one was a Papal coin of Leo III (c.750–816) (Flannery 1990:15). Collectively, these finds suggest an active presence in Delgany during the Early Christian period.



Figure 4 Granite font in the old churchyard at Delgany

² SMR number Wl013-065 (www.archaeology.ie)

³ Souterrains are underground structures “consisting of one or more chambers connected by narrow passages or creepways, usually constructed of drystone-walling with a lintelled roof over the passages and a corbelled roof over the chambers. Most souterrains appear to have been built in the early medieval period by ringfort inhabitants (c. 500 - 1000 AD) as a defensive feature and/or for storage” (www.archaeology.ie). Interestingly, there are also traditions of tunnels associated with the old rectory, the old church and Style Bawn House at Delgany.

Streetscape- a footprint of the past

One of the notable characteristics of Delgany is its narrow curving street pattern and the numerous roads that converge on the village; these elements reflect its earliest origins and have for the most part survived the vicissitudes of time. The ecclesiastical foundation had primarily a sacred function as a monastic centre but also in essence would have been a catalyst for the social and economic development of the surrounding environment. The importance of Delgany as a focal point for ecclesiastical settlement is physically attested by the presence of the ancient road network of six roads (including potentially Blackberry Lane) that converges at the original ecclesiastical site.

It is also possible that an early ecclesiastical enclosure (within which lies the ecclesiastical remains) is reflected in the present curving pattern of Church Road. A former curving lane (now removed) further north, close to alignment of the present Bellview Lawn, may have represented the last vestiges of an outer enclosure (Fig. 1).



Figure 5 Possible alignment of an inner and outer enclosure around Delgany Church as indicated on the first edition OS map

Medieval Delgany

A major event associated with Delgany occurred in AD1021 or 1022, and took the form of a battle fought here between Ugain (or Ugaire), King of Leinster, and Sitric, the Danish king of Dublin, during which the latter was defeated (Lewis 1840).

This battle was recorded in the *Annals of Ulster*, and in the *Annals of the Four Masters* as “a great slaughter on Sitriuc [Sitric, or Sigtryggr, Danish king of Dublin], son of Aulaf, and the Danes of Dublin by Ugaire, son of Dunlang, King of Leinster, **at Dergna Mo Goroc** (S. Mogoroci) in Uí Briúin Cualan” (Ronan 1941:41; my emphasis). Apparently Sitric was on his way to attack Glendalough for the second time in four years when he was engaged at Delgany, and the event has prompted speculation that Sigtryggr (Sitric) had a stronghold in the area (Etchingham 1994:121; Price 1945-67: v. 5, 320-1, cited in Courtney Deery 2016). Another account records the event as “a slaughter of the foreigners in Uí Briúin Chualann”.

The territory of Uí Briúin Chualann extended from what is now south County Dublin into the Wicklow coastal lowlands as far as Newcastle (Simpson 1994), and the latter account may suggest that Viking settlers were dispersed throughout the region (Etchingham 1994:121; Courtney Deery 2016). Indeed, Price suggests that the region was “an area of Scandinavian settlement” (Price 1945:320). Interestingly, nearby placenames Windgate and Collagad may contain the Old Norse term *gata*, meaning ‘path’ or ‘road’, and it has been suggested that this could refer to an ancient route linking Bray and Delgany, and perhaps extending even to Arklow (Etchingham: 131; Price 1945-67, v. 5: 325). Flannery also states that “Delgany could be reached from Bray by an old Norse road which ran through the centre of the townland of Coolegad leading from Windgates past Templecarrig House to Kindlestown Castle and on to the village itself” (Flannery 1990:24).

Although the exact site of the Battle of Delgany is unknown, there are local stories about ghosts being seen on the road from Delgany to Blacklion.⁴ Flannery suggests that the engagement may have taken place on “the low hill-flanked valley of the Three Trout stream along the present Glen Road” (Flannery 1990:15).

No other major historical events appear to have been recorded in Delgany in the Middle Ages. Towards the end of the twelfth century, the area was apparently part of the patrimony of the Mac Giollamacholmog clan, along with Kellegar, Ballyman, Kilmaberne and Ballydonagh (Simpson 1994:193-94, cited in Courtney Deery 2016). This clan allied themselves with the Anglo-Norman invaders who took Dublin in 1171.⁵ Flannery notes that Ballydonagh or *Baile Uí Dhunchadha*, part of which would later become Bellevue Demesne, had been the territory of the O’Donchadhas “who were the principal clan in the area in pre-Norman days” (Flannery 1990:45). In 1241, the lands of Delgany in the Barony of Rathdown were held by Henry Prudum or Prodholme from the Archbishop of Dublin. Forty years later, the “Ecclesia de Delgeney” (the church of Delgany) was under the charge of Dominus Johannes Patrick, under the patronage of the Archbishop of Dublin (Flannery 1990:16).

By the beginning of the fourteenth century, the senior branch of the O’Byrnes clan, known as the Crioch Branch, ruled the district east of the Avonmore from Delgany to the outskirts of Arklow. Around the same time (c.1315)

⁴ A Ramble Around Delgany.

⁵ Coillte Bellevue Nature Trail Leaflet.

the Archebolds, who had already settled around the area, occupied nearby Kindlestown Castle, and may have been subtenants under the sheriff of Kildare, Albert de Kenley (ibid: 193–94; see Simpson 2003)⁶.

According to Flannery, Delgany was held under the patronage of the Crown in the fourteenth century (Flannery 1990:18), and the earliest known vicar here was John Gerlund, who was given the living of Delgany in 1307. In 1403, it is recorded that King Richard had given the benefice of Delgany to William Payn (Flannery 1990:19). Delgany was apparently a centre of medieval settlement by this time.

Early Modern Times⁷

Following the Reformation, the Established Church took control of all the churches in the diocese, and Flannery states that this had a significant impact on Delgany. Although in 1531, Delgany was described as a “rectory and mother church” with five chapels in its parish, by 1630 the number of parishioners attending services at Delgany had “dwindled to a mere trickle” and the church had fallen into ruins (Flannery 1990:20–21). Archbishop Bulkeley’s report of that year recorded that the church and chancel of Delgany were “down”, and that “There are but fower [four] in that parishe that come to hear divine service” (also Flannery 1990:21).

The following extract from the Civil Survey (1654–56) describes “Part of the Parrish of Dilling” in the 1650s:

This part is Bounded on the East with the Townland of Aghooly on the South and West with the Townes of Killquad and Killpedy and on the North with the Towns of Knockrow and Killincangey: — The Soyle is good Arrable and pasture with some wood unprofitable but no Improvements at all: — The Severall Denominations are as follows with ___ Newtowne Drummin [&?] unprofitable wood of Drummin.⁸

The proprietors’ names are given as John Walsh of Newtowne and Gerrald Birne of Drummin (Figure 6).

This appears to confirm Flannery’s statement that in the seventeenth century, Delgany was part of O’Byrne territory (Flannery 1990:22), though it is perhaps notable that there were “no Improvements at all” by 1650. In the vicinity of Delgany around this time there was a late Tudor fortified house known as Killincarrig Castle, which was garrisoned during the Cromwellian Wars “to protect the property of residents in the neighbourhood” (Flannery 1990:22). Soldiers from the Confederate Army were based here in the 1640s, but they vacated it when they learned of Cromwell’s approach in September 1649 (Flannery 1990:23). Tradition has it that Cromwell and his men were staying at Killincarrig when Cromwell’s favourite horse was stolen by the Irish. In a rage, he ransacked Kindlestown Castle just outside Delgany and then marched on to Arklow.⁹

⁶ Flannery writes that the Archbalds held Kindlestown in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and that it was sold to the earl of Meath in 1630 (Flannery 1990:18).

⁷ It has not been possible to review all available material for this period, which includes a book on Delgany and Kilcoole by Brian Gurrin and published as part of the Maynooth local studies series which would, no doubt, contain much valuable information (Gurrin 2000).

⁸ Source: <http://downsurvey.tcd.ie>

⁹ Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail; Handwritten Notes - Kindlestown Castle.

part of the Parrish of Dilling

This part is bounded on the East with the Townland of Aghkealy on the South and West with the Towns of Killquaid and Killpady and on the North with the Towns of Knockroe and Killmearney. The Soil is good fertile and pasture with some wood unprofitable but no Improvements at all. The several Tenements are as followeth 242 Newtowne Drumm that unprofitable wood of Drumm.

| Proprietor's Name | Amount of Acres | Number of Acres by Assessment | Acres Profitable | Acres Unprofitable |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 2. John Welch J. p. | Newtowne | 210-2-0 | Acres 210-2-0 | |
| 1. Gerald Byrne J. p. | Drumm | 200-3-17 | Acres 200-3-17 | |
| | Killpady | 053-1-8 | Acres 053-1-8 | |
| | | 464-2-25 | Acres 464-2-25 | 053-1-8 |
| 3. John Taylor J. p. | Ballyman | 117-3-0 | Acres 117-3-0 | |

Part of Killcoyle Parrish

Figure 6 Extract from the Civil Survey for part of the parish of Dilling [Delgany] (Source: <http://downsurvey.tcd.ie>)

Kindlestown Castle is a medieval castle reputed to date to the ninth century, though no dateable finds have been made to confirm this. It was apparently occupied into the eighteenth century.¹⁰ The name Kindlestown is said to date back to around 1300 when Albert de Kinley was sheriff of Kildare. Flannery describes Kindlestown as a thirteenth-century halled castle that may have been built by Walter de Bendvill, who owned land in Delgany in 1225, and states that another local landowning family, the Archbolds, held it in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Kindlestown was sold to the earl of Meath in 1630 (Flannery 1990:18). The property was once part of the Bellevue estate and was purchased by the State from the La Touche family in 1930.¹¹

The earls of Meath leased lands in Delgany, Coolegad and Kindlestown to tenants (such as the La Touches) who in turn leased to subtenants. Other major landowners in the town and surrounds in the nineteenth century included Mary Baker Keoghoe, and by the twentieth century Thomas Lawless (a Catholic) would own much of the village. An estate map apparently produced for a Mary Baker in 1775 and reproduced in Flannery's book (1990:32) would appear to be the oldest detailed map of the village (Figure 7). Another set of estate maps were produced for one Richard Turner in 1857 when parts of Delgany came up for sale in the Incumbered Estates Court (Figure 8 & 9). Bellevue Demesne and parts of Delgany would eventually be bought out by the La Touches from the Meath estate following the various Land Acts between 1870 and 1909 (Flannery 1990:24, 54). It is the La Touche family who are credited most with the development and general welfare of the village from the mid-eighteenth until the early twentieth century (see below for further discussion).

Flannery notes that the parish was "an important centre of administration", with each parish being responsible for collecting the cess (local tax), policing, education, care of the poor and upkeep of the roads (Flannery 1990:27). Delgany is fortunate in that its parish records, including its Vestry Books recording the day-to-day administration of the parish, have survived from the mid-seventeenth century to the present day. Indeed, Flannery's parish history is based largely on this archive, which includes records of important decisions and expenditure. For example, the Vestry Books record that in 1792, the parish purchased "a pair of stocks", a common apparatus of

¹⁰ Handwritten Notes – Kindlestown Castle.

¹¹ Delgany Heritage Trail. An Iron Age fort is said to have been located on Kindlestown Hill (Kindlestown Walk Trail Leaflet). The road curves around it near Sheelagh's Well, which was probably a medieval holy well (Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail).

local justice which was placed in churchyards to punish and detain wrongdoers and discourage vagrants (Flannery 1990:75).¹²

The main undertaking of the parish in eighteenth century, however, was the building of a new church (Christ Church) in 1789–90. The old church, which had been in ruins in 1630, had been rebuilt in the 1660s (Flannery 1990:26), but in the eighteenth century it became a “constant drain on parish resources” (Flannery 1990:39). New horse-box pews were installed in 1726; the church was damaged in storms in 1751; and it was re-roofed around 1770. In the 1780s, a petition was raised for a new church on the basis that the old one was too small and the site too inconvenient. It was agreed that it would be demolished and the materials used to build a new church. A site was provided by the earl of Meath, Chambre Brabazon Ponsonby, and Peter La Touche between them, and Peter La Touche offered to pay for the church itself (Flannery 1990:39).

After it was replaced, the churchyard around the old church continued to be used as a non-denominational burial ground with a burial occurring here as recently as 1933 (Flannery 1990:66). A burial register records internments of people from Delgany and surrounding districts from 1666–1779.¹³

During the bicentenary celebrations in 1989, the Archbishop of Dublin commented that new church was built during “a period of danger and challenge” both on the Continent and at home (Flannery 1990:77) which in Ireland would culminate in the Rebellion of 1798. Flannery writes that “the dreadful torment and upheaval of 1798 ... must have affected almost every family in the parish...” and she describes numerous violent attacks on people in Delgany and the surrounding districts (Flannery 1990:77–79).

Despite the instability of the period, the new church in Delgany “flourished as the parochial centre for a large area, partly because the Protestant populations in Kilcoole and Kilmacanogue were too small to support separate churches there” (Flannery 1990:84).¹⁴ Indeed, the congregations at Delgany appear to have been “unusually large” (Flannery 1990:85) as Delgany entered what might be termed its golden age.

¹² After the organisation of the RIC in 1867, a police barracks was built in the village. This can be seen on the 25-inch Ordnance Survey maps. Flannery notes that “The entrance to the barracks may still be seen nearly opposite to Mr. Brady’s shop” (Flannery 1990:75).

¹³ A graveyard clean-up project was undertaken by the community with Heritage Council and Wicklow County Council support in 2006. All the headstones have been recorded.

¹⁴ Under the Established Church, the parish of Delgany was “a union of three small parishes, Delgany, Kilcool, and Kilmacanogue” (*Dublin Correspondent*, 01/11/1823). This union took place prior to 1700, and the combined parishes came under the patronage of the Archbishop (Lewis 1840).



Figure 7 Portion of Down Survey map showing Delgany (Deloney) in the 1650s (published 1685) (Source: www.downsurvey.tcd.ie)



Figure 8 Portion of Down Survey map showing part of the parish of Delling [Delgany] (Source: www.downsurvey.tcd.ie)

The Development of the Village

From the second half of the seventeenth century, Delgany seems to have been developing. The Hearth Money Rolls for Co. Wicklow record that in 1668/69, Delgany had ten houses (Flannery 1990:28). A century later, a map of Delgany from 1775, which was created by Francis Matthews for Mrs Mary Baker (a widow who owned land in the area), depicts the church, rectory and about 18 dwellings in the vicinity of the village including Malvern, “at one time a La Touche dower house” (Flannery 1990:33; Figure 9). Whereas in 1792, Delgany is listed as a “village”

in Beaufort's *Memoir of a Map of Ireland* (Beaufort 1792:24; see also Flannery 1990:74), thirty years later it was also being referred to as a 'town'.

When the French traveller Jacques-Louis de Bougrenet de la Tocnaye visited Delgany in 1796–97, he “walked a good deal about the neighbourhood, entering into the cabins of the peasants and talking to them”. He found many of the houses to be “very clean and well kept, honest industry has brought comfort...” (de la Tocnaye 1796–97:42; see also Flannery 1990:75). Wright, in his *Guide to the County of Wicklow* (1822), describes Delgany as follows:

The village of Delgany lies about a quarter of a mile to the east of Belle-View gate; the road is along the demesne wall, and there are many neat and tasteful cottages on the road side. The town has grown up under the fostering hand of the amiable proprietor of Belle View [Peter La Touche], whose name is proverbial throughout the kingdom for intelligence, benevolence, and nationality; it is laid out with judgement, and the cottages built with excellent taste in rustic architecture. There is a day school for poor children in the village, and other little institutions for the benefit of the industrious poor, which, though now common in various parts of the kingdom, were first established by the owner at Delgany. Next after the delightful situation and view from the village, the church is the object most worthy of attention... (Wright 1822:40–41).

In 1838, the Ordnance Survey recorded that “The present town of Delgany consists of about thirty houses, with one shop for the sale of bread and meat, one harness-makers shop and one shop in which baking bread and selling whiskey are carried on. There is no house of lodging or entertainment in it....” (Eugene Curry 1838, in Corlett & Mendlycott 2000:27).

By 1840, the population of the village was 188, with 2,268 in the parish as a whole. Samuel Lewis, in his revised *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* of that year, wrote that “The village is beautifully situated in a sequestered spot on the banks of the stream that waters the Glen of the Downs, and consists of about 30 houses and cottages, which are built in a very pleasing style”. In addition to the church, there was dispensary, library and “a poor-shop for supplying the necessitous with goods at cost price” (Lewis 1840).

On the eve of the Great Famine, Fraser's *Handbook for Travellers* (1844) gave the following description:

The village of Delgany, which is close to Bellevue ... is pleasantly situated among the beautifully verdant hills which lie along the shore, and which add so much to the scenery of the immediate part of the country on our left. It contains a limited number of neat and respectably-inhabited cottages; and in its situation, schools, dispensary, and church, forcibly reminds us of the more favoured English localities. The family of La Touche, who, it appears, purchased Bellevue in 1753, and built the church in 1789, and the schools at subsequent periods, have ever manifested the most lively regard for the villagers, as well as for the diffusion of knowledge and happiness to all around.... [T]his village is much frequented during the summer and autumn months (Fraser 1844:67–68).

In 1846, Slater's *Directory* notes that “This charming little village owes its elegant arrangement to the taste of Mrs. Latouche, from the gates of whose sumptuous mansion of Bellevue it is a quarter of a mile only.... The parish contains 2,000 inhabitants, but the village only about 200” (Slater's *Directory* 1846:82).

Griffith's Primary Valuation from the early 1850s records that most of the occupants of the “Town of Delgany” were leasing their properties from Peter La Touche, though there were other lessors as well including “The Misses M. B. [Mary Baker?] and E. [Eliza?] Keoghoe”. In addition to private houses, offices and land, there was a

dispensary, hotel and shop, National Schools for boys and girls, a parochial schoolhouse, church, Roman Catholic chapel, house/offices used for “Parochial Charity” and two graveyards.

