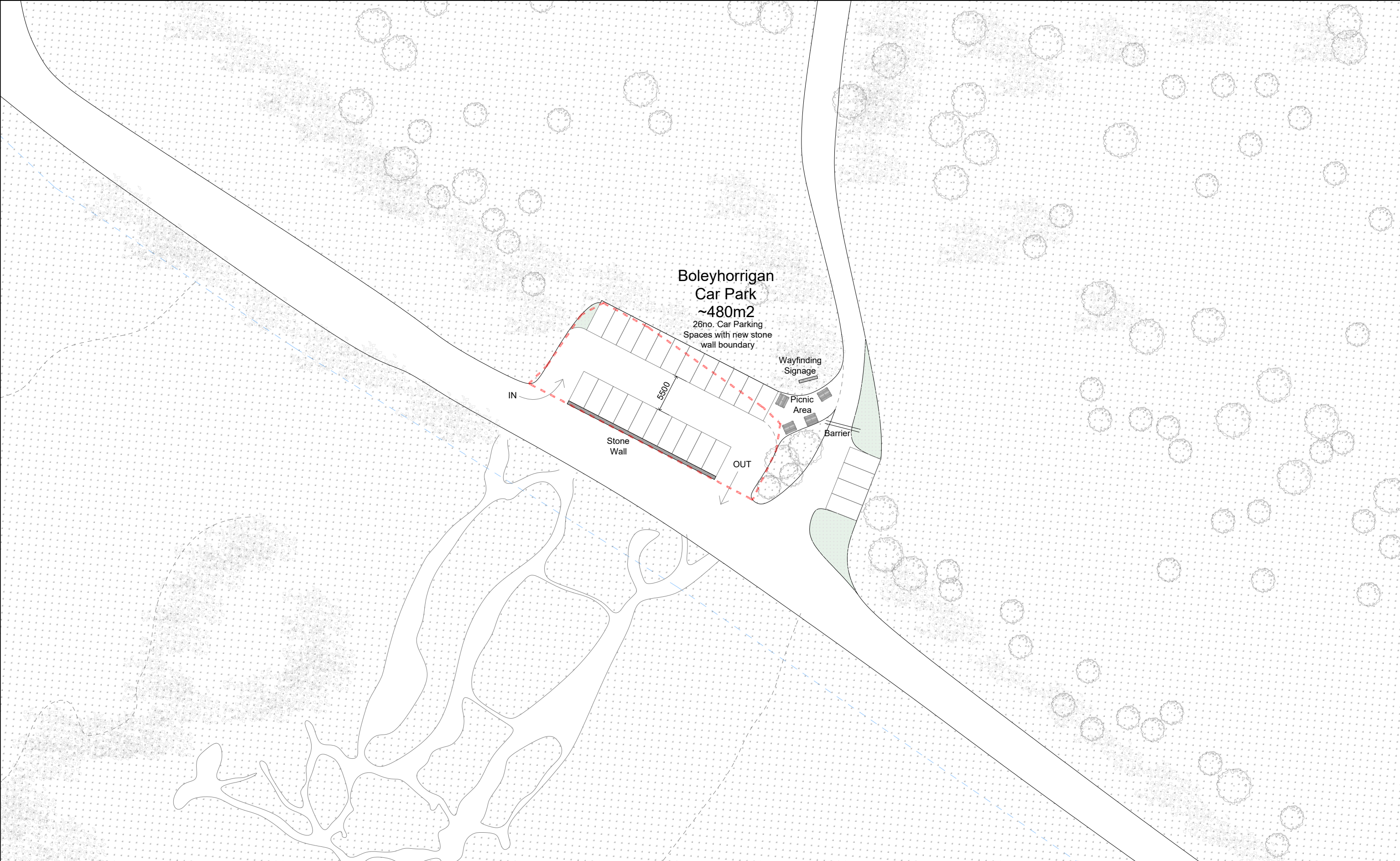




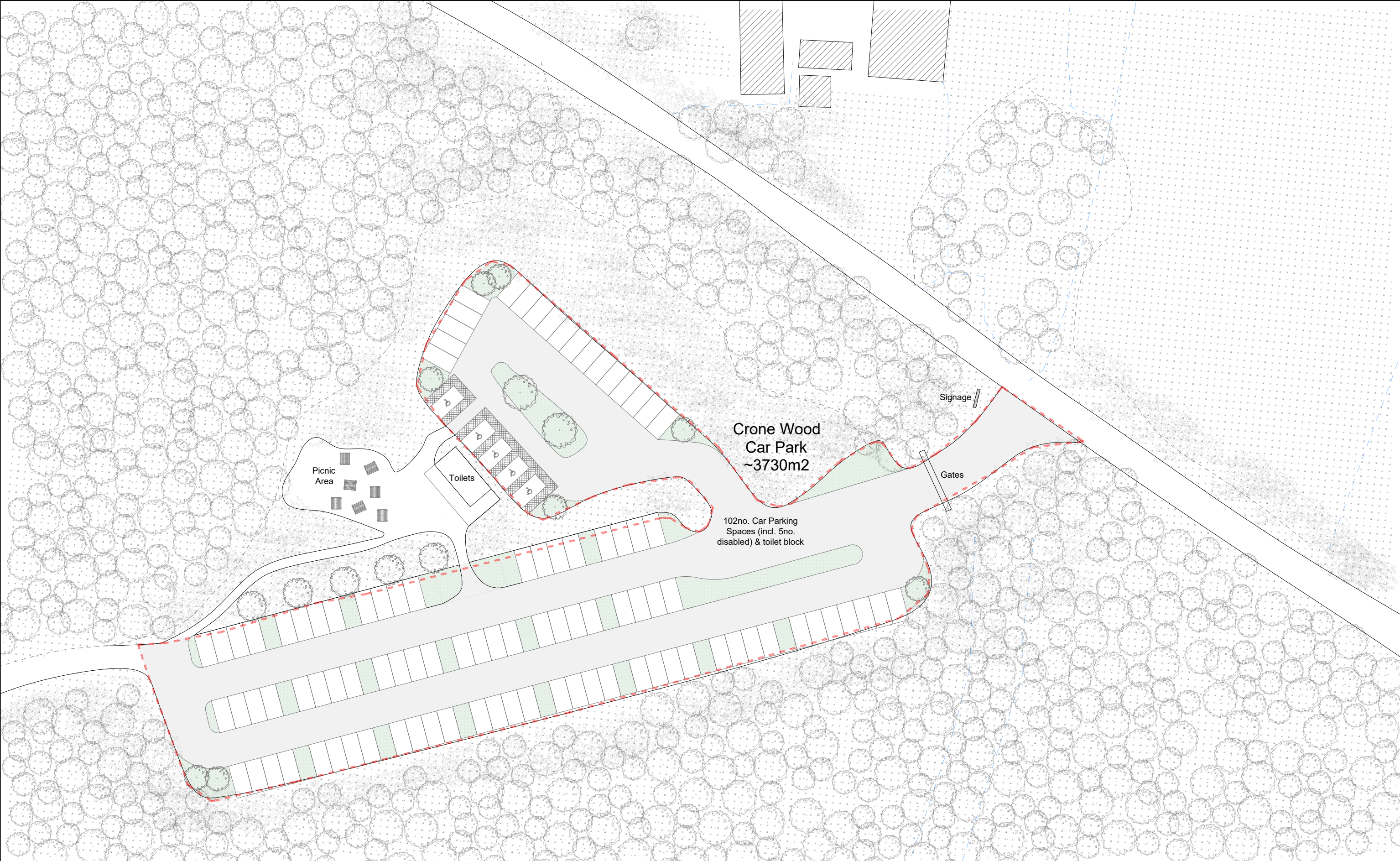
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Notes:

PROJECT Wicklow Mountains
JOB NO. 20-1991-C
TITLE Proposed Car Park 05 - Boleyhorrigan
STATUS -
DWG No. CDG-205
DRAWN NF CHECKED DS APPROVED - SCALE 1:500 SIZE A3 DATE NOV 21
Revision -
File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C-Glendalough_Wicklow NP1, Consarc Drawings\1. Design\Proposed Carparks 24th Nov 21

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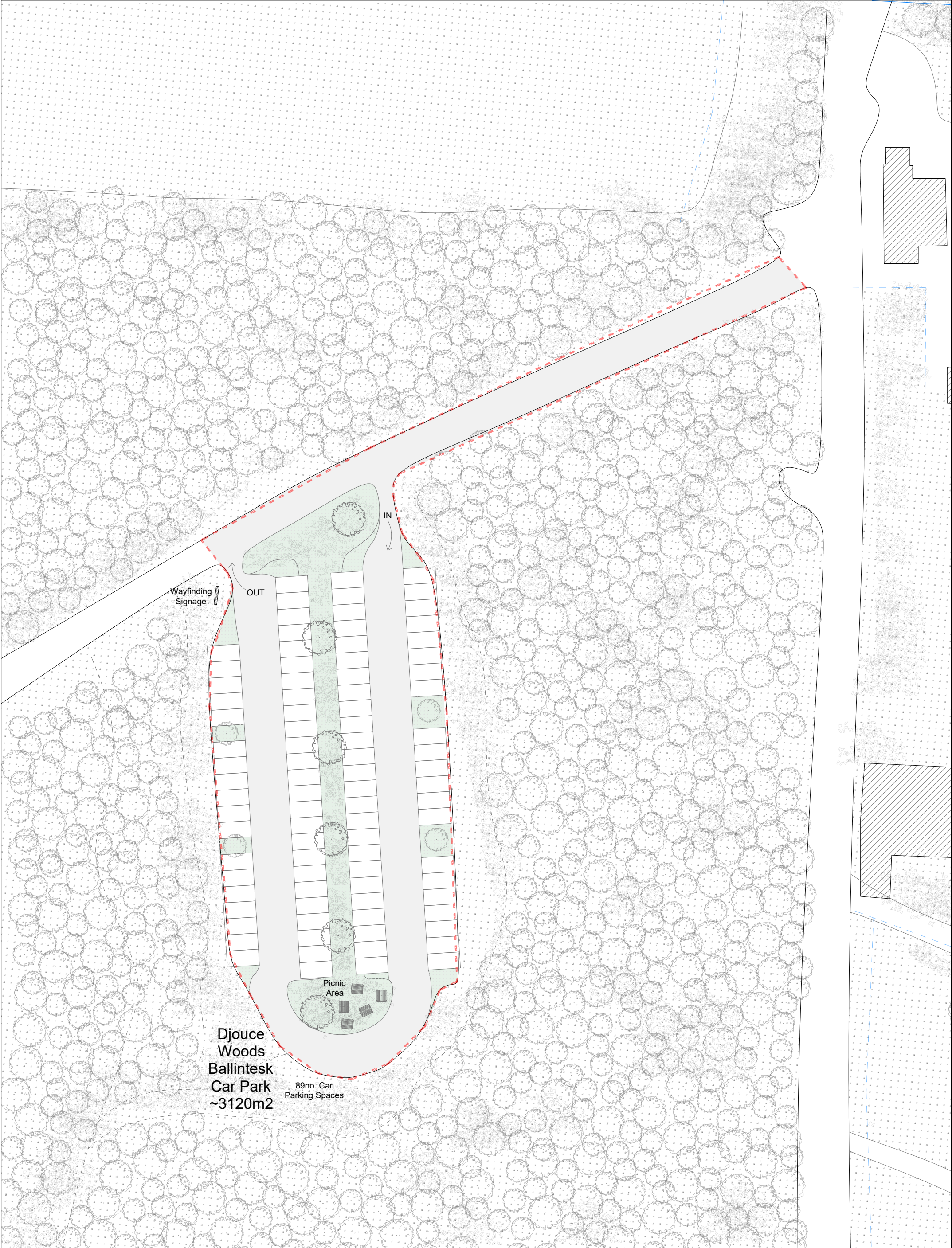
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JOB NO. 20-1991-C
TITLE Proposed Car Park 06 - Crone Wood
STATUS -
DWG No. CDG-206
DRAWN NF CHECKED DS APPROVED - SCALE 1:500 SIZE A3 DATE NOV 21
REVISION -
File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C-Glendalough_Wicklow NP1, Consarc Drawings\1. Design\Proposed Carparks 24th Nov 21

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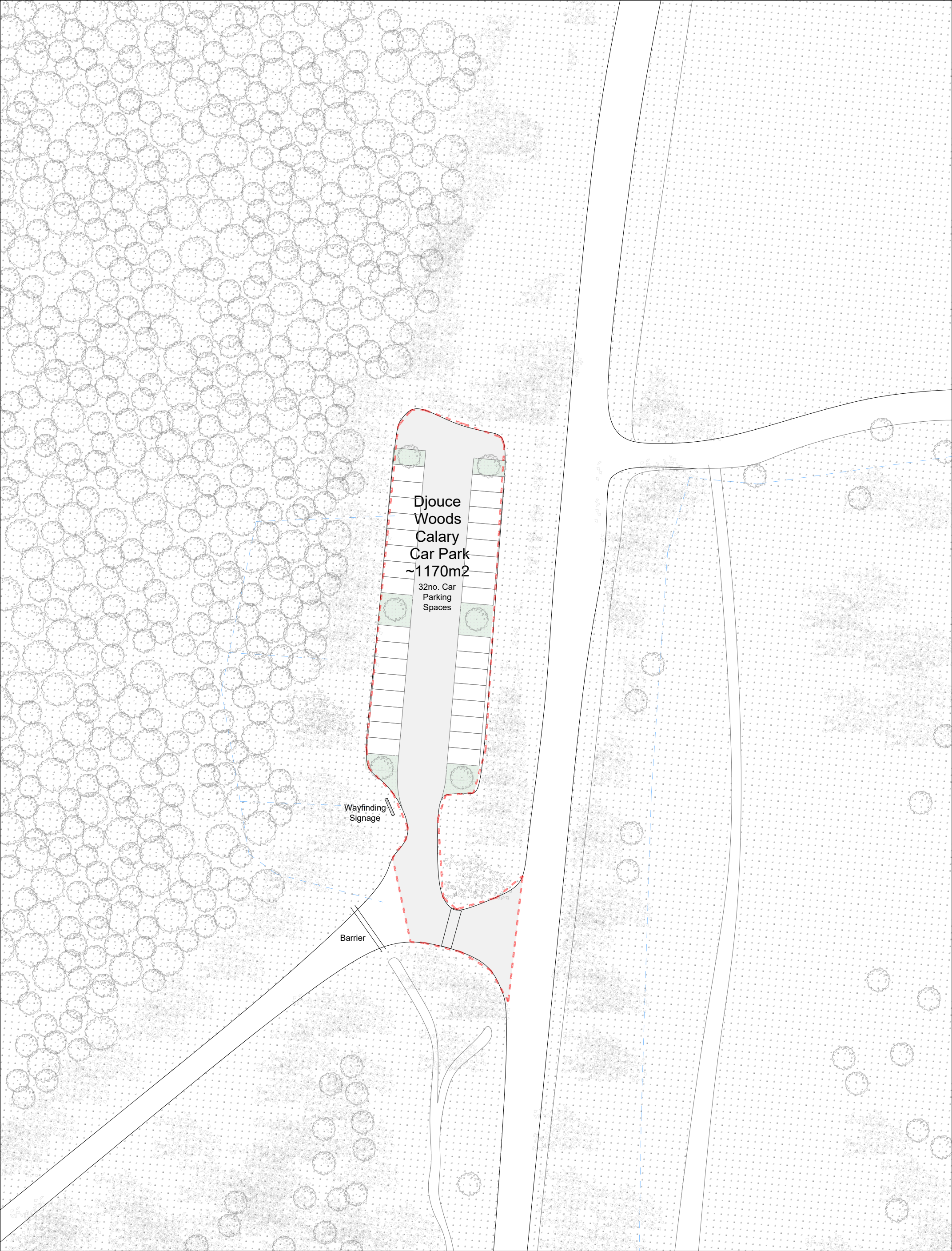


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*Assumes additional Car Park developed down the valley				
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PROJECT	Wicklow Mountains					
JOB NO.	20-1991-C					
TITLE	Proposed Car Park 07 - Djouce Woods Ballintesk					
STATUS	-					
DWG No.	CDG-207					
DRAWN	NF	CHECKED	DS	APPROVED	-	SCALE 1:250
						SIZE A3
						DATE SEPT 20
File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C Glendalough_Wicklow NP\1. Consarc Drawings\1. Design\Proposed Carparks\24th Nov 21						