One of the common themes emerging from the above, apart from the attractiveness of the village and its popularity with tourists, is the patronage of the La Touches, to whom is attributed the neatness of the dwellings, and in particular Delgany’s educational and charitable facilities and industry (albeit on a small, cottage scale). Another theme is the comparison with English villages, which also occurs, for example, in the *Tourists’ Handbook for Ireland* (1859) in which Delgany is described as “a pretty hamlet close to Bellevue containing a number of neat-looking cottages, its situation, schools, dispensary, and church, reminding one of the favoured English localities” (*Tourists’ Illustrated Handbook for Ireland*, 1859:18; see Figure 12).

In common with so much of Ireland, however, the district experienced population decline in the second half of the nineteenth century as a result of the Great Famine and its aftermath, which included emigration. The population of the parish dropped from 2,268 in 1841 to 1,716 in 1871, though the number of people in the village actually increased during this period. The Census Returns from 1901 and 1911 tell us that by the turn of the twentieth century, the town of Delgany had a population of 212 and contained 34 private dwellings, the convent, school, dispensary, post office, two public houses, an unspecified public building, Protestant church, Roman Catholic chapel, an RIC barracks and six shops. The main landowners were Peter La Touche and Thomas Lawless. Of the private dwellings, 11 had walls made of mud or wood and the remainder stone or brick. Seven of them had thatched/wooden roofs, the remainder slate, tile or iron (see Appendix).¹⁵

By 1911, the village had increased further, to 224 residents with 47 private dwellings, though six of these were unoccupied. In addition to the two churches, convent, dispensary, post office, RIC barracks and National School, there was hotel once more, a church band room, a parish/billiard room, one public house, two shops and a workshop. Three of the dwellings are recorded as having thatched/wooden roofs but with walls of stone or brick. The materials of the unoccupied dwellings are not recorded. No landowners are recorded in 1911, with all of the properties described as “unallotted”.¹⁶

On the eve of Independence in 1922, Delgany (described as “an attractive village, nestling in a most picturesque vale amidst a country of rich scenic beauty, one and a-half miles from the sea”) had a motor garage, blacksmith, painter, motor and cycle agent, victualler, Lawless’s Hotel, Mrs Ludlow’s “fancy stores”, draper and bootmaker, family grocer, Newell’s Hotel, post office/telegraph office, and dispensary.¹⁷ By 1925, the Delgany Hotel is also listed, which may have been Newell’s previously, as Lawless’s Hotel is still in business.¹⁸

Electricity was supplied to Christ Church in 1927, and from 1933 it was also introduced to the school and sexton’s cottage (Flannery 1990:120). In 1958, the parish of Delgany was removed from the Schedule of Sparsely Populated Areas, an indication of the growing population of the locality (Flannery 1990:129). Flannery recalls that when a new rector, Rev. Willoughby, took over Delgany in 1959, he felt that the parish was “very much a rural one and

¹⁵ National Archives of Ireland, 1901 Census.

¹⁶ National Archives of Ireland, 1911 Census.

¹⁷ Thom’s Directory, 1921

¹⁸ Thom’s Directory, 1925

conservative in character. The parishioners belonged chiefly to the farming community or went to live in Delgany on retirement. There were not many younger families then and but few daily commuters. The pattern began to change with the outward movement of population from Dublin towards Delgany which, in the sixties was just beginning” (Flannery 1990:131).

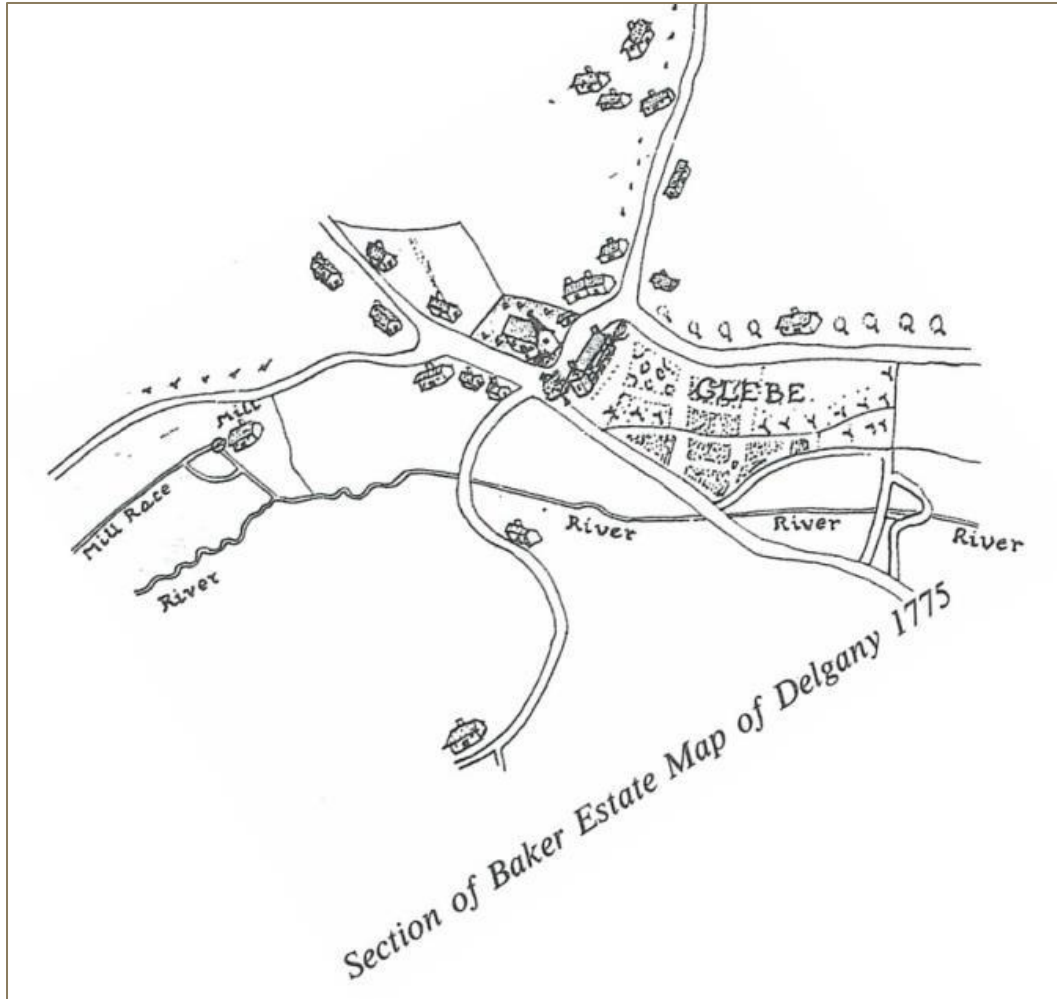


Figure 9 The Baker estate map, 1775 [reoriented approximately due north] (Source: Flannery 1990)

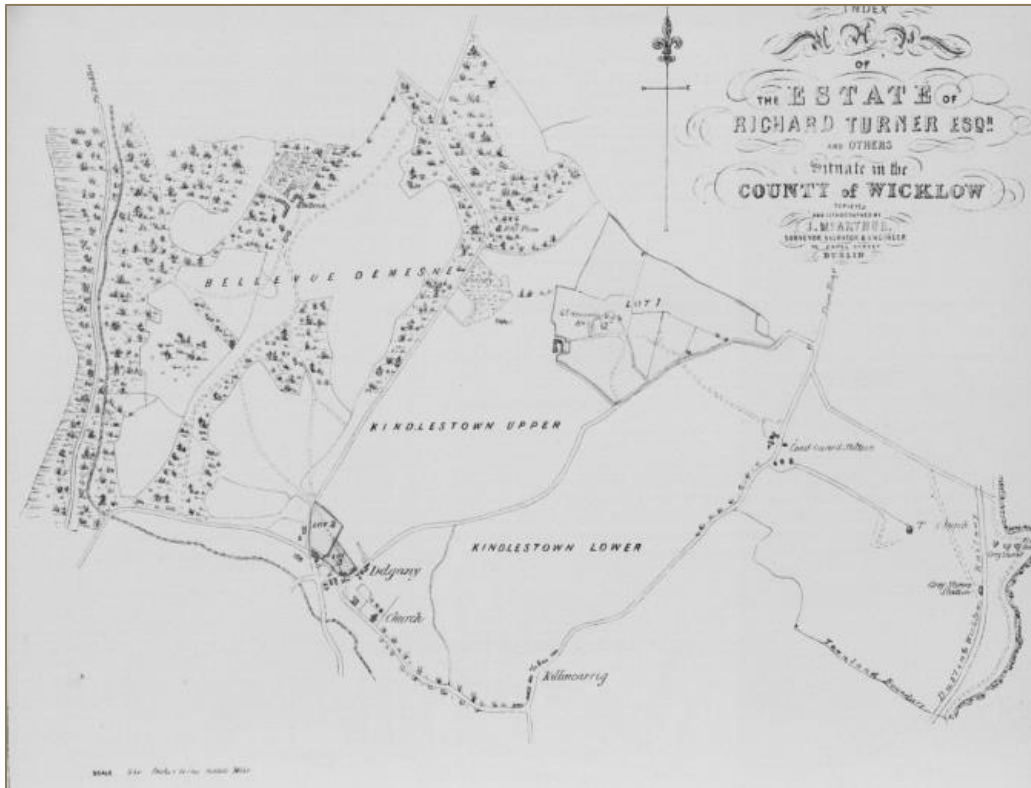


Figure 10 The Turner estate map of Delgany, Bellevue Demesne and Kindlestown, 1857 (Source: Landed Estates Court Rentals)

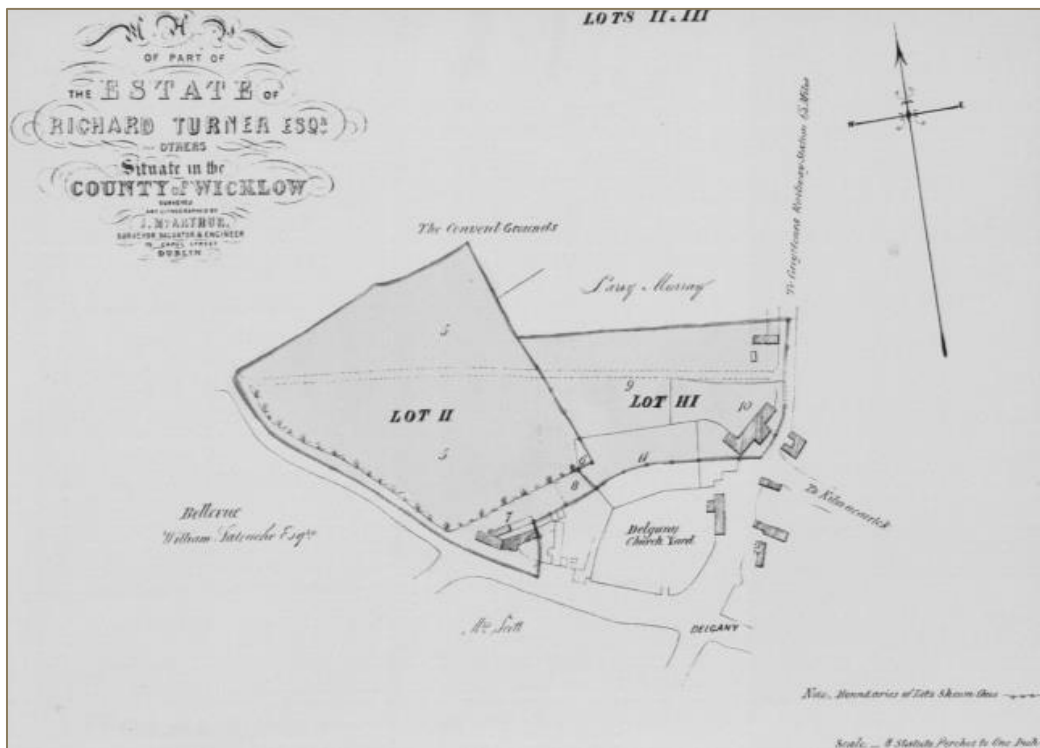


Figure 11 The Turner estate map showing Delgany Village, 1857 (Source: Landed Estates Court Rentals)

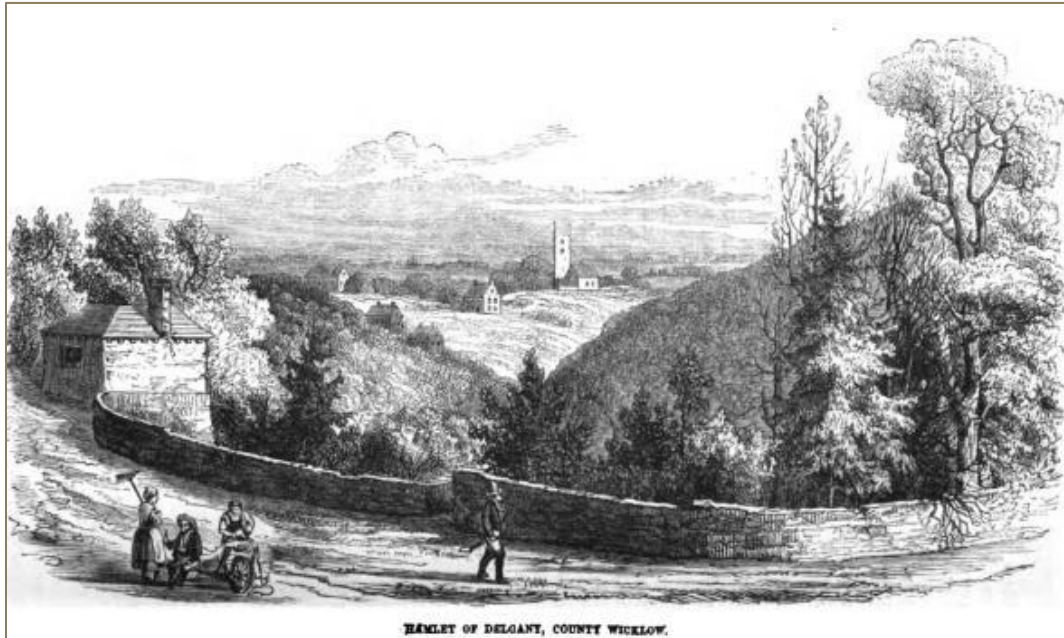


Figure 12 The 'Hamlet of Delgany', from the *Tourists' Illustrated Handbook for Ireland*, 1859

The La Touche Family

As we have seen, the development of Delgany during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, as well as its traditions of charity and education, is generally attributed to the La Touche family. To this day, they are remembered in Delgany as “a distinguished Huguenot family” (Cecil Price, Rector, in Flannery 1990:7) who “earned respect by hard work, integrity, kindness and generosity, business acumen and entrepreneurial flair” (Flannery 1990:58).

The original family name was Digges, and the name La Touche is derived from their estates near Blois in central France where they settled after leaving England during the reign of Henry II. When the Catholic King Louis XIV of France revoked the Edict of Nantz in 1685, which had given some protection to the Protestant Huguenots, David Digges La Touche fled to Holland. There he enlisted in the army of William of Orange, and came with it to Ireland. He fought against James II's army at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690, serving in Caillemotte's famous Huguenot infantry regiment. After the defeat of James II, the young Frenchman eventually settled in Dublin where he established a silk, poplin and cambric manufactory in the old High Street. He then became an eminent Dublin banker and evidently had a long and successful career. In October 1745, he died suddenly aged 74, during a service in the Chapel Royal. He left behind three sons. After his death, the La Touche bank continued and the family would later provide advice to the Bank of Ireland upon its establishment in 1783 (Ferrar 1796:85; see also *Dublin Daily Express* 14 May 1906 and Flannery 1990:43).

David La Touche's son, also called David (1704–85), inherited his father's business interests and property and in 1753 he purchased a 300 acre estate at Ballydonagh outside Delgany that was to become known as Bellevue, and he built a Georgian mansion there between 1754 and 1756. He died at Bellevue in 1785, aged 81, and is buried in Delgany. As well as his fortune, he seems to have inherited his father's noted generosity, being described as “the

ample benefactor of mankind” who “left a record of noble deeds behind him”.¹⁹ De La Tocnaye says of David La Touche II, in tones probably less cynical than we might read it today, “Although a banker he was humane and charitable” (De La Tocnaye 1796–97:42), while Lodge’s Peerage (vol. 2, p.402) says he was “remarkable for his benevolence” (quoted in Wright 1822:38). David La Touche II is commemorated in the magnificent memorial in Christ Church, Delgany, which was built by his son Peter La Touche in 1789–90. There is also a commemorative medal with his likeness in Ferrar 1796 (Figure 13).

The La Touches continued to build a reputation as a “powerful and public spirited family”²⁰, serving as Members of Parliament, sitting on important administrative bodies such as the Rathdown Board of Guardians, and in the military. For example, David La Touche II’s son Peter, who inherited Bellevue along with land in Leitrim, was elected as MP for Leitrim in 1795 (Ferrar 1796:93). Peter spent £30,000 developing the Arigna iron works at Lough Allen in that county (Ferrar 1796:114), and was one of the first directors of the Bank of Ireland (Flannery 1990:48). When he died in Delgany in November 1828 “at the advanced age of 97”, his death notice described him as a “venerable and excellent gentleman”.²¹

Unlike many landowners after the union with Britain in 1801, the La Touches remained in Ireland as resident landlords, setting a positive example in the eyes of the contemporary press, as may be seen in the following extract from the *Morning Herald*, published in *Saunders Newsletter* in 1825:

*The village of Delgany ... in the county of Wicklow, which excites the admiration of every stranger that beholds it, — where the neatness and beauty of the cottages in that luxuriant region, and the health, comfort, and cheerfulness of their inhabitants, present a most delightful picture to the lovers of civilization—was created by the family of the La Touches, who expend upon the country the wealth with which it has enriched them. It reminds one indeed of the village of Goldsmith in its days of plenty and gladness ... and shows how practicable the improvement of Ireland would be, if the proprietors of the soil would only remain at home....*²²

Another account states, “We need only name Mr. and Mrs. Latouche, of Bellevue, to comprehend every thing that is dignified and respectable in private life, or public society”.²³ Wright, in his *Guide to County Wicklow*, remarked that benevolence “appears almost inseparable from the very name of this most amiable family” (Wright 1822:38).

It would be easy to dismiss these comments as pandering to patrons (and indeed Ferrar’s endless praises are likely to become tedious to modern readers), were it not for their track-record and legacy. Peter La Touche and his second wife Elizabeth Vicars²⁴ in particular stand out as leading philanthropists of their times, not just injecting

¹⁹ *Dublin Daily Express* 14/05/1906

²⁰ *Southern Reporter and Cork Commercial Courier*, 06/10/1825

²¹ *Dublin Morning Register*, 28/11/1828.

²² *Saunders Newsletter* 24/09/1825.

²³ *Southern Reporter and Cork Commercial Courier*, 06/10/1825

²⁴ Peter’s first wife, Rebecca Vicars, died in 1786. He then moved to Bellevue and married Rebecca’s first cousin, Elizabeth Vicars, two years later. There were no children from either marriage (*Dublin Daily Express* 14 May 1906). Peter chose his nephew, also Peter, to be his heir (Flannery 1990:50). However, this Peter died in 1830, just two years after his uncle (Flannery 1990:53). His estates were inherited by his son, Peter David La Touche (Flannery 1990:54).

money into institutions such as orphanages and schools in Delgany and elsewhere, but in Elizabeth's case chiefly, through their practical, hands-on endeavours (see Charity and Education below). Peter is remembered as "a true philanthropist" (Flannery 1990:52), while Elizabeth has been lavishly celebrated for her work with the poor. She also had a reputation as "a superb hostess, drawing praise from all who visited Bellevue" (Flannery 1990:46).

The last La Touche of Bellevue was Major Peter La Touche who served in the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and spent two years in South Africa during the Boer War.²⁵ When he returned in 1902, he received "a hearty welcome" from the people of Delgany and Greystones (Flannery 1990:56). He died without children in 1904, possibly from an illness or injuries received while serving overseas. With him, the Bellevue branch of the La Touche family died out (Flannery 1990:56), bringing about "the end of an era for Delgany whose people had enjoyed that family's benefactions for about one hundred and fifty years" (Flannery 1990:116).

After the Major's death, the property was divided between his widow (who lived in the Dower House at Fair View) and his sisters, one of whom, Frances Cecilia, moved into Bellevue with her husband, Dr Archer. As a result of death duties and high maintenance costs, they were forced to sell off some of the family's belongings (Flannery 1990:56–57). When these "fine art treasures" and relics were auctioned in May 1906, the auctioneer reminded those present that "the house in which they were gathered was the historic home of an historic family", an "honourable and ancient" family.²⁶

²⁵ Major La Touche was not the only Delgany resident to serve in the Crown forces. When the 'Great War' (World War I) broke out, Ireland was still part of the United Kingdom and many parishioners served in the British armed forces. The names of over ninety of these people are commemorated in the front porch of Christ Church (Flannery 1990:119). During the Second World War, a native of Delgany, Patrick Hadoke, died in a Japanese POW camp (Flannery 1990:124).

²⁶ *Dublin Daily Express* 14 May 1906

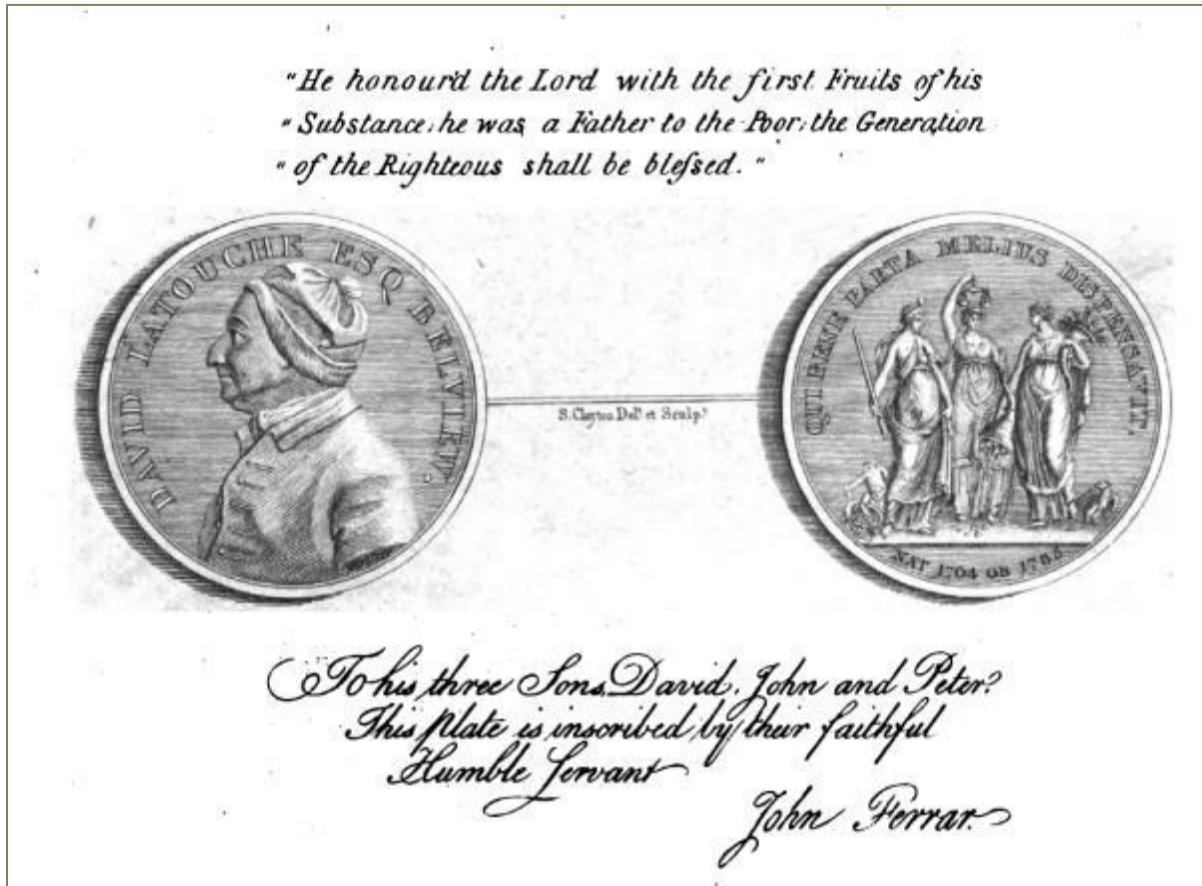


Figure 13 Commemorative medal for David La Touche Esq. (1704–85) from Ferrar 1796

Bellevue

In 1753, David La Touche purchased lands in the townland of Ballydonagh from his friend, the Reverend Doctor Corbett, Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin. Rev. Corbet had been rector of Delgany from 1730–48 and had bought Ballydonagh Estate (Flannery 1990:37, 40). David La Touche gave his new estate the French name *Bellevue*, aptly meaning “nice view”. The mansion was built in 1754–56 at cost of £30,000²⁷, and was described as “one of the most cheerful seats in Wicklow”. It stood on the eastern slope of the ridge separating the Glen of the Downs from the sea, within a wooded demesne that was “distinguished for loveliness where all is beauty” (*Tourists' Illustrated Handbook for Ireland*, 1859:18).

The demesne originally comprised 300 acres of good ground, “with more added and cleared annually”. Most of these improvements were carried out by Mr John Kelly who “planted almost every tree in the demesne, which is kept in perfect order” (Ferrar 1796:98). Exquisite gardens were laid out with winding paths which can be seen on nineteenth-century maps, and some of these can still be traced on the ground and using aerial photography.

²⁷ *Dublin Daily Express* 14 May 1906 (see also Flannery 1990:40)

Bellevue was initially approached by one avenue leading from Kindlestown Hill and is shown on Jacob Nevill's map of 1760 (Flannery 1990:45). In the end, there were four entrances, the main one being the Lion (or Dog) Gate which is now the entrance to Delgany Golf Club (Flannery 1990:62).

Ferrar visited Bellevue in 1795 and considered it "one of the best excursions near the capital" (Ferrar 1796:113). He describes in detail the house, glass houses and demesne which included the Octagon building (1766), Turkish tent and other features. His book (Ferrar 1796) contains a number of engravings of Bellevue by Samuel Close (see Fig. 15-16). Bellevue quickly became "one of Wicklow's showpieces" and "a favourite topic for writers" (Flannery 1990:59), and it was the home of David's descendants for 150 years (Flannery 1990:40–41). Wright (1822) stated that Bellevue "cannot fail to excite the highest feelings of pleasure and admiration" (Wright 1822:35–38). Its glass houses, which were said to be among the finest in Europe, took 10 years to build and were completed in 1793, about 50 years before the great nineteenth-century conservatories (Flannery 1990:61; Figure 15).

David's son Peter and his second wife Elizabeth La Touche also did much to improve Bellevue²⁸. By 1840, the demesne had doubled in size to more than 600 acres, at the centre of which was a "stately mansion, to which extensive offices are attached". There were "several walks leading to the Octagon House, Banqueting-room, and Turkish Tent" and a deer park with 55 deer. Lewis noted that "These beautiful grounds are open to the public on Mondays and by special application on other days" (Lewis 1840). When Bellevue's treasures were being sold off in the early twentieth century, it was recalled that "the view from the terrace ... of the surrounding country and sea to the eastward has always been enthusiastically spoken of by tourists".²⁹

Bellevue remained in the La Touche family until the early twentieth century when the cost of maintaining the estate became too great. As well as selling off the family's 'treasures' to raise money, they took in fee-paying guests and opened Bellevue as a golf club in 1908 (Flannery 1990:57). Some of the land was also sold to the Holy Faith Sisters in Greystones to build a new school, but on condition that their proposed school, St. David's, would be fee paying so as not to "lower the tone of the locality". Flannery remarks that this stipulation seemed contrary to the ideals of Elizabeth La Touche, who had built a school for orphans within the grounds of Bellevue and had taken them literally under her wing (Flannery 1990:57).

In the end, Dr Archer and his wife, Frances La Touche, gave up the struggle to maintain Bellevue and they vacated the house just before the First World War broke out. They moved into the village where they lived at Malvern (Flannery 1990:57). Bellevue was then rented by Hugh Howard, a stepbrother to the earl of Wicklow, from 1914–19. He apparently wanted to buy it, but he died in 1919. Bellevue was subsequently bought by David Frame, but the mansion was never lived in again. It was allowed to deteriorate and was finally demolished in the 1950s. Flannery states that "Today there is sadly almost nothing left to indicate where the magnificent old house once stood" (Flannery 1990:64).

The State acquired 250 acres of the Glen of the Downs in 1930, including part of Bellevue Demesne. Delgany Golf Club also now occupies part of the demesne. Notable golfers associated with Delgany include Harry Bradshaw,

²⁸ Griffith's Primary Valuation (1852–53) shows that Bellevue was leased by Peter La Touche from the earl of Meath, the Misses M. B. [Mary Baker] Keoghoe and E [Eliza] Keoghoe and Major W. P. Hoey.

²⁹ *Dublin Daily Express* 14 May 1906

Eamon Darcy and Jimmy Martin (Flannery 1990:119). Cricket was also a popular sport in Delgany at one time and was played at Bellevue (Flannery 1990).³⁰



Figure 14 Bellevue by Samuel Close as shown in Ferrar, 1796

³⁰ Other sports played in Delgany include badminton and table tennis (Flannery 1990:140).

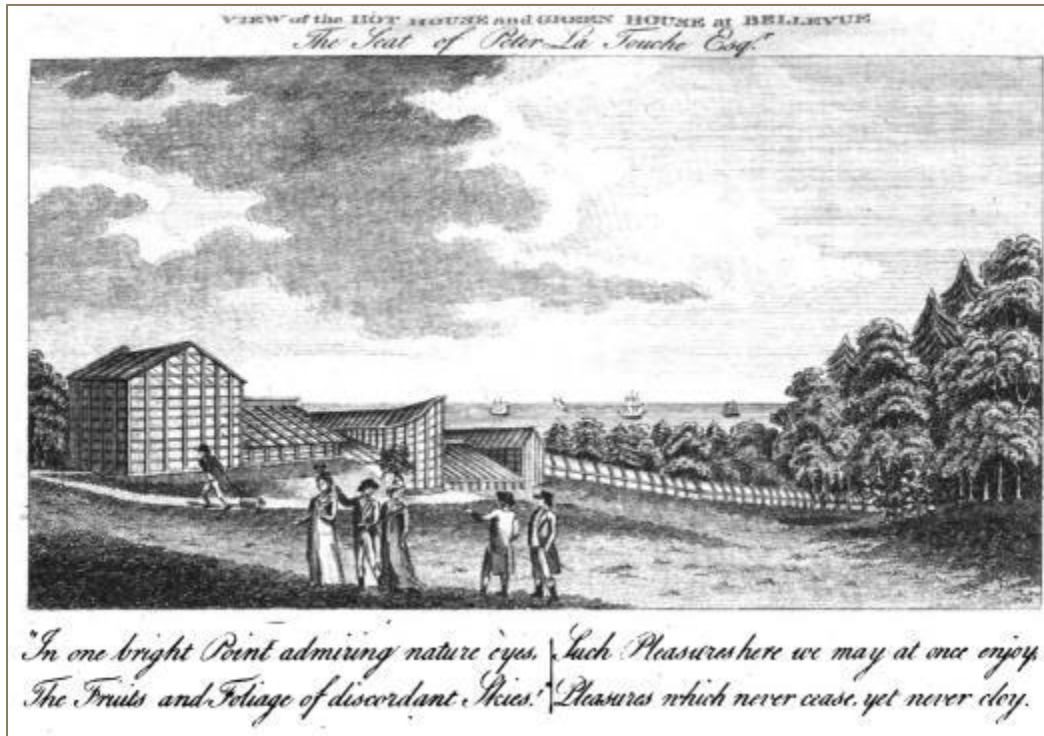


Figure 15 The greenhouses at Bellevue from Ferrar, 1796



Figure 16 Mid-nineteenth century/early twentieth century image of the Bellevue Conservatory (NLI <http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000317346>)



Figure 17 View of Bellevue Laurence Photograph Collection [between ca. 1865-1914].

Communications

Along with the development of the village and district went, eventually, the development of the local roads and other communications.

Flannery writes that in the seventeenth century, “Delgany could be reached from Bray by an old Norse road which ran through the centre of the townland of Coolegad ... leading from Windgates past Templecarrig House to Kindlestown Castle and on to the village itself. There was an inn by the side of the old road ... now incorporated into the house known today as Stylebawn” (Flannery 1990:24). Price also noted Windgates as being the old road which passed by Templecarrig House and Kindlestown Castle and eventually ended up in Delgany (Price 1983, v, 325, cited in Courtney Deery 2016).

Throughout the eighteenth century, the maintenance of roads was the responsibility of each parish and funds for their upkeep were allocated by the vestry (Flannery 1990:31). Taylor & Skinner’s road map, surveyed in 1777, shows the road leading to ‘Delgenny Church’ and some nearby dwellings, with ‘Bellview’ (seat of D. Latouche Esq.) just outside the village (Figure 18). Mail coaches were introduced in 1789 and provided an impetus to improve roads, but because Delgany did not become a postal town until 1829 and was therefore not on the coach route, its road network may not have been as well developed as places that were.

Delgany’s accessibility would improve during the nineteenth century with the coming of a postal service and developments at nearby Greystones. *Saunders Newsletter* in 1811 refers to a new road that was opened up

between Delgany and Kendlestown Hill.³¹ Delgany became a post town on 17 June 1819³² and this development, along with the popularity of the area for gentry and travellers, seems to have led to further improvement of the local road network. Lewis noted that by 1840 the parish was located on the mail coach road from Dublin to Wexford, and on the lower road from Bray to Wicklow (Lewis 1840).

By the 1850s, there was “a good road leading from Delgany to Dublin, Bray, and Greystones, and well-appointed cars pass daily to meet the several Trains to and from Dublin at Greystones”. The Turner Estate sales notice of 1857 promised “good roads for traffic to the best markets, and cheap and abundant facilities for travelling to the metropolis or other parts of the kingdom” (Landed Estates Court Rentals). The proximity of the railway station and harbour at Greystones became an important drawcard to visitors and investors in the nineteenth century.

Further transport improvements came in the early years of the Irish Free State, when Delgany’s first bus service was operated by the Wicklow Hills Bus Company from 1923 to 1936 (Flannery 1990:121).



Figure 18 Detail from Taylor & Skinner’s road map of Ireland, surveyed 1777 [note: top is south] (Source: Taylor & Skinner 1778)

³¹ Saunders Newsletter 11/07/1811

³² Saunders Newsletter 28/06/1819

Cultural Heritage

Education

In his foreword to Flannery's book, the rector of the parish, Rev. Cecil Price, wrote that Delgany "has a tradition of education which has been evolving over a period of three hundred years since 1665, and which continues into the twenty first century with the building of our new National School" (Flannery 1990:8). This 'tradition of education' seems to be an important part of Delgany's cultural heritage.

The earliest known school in the village was a day school which operated from at least 1667 (Flannery 1990:75), though it was not until 1713 that the parish vestry "made a conscious effort to interest itself in educational matters". In that year, a schoolmaster was employed on salary "for keeping an English School for teaching and instructing youth in the town of Delgany" (Flannery 1990:33).