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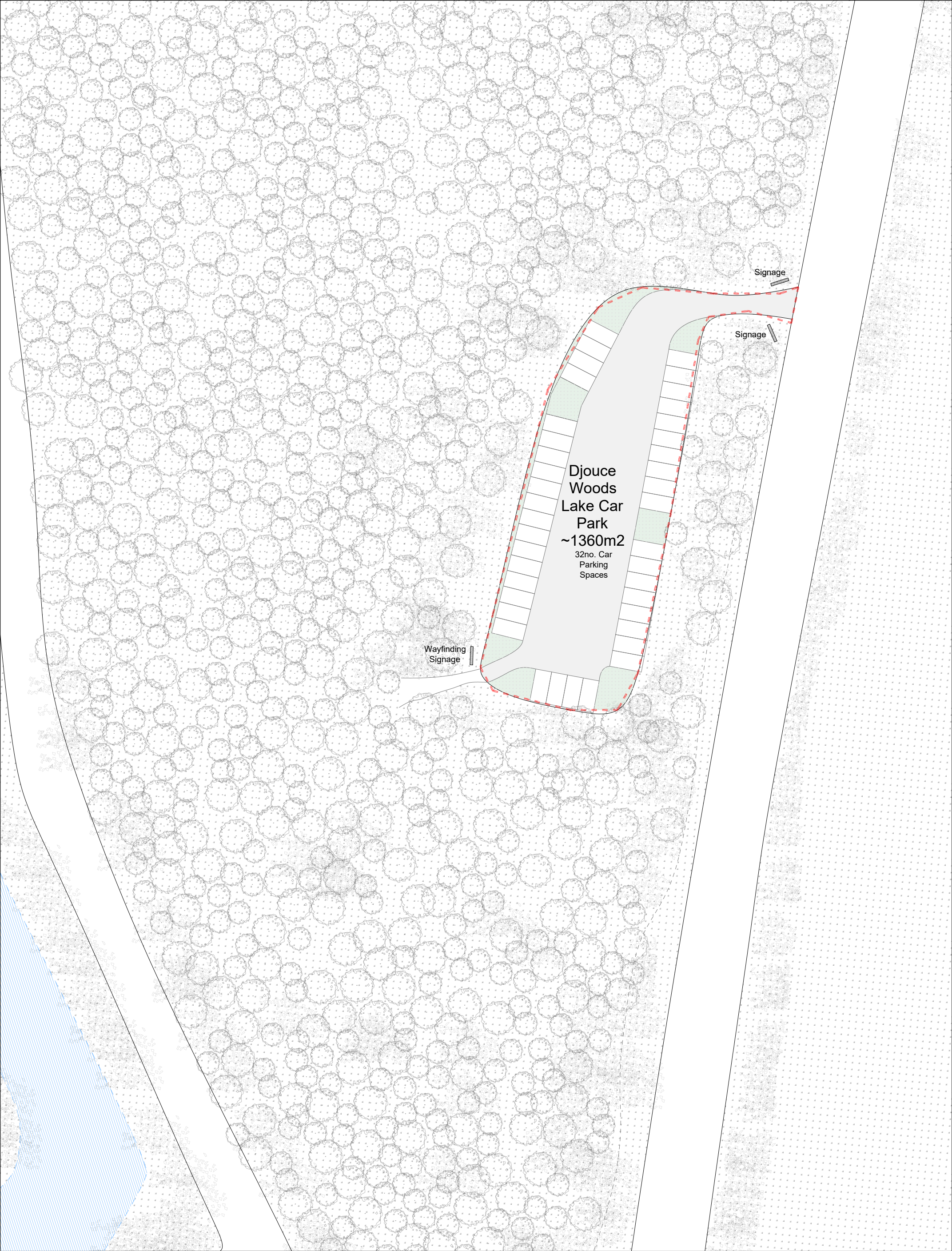


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*Assumes additional Car Park developed down the valley				
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PROJECT	Wicklow Mountains				
JOB NO.	20-1991-C				
TITLE	Proposed Car Park 08 - Djouce Woods Calary				
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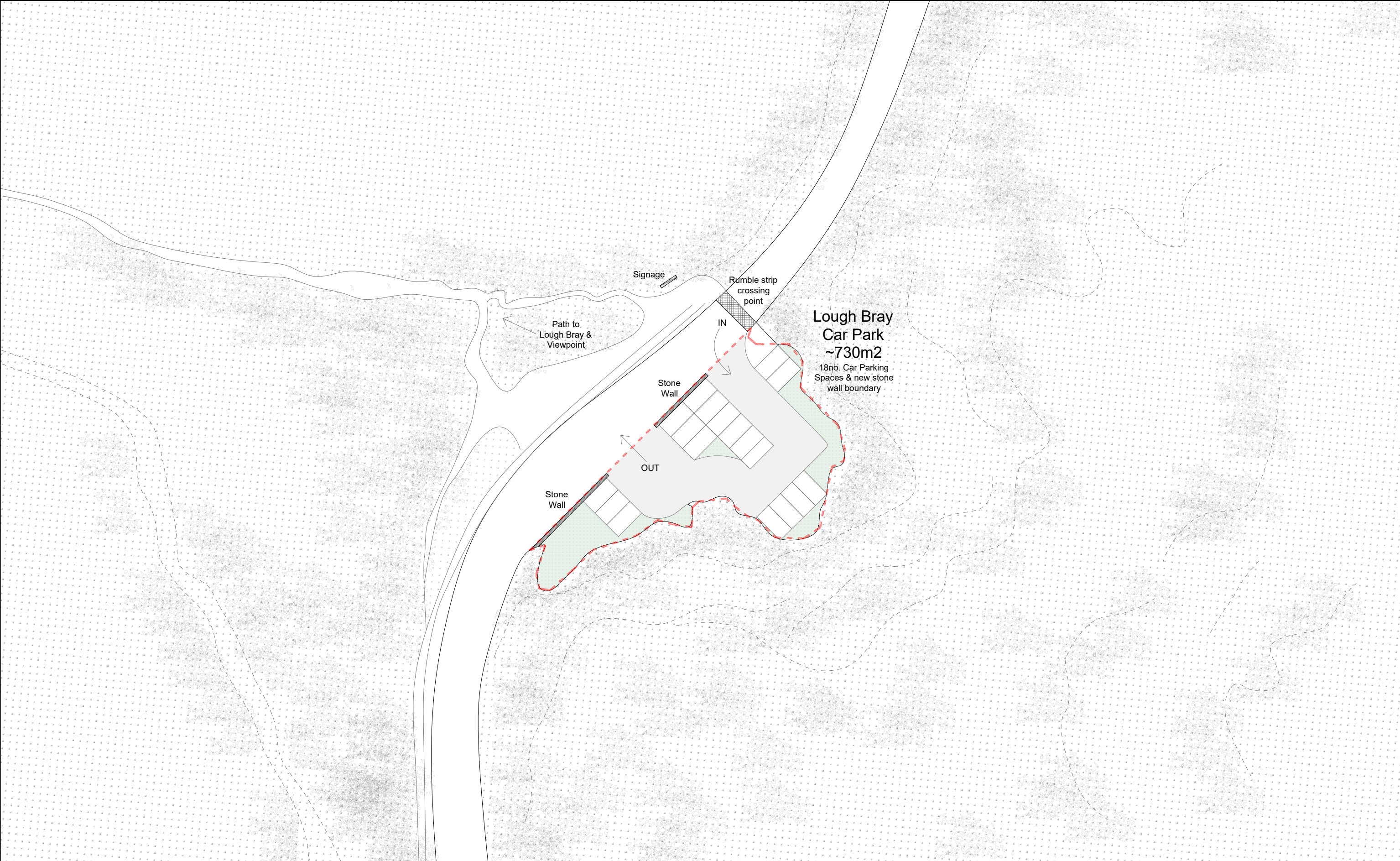


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*Assumes additional Car Park developed down the valley				
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PROJECT	Wicklow Mountains										
JOB NO.	20-1991-C										
TITLE	Proposed Car Park 09 - Djouce Woods Lake										
STATUS	-										
DWG No.	CDG-209								REVISION	-	
DRAWN	NF	CHECKED	DS	APPROVED	-	SCALE	1:250	SIZE	A3	DATE	SEPT 20
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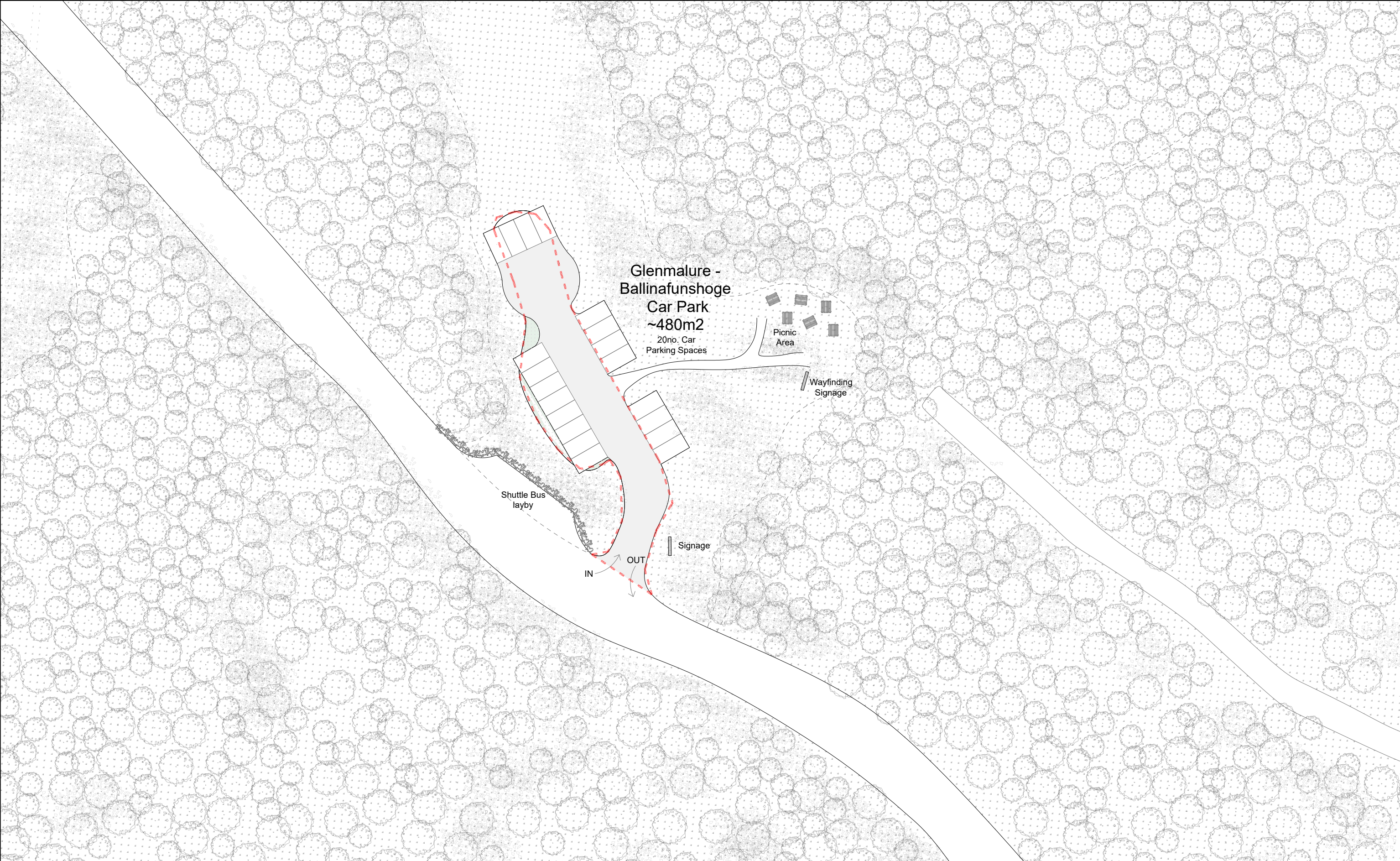
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Notes:

PROJECT Wicklow Mountains
JOB NO. 20-1991-C
TITLE Proposed Car Park 10 - Lough Bray
STATUS -
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File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C-Glenabough_Wicklow NP1, Consarc Drawings\1. Design\Proposed Carparks\24th Nov 21

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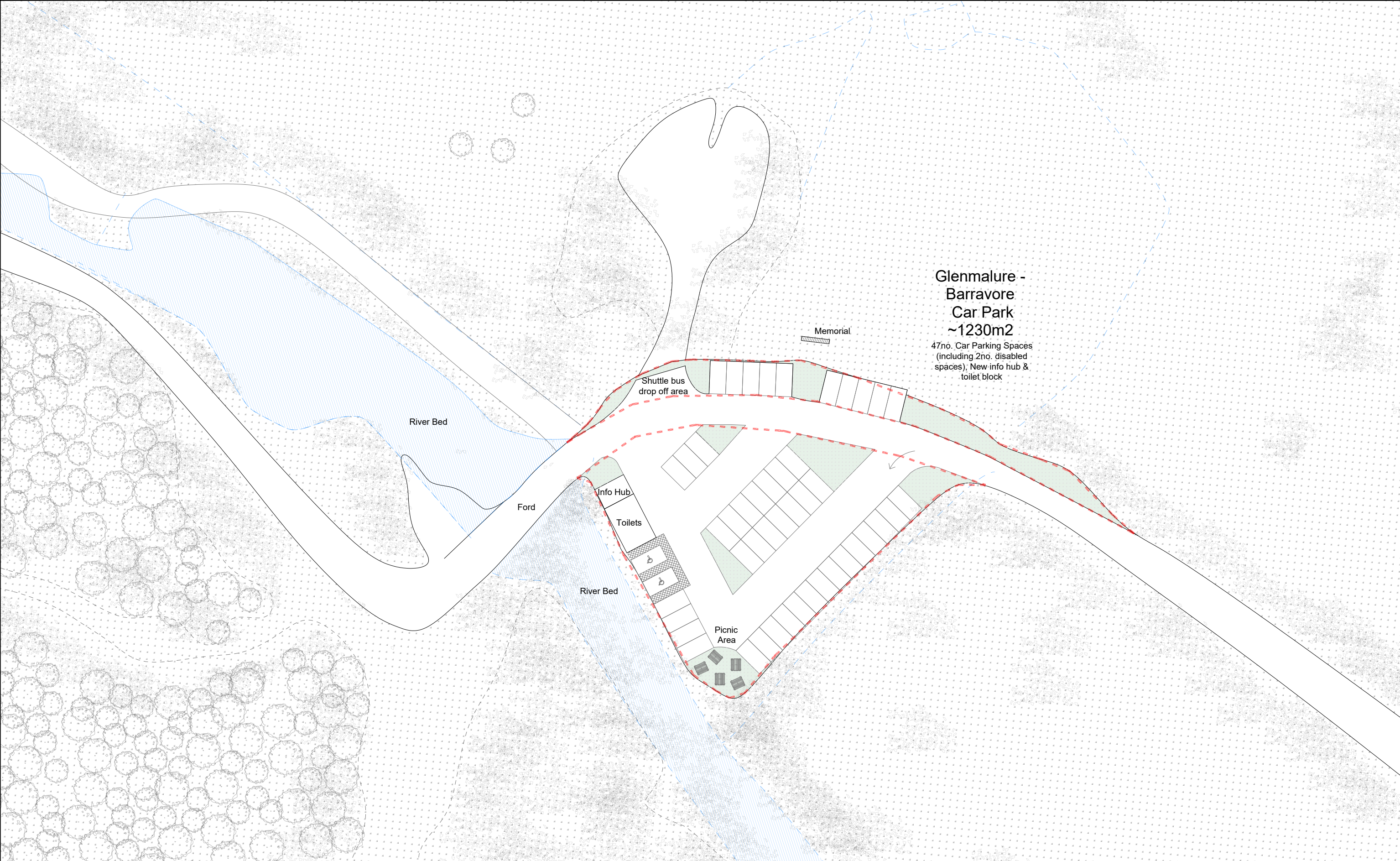
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PROJECT Wicklow Mountains
JOB NO. 20-1991-C
TITLE Proposed Car Park 11 - Gelmalure, Ballinafunshoge
STATUS -
DWG No. CDG-211
DRAWN NF CHECKED DS APPROVED - SCALE 1:500 SIZE A3 DATE NOV 21
File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C-Glenmalure_Wicklow NP1, Consarc Drawings\1, Design\Proposed Carparks 24th Nov 21

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PROJECT

JOB NO.

TITLE

STATUS

DWG No.

DRAWN

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APPROVED

SCALE

SIZE

DATE

Wicklow Mountains

20-1991-C

Proposed Car Park 12 - Glenmalure, Barravore

-

CDG-212

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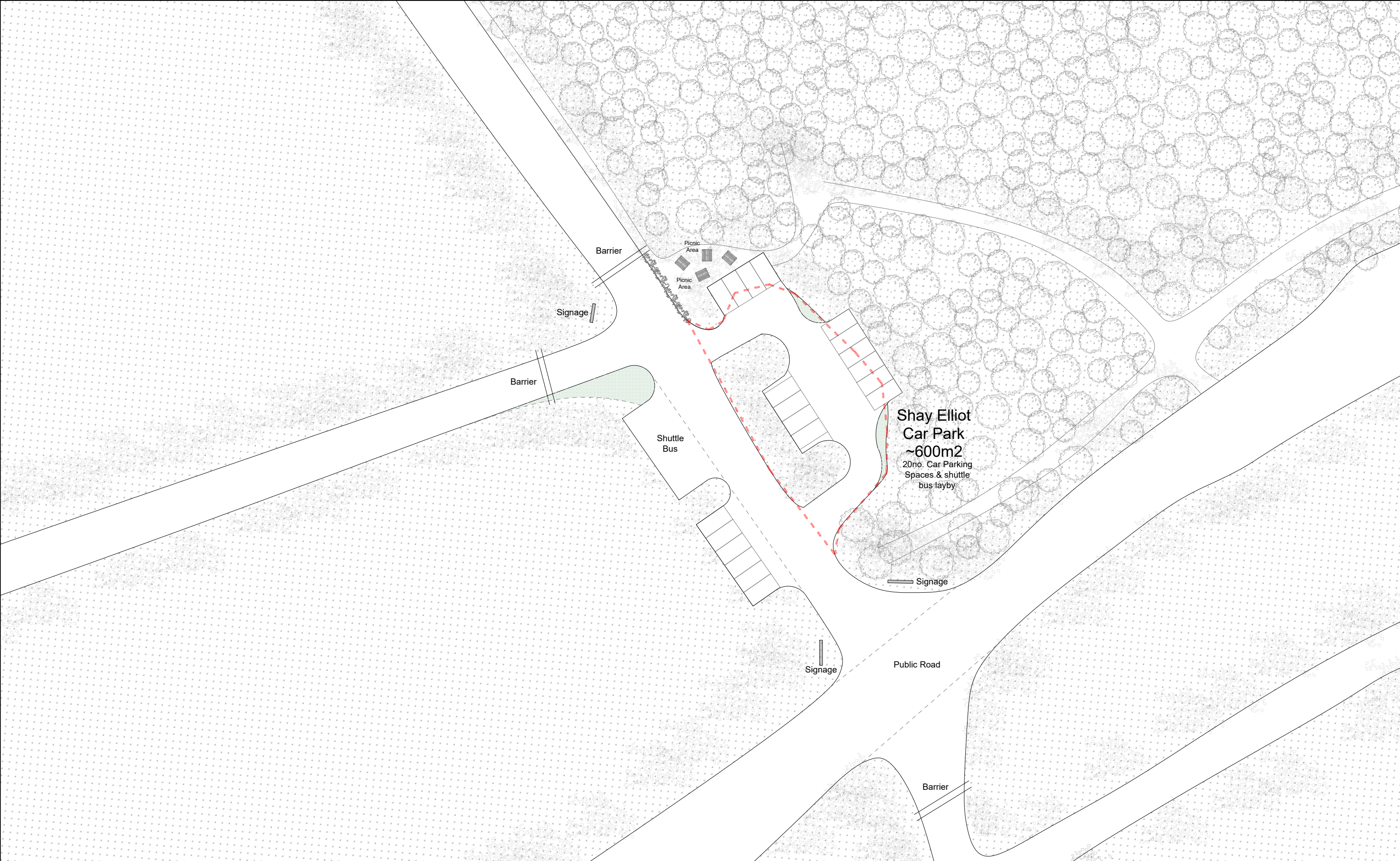
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mail@consarc-design.co.uk



revision	drawn	approved	date	description
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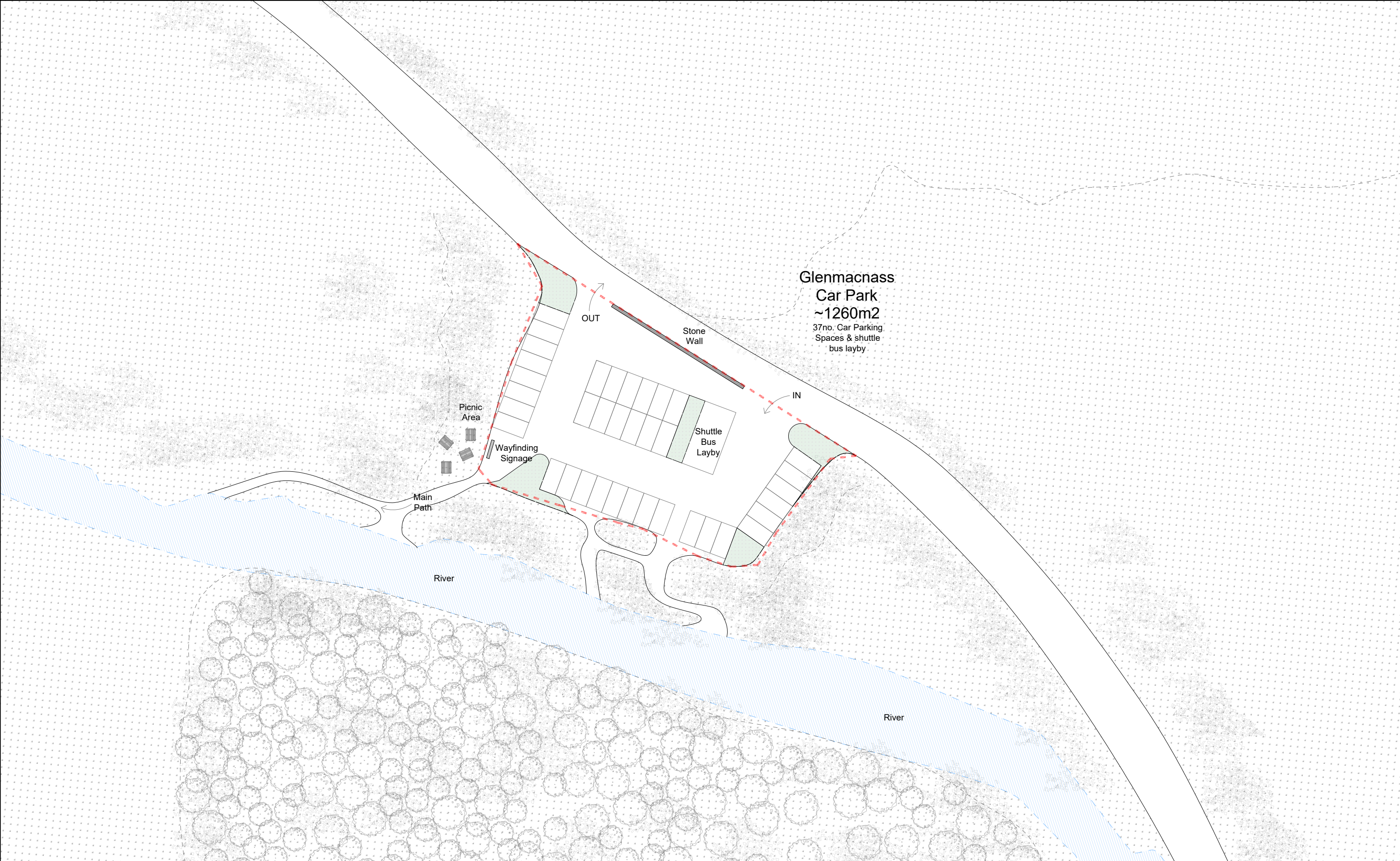
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PROJECT Wicklow Mountains
JOB NO. 20-1991-C
TITLE Proposed Car Park 13 - Shay Elliot
STATUS -
DWG No. CDG-213
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SCALE 1:500 SIZE A3 DATE NOV 21
File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C-Glenabugh_Wicklow NP1, Consarc Drawings\1. Design\Proposed Carparks\24th Nov 21

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Figured dimensions to be taken in preference to scaled dimensions. All dimensions are in millimetres. Site dimensions are to be checked prior to commencement of all work and discrepancies reported immediately. DO NOT SCALE THIS DRAWING. © Consarc Design Group Ltd				

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PROJECT Wicklow Mountains
JOB NO. 20-1991-C
TITLE Proposed Car Park 14 - Glenmacnass Waterfall
STATUS -
DWG No. CDG-214
DRAWN NF CHECKED DS APPROVED - SCALE 1:500 SIZE A3 DATE NOV 21
REVISION -
File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C-Glenmacnass-Wicklow NP1, Consarc Drawings\1, Design\Proposed Carparks\24th Nov 21

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PROJECT Wicklow Mountains
JOB NO. 20-1991-C
TITLE Proposed Car Park 15 - Glendasan Valley Lead Mines
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File loc: J:\2020\20-1991-C-Glendasan_Vall_Wicklow NP1, Consarc Drawings\1. Design\Proposed Carparks 24th Nov 21

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**GLENDALOUGH AND WICKLOW MOUNTAINS
NATIONAL PARK**

Draft Visitor Experience & Management Masterplan

Appendix B2

Glendalough Valley Plan

*Author: The Paul Hogarth Company, Tandem Design,
Consarc Design Group*

Glendalough Valley Plan

Within the context of the analysis of Wicklow County as a whole, it was abundantly clear that the Glendalough Valley required greatest attention.

St. Kevin established a Christian settlement at Glendalough in the 6th Century in a place that was of outstanding beauty. Those qualities and the ability for people to understand the significance of the Valley and have an outstanding quality of experience has been greatly compromised. On busy days parked and moving vehicles dominate the arrival and the landscape itself.

Dwell time in the Valley has reduced in recent years, with many people driving to the OPW Visitor Centre, spending a very short time and then leaving.

Many of the stakeholder conversations highlighted the difficulties associated with the management of the area and of the visitor experience lacking co-ordination between the state bodies of OPW, NPWS, Coillte and Wicklow County Council.

The quality of visitor experience at the OPW Visitor Centre was highlighted as a concern.

Stakeholder engagement highlighted that the significance of the industrial, mining heritage should be highlighted, bringing added depth to the visitor experience.

Whilst Laragh has been previously identified in the Local Development Plan as being the place where visitors to the Valley should be welcomed, with parking/public transport provision, this has not yet materialised.

Extensive use of the Valley by walkers was highlighted. This is exacerbated by prevailing concerns in relation to car crime in other, remote parts of the County.

Tensions between the needs of local residents/businesses and the requirement to deliver high quality visitor experiences were clearly articulated. Vehicular dominance was highlighted as a concern to residents, whilst recognising the desire to have ease of parking.

In responding to the analysis, the following guiding Principles were established.

Principles and Phasing of Development

The following are the key guiding principles for any development within the Glendalough-Laragh valley as detailed within this Plan.

- Safeguard, restore and enhance the setting of the heritage and natural environment of Glendalough using sustainable principles, as a place for local people to be proud of and as a place of world-wide significance to be visited by people from across Ireland and internationally.
- Facilitate visitors in their enjoyment and understanding of Glendalough, as a monastic site of outstanding significance in a beautiful setting.
- Dispersal of visitors for whom the monastic experience is not the primary reason for their visit, to reduce the pressure on Glendalough. This will focus on encouraging walkers/cyclists/leisure users to use other areas, especially at peak times as part of the County wide strategy
- Develop a sustainable trail network that encourages the exploration and enjoyment of the Glendalough Valley, its outstanding and unique heritage, culture and landscape, with routes that are accessible to all, on foot, bike and wheelchair.
- Restore the quality of the monastic landscape and its wider valley setting, from the Upper Lake to Laragh, befitting the potential World heritage Site (WHS) designation.
- Integrate engaging interpretation that enriches the visitor experience as part of the trail network and through improvement of the existing facilities at Glendalough.
- Provide good quality accessible parking in Laragh associated with a new visitor arrival building that becomes in time the main point of welcome for Glendalough and the wider Wicklow Mountains.
- Provide an attractive and efficient shuttle bus service that connects the parking in Laragh with Glendalough and the Upper Lake.
- Develop an uplands shuttle bus service to connect lowland hubs with trailheads.
- Encourage sustainable transport connections across Wicklow including from Blessington, Kilmanogue and Rathdrum, connecting with the railway station, including walking, cycling and bus routes.
- Incrementally reduce car parking at the Upper Lake and adjacent to the existing Visitor Centre in Glendalough reducing the impact of parked and moving vehicles on the most sensitive areas, making them increasingly attractive for local people and visitors.
- Promote, strengthen and enhance the quality of existing commercial offerings at Glendalough and Laragh – hospitality, accommodation and visitor services and support new, diversified opportunities.
- Facilitate a critical mass of high-quality activities and attractions that encourages multi-day visitor experiences – ‘slow and sustainable’ tourism

These **Principles** are the basis for a **Phased** approach to development based on incremental steps to match demand. They are envisaged as a progression from small scale interventions as soon as possible to relieve existing pressures forward to longer-term, comprehensive and ambitious plans to transform the visitor experience in the valley.

Implementation will require co-operation and co-ordination between the various state bodies, Wicklow County Council, the local community and a number of private owners and operators. We believe all parties have much to gain from this approach as it will balance the various needs, desires, responsibilities and ambitions.

The proposals are set out in 3 broad phases, approximately in the order we see implementation as desirable. There is a potential stopping point or pausing point after each Phase which could be used to review and measure effectiveness and inform the detail of the following phases. For the purposes of the economic appraisal, the completion of each Phase is considered as an Option which will allow their relative costs and benefits to be assessed.

Phase 1 1-2 years

Laragh

- Introduction of Variable Messaging Signage (VMS) to approach roads to direct visitors to the Laragh car parks when capacity at Upper Lake and Visitor Centre becomes limited. The detail of this is set out in a Technical Note.
- Secure long-term car park locations in Laragh and develop the initial phases.
- Wicklow County Council have extended their lease on the current temporary car park and are discussion with owners of land for a longer term car park on the Rathdrum road (CP1). In Phase 1 we propose that the first northern section be developed to replace the existing temporary car park.
- Wicklow County Council start acquisition process with land on NE side of Laragh on the Roundwood Road (CP2).
- Wicklow County Council enter into an agreement with Laragh GAA club for partial use of their grounds as part of an enhancement plan for facilities. The first phase could be pitch enhancements to the No1 pitch and building of new clubrooms on the northern end of the site, to facilitate the southern half of the site becoming part of the visitor service proposals.
- First phase of Visitor Hub building to orientate visitors using the Laragh car park and shuttle bus service, including introduction of VMS signage.

Laragh to Glendalough

- Develop all-ability pedestrian and cycle link between Laragh and the Upper Lake. Preferred route has been identified, starting in Laragh GAA grounds and discussion with landowners started. Associated environmental enhancement of the river corridor. Alternative routes also identified if preferred route not feasible.
- Establish a high quality, effective, seasonable shuttle bus service. Industry advice is that a minimum of 4 buses required. Ideally one bus is always one at each stop to give confidence that system is operating. But real time information could help with this. Hydrogen or electric powered.
- VMS (Variable Messaging Signs) installation on the 4 main approach roads linked to car park counters to facilitate management of the parking provision – see below for operational details.
- Improvements of the heritage and landscape setting throughout the valley including a co-ordinated signage and branding strategy.
- Co-ordinated approach to visitor information collection through counter data, traffic surveys etc.