By the end of the eighteenth century, there was also a school for female orphans within the grounds of Bellevue Demesne, which Elizabeth La Touche established at least as far back as 1793 (Flannery 1990:99; Ferrar 1796:91–92). This school is shown on the first-edition Ordnance Survey map (published 1840) near what is now the back entrance to Delgany Golf Club. Ferrar described the school as a "plain and handsome" building with the "lower story [sic] containing the kitchen and the school where Mrs. La Touche passes much of her time; the upper story [sic] containing the dormitory...", and he observed that the schoolmistress, "M'Donald", discharged her duty "with diligence and tenderness" (Ferrar 1796:100–01).³³ Mrs La Touche also taught the children herself (de la Tocnaye 1796–97:42), and at some stage the school apparently admitted boys, but it is not known if it remained open after Mrs La Touche died in 1842 (Flannery 1990:100).

De la Tocnaye also described this charitable school:

Madame Latouche holds here a school for twenty-four young girls, who are maintained at her charges. She herself acts as school-mistress. When the girls come of age, she gives them a dowry, and marries them to labourers of good character. This is one of the most noble and most reasonable amusements of the rich that I have ever met with. Nothing in the world is more likely to change the face of a country than a succession of young and virtuous women accustomed to industry and the well-being which attends it (de la Tocnaye 1796–97:42).

Similarly, Walker's *Hibernian Magazine* for the year 1796 notes:

But what perhaps is unequalled in this kingdom, as arising from the munificence of one individual, is a school of twenty-four poor girls which she [Elizabeth La Touche] has established on her own demesne at Bellvue in the county of Wicklow. There children she has made her own peculiar care, has them lodged and dieted, and clothed in a style much superior to the generality of such institutions (pp.97–98).

³³ A headstone inscription in Delgany records the death of a schoolmistress of Bellevue, Isabella McDonald, in 1800.

The illustration of Bellevue from Ferrar's book shows several young girls receiving instruction in front of the mansion. It is likely that these are orphan girls from the school at Bellevue (Figure 19). The girls in her charge also accompanied Mrs La Touche to services at Christ Church, where there was a designated area for them to sit.



Figure 19 Colour version of Samuel Close's engraving of Bellevue (Source: Delgany Community Council)

Elizabeth La Touche also opened a day school in the village in 1801, and it is clear that she regarded the provision of education as an important part of charitable endeavour. Indeed, she was publicly acknowledged by her contemporaries as a pioneer in the education of the poor in Ireland (Wright 1822:38, 41). The day school taught young children and ladies “all manner of plain work and spinning” in addition to reading and writing. Flannery notes that it was the second school in the village itself, “the Parish School having already been in existence since 1665” (Flannery 1990:100). The first-edition Ordnance Survey map of 1840 shows all three schools: the orphan school at Bellevue; the day school near Hillside; and the parish school beside Christ Church.

The parish schoolhouse was rebuilt and refitted in 1809. Its pupils included the poor children of the parish, of which in 1815 there were eight (Flannery 1990:100). A Sunday School was also held in the village, once again under the auspices of Mrs La Touche.³⁴ A school in the village was supported by Mrs Mary Cleaver, wife of Rev. William Cleaver who was rector from 1819–47 (Flannery 1990:85). This school appears to have been attached to the glebe house.³⁵ *Slater's Directory* notes that in 1846 the village contained “several schools—of the latter two

³⁴ *Saunders Newsletter* 22/10/1802

³⁵ Records also suggest a school at the rectory during Rev Joseph Stock's time (1788–98), though Flannery wonders if perhaps the rectory offered board to children attending the parish school (Flannery 1990:101).

are supported by Mrs. Latouche and Mrs. Cleaver”.³⁶ As a result of their combined patronage, and no doubt the instruction offered by the Carmelite nuns and private schools, education in Delgany and its locality was “thriving” in the mid-nineteenth century (Flannery 1990:88).

Flannery notes that in the early part of the century, elementary education in Ireland was provided by a large number of small schools of various sorts including parochial schools, landlord schools, hedge schools and paying schools (Flannery 1990:99). In the early 1800s, Delgany School “near Bray” operated as a boys’ boarding school under the direction of Rev. William Whiteside. Advertisements announced that “The plan of education is calculated to prepare young gentlemen either for the University or Business”.³⁷ In the 1820s, there were two boarding schools in the locality, at Holywell and Kindlestown. In 1826, the East Priory Boarding School for “young gentleman” was run by Thomas Newell along the lines of an English Grammar School. Children here were also taught the Classics and parents were assured that they would be “duly prepared for any business in life”.³⁸ The desirability of the locality was used to attract students in the same way it was used to interest tourists and investors. For example, an advertisement in the *Dublin Evening Mail* in 1826 boasted that “The situation of his house needs no comment, being convenient for sea bathing, and possessing at once every necessary requisite to promote the health, comfort, and pleasure of his Pupils”.³⁹ In the same year, Mrs Vernon advertised that she had purchased Kindlestown Boarding School “close to the beautiful village of Delgany” where ladies can be accommodated with board and lodging.⁴⁰

Lewis, in his entry for Delgany parish, notes that in 1840 there was a parochial school and a school at Greystones which were supported by subscriptions; and at Windgates there was a school on the foundation of Erasmus Smith, all of which were “under the superintendence of the Protestant clergyman” (Lewis 1840). The Irish Education Inquiry Second Report of 1826–27 records no fewer than ten schools in the parish. In Delgany itself there was a girls’ school; a National School which reopened in 1845 after already being 30 years in existence (this was under the patronage of the La Touche family but not connected with any religious establishment); and a Protestant school where Thomas and Margaret Newell taught 75 boys (35 Catholic) and 75 girls (47 Catholic), also supported by the La Touches (Flannery 1990:101). Griffith’s Valuation (1852–53) lists two National Schools (boys and girls) and a Parochial Schoolhouse in Delgany Town.

One of the reasons for the large number of schools in Delgany in this period may have been the introduction of the National School system in 1831, which offered free primary education to the poor but with the separation of religious and secular instruction. Flannery writes that most Church of Ireland clergy were opposed to the latter, and so continued to maintain separate schools for a time. What is now the ‘old schoolhouse’ in Delgany was built in 1839 on land given by Peter La Touche III, who also supported it as an ‘Endowed School’ (Flannery 1990:103–04).

³⁶ *Slater’s Directory* 1846:82

³⁷ *Saunders Newsletter*, 14/01/1803. Note: William Whiteside was also a curate of Delgany (Flannery 1990:147).

³⁸ *Dublin Evening Mail*, 27/01/1826

³⁹ *ibid*

⁴⁰ *Dublin Evening Mail*, 12/05/1826

The Penal Laws, which were in force throughout the eighteenth century, had sought to prevent Catholic children from having any schooling at all, hence the need for hedge schools, one of which was reputed to have been near the old quarry in the Glen of the Downs (Flannery 1990:77–78). In the mid-nineteenth century, the Carmelite nuns who came to Delgany in 1844 took up the responsibility of providing education. Although it was traditionally outside their remit, they provided education “due to the special needs of an epoch of re-construction work following penal times” (Sr Stanislaus, quoted in Flannery 1990:88). The National School at the monastery opened in 1846 and could accommodate 200 pupils, though average attendance was 70–100. It closed in 1896, as education was by then being adequately provided elsewhere (Flannery 1990:105).⁴¹

By the end of the nineteenth century, there was a gradual transfer of school organisation away from individuals and religious bodies to the National Board of Education (Flannery 1990:107). In 1888, the parish school reopened as a National School, and it was said that the school had already been established for over 100 years (Flannery 1990:106).

In 1967, a prefabricated school was built beside the rectory to cater for the increased demand due to the influx of new families in the 1960s (Flannery 1990:132). More recently, the building of a new National School commenced in 1990 on a site that was part of the house known as Elsinore. Flannery declared that this new development “would mean the continuation of a fine tradition of education in Delgany, unbroken for more than three hundred years – from 1665 right through towards the twenty-first century” (Flannery 1990:142). But it did not end there, as a new National School opened in 2002, with the old school now used as a parish hall for sales, exhibitions and coffee mornings.

Charity

Rev. Price also commented in his foreword that Delgany also has “the tradition of caring and sharing which Peter and Elizabeth La Touche helped to create, and which still lives on” (Flannery 1990:8).

As Flannery points out, prior to the Poor Laws (and in particular the *Irish Poor Law Act* of 1838), “the destitute were taken care of by the parishes” (Flannery 1990:27) and so it was in Delgany. When the schoolmaster was engaged by the parish in 1713, he was required to teach five poor children free of charge (Flannery 1990:33). However, Delgany was particularly fortunate in having a charitable local family of wealth living in its midst who, through their own initiative and resources, sought to improve the lot of the local poor.

The magnificent monument to David La Touche in Christ Church commemorates his concern for “the relief and protection of the poor and defenceless” (Ferrar 1796:87), and his commemorative medal describes him as a “father to the poor” (Figure 13). This concern for those less fortunate was inherited by his son Peter and amplified by Peter’s second wife, Elizabeth Vicars. When the family “treasures” were being sold off in 1906 to help maintain Bellevue, the *Dublin Daily Express* recalled how the La Touches had “won unbounded gratitude by their deep

⁴¹ It appears that in the early 1850s, the National School at the convent was only for girls (Griffith’s Valuation).

devotion to the cause of charity. They were foremost in every philanthropic work, and their popularity among the poor was unbounded”.⁴²

In 1796, John Ferrar dedicated his *View of Ancient and Modern Dublin* to Mrs Peter La Touche “In grateful Remembrance Of her Regard for poor Children”. He praised Delgany as an example of “the true use of riches; ... good will and benevolence” and of happiness (Ferrar 1796:91). Soon after their marriage, Elizabeth had opened the orphanage and school for female children in the grounds of Bellevue (Flannery 1990:46). As well as her work in Delgany, Elizabeth La Touche was one of the principal founders of the Female Orphan House on North Circular Road in 1792.⁴³ Elizabeth, Peter and other members of the family were founding members of the Hibernian Sunday School Society in 1809 (which encouraged Sunday Schools in Ireland) and the Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in Ireland in 1816 (Flannery 1990:51–52).

The poor of Delgany were also helped by several charitable funds belonging to the parish which, Flannery wrote in 1990, “continue to be administered to this day” (Flannery 1990:75). Money bequeathed to poor children in Delgany by the earl and countess of Hardwicke, and distributed through the Sunday school, contributed to the “great improvement of the rising generation of the lower class in that neighbourhood”.⁴⁴ In the early years of the nineteenth century, the more affluent members of the parish assisted the less well-off by selling at reduced prices, and by allowing instalments, for goods such as blankets, shoes, coal, clothing and oatmeal, to the “honest poor inhabitants” of the parish.⁴⁵ This charitable shop was still in operation in 1840, as Lewis notes that in Delgany there was “a poor-shop for supplying the necessitous with goods at cost price”. He also mentions two legacies amounting to over £67 bequeathed to the poor (Lewis 1840).

As we have seen, Wright (1822) mentions the “day school for poor children in the village, and other little institutions for the benefit of the industrious poor, which, though now common in various parts of the kingdom, were first established by the owner at Delgany” (Wright 1822:41).⁴⁶ Flannery (1990) suggests that the “little institutions” includes the “straw-plait factory” (Flannery 1990:75) which, in the first half of the nineteenth century, seems to have operated either in what is now referred to as Long Cottage [NIAH 16305014] and/or the vernacular thatched cottage opposite Bellevue Court known as ‘The Grange’ [NIAH 16305018]. Although this activity appears to have ceased by 1857, in the early 1850s Griffith’s Valuation recorded a house and offices in Delgany “used for Parochial Charity”.

Peter and Elizabeth La Touche died in 1828 and 1842 respectively⁴⁷, and so were not in Delgany to help during one of the country’s greatest humanitarian challenges, the Great Famine of 1845–50. Flannery notes that while

⁴² *Dublin Daily Express*, 14 May 1906

⁴³ *Ibid*

⁴⁴ *Saunders Newsletter*, 22/10/1802

⁴⁵ *Saunders Newsletter*, 16/11/1807

⁴⁶ This reference to “the industrious poor” reflects an attitude towards the ‘deserving’ as opposed to the ‘undeserving’ poor which would later become a characteristic feature of Victorian attitudes, as can be seen in Mayhew’s seminal study of the poor in 1840s’ London (Mayhew 2008).

⁴⁷ They are believed to be buried in the crypt beneath Christ Church.

Peter's nephew and successor, Peter David La Touche, no doubt "carried on the family tradition of caring for others", it is not known "what precise part he played in helping to alleviate the sufferings of the poorest, and often hungry, local people during the famine" (Flannery 1990:54).⁴⁸ He did serve on the Rathdown Union Board of Guardians in the 1850s, however, alongside the earl of Meath, Robert Pennick Esq. of Bellevue and others. The Guardians met first in the rectory and then in Mrs La Touche's cottage in the Glen where their books and papers were kept (Flannery 1990:90).

The parish records apparently make no mention at all of the famine, "although it is thought that at least one road in the area, the back road to Bellevue, was opened up and improved by 'famine labour'" (Flannery 1990:84). This may suggest that the Delgany community escaped the worst effects of the crisis, which included not only hunger but also disease and destitution. Flannery notes that "Those people living in the area around the village were certainly protected by caring landlords. There were also two legacies shared between Bray, Powerscourt and Delgany to provide for specially needy cases" (Flannery 1990:90).

Despite the protection of "caring landlords", some residents of Delgany and the surrounding district were driven to emigrate, or to seek refuge in the Rathdown Union Workhouse in Loughlinstown. Indeed, people from Delgany continued to seek shelter in the workhouse as a last resort throughout the rest of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth. The names of these people, many of whom were widows and young children now long forgotten, are recorded in the workhouse registers spanning the period 1841–1921. They include a 77-year old married Catholic teacher from Kilmacanogue named Michael Caffray who was born in 1778. He entered the workhouse sick and dirty in February 1865, only to die there the following month. It is a poignant story given the value placed on charity and education in the parish.

Stories such as this warrant further research, lest Delgany comes to be remembered as a utopia where the tradition of charity, fine though it seems to be, protected everyone from suffering.

Religion

We have seen from the above that there was a strong Protestant culture in Delgany throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which was expressed in a number of ways including its charitable and educational enterprises. We have also seen that the church in Delgany attracted worshippers over a large area.

When the historian James Froude came to Delgany in 1841 to spend some time there, he noted:

Christianity was part of the air we breathed. It was the great fact of our existence to which everything else was subordinated... the same uniform tone being visible in parents, in children, in the indoor servants and in the surrounding society. And this was Protestantism. This was the fruit of the Reformation which we had been learning in Oxford to hate as rebellion and to despise as a system without learning (cited in Flannery 1990:87).

⁴⁸ Flannery notes that there are "many accounts of the privations of the La Touche family at that time" (Flannery 1990:54). The family business, the La Touche Bank, apparently suffered as a result of the Union with Britain from 1800 as many of their major clients moved to London to be nearer Parliament in Westminster. The bank eventually closed in 1870.

But there was also an important Catholic presence in Delgany in the form of the Carmelite Monastery which was founded in 1844, and Delgany remains a home to Carmelite nuns to this day.

The nuns were invited to Delgany by Fr Fagan, the parish priest of Kilquade. The monastery was established at an existing country house which was purchased for the foundation along with some adjoining land. Although the foundation stone for the chapel attached to the monastery was laid in 1851, its construction was apparently delayed by the Great Famine and the first mass was not celebrated until 1853. The nuns' chapel, which has been described as a gem of Gothic architecture, was open to those of Kilquade parish who lived in the Delgany area (Flannery 1990:88) and is it still used by the nuns and the local Catholic community today. The nuns have no doubt played an important role in the Delgany community, including in the education of local children. As we have seen, a school was built at the monastery in 1844 and opened as National School in 1846, and remained in operation until 1896.

A group of Carmelite nuns who had to leave their convent in Belgium in 1915 as a result of the First World War apparently stayed at the monastery in Delgany. A new monastery was built adjoining the church and was blessed in 2005.

The 1901 Census shows that by the turn of the twentieth century, of the 45 households in the town, 18 were Protestant (Church of Ireland) and 27 were Catholic (see Appendix). Although most of the key social positions (i.e. doctor, police constable, post officer, rector) were Church of Ireland, one of the main landowners of the town was by this time Roman Catholic (the publican/grocer Thomas Lawless) and there was also a Catholic constable. A similar analysis for 1911 would reveal further trends, with a sizeable Protestant community no doubt remaining, and Flannery notes that there was a branch of the Grand Orange Lodge in Delgany at the end of the World War I (Flannery 1990:119).

It would appear that relations between Protestants and Catholics in twentieth-century Delgany were cordial, and that the district largely escaped domestic conflict. In 1923, the chairman of the vestry gave thanks for "the continued peaceful conditions prevailing in the parish and neighbourhood compared with other parts of Ireland" (Flannery 1990:121). Rev. Willoughby, who was rector of Delgany in the 1960s, noted that "few communities could boast of such good relationships as existed in Delgany and its neighbourhood". But he also recalled that the community at that time was still essentially conservative and resisted change and new ideas (in relation to Communion for example) (Flannery 1990:133). But no doubt times have changed — when the bicentenary celebrations for Christ Church took place in 1989, Bishop Donal Murray became the first Roman Catholic to preach in Delgany's Protestant church (Flannery 1990:143).

Industry

Delgany is generally described as a rural village, and as such does not appear to have much in the way of industrial heritage. However, the historical record would suggest that some small cottage industry took place, partly at least as a way of generating employment for poorer members of the community.

Flannery writes that Elizabeth La Touche provided much needed employment by setting up "a small manufacture of straw plat and nets" in the village. This straw-plait factory would seem to be what Wright (1822) was referring to when he mentioned the "little institutions for the benefit of the industrious poor" (Flannery 1990:75). A tourist writer named Atkinson was shown bonnets made there in 1815 and found them to be of "exceptional quality"

(Flannery 1990:83). This activity seems to have lasted for several decades, as Lewis (1840) also notes that a “small manufacture of straw plat and nets is carried on” in Delgany (Lewis 1840). It would appear, however, that the activity was no longer being undertaken by 1857. The Incumbered Estates Sale Notice of that year describes Lot II as a plot of land “formerly in the possessioh [sic] of Thady Conran, and then occupied as the Straw Factory” (Landed Estates Court Rentals).⁴⁹

The Baker estate map of 1775 shows a mill and millrace on the southwestern outskirts of town, on the south side of what is now Glen Road (R762). Flannery notes that “As a tenant of the [Earl of] Meath estate, Peter La Touche and all his undertenants had to agree that they would ‘... grind all corn and grist at the mill at Delgany ... belonging to the Earl of Meath ... and shall do ... service at the said Earl’s manor court at Kilruddery ...” (Flannery 1990:51). Neither the mill nor the millrace is shown on the first-edition six-inch Ordnance Survey map, which suggests that they had disappeared by 1840. A new mill was apparently built by the La Touches half way up the Kindlestown Hill road. There was also a saw mill on the estate near Barry’s Bridge (Flannery 1990:51).

Other small-scale industries also took place in Delgany. For example, the background material provided by the community for the purposes of the current research notes that “The long white cottage at the end of Bellevue road [Long Cottage, NIAH 16305014, Fig 20] was once the residence of a wheelwright where wooden wheels for horse-carts and coaches were built”.⁵⁰ When John Ferrar visited Delgany in 1795, he witnessed the funeral of a young linen weaver at the old churchyard (Ferrar 1796:96).



Figure 20 The Long Cottage

⁴⁹ For the extent of Lot II, see Figure 11. The lot includes Long Cottage [NIAH 16305014].

⁵⁰ Notes entitled ‘The Village of Delgany’. These notes also state that “the small cottage [the thatched cottage, NIAH 16305018] beyond that building was originally a straw-hat factory” However, as noted above, the LEC sales notice would suggest that straw manufacturing was undertaken within Long Cottage [NIAH 16305014]. Further, in his will, Peter La Touche (who died in 1828) left his wife, among other property, “the **angle of Cottages** at Delgany in one or more of which the straw manufacturing is carried on” (Flannery 1990:52’ my emphasis), which would also appear to suggest that the activity was carried out in what is now known as Long Cottage. It is possible that both premises were used.

Occupations of Delgany's residents in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries can be gleaned from other sources, including trade directories, workhouse registers and the Census returns of 1901 and 1911 (Appendix 3).



Figure 21 An early photograph of Delgany's main street by Robert French (c.1865–1914) (Delgany Community Council)

Built and Natural Heritage

Christ Church (NIAH 16305026)⁵¹

The Church of Ireland church in Delgany, which is known as Christ Church, is considered a heritage landmark of the village. It was built in 1789–90 through the benefactions of Peter La Touche and it replaced the earlier church which stood in the old churchyard.

The need for a new church was driven by the growing Protestant population of the parish of Delgany, which included Kilcoole and Kilmacanogue, and this congregation continued to increase throughout the eighteenth century (Flannery 1990:35). The Archbishop had ordered the old church to be enlarged as early as 1723, but there were difficulties raising the necessary funds (Flannery 1990:36). As we have seen, the old church became a financial burden on the parish while failing to meet its needs.

Ferrar (1796) noted that “The parishioners and the public are indebted to Peter La Touche, Esq.; for the new church at Delgany, which for noble simplicity, convenience and elegance, exceeds any we have seen in England or Ireland” (Ferrar 1796:86). Peter La Touche and the earl of Meath donated the land and La Touche gave £5,000 towards its construction. The family’s coat of arms is displayed beneath the tower clock as a reminder of his patronage. A notice of thanks was also placed in the *Dublin Chronicle* on 5th October 1790 to record “the thanks of the parish of Delgany; – whose church was almost in ruins – to Peter La Touche, Esq; for the completion of his very generous engagement to build a church; signed by the Rev. Joseph Stock, rector, and by church wardens, John Rawson and John Scott, Esqrs.” (Wright 1822:41).

Christ Church was designed by Whitmore Davis, an architect originally from County Antrim and later of Dublin (Ferrar 1796:86).⁵² Lewis describes it as a “spacious and handsome structure” and notes that it was enlarged in 1832 by a loan of £1,200 from the Board of First Fruits (Lewis 1840). This enlargement comprised the addition of a new chancel, necessitated by the congregation sizes which still continued to grow (Flannery 1990:87).

The monument to David La Touche II, referred to above, was created by John Hickey (1756–95), though Flannery (1990) points out that some, including Ferrar (1796), have erroneously attributed it to his father, Noah Hickey, who was a confectioner from Dublin (Flannery 1990:69–70).⁵³ The La Touche monument is made entirely of white marble and is considered one of Hickey’s finest works (Flannery 1990:70). Ferrar states that the monument “is much admired by all lovers of the fine arts, who go from many parts of the kingdom to see it” (Ferrar 1796:85). However, the monument’s original position (in the eastern end of the church where the high altar would normally stand) was controversial at the time. One newspaper commentator in 1790 felt that it lacked “decorum”, and wondered whether worshippers were kneeling before the altar or before the La Touches:

⁵¹ NIAH stands for National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (see <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie>).

⁵² See also *Dublin Daily Express*, 14 May 1906.

⁵³ The Dictionary of Irish Architects, maintained by the Irish Architectural Archive, supports Flannery’s conclusion, citing W.G. Strickland, *A Dictionary of Irish Artists* (1913, I, 481) and H. Potterton’s *Irish Church Monuments* (UAHS, 1975), 49-50. See <http://www.dia.ie/works/view/7974/building/CO.+WICKLOW%2C+DELGANY%2C+CHRIST+CHURCH+%28CI%29>.

*The new Church at Delgany is peculiarly distinguished in one respect, that the magnificent monument of the Latouche family is placed directly over the Communion table. A circumstance that, to minds less strong, conveys the idea when kneeling to the Alter, of kneeling to the marble statues placed immediately before them. There is certainly some want of decorum in the position selected for that piece of sculpture.*⁵⁴

Although Wright (1822) would later describe the objections as “pharisaical” (Wright 1822:42), a vestry meeting in 1790 recorded that the Archbishop of Dublin also objected to the siting of the communion table in the new church, though no reason is given (Flannery 1990:70). The communion table was later moved to the north side of the church, as the memorial was too large to be moved (Flannery 1990:72; see also Ferrar 1796:87).

According to local tradition, the original bell in Christ Church came from the old church, which had four bells. The present bell probably dates to 1878 (Flannery 1990:135). In 1972, a chime of eight bells was donated by Noel Kennedy. They were made by Whitechapel of London, who had cast Big Ben in 1858 (Flannery 1990:135–36). The black marble font in the church also came from the old church, having previously been donated to the parish by Chaworth Brabazon, Esq. (Earl of Meath) in 1726 (Ferrar 1796:87) and it is still in use today (Flannery 1990:37). The church clock was made by John Crosthwaite (1745–1829), who also made the original clock for the Custom House in Dublin, which was destroyed in the 1920s. The Delgany clock was restored in 1989 and was described by the man who restored it as “probably the most interesting clock of its kind in the country — the parish should be very proud” (Flannery 1990:74). The stained glass windows include the “unusual” and “extremely decorative” Chancel Window; the Rose Window, erected in 1887; and a small window attributed to “the celebrated 18th century Irish artist, Thomas Jervais”, a native of Dublin and of Huguenot descent. This window may have come from Bellevue House as records show that there were windows by Jervais at Bellevue.⁵⁵

The new church was finally consecrated by the Archbishop of Dublin in 1791 following a delay, caused in part by the transfer of legal ownership of the land. Among those in attendance were Robert Synge and his friend “Sir L Parsons” (presumably Sir Lawrence Parsons, 2nd Earl of Rosse) (Flannery 1990:73).

As we have already seen, the new church served the Protestant population over a wide area, and enjoyed large congregations (Flannery 1990:84–85). It also seems to have become a selling point to attract travellers, buyers and investors to the area, along with Bellevue and its demesne. An advertisement for Laurel Grove, Delgany, in 1810, for example, refers to the property’s proximity to “the beautiful demesne of Peter Latouche, Esq. Bellvue” and “the new Church of Delgany”.⁵⁶ George Wright wrote in his *Guide to Wicklow* that “There is always, in the summer season, a very full, and, what is usually termed, a very fashionable congregation at Delgany Church” (Wright 1822:43; also in Flannery 1990:72).⁵⁷

⁵⁴ *Dublin Evening Post* 02/11/1790

⁵⁵ For more on the windows of Christ Church, see

<http://www.dia.ie/works/view/7974/building/CO.+WICKLOW%2C+DELGANY%2C+CHRIST+CHURCH+%28CI%29>

⁵⁶ *Saunders Newsletter* 03/02/1810

⁵⁷ Between 1806 and 1810, the curate was Rev. Hosea Guinness, eldest son of Arthur Guinness (Flannery 1990:85).



Figure 22 Christchurch

The churchyard was ornamented with shrubbery and had a stable for the horses and carriages of the congregation, which was “seldom seen in such a place” (Ferrar 1796:87). Wright also describes this shelter: “In front of the church-door is a long shed for the protection of horses, carriages, and servants, during service, a plan quite novel, and a most useful appendage to a country church” (Wright 1822:42).

Christ Church was partially destroyed by fire on 2 January 1870, just two weeks after reopening from renovations. The fire was initially believed to have been caused by an over-heating stove⁵⁸, though the vestry book states it was an overheating flue that caused a timber to ignite (Flannery 1990:94). The church was rebuilt on the same site, reopening in November 1871.⁵⁹

In 1979, the church underwent major restoration work costing £20,000. Flannery recalls that this was driven by a desire to “pass on this ancient heritage to future generations” (Flannery 1990:136).

The Old Rectory (NIAH 16305010)

This was the rectory for the reverends of Christ Church for over two hundred years. Plans for the glebe house were drawn up in 1725 and it was set within two acres of well-maintained gardens and walks (Flannery 1990:36).

⁵⁸ *Dublin Evening Post* 04/01/1870

⁵⁹ *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* 22 November 1871

A four-storey extension was added by Rev. Joseph Stock, who was rector from 1788–1798,⁶⁰ and it became “the largest house in Delgany” (Flannery 1990:74).⁶¹

Among those reputed to have stayed here are the novelist George Birmingham and John Wesley, who went on to establish the Methodist Church. The house reportedly contains many pictures and paintings of Delgany and portraits of most of its rectors. The grounds contain many old trees and a stream that was once the main source of water for most of the town.⁶² The church and rectory are also reputedly joined by a tunnel.⁶³

The old rectory was sold in 1949 and a new one was built (Flannery 1990:125). The curving boundary wall associated with the structure is a dominant feature in the village street scape.



Figure 23 The Old Rectory

Style Bawn House (NIAH 16305017)

According to local tradition, Style Bawn House was built around 1523 and functioned as a coaching inn. It was originally two houses that were joined together in 1773.⁶⁴ Flannery states that the house incorporates an inn “dating at least as far back as 1600, in which it is believed Sir Walter Raleigh spent some time” (Flannery 1990:24).

⁶⁰ Rev. Stock left Delgany in 1798 to take up the post of Bishop of Killala, and became an eye-witness to the French landing, having been taken prisoner by the French with whose officers he conversed and drank wine (*Dublin Daily Express* 14 May 1906; see also Flannery 1990).

⁶¹ For a detailed description of the house etc. in 1847 and 1949, see Flannery 1990:89 and 125 respectively

⁶² Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail

⁶³ A Ramble Around Delgany

⁶⁴ Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail, and Handwritten Notes on Style Bawn House.

It apparently continued to be the 'Delgany Inn' until the 1700s. It was also reportedly used as a bakery and later a granary.⁶⁵

It was previously known as Glenowen, as shown on the 25-inch Ordnance Survey map, and the roof was apparently changed from thatch to slate in the early 1900s.⁶⁶ It lies in well wooded undulating grounds and the garden comprises about two acres and has noted trees, shrubs and plants, and the Three Trout Stream runs through it. The gardens were open to the public twice a year. The house is also reputed to have two benign resident ghosts — a lady in black lace and a gentleman in grey.⁶⁷ A tunnel is said to run from Style Bawn House to the Old Rectory.⁶⁸ The house is currently derelict and there are planning proposals for the lands.



Figure 24 Stylebawn House, now derelict (after http://www.delganyheritagevillage.com/style_bawn.html)

Malvern House (NIAH 16305025)

Malvern House is regarded as a very special and ancient part of the village. Built by the La Touche family around 1750, it was at one time a La Touche dower house (Flannery 1990:33) and it is apparently shown on the 1775 Baker estate map (Figure 9).⁶⁹

⁶⁵ Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail

⁶⁶ Handwritten notes on Style Bawn House

⁶⁷ Ibid

⁶⁸ Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail.

⁶⁹ However, the NIAH dates the house to around 1800 (NIAH 16305025)

A hydropathic establishment was founded here by Dr W. Alfred Johnson around 1857.⁷⁰ Alfred was the son of Dr Edward Johnson of Great Malvern in Worcestershire, and the building is named after that establishment. An advertisement published in the *Belfast Mercury* in 1860 regarding the Delgany version states that “The purity of the water and bracing properties of the mountain air equal those of Malvern, whilst the scenery in the vicinity of the Establishment far exceeds in beauty and variety that to be found in the neighbourhood of any similar Establishment in Great Britain”.⁷¹

The inheritors of Bellevue, Dr Archer and his wife Frances Cecilia La Touche, lived at Malvern after they vacated Bellevue just before the First World War (Flannery 1990:57). Part of Malvern later became Patterson’s Garage (Flannery 1990:91) which closed in 2012 after 50 years in business. When it closed, Patterson’s was fondly remembered as “a small hub of activity that helped give life to a community” and had social value as a meeting place and source of local information. It was also previously featured in a national 11850 advert.⁷²

The garage at the side of the house was apparently once a ballroom. There is also said to be a large well on the grounds.⁷³

The Grange (NIAH 16305018)

‘The Grange’ is a small cottage that is reputed to have been a straw hat factory.⁷⁴ Apparently, it was previously called Myrtle Cottage and was renamed by Edward Orr who came from Grange, Dungannon. Edward Orr had the roof thatched by the National Trust in 1981. It was originally thatched, but had a corrugated iron roof when Mr Orr bought it. It was rethatched for the current owner in 1999.⁷⁵ The cottage has since been tiled.

Some Other Noted Village Structures and features

The Horse and Hound was established in 1790 (Flannery 1990:72) and was known as the Seaview Hotel in the 1940s (Flannery 1990:124). It is considered an important part of Delgany’s built heritage, as is the Wicklow Arms (1856), which was previously known as Newel’s Hotel, and the Delgany Inn which was a hotel from at least the 1860s until the 1940s (Flannery 1990:125). An advertisement in *Heffernan’s Handbook* of 1860 addressed to tourists and families states that the Delgany Inn had recently been altered and that it was now “well fitted up with all the modern requisites for their comfort and convenience” (Flannery 1990:91).

⁷⁰ *Dublin Daily Express* 14 July 1857

⁷¹ *Belfast Mercury* 01 June 1860

⁷² ‘Garage Closes After 50 Years’. Unidentified newspaper, 01/11/2012.

⁷³ Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail (see also Flannery 1990:91).

⁷⁴ However, there is evidence to suggest that Long Cottage [NIAH 16305014] was used for this purpose (see Footnote 50).

⁷⁵ Delgany National School Commemorative Walk Trail. See also ‘The Village of Delgany’ notes.



Figure 25 The Horse & Hound

The nineteenth-century water pump in the village is a Protected Structure and is considered an historic point of interest intrinsic to the village of Delgany. It bears the inscription “John Burns Plumber Bray, 1884”.



Figure 26 Village Water Pump, set back from its original placement, the original footing still in place

Drommin Lodge was the home of Mr Johnson in 1795, who bought it in 1786 from John Hawkins Whitehead Esq. Ferrar noted that it “commands a good view of Mr. La Touche’s improvements and the Glin of the Downs” (Ferrar 1796:99).

The village contains several houses and shops from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, some of which contain fabric from earlier buildings, as well as gate lodges and the old schoolhouse which was built in 1839 and is believed to be the oldest schoolhouse in the Delgany area.⁷⁶ Descriptions of these structures are to be found in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (www.buildingsofireland.ie) and are reproduced in Appendix 1.