Glendalough Visitor Centre, Village and Hotel area

- Visitor Centre remodelled and extended to provide an all encompassing introductory visitor experience covering natural, built and cultural heritage. Additional interpretative and orientation installations in the grounds, with a clear visitor pathway identified to maximise the visitor experience.
- Car Park remodelled with new entrance to create a pedestrianised visitor gathering space in front of the visitor centre, with connectivity to new all ability trail to and from Laragh.
- Car Park will remain open all year round to pre-booked coaches (13 spaces) in new coach park area. It is anticipated these will be largely half day visits so total of 26 coach slots per day. Coaches not pre-booked will be directed to Laragh car parks with shuttle bus service (potentially drop off and pick up allowed at shuttle bus drop off)
- Car Park will remain open to private cars but controlled by VMS system from March to October, so when nearing capacity, cars will be directed to Laragh car parks. Potential facility for pre-booked mobility parking permit holders all year round. Barrier installed after hotel car park entrance to control traffic to Upper Lake.
- Revised path network in and around visitor centre to direct and manage visitors, with landscaping/replanting of more natural landscapes around.
- Develop a detailed Conservation Plan for the built heritage of the valley and in particular, set out a vision for enhancing the character and significance of the monastic heritage.

Upper Lake/Lower Lake connections

- Options study on creating accessible trail from Visitor Centre to the Monastic city and beyond to the Upper Lake. 3 Options identified and detailed benefit/impact study required.
- Enhanced landscape, including 're-wilding', with investment in a sustainable all ability trail network and habitat protection.
- New signage and interpretation, founded on overall branding strategy

Upper Lake Car Park

- New Visitor services building – toilets, coffee shop and information
- (Removal of existing toilets and trading vans and reduction in hard landscape once new building completed)
- Shuttle bus drop off and pick up area created with car park re-modelling.
- Car Park will remain open to private cars in the off season (eg end October to start of March).
- From March to September VMS signage would be in operation and when car park nears capacity, cars would be stopped at Visitor Centre and road closed to private vehicles (except residents). Shuttle bus would be in operation. Potential facility for pre-booked 'blue badge' holders all year round.
- Enhancement of landscape setting with new native planting and control of deer
- External interpretation, signage and branding to guide visitors to maximise their experience.
- Existing NPWS cottage used as ranger base with environmental interpretation material in grounds.
- Existing Education centre remains as current use.

Phase 2 3-5 years

Laragh

- New Visitor Orientation Hub developed as an inspirational entry point fusing buildings and landscape to make the journey rewarding and special, commensurate with a World Heritage Site designation. Located in GAA grounds in area of former GAA clubrooms.
- Car Park on former GAA second pitch developed (CP3) – possibly reserved for mobility parking permit holders or priority bookings
- Rathdrum Road Car Park (CP1) expanded as demand required – middle section. Potential overflow coach park and potential overnight campervan site.
- Eastern Car Park (CP2) developed, along with trail network to Laragh and through woods to Visitor Hub. Shuttle Bus point developed
- Wicklow County Council acquire land to east of GAA grounds (CP4) as long term overflow car park and trail access point.
- VMS system from Phase 1 adapted as required to facilitate the increased use of the parking in Laragh and control of upper valley access.

Visitor Centre, Village and Hotel

- Trading stands relocated from current monastic site entrance gate, with area landscaped and softened, to area between hotel and visitor centre car park within new designed structures, or potentially around 'Glendalough Market Square' – area to north side of hotel, landscaped and largely pedestrianised, with creation of traditional market square character.
- Hotel car park extended into current OPW lands with balancing removal of hotel car park south of river to create a pedestrianised zone for hotel and

- other visitor services and potential interpretative experience on the historic monastic city and surrounding domestic and agricultural life. Net gain of formal car parking to hotel and creating space for hotel development and expansion without impact on visitor experience of the monastic site. Hotel car park and resident's access will be all year round.
- Lands between Visitor Centre and Monastic site and back to Trinity Church re-landscaped as the second phase of restoring the wider monastic landscape, combined with expanded monastic site interpretation, including potential for interpretation of the historic agricultural and domestic supporting setting of the monastic 'city'.
- Installation of accessible trail from Visitor Centre to monastic site and on to Upper Lake – creation of preferred route following outcome of Options study in Phase 1.

Upper Lake car park

- Closed from 1st March to 31st October at weekends and from 1st May to 30th September all week.
- Trader vans removed from the car park with a coffee dock in new Visitor service building.
- Potential facility for pre-booked blue badge holders all year round.
- Ongoing investment in sustainable trail network and habitat enhancement.

Phase 3 6-7 years

Laragh

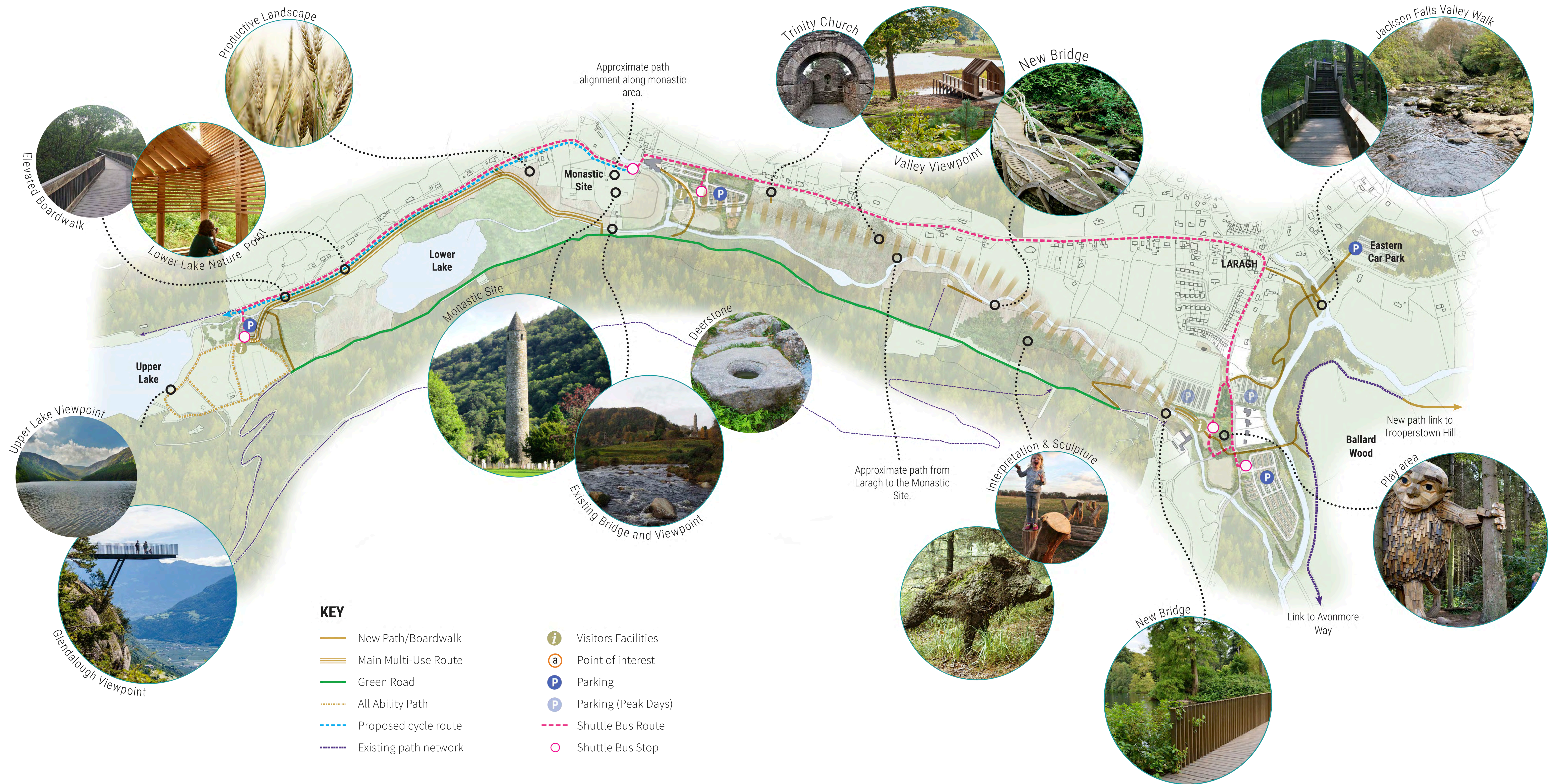
- Parking provision in Laragh increased to full capacity, with new car parks to north east and south of village and linking trails, with the new Visitor Orientation Hub becoming the primary entry point for most visitors.
- Shuttle bus capacity increased to meet demand.

Visitor Centre, Village and Hotel

- Further expansion of coach parking at Visitor Centre if demand remains, with reduction in private car parking. Bookable blue badge car parking remains.
- Potential high quality accommodation pods for visitors on sites between Visitor Centre car park and road if integrated well into landscape.
- Scope for further commercial development in and around Glendalough Market Square on the northern side of a re-landscaped square.

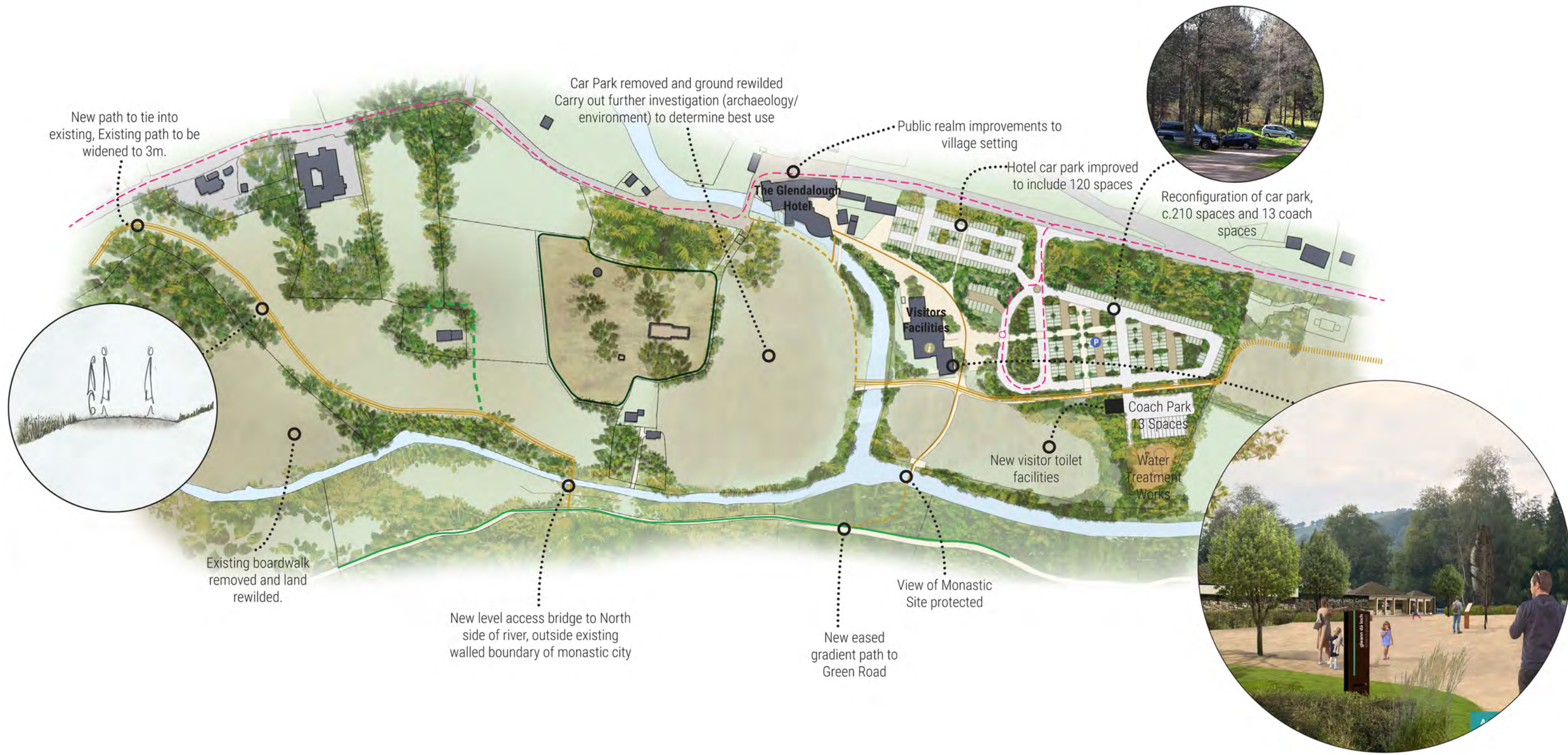
Upper Lake car park

- Closed from 1st March to 31st October at weekends and from 1st May to 30th September all week as set out in Phase 2
- Full restoration of the monastic landscape in line with the Conservation Plan
- Re-naturing of the valley ongoing with continued investment in a sustainable trail network and habitat protection