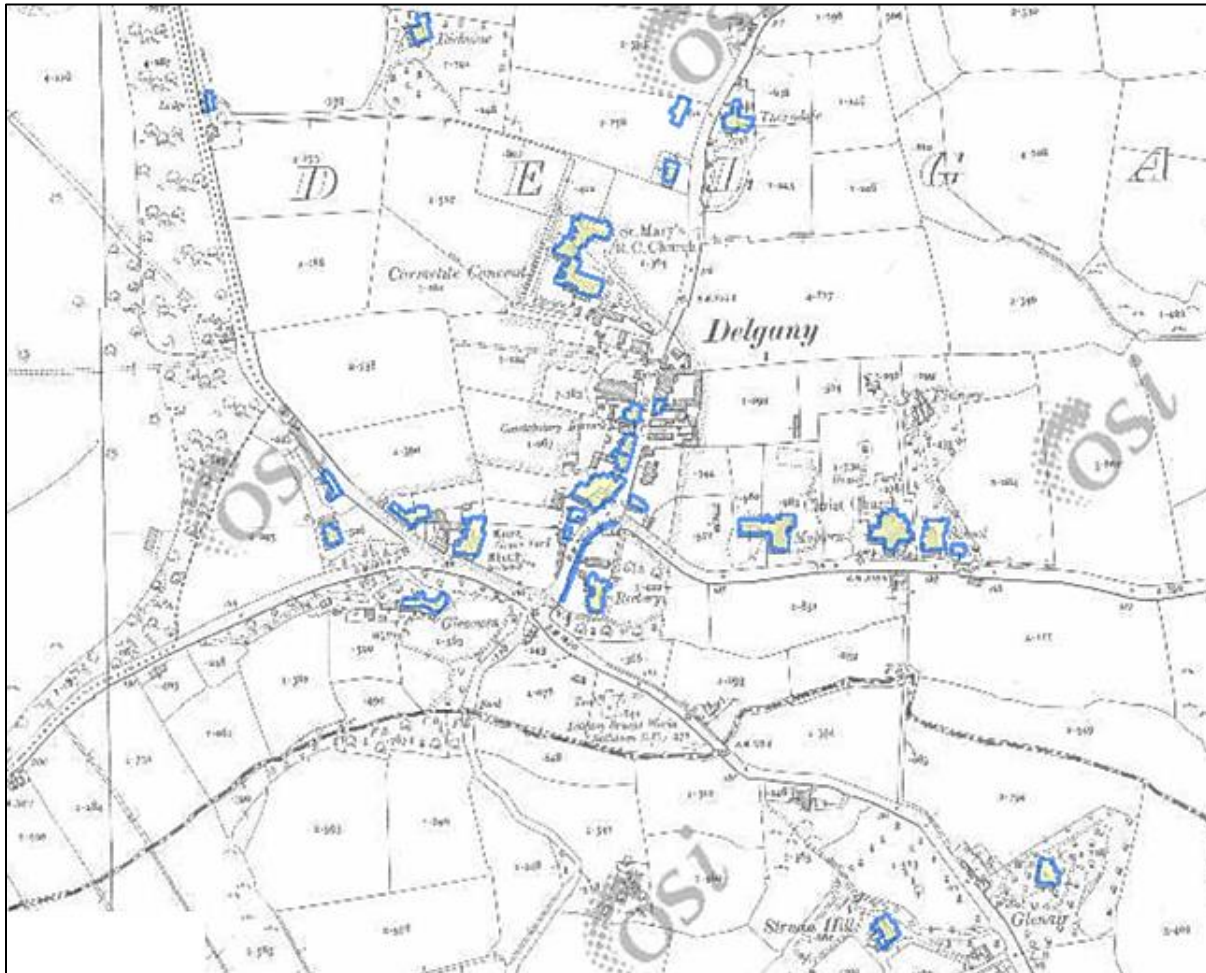


Figure 27 Location of NIAH sites in Delgany

Delgany Village is a designated Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) in the 2013-19 Greystones –Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan (Fig. 29). An ACA area defines the character of places, areas, structures which when grouped together are of high architectural, historical, archaeological, cultural, social, technical or scientific interest, or which contribute to the appreciation of protected structures. There are eleven protected structures within the Delgany ACA, they are as follows (See Appendix 1 below);

⁷⁶ NIAH 16305027

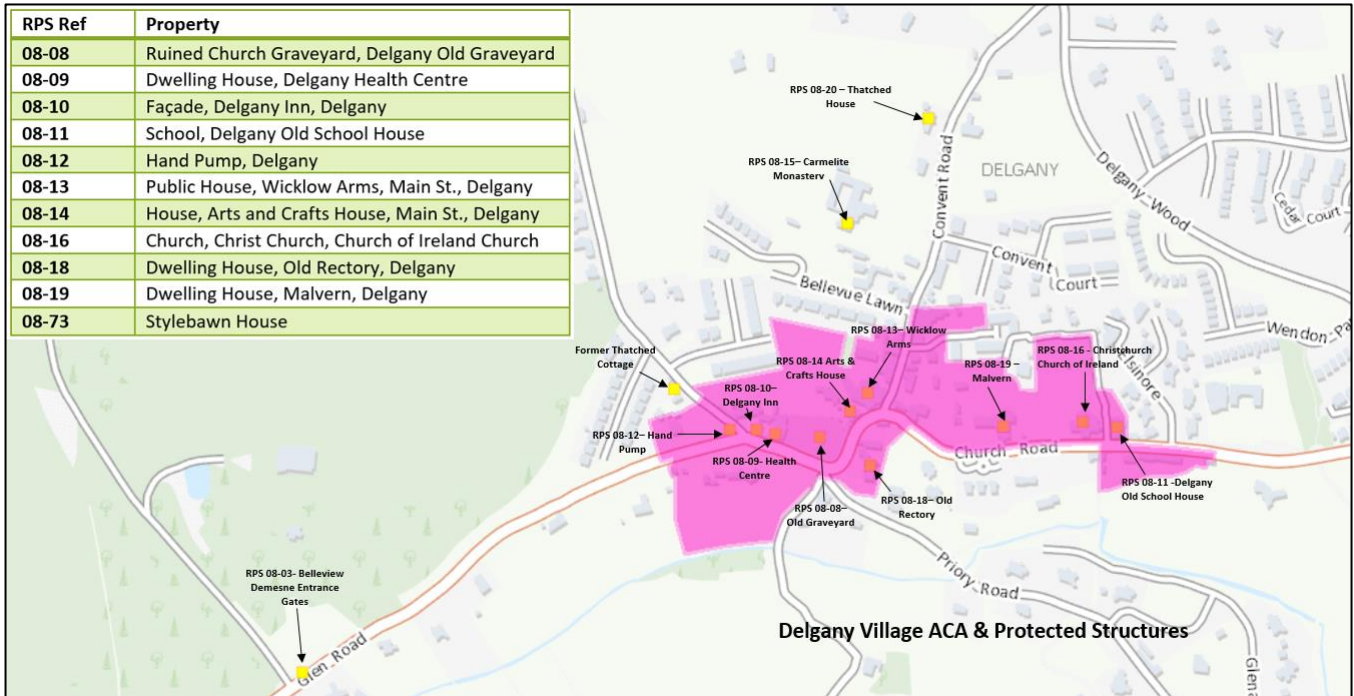


Figure 28 Delgany Architectural Conservation Area and Protected Structures

Cultural heritage features noted in the village

Cultural Heritage fragments

In addition to the upstanding structures of architectural merit and the recorded archaeological sites there are additional features within the village that collectively form part of its locally distinct character. Of note are the high roadside boundary walls on approach into and within the village.

On the western approach along Glen Road is the dominant boundary walls associated with Bellevue Demesne and on Convent Road is the roadside boundary of the former Thorndale House and of the Carmelite Monastery. Within the village the prominent stretch of early 18th-century curving boundary wall associated with the Old Rectory, the high walls enclosing the early church site and enclosing Christchurch are distinctive, whilst they are not outstanding they add a distinctiveness and character to the streetscape.



Figure 29 Delgany Church enclosing wall



Figure 30 Wall enclosing the Old Rectory; it includes wheel guard stone at the corner

There is a notable use of granite in the town. Some granite kerbstones survive along the footpaths and are likely to be contemporaneous to the older buildings, it is also found forming the capping on stone walls



Figure 31 Granite kerbs outside the carriage entrance of the Old Rectory; on the footpath outside Christchurch



Figure 32 Granite capstone on the low rubble stone wall outside Beaumont Cottage, the underside of the capstone show evidence for stone cleave marks

Vernacular features include the reuse of mushroom stones and of granite piers which provide a decorative enhancement to the Long House and additional character to the cottage.



Figure 33 Mushroom stone and reused granite pier outside the Long House, cleave marks are identifiable on the pier

Blackberry Lane is a long narrow winding laneway that runs from Delgany village and crosses a fording point of the Three Trout's Stream westwards towards Willowgrove. It is bound by hedgerow, mature treelines and in places distinctive ivy covered rubble stone walls. It forms part of the local heritage trail.

Features along the lane include a fording point across the Three Trout's Stream stone bridge and with a possible former granite footbridge, like the granite pieces described above (Fig 32 & 31) cleave marks can be seen on the underside.



Figure 34 Bridges and foot bridge over the Three Trout River



Figure 35 Rubble stone walls aligning Blackberry Lane

Archaeological Investigations

The number of archaeological investigations within the village core is limited (Appendix 2). Of the three archaeological investigations carried out the most revealing results was in the immediate vicinity of the monastic core where monitoring was carried out, in advance of an extension and alterations an existing dwelling (Whitty 2011, Appendix 2). The dwelling called 'Round the Bend' lies adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Old Church and graveyard occupying the original entrance to the graveyard, as depicted on the Fair Plans from 1836–7 and the first-edition OS map of 1838, and may have gone out of use by the time of the second edition in 1885. The original entrance was defined by the terminal of a roughly coursed stone wall bound with mortar. The original graveyard wall is incorporated into the structure of the cottage. Fourteen disarticulated human bones were retrieved from disturbed material at the location of the original entranceway. This area would have been filled in once the new entrance to the south was built. Butchered animal bone and modern pottery were also recovered from the same layer as the bone. The excavation suggests that burials may lie further beyond the existing walled enclosure around the churchyard.

In advance of the Hillview development, which is located behind the main eastern street frontage, a former footpath ('hollow way') shown on the first-edition OS map was identified (Frazer 2002). Based on the OS maps, the hollow way was backfilled between c. 1838–1908/9. Nothing else of archaeological significance was noted. Monitoring in advance of works being carried out at the Wicklow Arms also did not reveal anything of archaeological significance (Swan, 1999).

Natural Environment

When John Wesley (the Anglican minister and theologian who went on to establish the Methodist Church) passed through the Glen of the Downs in 1789, he noted in his journal that “This country is remarkably fruitful and pleasant” (Flannery 1990:65). Similar observations would be made by various writers throughout the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

In the early 1800s, properties in the area were rented out to visitors “in that beautiful and picturesque neighbourhood of Delgany, which, for beauty of situation, good air, and convenience for sea-bathing, stands unrivalled”.⁷⁷ The natural beauty of the area, coupled with its relative convenience in relation to the capital, made the area popular with the gentry, who established ‘seats’ (mansions set within landscaped demesnes and/or extensive gardens), which in turn became part of the area’s general appeal. Indeed, Wright tells us that by the 1820s the area was “thickly inhabited by gentry” (Wright 1822:35).

Flannery notes that Delgany owed some of its popularity to its nearness to the Glen of the Downs, a ravine over a mile long which was carved out at the end of the last Ice Age (Flannery 1990:10). For example, an advertisement for a site in Drummin in 1807 described the location as:

*... far exceed[ing] everything in this delightful country, as it commands distinct views of the Glen of the Downs, Mr. Latouche’s demesne [Bellevue], the beautiful village of Delgany, Mr. Barrington’s rural Villa, Wicklow Head, and Light House, three separate glimpses of the Irish Sea, and the seats of Hermitage, Newtown Mount-Kennedy, Tinny Park, Bromley, and Hollywood.*⁷⁸

Advertisements for cottages in Delgany or in the vicinity generally comment on the views (“a very pleasing view of Belview and the old Castle of Kindlestown, with the prospect of Wicklow Head and Bay, to the south”)⁷⁹; the quality of the surrounding lands (“a garden and four acres of excellent meadow”)⁸⁰ and proximity to Greystones which in the nineteenth century became an important harbour and railway station. Wright also celebrated “the richly wooded and highly improved tract of country from Delgany to Wicklow, bounded on the east by the sea, and on the west and north by lofty mountains, which afford so much shelter...” (Wright 1822:35). Lewis in 1840 wrote that “The land is fertile, the system of agriculture much improved, and there is scarcely any waste land and but very little bog” (Lewis 1840).

The La Touches themselves also contributed to the area’s appeal:

[The harbour at Greystones is] adjacent to the beautiful village of Delgany.... Adjacent to this harbour at the Greystones, there are admirable sites for villas, an excellent beach for bathing, the most charming rides in a country superior to most parts of Ireland, for variety of hill and dale, and for general attraction, for the peaceable and kind dispositions of the natives, equal to the most orderly and civilized parts of Great

⁷⁷ Saunders Newsletter 01/07/1802

⁷⁸ Saunders Newsletter 01/05/1807

⁷⁹ Saunders Newsletter 11/07/1811

⁸⁰ ibid

*Britain.... We need only name Mr. and Mrs. Latouche, of Bellevue, to comprehend every thing that is dignified and respectable in private life, or public society.*⁸¹

As well as being a fashionable rural address and an area ripe for investment, the locality of Delgany in the nineteenth century was said to be “much frequented during the summer and autumn months” by visitors (Fraser 1844:67–68). Delgany was described as “a lovely village with an appearance of cheerful gladness”⁸² and its popularity with tourists is reflected in, and was no doubt boosted by, its frequent appearance in tourist guides, such as those by Ferrar (1796) and Wright (1822), and new roads built to connect with the railway station at Greystones made the area more accessible. Flannery notes that “With greater ease of travel and the promise of being able to visit Bellevue on Mondays ... Delgany enjoyed its own share of visitors. They could stay at the Delgany Hotel (now the Delgany Inn)...” (Flannery 1990:91).

As we have seen, Delgany was also a spa town, with “Invalids in search of health frequently making it a place of refuge when in pursuit of best vigour” (Flannery 1990:91). These “invalids” would no doubt have been visiting the hydrophatic baths at Malvern House, established around 1857.

When the Incumbered Estates Court put up for sale the estate of Richard Turner (who was Trustee for the owners, James Sloane and Elizabeth Goode) in 1857, the sale description notes that in 1829 an indenture had been made between Mary Baker Keoghe, Eliza Keoghe and Thomas Keoghe on the one part, and William Goode on the other. The sale documents state that:

The Lands of Delgany are admirably adapted for building purposes, within about one mile of Greystones Railway Station, and watering place in the midst of the most fashionable picturesque and improving locality.... It is one of the most desirous situations, and presents several villa sites and ground for laying off a terrace of several hundred feet in length. The views and scenery are unsurpassed, and the other advantages are sufficient to induce building capitalists to take advantage of so desirable an investment....The locality is one of the most desirable, being in a fashionable and highly improved district, with sea bathing, pure air, magnificent scenery, and good roads for traffic to the best markets, and cheap and abundant facilities for travelling to the metropolis or other parts of the kingdom (Landed Estates Court Rentals).

Naturally, the description is designed to emphasise the area’s attractiveness to potential buyers, but when taken with all the other references it would seem that there is more to these descriptions than mere sales spin.

Today, the natural beauty of Delgany, along with its flora and fauna, remain treasured features of the locality. The Three Trout Stream (a remnant of a great river that gouged out the Glen of the Downs towards the end of the last Ice Age), is considered a natural asset of significant ecological value. The “many beautiful walks” (Glen Road, Bellevue Road, Jacob’s Ladder and the Glebe, Priory Road, Blind Lane, Blackberry Lane); the large and rare trees; and wildlife such as sparrowhawks, herons, barn owls, pheasants, squirrels, badgers, foxes and bats, all form part of Delgany’s natural heritage. The appreciation of this natural beauty can also be considered part of Delgany’s cultural heritage and a legacy passed down from previous generations of landowners, residents and visitors.

⁸¹ *Southern Reporter and Cork Commercial Courier*, 06/10/1825

⁸² *Heffernan’s Handbook*, 1860

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'A ramble around Delgany', FAS / Wicklow County Council.

'Bellvue Woods', Nature Trail Route, Forest & Wildlife Service

'Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre', Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

'Delgany Church', A note on the history of the church ruins by Chris Corlett, The Heritage Council.

'Devil's Glen Woods, Ashford, Co. Wicklow, Visitors Guide', Sculpture in Woodland.

'Graveyards in Wicklow – A Heritage Resource', Wicklow County Council & The Heritage Council.

'Kindlestown Wood, Delgany, Co. Wicklow', Neighbourhood Wood Scheme.

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'The Delgany Heritage Trail', published by Delgany Community Council & The Heritage Council.

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Newspaper Cuttings

'Delgany garage closes after 50 years', Irish Times, 1/11/2012.

'€44,215 announced for Wicklow Heritage Projects', Wicklow Times, 21/3/2007.

Maps

2 x copies of historic maps (undesigned) and a sketch map, all showing Delgany area

Baker Estate Map of Delgany, 1775 (extract from Flannery's book)

Map of Delgany Heritage Trail

Photographs

7 x photos of the church ruins and burial ground (RMP WI013-004).

1 x photo of La Touche cottage.

Photos of headstones in the graveyard

Before and after photos of the burial ground (following clean-up)

CDs

'Images and photos of La Touche and Delgany'

'Church' (1 photo)

Miscellaneous

'Old Burial Ground Delgany Village: Early Christian Settlement, Church Ruins, 13th century', Text and photos (including tombstones) relating to a project funded by Local Heritage Grant Scheme 2006. (published??) (small folder)

Archaeological Survey of Ireland, SMR file WI013-004, photocopy (small folder)

Correspondence in relation to rights of way and road safety on the Delgany Trail.

Correspondence in relation to the Heritage Council grant (2007)

Correspondence in relation to the Heritage Flower Festival (small folder)

Correspondence in relation to the Wicklow County Council heritage award (2007) to erect signage and finger posts as part of the Delgany Trail.

Draft information & correspondence relating to the Delgany Heritage Trail leaflet publication and walking trail event.

Extract from ?? listing burials in the parish from 1666-1779 (small folder)

Flyer advertising A Wicklow Heritage Flower Festival (July 2007)

List of tombstones from the 1700s (small folder)

Names of the Brack family buried in Delgany graveyard, 1860s to 1920s (small folder)

Note on ecclesiastical remains at Delgany, with sketch (un-authored) (small folder)

Note on the Carmelite monastery (www.carmelitemonasterydelgany.ie)

Note on the early history of Delgany (un-authored) (small folder)

Note on the stained glass windows in Christ Church, Delgany (un-authored) (small folder)

Note on the village of Delgany (un-authored) (small folder)

Note regarding the Care and Conservation of Graveyards (small folder)

Notes by Delgany Community Council regarding Heritage Issues & Gateways in to the Village (i.e. traffic control) for the SEA and LAP.

Paragraph on the Delgany Inn, showing first edition OS map: Extract from Conservation Report on the Delgany Inn by Cathal Crimmins, Architect. (small folder)

The Carmelite Monastery Calendar 2007

Appendix 1 Cultural Heritage Inventory

Recorded Archaeological Monuments

| | |
|-------------|---|
| SMR REF | WI013-004001- |
| TLAND_NAME | DELGANY |
| ITM_ | E 727653 N 710931 |
| CLASSDESC | Church |
| Description | <p>Situated in Delgany village on a gentle S-facing slope overlooking a stream valley.</p> <p>A nave (int. dims. 14m x 6.2m) and chancel (int. dims. c. 7.4m x 4m) church which remained in use until c. 1789. The walls survive only at lower levels apart from a portion of the N wall of the nave and are of uncoursed rubble with large blocks towards the wall footings. The inner face of the nave retains some plaster. The walls of the chancel are thicker (T 1m) than those of the nave (T 0.75m) and contain more large blocks. A single stone protruding from the N wall of the nave may indicate the junction between the nave and chancel. A doorway occurs in the S side of the nave with a large flagstone sill and there is an indication of a window opposite in the N wall.</p> <p>Some early nineteenth-century headstones occur within the church which stands at the S side of a trapezoidal graveyard (dims. 70m x (max.) 45m). The remains of a granite high cross are situated to the N of the church and consist of the lower portion of the cross-shaft with rectangular section and chamfered edges (H 1.87m; 0.47m x 0.3m). The W, S and E faces have the remains of rebated panels and six (indecipherable) lines of script survive on the S face (Harbison 1992, 61). A sub rectangular font forms part of a low wall outside the doorway of the church.</p> <p>The graveyard is enclosed by a modern (nineteenth-century) wall, and contains several early eighteenth-century headstones.</p> |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| SMR REF | WI013-004002- |
| TLAND_NAME | DELGANY |
| ITM_ | E 327694 N 210790 |
| CLASSDESC | Graveyard |
| Description | <p>The church stands at the S side of a trapazoidal graveyard (dims. 70m x (max.) 45m). The remains of a granite high cross are situated to the N of the church of the church and consist of the lower portion of the cross-shaft with rectangular section and chamfered edges (H 1.87m; 0.47m x 0.3m). The W, S and E faces have the remains of rebated panels and six (indecipherable) lines of script survive on the south face. A sub-rectangular font forms part of the low wall outside the doorway of the church. The graveyard is enclosed by a modern wall (19th century) and contains several early 18th century gravestones.</p> |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| SMR REF | WI013-004004- |
| TLAND_NAME | DELGANY |
| ITM_ | E 727617 N 710820 |
| CLASSDESC | Font |
| Description | <p>A sub-rectangular font which forms part of a low wall (W side) outside the doorway of the church (WI013-004001-). It is set on its side and has a drain-hole just off centre.</p> |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| SMR REF | WI013-004005- |
| TLAND_NAME | DELGANY |
| ITM_ | E 727653 N 710931 |
| CLASSDESC | Road - hollow-way |
| Description | <p>Archaeological test trenching in 2002 (Excavation Licence 02E0390) revealed the eastern end of a possible hollow way, the line of which is represented as a trackway on the 1841 OS 6-inch map. (Frazer 2004, 534)</p> |

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| SMR REF | WI013-065---- |
| TLAND_NAME | DELGANY |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| ITM_ | E 727541 N 710764 |
| CLASSDESC | Bullaun stone |
| Description | A large granite boulder (visible Wth 1.2m; H 0.9m), obscured by dense vegetation growth at time of inspection in 2003, with a single basin (diam. 38cm; D 34cm) which has been split leaving two thirds of it intact. Small cup shaped depression (diam. 12 cm; D 5cm) alongside basin. |

Protected Structures 2010-2016 and Draft Development Plan 2016-2022

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-11 |
| Building_A | Delgany Old School House |
| Structure | School |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | A four-bay, single-storey school with cemented walls and segmental-headed windows set in round-headed, blank arches and a hipped roof. |



| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-16 |
| Building | Delgany, Christchurch Church of Ireland |
| Structure | Church |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Spacious, church with a wide transept on the North side and a three-stage, West tower rising through the West gable. The walls are rough-cast with granite string courses, clasping buttresses, crenellations and pinnacles on the tower. The windows are pointed and the steep-pitched roof has natural slates. The church contains the La Touche monument by Hickey. The granite gate-piers and iron railings date from the late 18 th Century. |



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Ref_No | 08-19 |
| Building | Malvern, Delgany. |
| Structure | Dwelling House |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Complex house with three sections: by the road is a three-bay, two-storey block with tall first-floor windows with Georgian glazing, a pointed window on the side wall and a parapet hiding the roof; then an earlier section with lime-rendered walls and tripartite windows and at the rear a three bay, two-storey section over a basement and with a hipped roof. |




| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-20 |
| Building | Thatched house, Delgany (On the West side of the road up the East side of the Belleview demesne) |
| Structure | Thatched house |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Long, single-storey thatched house with deep thatch. The age of the house is unclear but it has been remodelled in the twentieth century.- It no longer has a thatch |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-15 |
| Building | Delgany Carmelite Monastery |
| Structure | House and monastery |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Early-19th century, top-entry house of three bays with a high basement, painted rendering with drip labels over sash windows , parapet hiding the roof. On the left-hand side is a two-storey wing and then a seven-bay, three-storey wing wall with drip-labels over sash windows. On the right-hand side is a mid-19 th Century chapel built of granite ashlar. |




| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-13 |
| Building | Delgany Main Street Wicklow Arms |
| Structure | Public house |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Two-bay, two-storey house dated 1856, with painted walls and gables with pierced barge-boarding. |



| | |
|--|--|
| Ref_No | 08-14 |
| Building | Delgany Main Street Arts and Crafts house |
| Structure | House |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | An L-plan house with painted rough-cast rendering and a half-timbered gable. |
|  | |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-18 |
| Building | Delgany, Old Rectory, |
| Structure | Dwelling House |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | A substantial, early-18th century, three-bay, two-storey, gable-ended house with rough-cast walls and a pie-crust, brick cornice. There is a flanking tower on the North-West corner and the enclosed porch is a later addition. |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-08 |
| Building | Delgany Old Graveyard |
| Structure | Ruined church and graveyard |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Graveyard which is raised above the level of the road. There is the ruin of a medieval church and a cross. |

| | |
|--|---|
| Ref_No | 08-10 |
| Building | Delgany Inn |
| Structure | Public house |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | A mid-19th century, four-bay, two-storey house with painted, rough-cast walls, wide eaves and natural slates. On the right-hand side there is a two-storey advanced bay with a gabled roof. |
|  | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Ref_No | 08-09 |
| Building | Delgany Health Centre |
| Structure | Dwelling house |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Simple, three-bay, two-storey house with painted, rendered walls, raised quoins, wide windows of the ground floor with drip labels and keystones - a keystone on the doorcase. |
|  | |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-73 |
| Building | Stylebawn |
| Structure | House |
| Townland | Delgany |
| Description | Unusual T-Plan house of 1773 with large early to mid-19th century extensions and later 19th century details. The building has an intangible Art and Crafts feel, an impression enhanced by its well wooded undulating grounds. |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ref_No | 08-12 |
| Building | Delgany |
| Structure | Hand pump |
| Townland | Delgany Td |
| Description | Hand pump sited in a niche to the West of the cross roads. Inscribed ' John Burns Plumber Bray, 1884.' |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Ref_No | 08-03 |
| Building_A | Bellevue |
| Structure | Entrance gates |
| Townland | Bellevue Demesne |
| Description | Important, neo-classical design with gate piers with Coade Stone panels (now painted over), quadrants and Coade Stone lions (now painted over) and ruined lodges. Attributed to Sir Richard Morrison. |

DELGANY VILLAGE ACA Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013-2019

Location and history

The Delgany Village ACA comprises the larger part of the existing village core, from the old water pump on the western end to Christchurch on the eastern end. The tight clustering of late 18th and early 19th century buildings within Delgany, radiating from a much earlier monastic core, explains the S-shaped street pattern that remains today and lends a distinct and strong village character.

Protected Structures

| RPS Ref | Property |
|----------------|--|
| 08-08 | Ruined Church Graveyard, Delgany Old Graveyard |
| 08-09 | Dwelling House, Delgany Health Centre |
| 08-10 | Façade, Delgany Inn, Delgany |
| 08-11 | School, Delgany Old School House |
| 08-12 | Hand Pump, Delgany |
| 08-13 | Public House, Wicklow Arms, Main St., Delgany |
| 08-14 | House, Arts and Crafts House, Main St., Delgany |
| 08-16 | Church, Christ Church, Church of Ireland Church, Delgany |
| 08-18 | Dwelling House, Old Rectory, Delgany |
| 08-19 | Dwelling House, Malvern, Delgany |
| 08-73 | Stylebawn House |

Character

The character of Delgany Village is of local historical interest containing many historical buildings and features. The village is also of considerable social and cultural interest within the settlement of Greystones-Delgany as a distinctive and attractive place. The buildings within Delgany Village do not follow any formal geometric layout, but rather adhere to the contours of the land and the alignment of the old roads. The southern edge of the village street is largely undeveloped and open with some views to the south through and over wooded lands.

The village of Delgany is set on steep slope which rises up from the Three Trout's Valley. The village buildings are principally located on the northern side of the street with south facing aspect overlooking the Three Trout's Valley. The ground rises to the north behind the village. Many of the buildings sit on large plots with considerable lands

to the rear. Some of these lands are currently used for off-street parking or consist of large private gardens. The burial ground associated with Christ Church, Delgany is a Recorded Monument and represents an important publicly accessible green space in the village. Stylebawn House, The Rectory and Westgate have notable private gardens.

The ensemble of buildings does not represent a limited or homogenous style, but a diverse yet harmonious collection of rubble wall and rendered two storey buildings in a vernacular style. The village contains a number of Victorian style shop fronts that were inserted into the original elevations. The two churches were constructed of cut stone with high degrees of ornamentation in a gothic revival style.

The typical material and construction techniques are summarised below:

- The compositions of narrow sash windows set within rendered and dash facades.
- Eaves and frames of fenestrations and doors painted black or white.
- Buildings are predominantly two storey structures with single pitched roofs hipped at the ends.
- Use of dark slate.
- Religious buildings are constructed of cut limestone.
- Many buildings directly abut or open onto the footpath.
- Boundaries where present consist of rubble walls rendered and generally unpainted.

The existing mature trees, in particular those on the northern slope of the Three Trout's Stream Valley and at the western entrance to Delgany also contribute significantly to the village character and create a pleasant wooded backdrop.

The tall rubble built wall enclosing the boundary of the rectory is a prominent feature on the streetscape of the village and emphasises the village's historic S-shaped curved street layout. There are some extant granite kerbs along footpaths which may be contemporaneous to the older buildings. The implementation of a holistic scheme of environmental improvements would add to the conservation and appreciation of the heritage of Delgany Village.


Views


The local area plan contains objectives for the preservation and protection of the following views:

V2: Views southwards at the 'Horse and Hound' in Delgany Village towards Drummin Hill.


The views from the village southwards are intrinsic to the character and heritage of Delgany Village and should be protected.


National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) Sites


| REG. NO | NAME | BRIEF DESCRIPTION |
|----------|---------------------|--|
| 16305001 | Lisieux House | <p>Detached three-bay two-storey house, built c.1840. The façade is finished in painted roughcast whilst the gable-ended pitched roof is slated and the chimneystacks rendered. The windows are flat-headed with timber sash frames and painted stone sills. The entrance has a panelled timber door with decorative brackets to the jambs, and a semi-circular fanlight and moulded archivolt. Cast-iron rainwater goods. To the front is a small garden enclosed with a roughcast rendered wall with wrought-iron railings and gate. To the north gable there is a tall elliptical-headed carriage archway with brick voussoirs and c.1970s corrugated-iron double door.</p>  |
| 16305002 | The Old Post Office | <p>Detached three-bay two-storey shop, built c.1850, with double-gabled front. The façade is finished in plain render and painted whilst the pitched roof is slated and has rendered chimneystacks. To the west front is a broad shopfront. This comprises a central timber and glazed double door with panelled pilaster jambs, flanked by large but separate mullioned and transomed timber windows with similar jambs. The whole ensemble linked by a timber signboard. Other windows are flat-headed with timber sash frames and painted stone sills. Cast-iron rainwater goods.</p> |


| REG. NO | NAME | BRIEF DESCRIPTION |
|----------|-------------|--|
| 16305003 | A. Farrelly | <p>Semi-detached four-bay two-storey house and shop, built c.1850 probably as a symmetrical three-bay house but later extended to the north side. The façade is finished in plain unpainted render at ground level, with the upper storey in unpainted roughcast. The pitched gable-ended roof is covered in artificial slate and has rendered chimneystacks with prominent plinths and cornice courses. The entrance consists of a panelled timber door and semi-circular fanlight, whilst the windows are flat-headed with both uPVC and timber sash frames, and painted stone sills. One window, to the north side of the first floor, has a pointed arch head and is set within a small gable. The shop is located to the north side and has a c.1970s timber shopfront. uPVC rainwater goods.</p>  |
| 16305004 | J.A. Moore | <p>Semi-detached three-bay two-storey house, built c.1850, with later shop insertion. The façade is finished in unpainted lined render. The gable-ended pitched roof is slated and has rendered chimneystacks with pronounced plinths and corbelled courses. The entrance consists of a panelled door with a semi-circular fanlight all set within a rendered and painted reveal with simple edge moulding. The windows are flat-headed with replacement timber top-hung windows and stone sills. The shopfront is to the north and has a replacement timber window, replacement timber panelled door and roller shutter housing, all encased by the original shopfront timber jambs with decorative brackets and timber signboard. Projecting sign above shopfront. Cast-iron rainwater goods.</p> |

| REG. NO | NAME | BRIEF DESCRIPTION |
|----------------|---|--|
| 16305005 | Wicklow Arms / Cheers / Mack Brothers | Terraced two-bay two-storey picturesque public house, built in 1856, and renovated c.2000. The façade is in painted roughcast with plain-rendered quoins and base course, whilst the overhanging pitched roof is covered in artificial slate with clay ridge tiles, decorative fascia and bargeboards, and tall rendered chimneystacks with pronounced plinths and corbelled courses. To the ground floor is a timber pubfront with a partly glazed double door and a two light window with arched heads to each light. To the north of this is another partly glazed timber door with both this and the pubfront encased by timber pilaster jambs with decorative brackets and a long timber signboard. To the first floor are two flat-headed windows both set within half dormer gables with decorative bargeboards and finials. Both windows have replacement timber top hung frames and painted stone sills. Between the windows is a large panel with the date '1856' in replacement raised numerals. Projecting pub sign and lighting to the first floor. Replacement aluminium rainwater goods. To the south and set back from the street line of the pub, is a large three-bay two storey mid 20th-century extension, also renovated c.2000. The façade and window detailing of this section have been designed to match the original pub, but with a mainly flat roof hidden behind a parapet and a full-length projecting roof-like canopy with artificial slate, gablets and decorative bargeboards and finials, above the first floor windows. To north of the pub is a three-bay two storey shop, c.1860 and extensively renovated c.2000. This is also set back from the street line of the pub but has similar detailing, with full-length replacement timber shopfront and timber sash windows. |
| 16305006 | House c.1840 | Detached three-bay two-storey hipped roof house, built c.1840 and renovated c.2000. The façade is finished in painted lined render with a slated hipped roof and rendered chimneystacks with prominent corbelling. The entrance has a replacement uPVC door and rectangular fanlight, whilst the flat-headed windows have replacement uPVC frames and painted stone sills. To rear is a full-height lean-to section, whilst to the east elevation is a single-storey lean-to extension which was added c.1970. To the front is a small garden with a rendered and painted boundary wall, wrought-iron railings and gate and pyramidal capped piers. |
| 16305007 | Delgany Rectory | Tall curving rubble-built wall, built c.1725, enclosing the north-west boundary of the grounds of a former rectory. The wall is hard onto the road at the centre of the village of Delgany and lowers to the south end, eventually merging with a much lower wall with railings which encloses the forecourt of the house itself. The wall is largely in rubble stone, but displays evidence of once being completely rendered; a small portion to the south is finished in a roughcast render of c.1900 whilst other portions are now covered with creeping plant growth. To the south end, there is a carriage gateway with square piers and timber gate, whilst some distance to the north of this, there is a further projecting stone pier. |
| 16305008 | Beaumont Cottage (Now Dooley Auctioneers) | End-of-terrace five-bay single-storey house, built c.1800, but with later formalisation of the fenestration which disguises the original vernacular appearance. The façade is finished in painted render and painted roughcast with a slated pitched roof and rendered chimneystacks. The entrance has a partly glazed timber door, whilst the windows have timber sash and timber fixed light frames and stone sills. One of the windows to the south side, which does not have a sill, appears to be an early to mid 20th-century insertion. uPVC rainwater goods. |
| 16305009 | Courtough House (Also RPS 08-14) | Detached multiple-bay two-storey house, c.1920, in a simplified Domestic Revival style. The house has an irregular, roughly L-shaped plan with gable-ends. The façade is in painted roughcast with mock half-timbering to the gables. The overhanging pitched roof is covered in clay tiles with decorative serrated clay ridge tiles and finials, plain bargeboards, exposed rafter ends, and rendered chimneystacks. The entrance is located within a single storey lean-to porch to the east-facing front and consists of a partly glazed replacement timber door. The windows are flat-headed and have timber mullioned and transomed and timber casement frames, some with leaded glazing; stone sills. Cast iron rainwater goods. There is a small garden to the front which is bounded by a low rendered wall with wrought-iron railings. |