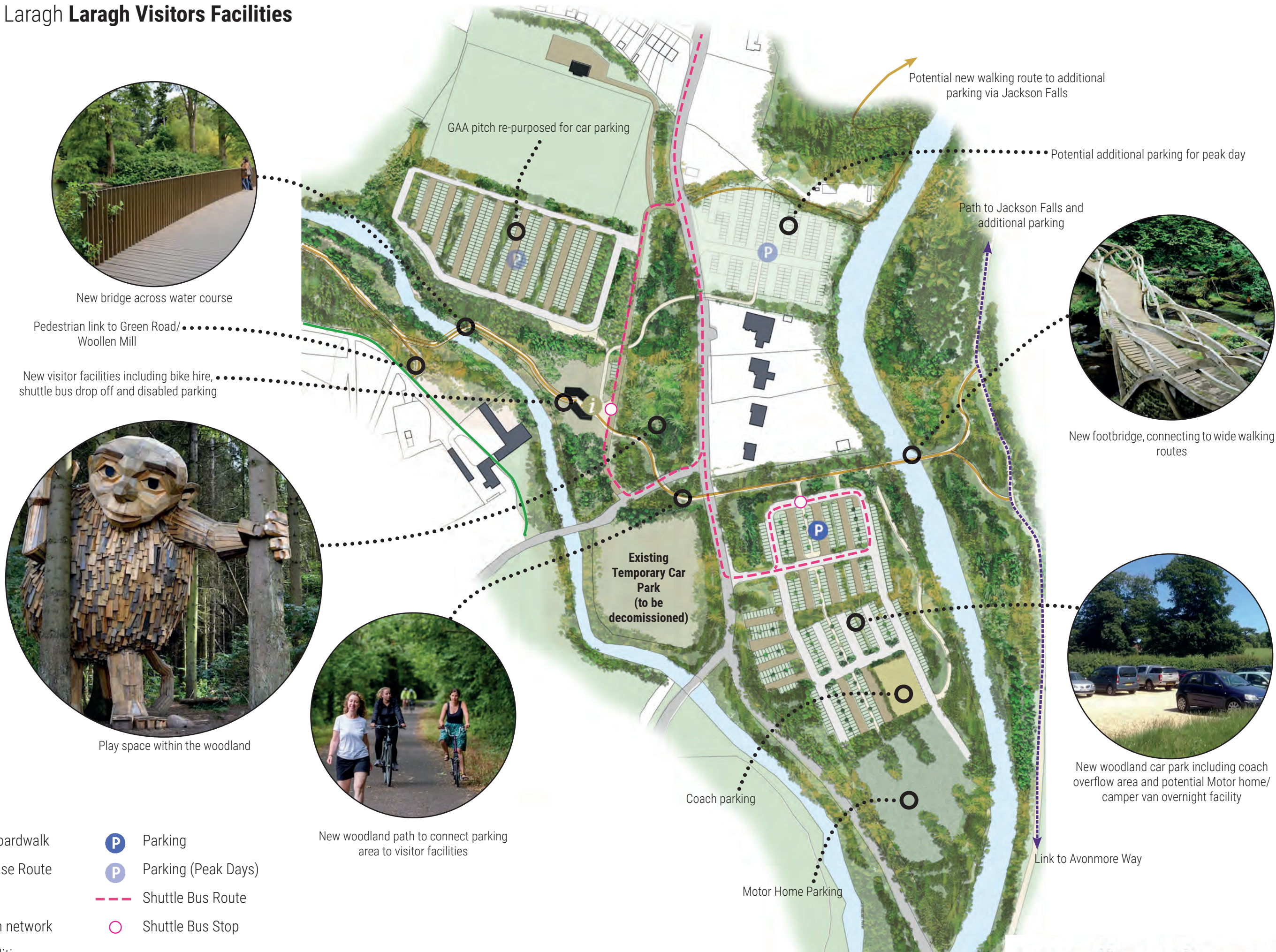


Glendalough to Laragh **Upper Lake Visitors Centre**
DRAFT





Glendalough to Laragh **Laragh Visitors Facilities**
DRAFT



Glendalough to Laragh **Points of Interest**
DRAFT

- a

Glendalough Viewpoint
- b

Upper Lake Viewpoint
- c

Lower Lake bird hide/nature point
- d

Productive Landscape
- e

Monastic Site
- f

Deerstone
- g

New bridge
- h

Existing Bridge and Viewpoint
- i

Trinity Church
- j

Valley viewpoint
- k

New Bridge
- l

St. Saviours Priory
- m

Sculpture/Interpretation
- n

New Bridge
- o

Play area
- p

Jackson Falls Valley Walk
- q

Coach-layby Viewpoint
- r

Potential Ranger base
- s

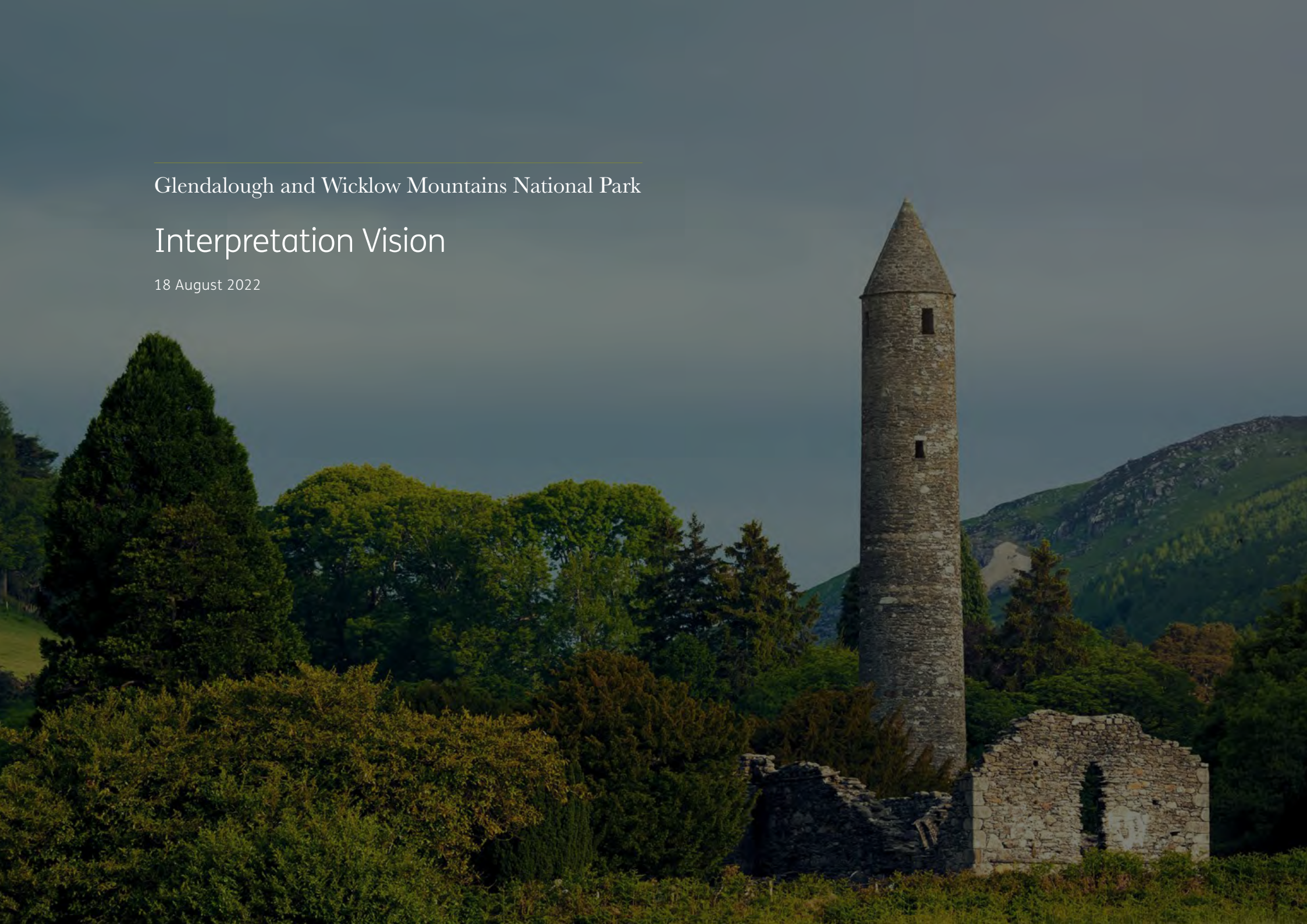
Elevated boardwalk



Glendalough and Wicklow Mountains National Park

Interpretation Vision

18 August 2022



Transformational interpretation

Our vision

To enter the Glendalough valley is to enter a place where nature and spirituality are entwined. Here you can experience a sense of stillness that reaches across centuries, from a time when saints and pilgrims walked through this landscape.

Follow in their footsteps. Leave the hustle and bustle of modern life behind. Let Glendalough's woodlands, wildlife and wilderness set your body and mind on a path of discovery and enlightenment.



Walk with St Kevin

Gaze upon the majesty of Glendalough, breathe its air, clear your mind, and you will come to understand why St Kevin settled here. Embracing his surroundings and befriending all manner of creatures, Kevin lived a frugal life free of luxuries, but everything he needed was here.

Around him, a settlement of devotees grew. Inspired by his teachings the monastery flourished here.

As you explore the valley, you will encounter sensitively developed interpretive interventions – light touches on this beautiful landscape – that reveal what St Kevin saw here and how he and his followers lived.

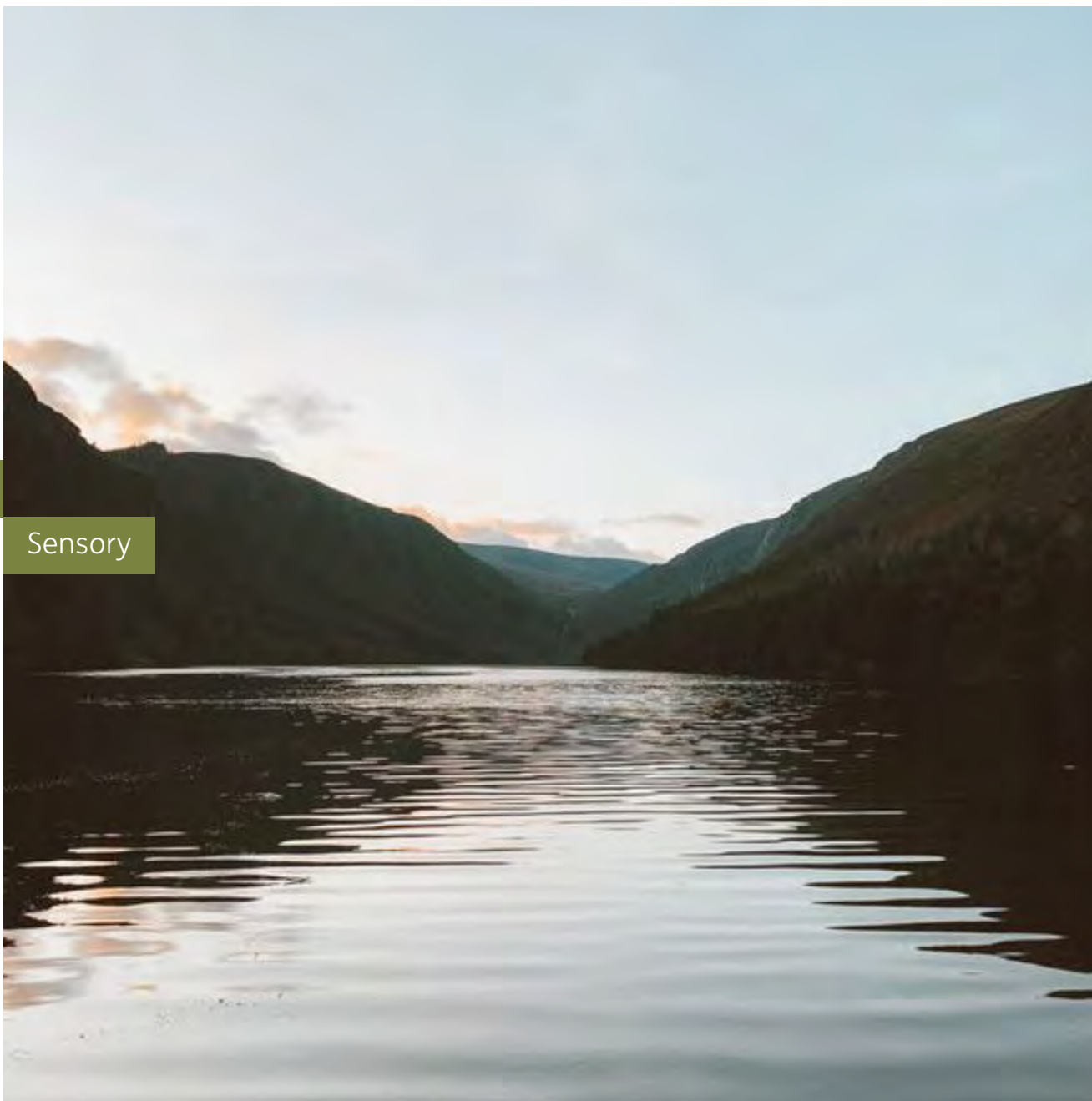


‘The area around the Upper Lake was most likely redesigned as a pilgrimage landscape during the 10th and 11th centuries, and retains many original features.’

NMS Statement of Significance 2020

Tranquil

Sensory



Journeying into the light

It was in the 12th century, under the watchful eyes of St Laurence O'Toole, that Glendalough reached the height of its power and influence, 400 years after the death of St Kevin. Devotees flocked to this valley of learning and prayer.

The monastic settlement grew to incorporate churches, priories, stone crosses and secular areas for living, growing food and learning.

As one of the four most important centres of pilgrimage in Ireland, it is said that seven pilgrimages to Glendalough equalled one to the great holy city of Rome.

Consider your time here as that spent on a journey rather than in a place. You will see how the balance of people and nature has ebbed and flowed through the passage of time; how the landscape has been marked with buildings and pathways, but also how nature has reclaimed these altered spaces as people have moved away from the valley.

A landscape for life

The landscape of the valley was closely intertwined with the lives of those living here. Plants and fungi would have been carefully harvested and animals and birds were hunted. Only what was needed was taken.

Building materials came from the surroundings too with the remains of many structures still evident today, each providing a glimpse into the past; an insights into a way of life long changed. As you explore, look for the evidence of these past lives.

From the 13th century the historical significance of Glendalough fell into decline. In the late 18th and early 19th century lead mining left its mark on the valley.

Although the site has survived as one of the largest and best-preserved medieval ecclesiastical sites in Ireland, commercialisation and overcrowding has taken its toll. The visitor has been disconnected from opportunities for spiritual nourishment.

‘One of the lives of St Kevin compared Glendalough to *A gracious Rome, city of the angels, western Europe’s Rome*’

NMS Statement of Significance 2020

Transforming Glendalough

Restoring and protecting the spiritual significance of Glendalough is at the heart of our vision.

Our goal here is not to encourage more visitors but to imbue in those who do come a deeper understanding and greater appreciation of what they encounter here.

We want to reconnect the visitor to what St Kevin saw, all those centuries ago: the true value of this special place – a restorative place where the visitor can find wellbeing for themselves and those with them.

Importantly, we want to show the visitor why they should care about the Glendalough Valley.

*‘Through interpretation, understanding;
through understanding, appreciation;
through appreciation, protection.’*

From *Interpreting Our Heritage*, Freeman Tilden

Transformational interpretation

Themes and Topics

Transformational interpretation

Themes and topics

Themes below can inform the interpretive direction of the visitor experience, focusing the narrative and ensuring any media adhere to the themes.

Theme 1

(overall understanding/intangible)

A protected landscape carved over time

Laragh-Glendalough – a protected sacred gateway to Ireland’s largest national park in the stunning Wicklow Mountains. The glacial landscape draws trusted loyal followers to its distinctive u-shaped valleys, a distinctly familiar backdrop to local visitors’ walks and wonderings, talks and trails. New travellers, drawn by tales of its dramatic natural beauty, glimpse the rich, delicate views, bath in the beauty of lakes and forests and immerse themselves in Ireland’s iconic heritage. Earmarked for inclusion into the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative list, this special place still welcomes careful pilgrims hundreds of years later.

Theme 2

(understanding/tangible)

An old spiritual landscape

Hidden by the surrounding natural world ‘where two clear rivers meet’, the monastic settlement devoted to St Kevin is at the heart of the Glendalough valley. The story of his life, followers and pilgrims are retained in the written word, folklore and extant archaeology—churches, an iconic round tower, accommodation, market cross, settlement, graveyards and high crosses preserved on the landscape. Devoted to learning, pilgrimage and spirituality, the story of life in the busy monastic settlement can be discovered through the eyes of the hermit, Kevin, thought to have lived a more solitary spiritual life away from the monastery, deep within the arms of nature.

Theme 3

(behavioural)

Discover new memories and meaning off the beaten track

The well trodden path of modern pilgrims is one of several trails that can be explored. Find your own path, away from the familiar, to discover more, to make new memories and to delve into nature. Whether on a rainy winter hike or a short summer stroll, Glendalough offers a changing landscape of lush ferns, dark lakes and rich smells to awaken the senses all year round. The well trodden path of modern pilgrims is one of several trails that can be explored. Find your own path, away from the familiar, to discover more, to make new memories and to delve into nature. Whether on a rainy winter hike or a short summer stroll, Glendalough offers a changing landscape of lush ferns, dark lakes and rich smells to awaken the senses all year round.

Theme 4

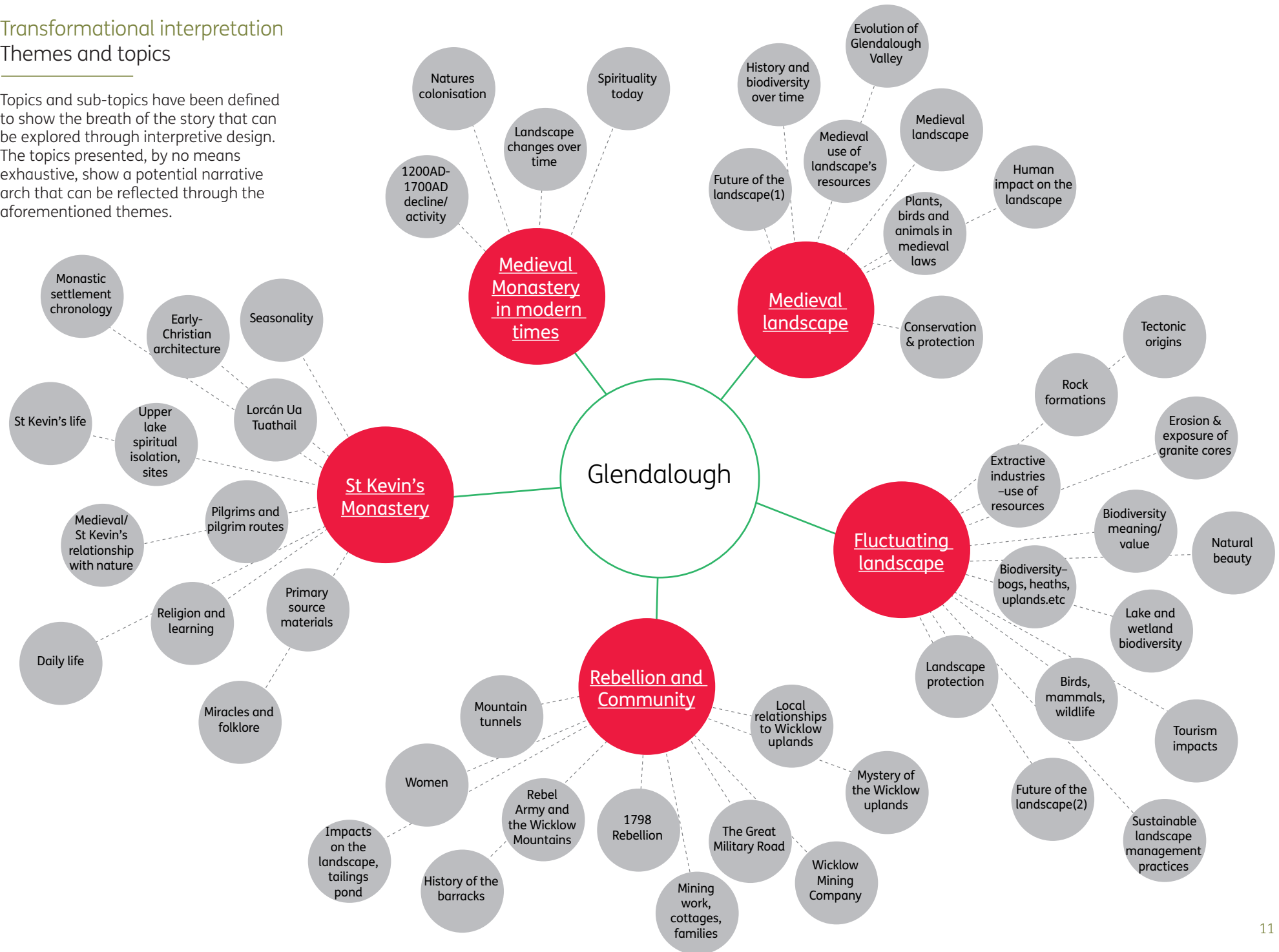
(emotive/wellbeing)

Escape to this special place and recharge in nature

As the sounds of chatter and traffic fall into the distance let nature take over your senses. Throughout the glens, at waters edge and deep within the vastness of the Valley, the serene sound of a peregrine bird, the sight of a squirrel, the smell of growing pine or the damp crunch of sticks underfoot—each visit to Glendalough Valley brings new connections with nature fostering a deep appreciation. For some it offers a spiritual value, to others it is a place of being well. To everyone, it is a special place to rejuvenate, recharge and be within nature.

Transformational interpretation Themes and topics

Topics and sub-topics have been defined to show the breath of the story that can be explored through interpretive design. The topics presented, by no means exhaustive, show a potential narrative arch that can be reflected through the aforementioned themes.



Transformational interpretation

Interpretive concept

Transformational interpretation

Aims of the interpretation

Provide a spiritual experience for visitors, where they can 'escape' the everyday and step into a pre-industrial time

Create an experience which allows time for reflection, exploration and connection with people, place and landscape

Guide people to step into the world of St Kevin and his followers

Foster a deeper understanding of the delicate ecosystems of the National Park

Provide context to deepen and strengthen the sense of awe and wonder at the Wicklow Mountains National Park

Create an emotional experience for visitors as they journey up the valley

Support visitors in their understanding of the richness of the site

Introduce interventions that maintain or enhance the built and natural environments

Develop an integrated approach to interpreting the natural, cultural, spiritual and historical significances

Foster a sense of responsibility and protection in individuals for the National Park

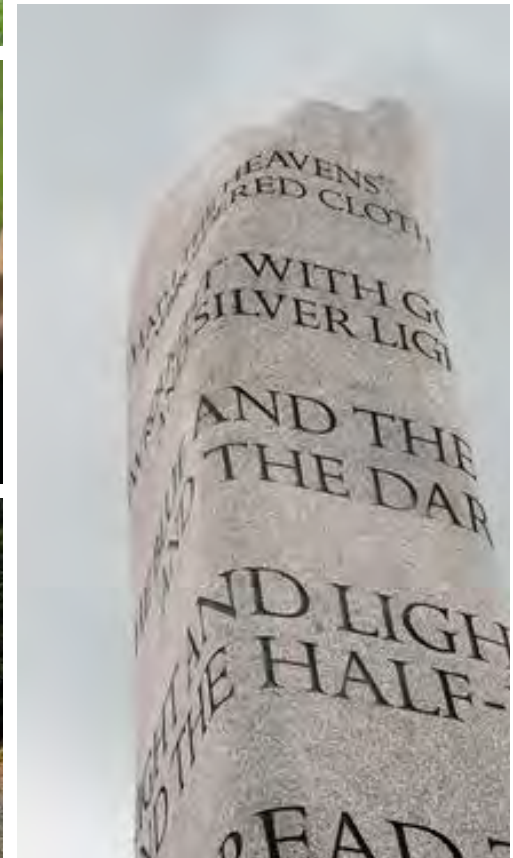
Draw out the stories of the people who lived, prayed and worked in the Glendalough valley and further afield

Layer a variety of media and experiences in ways that will appeal to a broad range of audiences

Deepen engagement with the site beyond its appeal for day trippers and picnics

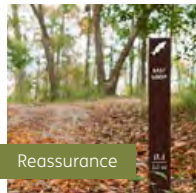
Transformational interpretation Materials and techniques

Interpretation will be connected by themes as well as through materials and techniques that are sympathetic to the environment

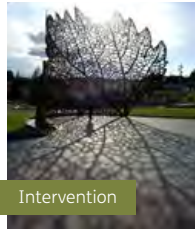


Transformational interpretation Materials and techniques

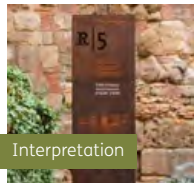
Indicative only



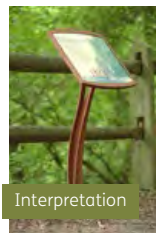
Reassurance



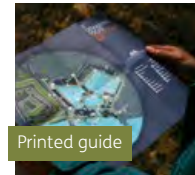
Intervention



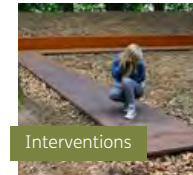
Interpretation



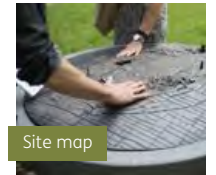
Interpretation



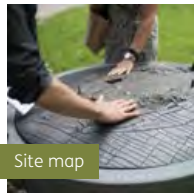
Printed guide



Interventions



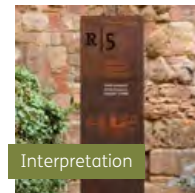
Site map



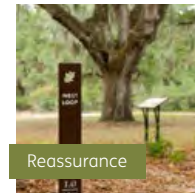
Site map



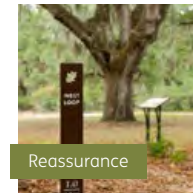
Audio guide



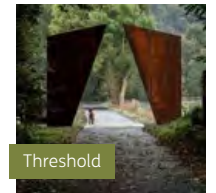
Interpretation



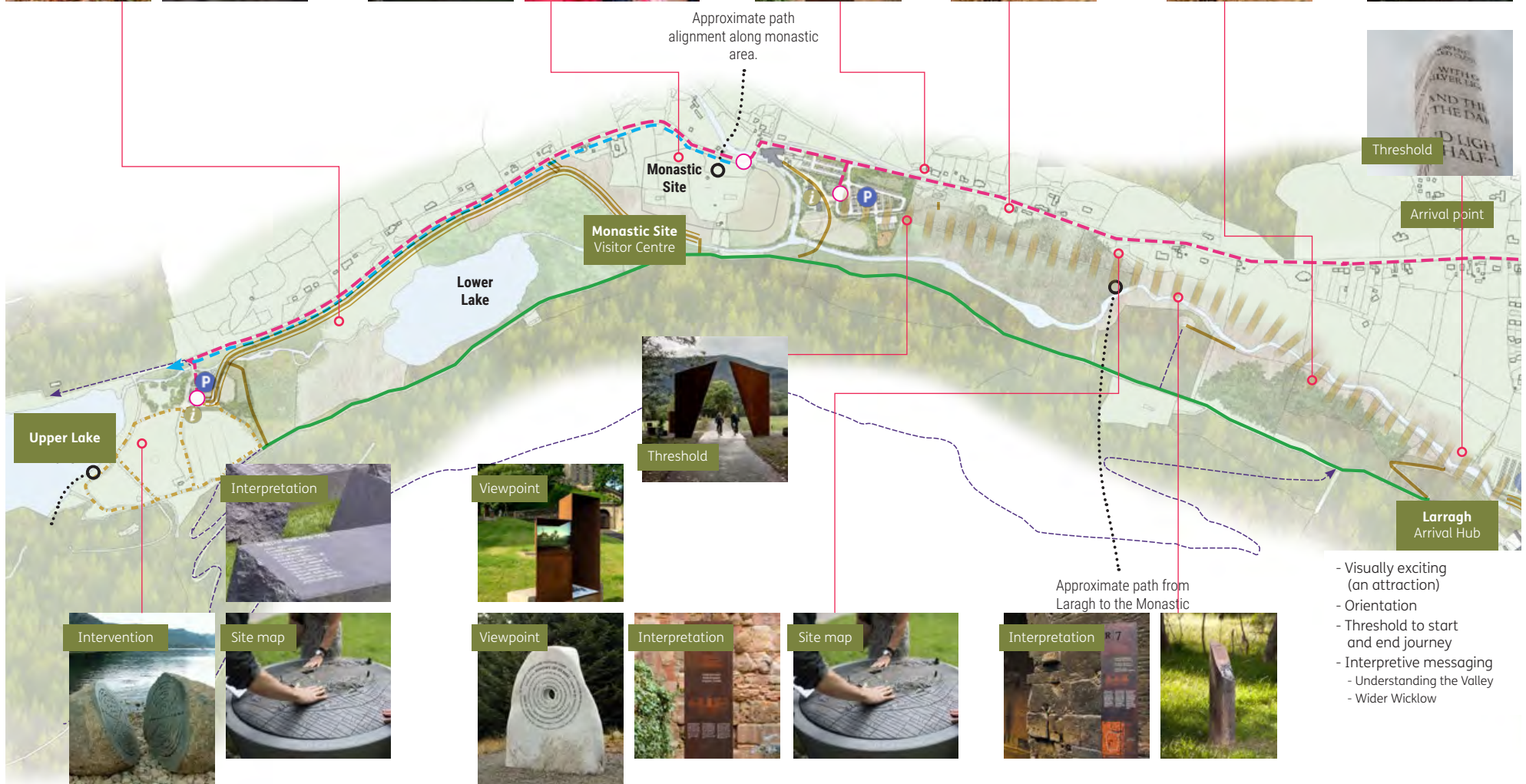
Reassurance



Reassurance



Threshold



- Visually exciting (an attraction)
- Orientation
- Threshold to start and end journey
- Interpretive messaging
 - Understanding the Valley
 - Wider Wicklow

Larragh

Arrival Hub

Where the journey begins

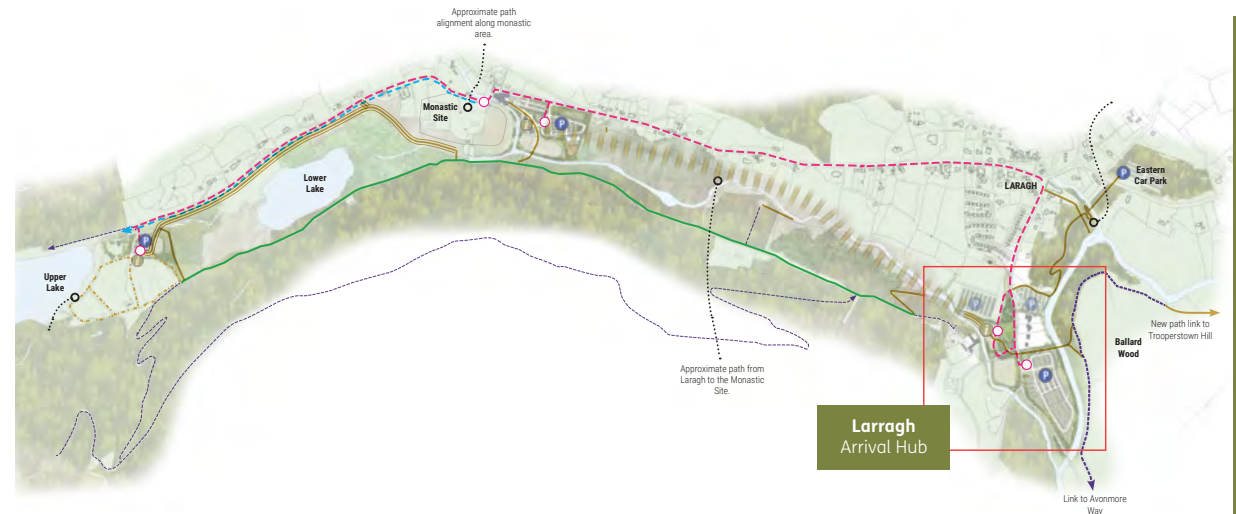
Visitors will be encouraged to begin and end their interpretive journey at a new orientation hub.

On arrival at the Laragh visitor orientation hub (and long term, accessible car park) the visitor will have the opportunity to refresh themselves before and after their journey and take advantage of on site facilities.

Interpretation will begin to set the scene and wayfinding information will orientate them.

Motivational and meaningful interpretive messaging will encourage the visitor to begin their experience via an 'interpretive portal'.

The objective of this 'Hub' is to help the visitor shake off their everyday concerns, to reset their minds and to prepare them for an immersive nature experience in Glendalough Valley.



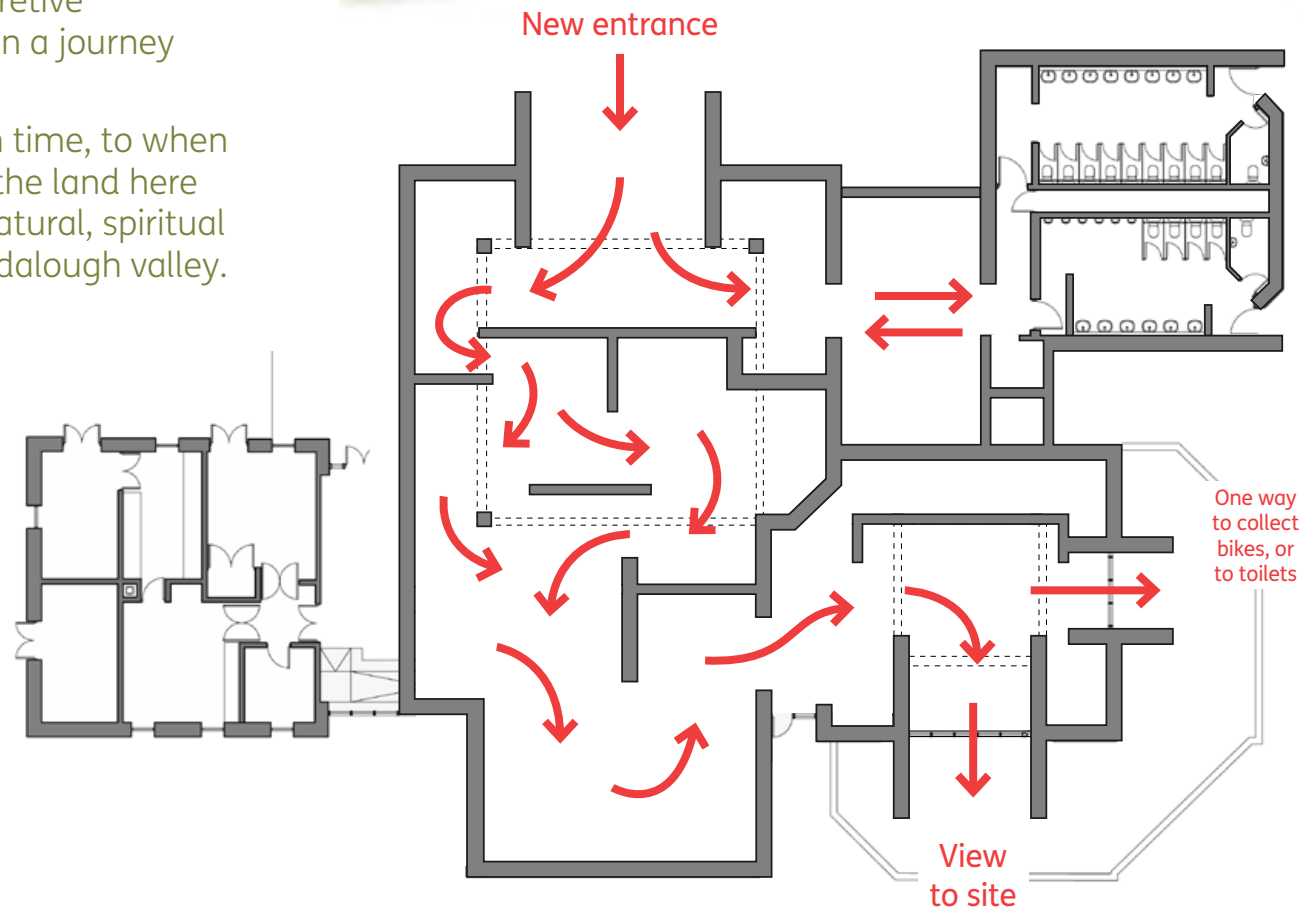
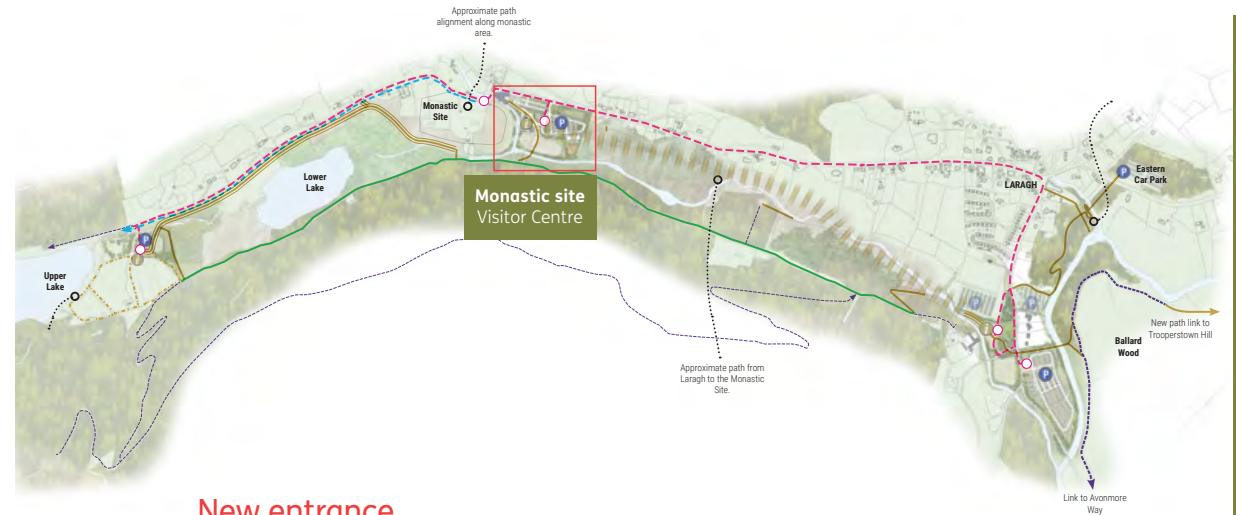
Monastic Site