| REG. NO | NAME | BRIEF DESCRIPTION |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 16305010 | Delgany Rectory | Detached three-bay two-storey former rectory with attic, built 1725, with single-bay full-height extension to north, constructed 1791, and a gabled replacement porch of c.2003 The façade is finished in painted roughcast. The original section of the house has a slated, gable-ended pitched roof, with a slated hipped roof to the north extension. Rendered chimneystacks and stone parapets to gable ends. The entrance is located within the large gabled porch and consists of a panelled door with large window-sized sidelights. Above the door is a small painted stone panel with the date '1725' thereon; this was probably relocated from elsewhere. The majority of the windows are flat-headed with painted stone sills and replacement uPVC frames. The windows to the front have mock shutters of c.1975. To the rear, the original house has windows at attic level set into gabled half dormers of various sizes, whilst the extension projects as a full height canted three-storey bay with an attached small single-storey flat-roofed extension of c.1980. The house has a gravel covered forecourt, outbuildings to the north and an extensive garden to the rear. |
| 16305011 | Delgany Carmelite Monastery | Detached multiple-bay single-storey over basement former house, built c.1810, now in use as a monastery with an attached Gothic Revival church, built c.1853, and a large two and three-storey wing to the south built c.1860. The whole ensemble is roughly U-plan with the original former house section to the centre, large three-storey projecting wing to south and projecting church section to north. Well maintained and unusually complete religious house grouping typical of the mid to later 19th century. The central section of this monastery was originally a country house, built possibly c.1810 (it is shown on the OS map of 1838-40). The Carmelites took possession of the house in 1844 adding the church by 1853. A school was held within the monastery until 1896 |
| 16305012 | Alba House | Detached three-bay two storey house, built 1910, and extensively renovated c.1995. The façade is finished in painted render with a slated gable-ended pitched roof and rendered chimneystacks. The entrance is located within a largely glazed, gabled porch and consists of a panelled timber door with a large rectangular three-light fanlight. The windows are flat-headed and have replacement timber top-hung frames and painted stone sills. Two-storey pitched roof return to rear. Cast-iron rainwater goods.  |
| 16305013 | Thorndale House | now demolished |

| REG. NO | NAME | BRIEF DESCRIPTION |
|----------|-----------------|---|
| 16305014 | Long Cottage | <p>Semi-detached multiple-bay single-storey roughly L-shaped house, built c.1760, probably as two dwellings, but extended and partly formalised c.1850, now apparently amalgamated as one house. The long, overtly vernacular northern portion of the house lies on a north-south axis along the roadside, rising to higher ground to the north end. The façade of this section is in whitewashed rubble stone with a slated pitched roof with several roof lights. To the east elevation of this section is a mid to later 20th-century gabled extension which gives this part of the building a double-pile north elevation.</p> |
| 16305015 | Hillside House | <p>Detached two-bay two-storey house, built 1860, as a hunting lodge for the Bellevue Estate, but incorporating the fabric of an earlier house of 1760 as a rear return. As a former hunting lodge belonging to the Bellevue Estate this property possesses local historical significance. It is also of interest in an architectural sense in that its form clearly shows its evolution from a modest mid 18th-century single storey dwelling, to a comfortable late Victorian / Edwardian middle-class residence</p>  |
| 16305016 | The Delgany Inn | <p>Detached five-bay two storey public house, c.1850 but possibly containing the fabric of a late 16th / early 17th-century building. The façade is finished in painted roughcast whilst the slated gable-ended pitched roof has an overhang supported on brackets, and brick chimneystacks. The entrance is located within a three-bay projection and consists of a replacement timber door and sidelights. The windows are flat-headed and have replacement timber top hung frames and painted stone sills, with mock shutters to those on the first floor. To the east side of the front elevation is a full-height gabled bay. Cast-iron rainwater goods, c.1970s pub signage. Though largely mid-19th century in its present form and sporting some late 20th-century alterations, this building is thought to contain the fabric of a much earlier thatched inn dating from the late 16th / early 17th-century.</p> |

| REG. NO | NAME | BRIEF DESCRIPTION |
|----------|---|---|
| 16305017 | Stylebawn House (Also RPS08-73, now derelict) | <p>Detached multiple-bay one and a half-storey house, built 1773, but much extended in the mid 19th-century. The building has an irregular T-plan with the east side of the long stroke of the 'T' being the original house, the west side of the long stroke built c.1820, with the cross part of the 'T' constructed c.1840. The site is generally level although the west side of the long stroke of the 'T' follows a sharp slope. The façade is finished in unpainted roughcast render, whilst the gable-ended pitched roof is slated and has part plain and part decorative clay ridge tiles, several dormers and rendered chimneystacks. The entrance is to the north elevation near the intersection of the 'T' and consists of a panelled timber double door with flat-roofed open veranda-like porch of c.1900. There is a small gabled half dormer directly over the entrance with a window and a decorative moulded roundel date stone with swags. The flat-headed windows are of various sizes with replacement casement and six over six sash frames constructed in timber and uPVC. The house is set within an extensive garden. Unusual T-plan house of 1773 with large early to mid 19th-century extensions and later 19th-century details. The building has an intangible Arts & Crafts feel, an impression enhanced by its well wooded undulating grounds.</p> |
| 16305018 | House | <p>Detached multiple-bay one and a half-storey thatched vernacular house, built in 1760, probably originally as two houses. The façade is finished in painted roughcast whilst the gable-ended pitched roof is thatched and incorporates an eyebrow dormer with rough hewn timber cladding and a replacement timber casement frame to the flat-headed window. Rendered chimneystacks. The entrance consists of a replacement timber door whilst the flat-headed windows are of various sizes and have replacement timber casement frames. To the front there is a small garden with a low rendered wall and wrought-iron gate. Increasingly rare, well-maintained mid 18th-century thatched vernacular house, somewhat altered in more recent years but an asset to the Delgany streetscape.</p> <p>Since the NIAH survey the thatch roof has been replaced with roof tile.</p>  |
| 16305019 | Richview House Gate Lodge | <p>Detached two-bay two-storey gate lodge to Richview house, c.1845. The façade is finished in unpainted roughcast, whilst the hipped roof is slated and has a rendered chimneystack. The entrance consists of a partly glazed timber door, whilst the generally small flat-headed windows have timber sash frames. Cast-iron rainwater goods. There is a tall roughcast wall to the west side of the lodge with a gateway to the south. The gateway has square pyramidal capped piers and replacement metal gates. Well-preserved mid-19th century gate lodge whose value lies in its relatively simple, almost vernacular appearance</p> |

| REG. NO | NAME | BRIEF DESCRIPTION |
|----------|--|--|
| 16305020 | Richview House (now derelict) | Detached three-bay two storey house, built c.1840. The façade is clad in slate, with large sections obscured by ivy growth. The hipped roof is slated with an overhang supported on paired brackets and rendered chimneystacks. The entrance is located within a large gabled porch and consists of a panelled timber door; the porch itself is now largely covered in ivy. The windows are flat-headed with timber sash frames, with those to the ground floor mainly four over four with margin panes. Cast iron rainwater goods. Gravel covered forecourt and extensive grounds to all sides. This late Georgian style gentleman's residence of c.1840 is a fine, well maintained example of its genre and apart from the undoubtedly later (and undoubtedly necessary) slate cladding, appears largely original. |
| 16305021 | Glenair House, Stilebawn, (Newcastle Barony) | (Proposed RPS 08-76) Detached three-bay single-storey over basement regency style house, built c.1830, with basement storey only visible from the north. The façade is finished in painted lined render with painted moulded quoins, there is a veranda-like open porch, with slated hipped roof and decorative pierced cast-iron supports. The windows are flat-headed with timber sash frames, six panes over six. Castiron rainwater goods. There is a gravel forecourt with a replacement gate screen of c.1990 to end of drive. Good, well preserved example of a small regency house of c.1830, which retains a decorative porch typical of its genre, but frequently missing on other similar properties |
| 16305022 | Struan Hill | <p>(Proposed RPS 08-77 now derelict) Detached four-bay part three part two-storey house, built c.1830, with porch addition of c.1930. The front elevation consists of a central two-bay three-storey hipped roof section flanked by single-bay two-storey hipped roof sections which project slightly beyond the line of that to the centre. The central section itself has full-width flat-roofed entrance porch projection with curved ends. The façade is finished in dry dash with rusticated quoins, but is now largely obscured by ivy growth, whilst the roof is slated and has a slight overhang with dry dash rendered chimneystacks. The entrance consists of two separate partly glazed timber doors whilst the windows are flat-headed with painted stone sills. Most of these are filled with timber sash frames, six panes over six. Cast-iron rainwater goods. Largely well preserved and prominently sited late Georgian residence whose value lies in its unusual part three, part two-storey arrangement.</p>  |

Appendix 2 Previous Archaeological Investigations in Delgany

Wicklow Arms Public House, Delgany Adjacent to medieval graveyard

Testing was undertaken on the above site on behalf of Mandalay Services Ltd, who propose to extend and refurbish the existing premises. The objective was to determine whether there were any surviving features or deposits associated with the adjacent graveyard. This site has undergone several periods of renovation and reconstruction with the demolition of previous buildings. This was further reflected in the stratigraphy, with disturbed layers evident in each cutting. As no archaeological deposits or features were recovered within the areas tested, the site may therefore be considered as being archaeologically resolved.

Rónán Swan, Licence Ref: 99E0231, Excavations.ie ref: 1999:895

Hillview, Delgany

Testing was undertaken in April 2002 before the Hillview development in Delgany village. The site, measuring c. 22m by 28m, lies immediately behind the main eastern street frontage in the village, on a south-facing slope, just north of the Wicklow Arms and immediately outside the protected area surrounding an early ecclesiastical site (SMR 13:4). Testing before the refurbishment/extension of the Wicklow Arms was undertaken by Rónán Swan in 1999 (Excavations 1999, No. 895, 99E0231). No surviving medieval features were found, although the stratigraphy of that site indicated several periods of renovation and reconstruction associated with the demolition of previous buildings. The 1999 site lay between the ecclesiastical site and the Hillview site. In the present work two perpendicular test-trenches were mechanically excavated across the development site. Trench 1 measured 14.4m north-east/south-west by 1.8m, across the natural gradient. No archaeology was unearthed in this trench. Trench 2 measured 19.2m by 1.8m, down the hill slope. Two archaeological features were revealed. A feature cut into natural boulder clay, possibly linear and oriented south-east/north-west across the hill slope, yielded a possible broken gun flint from the top of its charcoal-rich surface. A second, larger cut feature at the south-eastern end of the trench contained several different deposits, some with charcoal and butchered animal bone. This feature corresponds to a former footpath ('hollow way') shown on the first-edition OS map. On the basis of the OS maps, the hollow way was backfilled between c. 1838–1908/9. Two mortared stone south gables of buildings border the Hillview site to the north and east, although neither will be affected by the development. The former dates from 1838 and 1908/9, and the latter pre-dates 1838. Both now form part of property boundary walls and are in poor condition. Based on this assessment, measures for the mitigation of the impact of development on the archaeology were incorporated in the construction programme, so that archaeology unearthed will be preserved undisturbed and in situ, with monitoring of service trenching to follow. Following on from testing in 2002 (Excavations 2002, No. 1965), monitoring of the excavation of services and two relieving sumps for the removal of groundwater was undertaken in July 2003. The site, c. 22m by 28m, lies immediately behind the main eastern street frontage in the village on a south-facing slope just north of the Wicklow Arms and immediately outside the protected area surrounding an early ecclesiastical site (SMR 13:4). Nothing of archaeological significance was found

William O. Frazer, Licence Ref: 02E0390, Excavations.ie ref: 2002:1965

Round The Bend, Church Road, Delgany

Monitoring was carried out at the residential development, Round the Bend, Church Road, Delgany, in September 2011. The development involved an extension and alterations to the existing dwelling. Although the proposed development is within an archaeologically sensitive area, examination of cartographic sources indicated that the site has been the location of a house since 1836. This house, which is today called 'Round the Bend', is adjacent to the eastern boundary of the ecclesiastical remains WI013-004, which comprise the ruins of a church, graveyard, high cross and font. All of these features are enclosed by a modern 19th-century wall. The cottage under discussion occupies the original entrance to the graveyard, as depicted on the Fair Plans from 1836–7 and the first-edition OS map of 1838, although it appears to have gone out of use by the time of the second edition in 1885. This was confirmed during monitoring and concurs with local oral history, according to which the entrance had to be moved to the south owing to its location on the bend, as the horses and hearses had trouble entering the site. The original entrance was defined by the terminal of a roughly coursed stone wall bound with mortar. The original graveyard wall is incorporated into the structure of the cottage. Unsurprisingly, fourteen disarticulated human bones were retrieved from disturbed material at the location of the original entranceway. This area would have been filled in once the new entrance to the south was built. Butchered animal bone and modern pottery were also recovered from the same layer as the bone.

Yvonne Whitty, Licence Ref: 11E0325, Excavations.ie ref: 11E0325

Appendix 3 1901 Census Transcripts, Delgany Village

| House No | Type | Outhouses | Inhabited | Walls | Roof | Occupier | Owner | Religion |
|----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Convent | 3 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Margaret Conmee | Margaret Conmee | RC |
| 2 | Private Dwelling | - | No | - | - | - | Thomas Lawless | - |
| 3 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | John Cullen | Margaret Conmee | RC |
| 4 | Private Dwelling | 5 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Peter Tyrrell | Peter Tyrrell | RC |
| 5 | Private Dwelling | 2 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Rev Walter Hurley | Peter Tyrrell | RC |
| 6 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Mud, wood | Slate, tiles, iron | Hugh Ivory | - | RC |
| 7 | RC Chapel | - | No | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | - | Margaret Cornee | - |
| 8 | Dispensary | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Sarah Dowling | Peter La Touche | RC |
| 9 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Dora Chapman | Thomas Lawless | COI |
| 10 | Private Dwelling | 2 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Mary Casserly | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 11 | Public House | 9 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Thomas Lawless | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 12 | Shop | - | No | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | - | Thomas Lawless | - |
| 13 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Ellen Whelan | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 14 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Marcella Redmond | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 15 | Private Dwelling | 2 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Elizabeth Kavanagh | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 16 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Mud, wood | Thatch, wood | Matthew Fitzpatrick | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 17 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | John Fitzpatrick | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 18 | Shop | 4 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | John Maguire | Peter La Touche | RC |
| 19 | RIC Barracks | 2 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Kate Ward | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 20 | Private Dwelling | 2 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Thomas McKeena | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 21 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Mud, wood | Slate, tiles, iron | James Leary | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 22 | Shop | 5 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | William Hayden | Thomas Lawless | RC |
| 23 | Shop | - | No | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | - | Miss McGann | - |
| 24 | Private Dwelling | 4 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Clement W Fetherstonhaugh | Clement W Fetherstonhaugh | COI |
| 25 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Constable Henry J. Webb | Lucy Ludlow | COI |
| 26 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Lucy Ludlow | Lucy Ludlow | COI |
| 27 | Public House | 7 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Nathan R Dann | Nathan R Dann | COI |

| House No | Type | Outhouses | Inhabited | Walls | Roof | Occupier | Owner | Religion |
|----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| 28 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Thatch, wood | Edward Doyle | Edward Doyle | COI |
| 29 | Post Office | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Annie Long | | COI |
| 30 | Public Building | - | No | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | - | Peter La Touche | - |
| 31 | Private Dwelling | 7 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Rev R D Bluett | Rev R D Bluett | COI |
| 32 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Mud, wood | Slate, tiles, iron | William Tomkins | | COI |
| 32.2 | | | | | | Mary Anne Holmes | | COI |
| 33 | Shop | - | No | - | - | - | Peter La Touche | - |
| 34 | Private Dwelling | 2 | Yes | Mud, wood | Slate, tiles, iron | Elizabeth Evans | Peter La Touche | COI |
| 34.2 | | | | | | James Murray | Peter La Touche | RC |
| 35 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | William Darcy | Peter La Touche | RC |
| 36 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Mud, wood | Thatch, wood | John Keddy | Peter La Touche | RC |
| 37 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Mud, wood | Thatch, wood | Patrick Doyle | Peter La Touche | RC |
| 37.2 | | | | | | Anne Holmes | Peter La Touche | COI |
| 38 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Mud, wood | Thatch, wood | Garret Keenan | Peter La Touche | RC |
| 39 | Private Dwelling | 7 | Yes | Mud, wood | Slate, tiles, iron | Richard Hutchenson | Richard Hutchenson | COI |
| 39.2 | | | | | | Constable Michael Seery | Richard Hutchenson | RC |
| 40 | Private Dwelling | 1 | Yes | Mud, wood | Thatch, wood | Hugh McLindon | Peter La Touche | COI |
| 41 | Private Dwelling | 6 | Yes | Stone/ brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Francis P. Codd | J Lambert? Jones | RC |
| 42 | Private Dwelling | 10 | Yes | Mud, wood | Thatch, wood | Edith Wynne | | COI |
| 43 | Private Dwelling | 4 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Henry Browne M.D. | | COI |
| 44 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Louisa McMontmorency | | COI |
| 45 | Private Dwelling | 5 | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Solomon Harris | | COI |
| 46 | School | - | No | - | - | - | | - |
| 47 | Protestant Church | - | No | - | - | - | | - |
| 48 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | Hugh Murphy | | RC |
| 49 | Private Dwelling | - | Yes | Stone/brick | Slate, tiles, iron | John Lawless | | RC |
| 50 | Shop | - | No | - | - | - | | - |