Visitor Centre
Interpretive Visitor Experience

The new repurposed visitor centre will deliver a transformational interpretive experience.

As the visitor passes through this innovative space, experiential and interpretive interventions will take them on a journey away from the everyday.

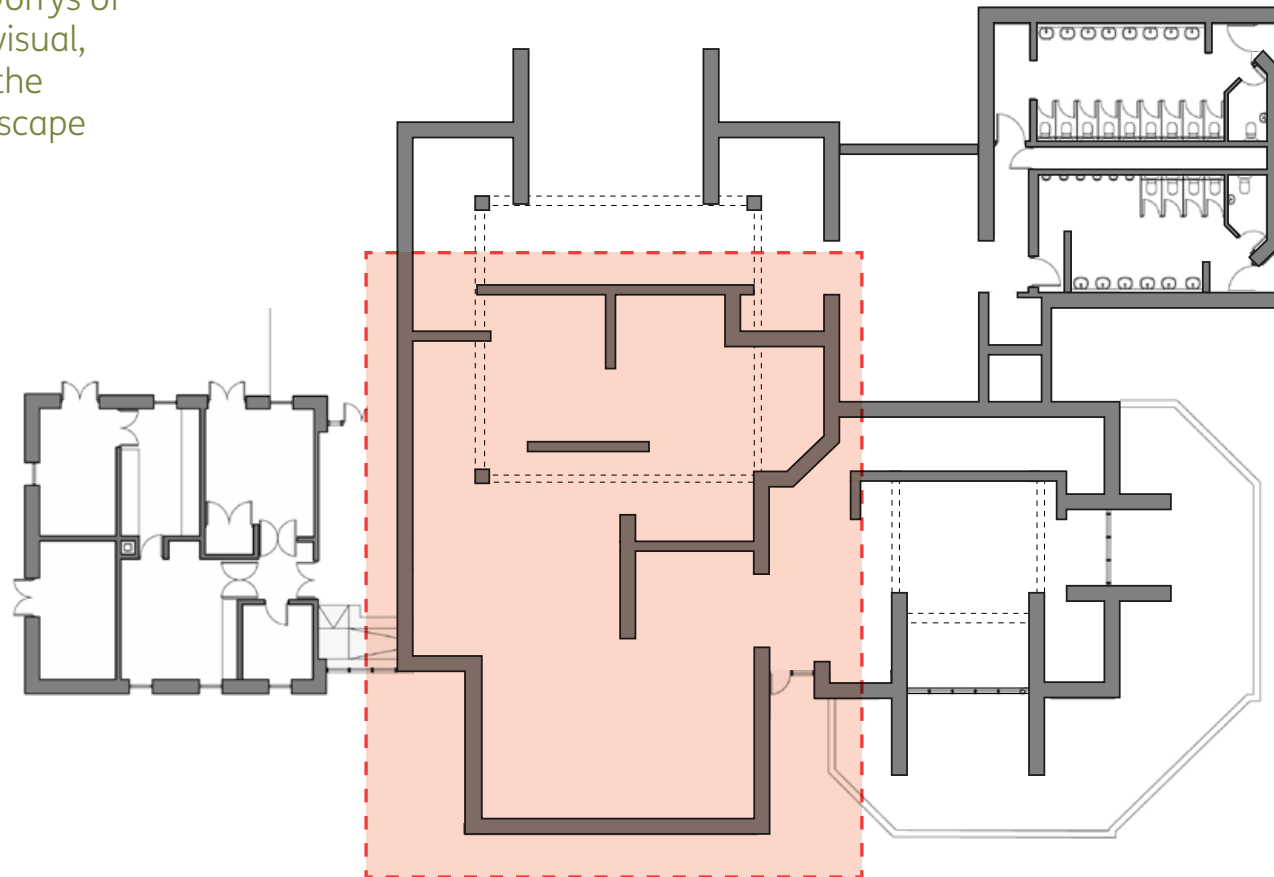
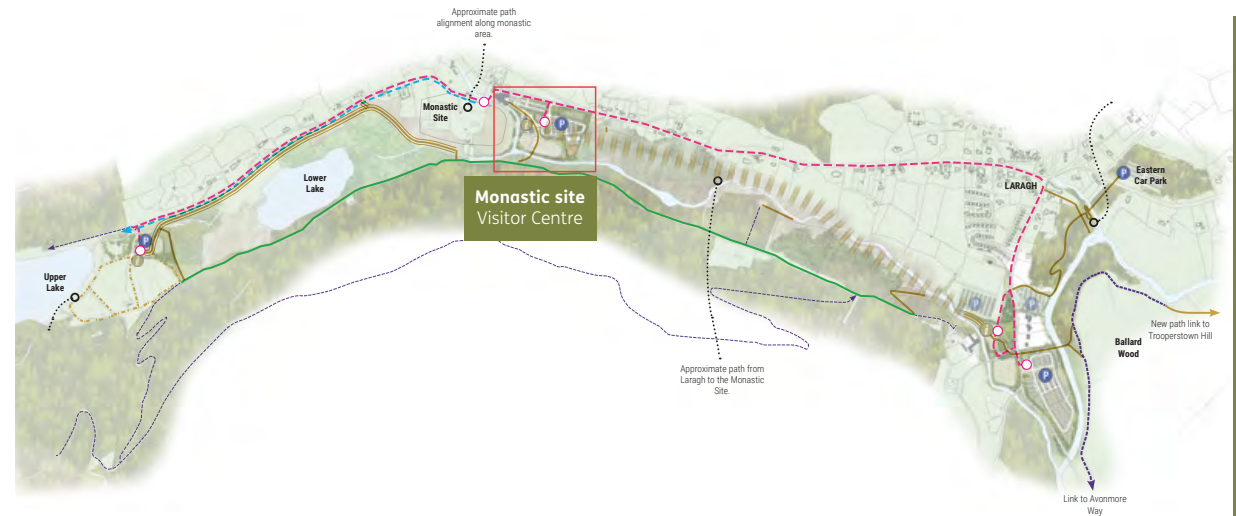
It will transport them through time, to when St Kevin first walked through the land here and connect them with the natural, spiritual and built heritage of the Glendalough valley.



Monastic Site

Visitor Centre Interpretive Visitor Experience

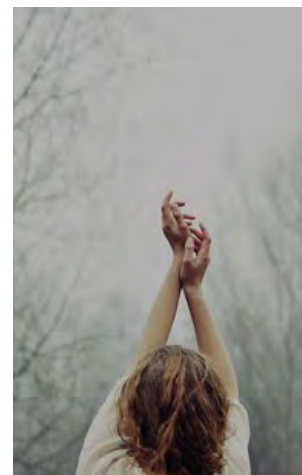
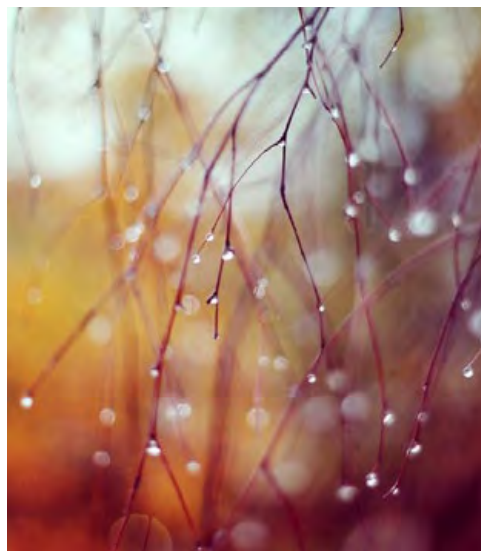
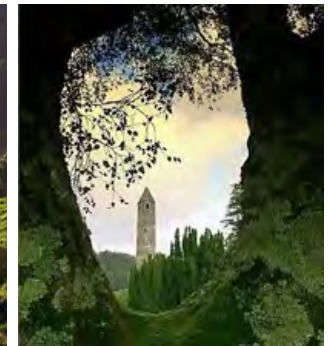
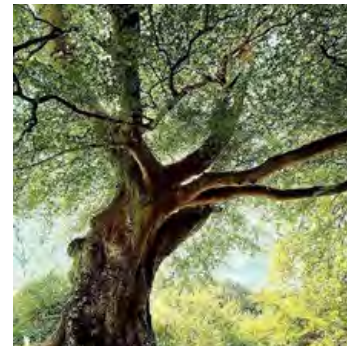
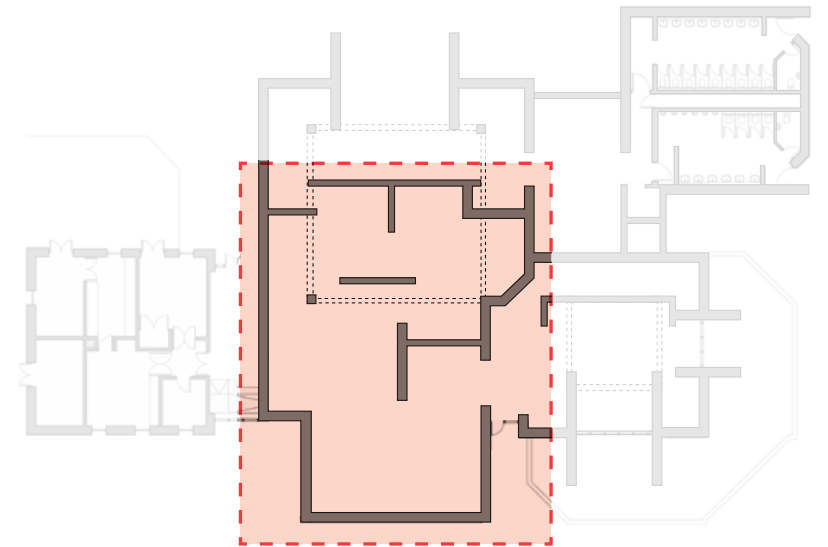
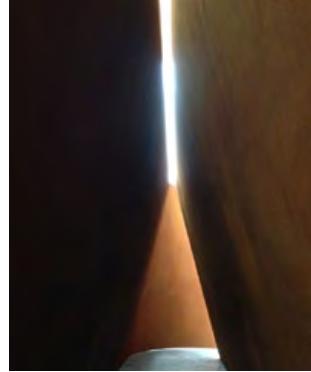
An atmospheric, open and visually compelling space, entry to the Visitor Centre will be a warm, welcoming and unique experience. Visitors will be invited to shed the toils and worries of the day and replace it with a visual, immersive experience where the sights and sounds of the landscape are explored.



Monastic Site

Visitor Centre Interpretive Visitor Experience

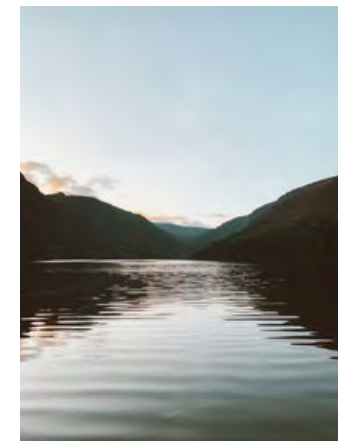
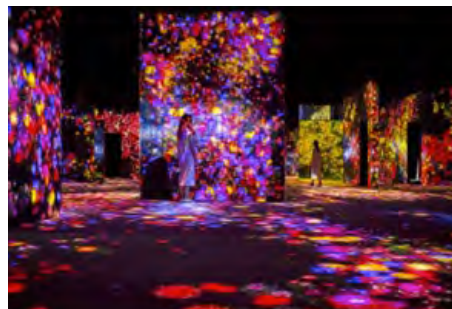
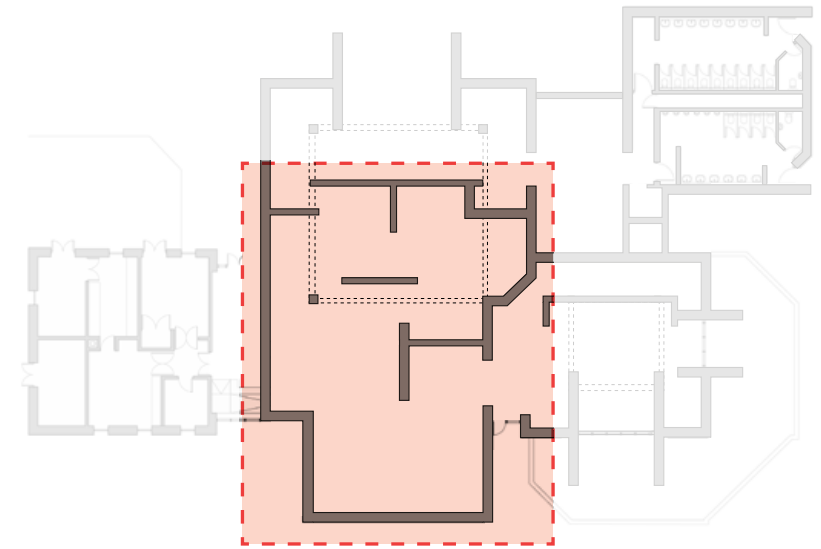
Nature, heritage, light and seasons will heighten the senses. Breathe in, clear your mind, explore the familiar aspects of the natural world like never before. In the distance a monk forages in the hedgerow, a beam of light filters where your foot step lands, the territorial call of a peregrine breaks the sounds of nature, wind rustles through the forest.



Monastic Site

Visitor Centre Interpretive Visitor Experience

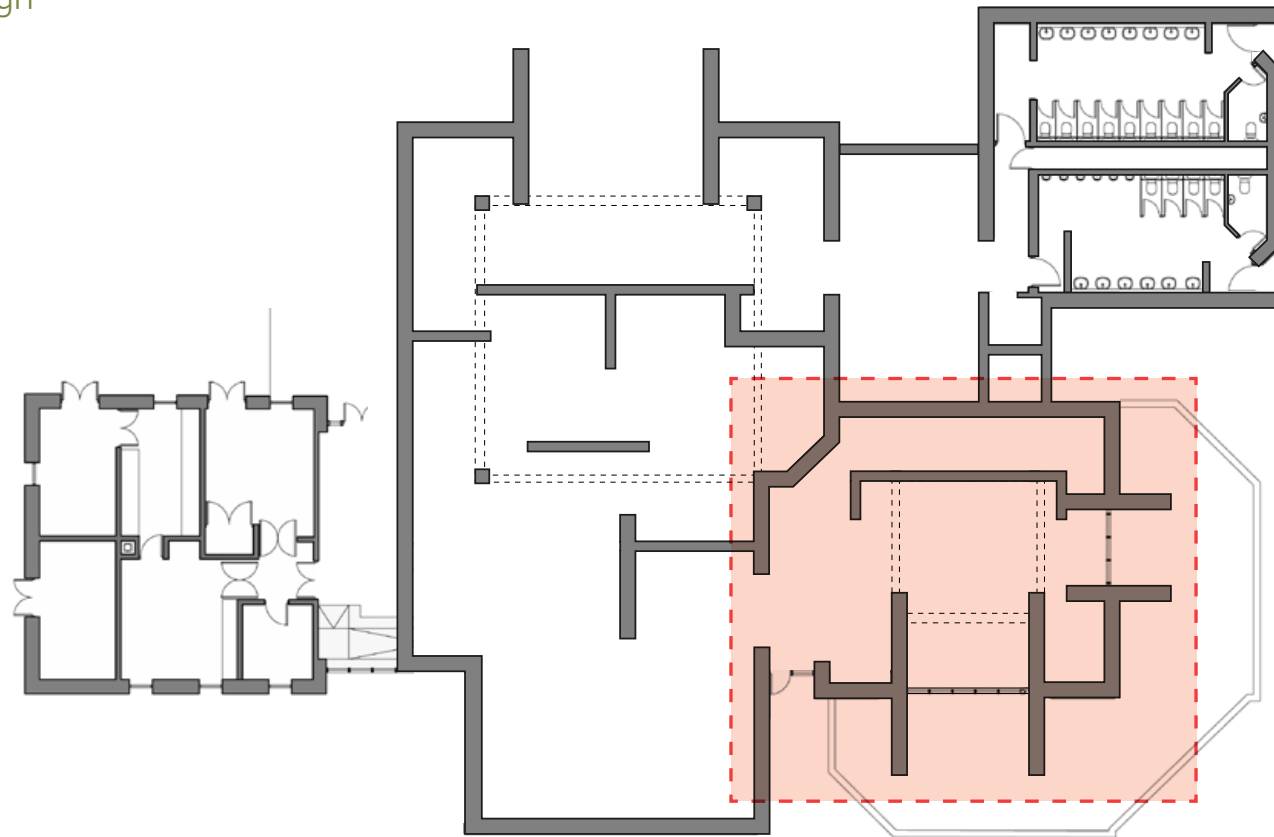
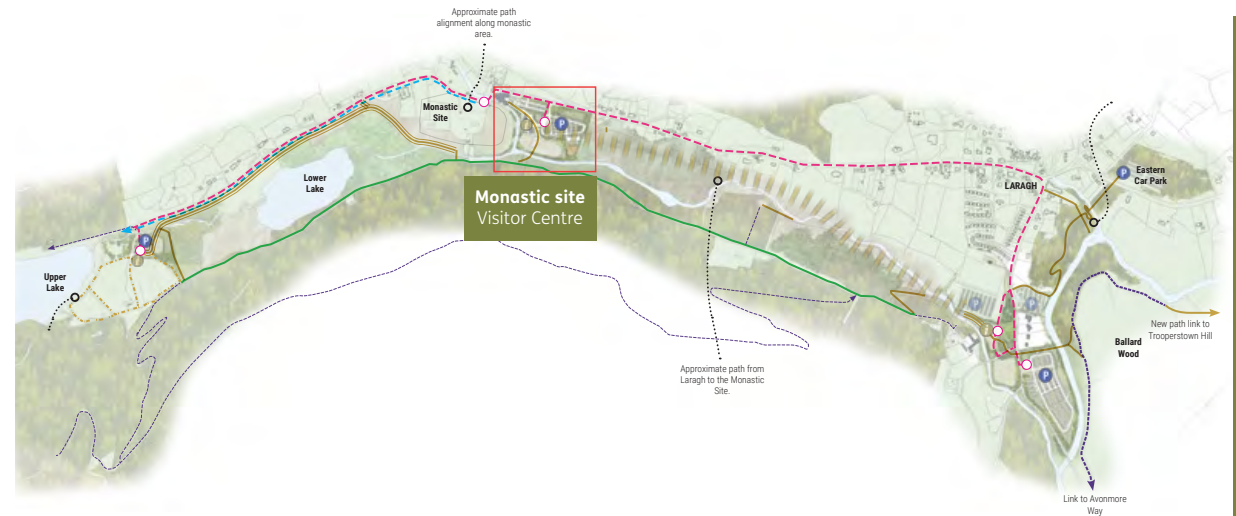
Immersive and interactive, the space intensifies the visitors' experience of nature. Approaching a swaying ancient oak, the leaves will change colour and drop before slowing and carefully replenishing again. On approach to open grassland a young fawn will jump up, leaping into the distance. The sight and sound of a torrential downpour will nourish the flora and fauna growing richer and more colourful as the raindrops recede. Individual elements of the landscape will be brought into a close, and intimate focus.



Monastic Site

Visitor Centre
Interpretive Visitor Experience

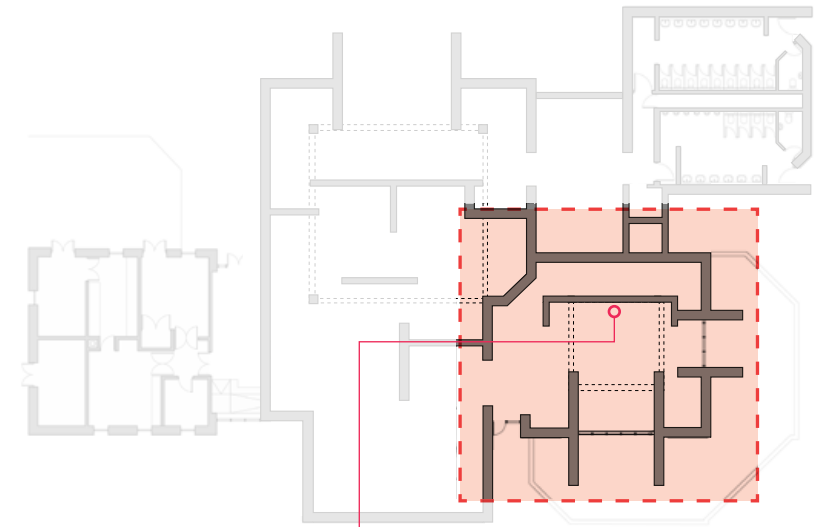
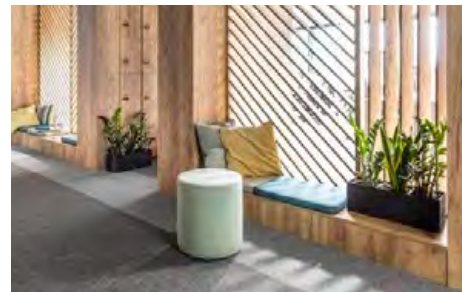
The immersivity of the earlier experience will be enhanced through an open plan room where interpretation will explore how the landscape changed through natural and manmade forces.



Monastic Site

Visitor Centre Interpretive Visitor Experience

Nature-rich reflective spaces will encourage and allow visitors to reflect on the landscape outside highlighting the diversity of natures through subtle 'must sees'. The impact of people, industry and the future of this rich, sacred landscape will feature in interpretation while spirituality, connection to nature and concepts around the future of the landscape will be explored. As the visitor begins to understand the landscape around them, their appreciation will grow.



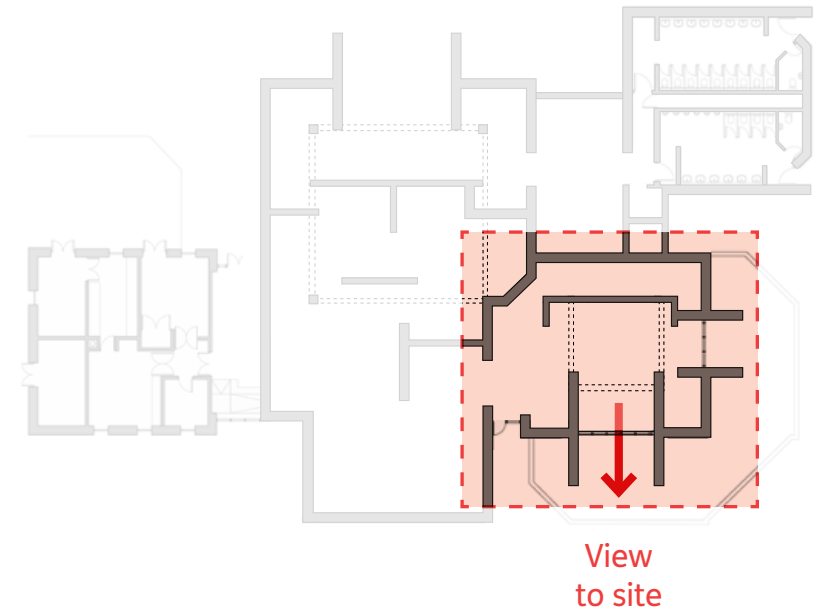
Model of valley



Monastic Site

Visitor Centre
Interpretive Visitor Experience

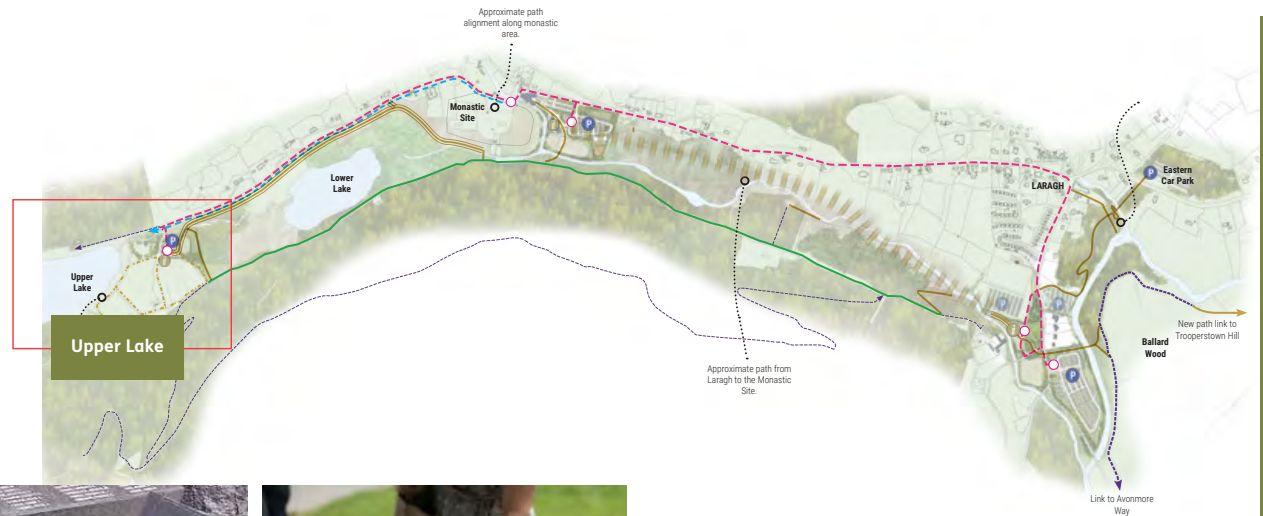
Strategic viewing points will enhance the visitor connection to the outside space, motivating the visitor to explore the surrounding area.



Upper Lake

Focused sensory interpretation

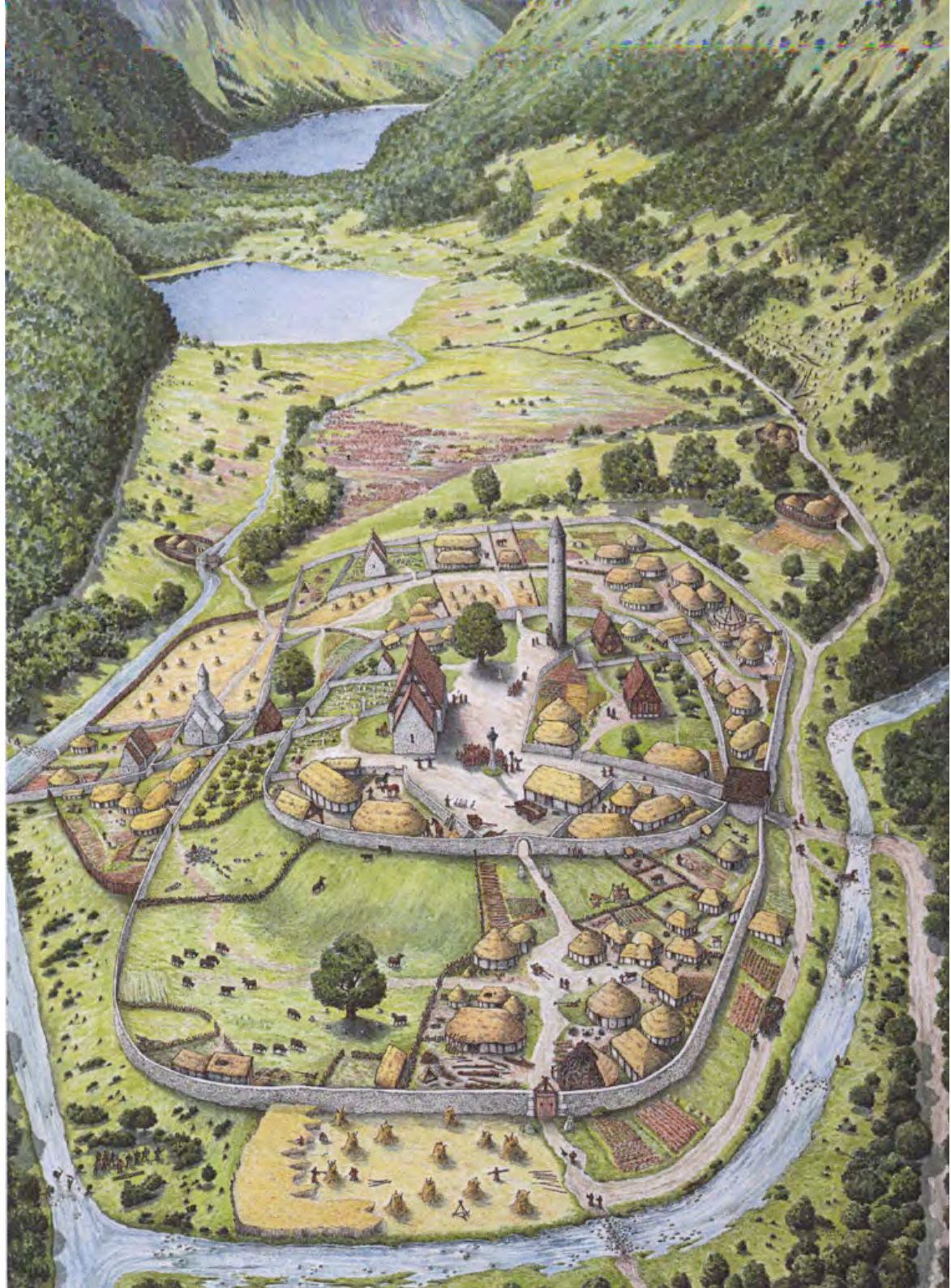
Sensory and artistic interpretation will re-enforce the Upper Lakes key natural assets, way finding and discovery sites.



Interpretive Visitor Experience
Orientation and interpretation hub
Transformational visitor experience

‘As the visitor emerges into the light, they will become aware of the widening vista with a spectacular view across the valley.

Multiple senses will be stimulated. Modern life has been left behind and the visitor is now in a place beyond time.’



A scenic landscape of Glendalough, Ireland, featuring a river flowing through a lush green valley. In the background, a prominent stone tower (Round Church) stands on a hill, surrounded by dense foliage and trees. The sky is a soft, hazy blue.

Glendalough Visitor Experience Masterplan

Interpretation Strategy

Issue: 02
05/08/2020

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