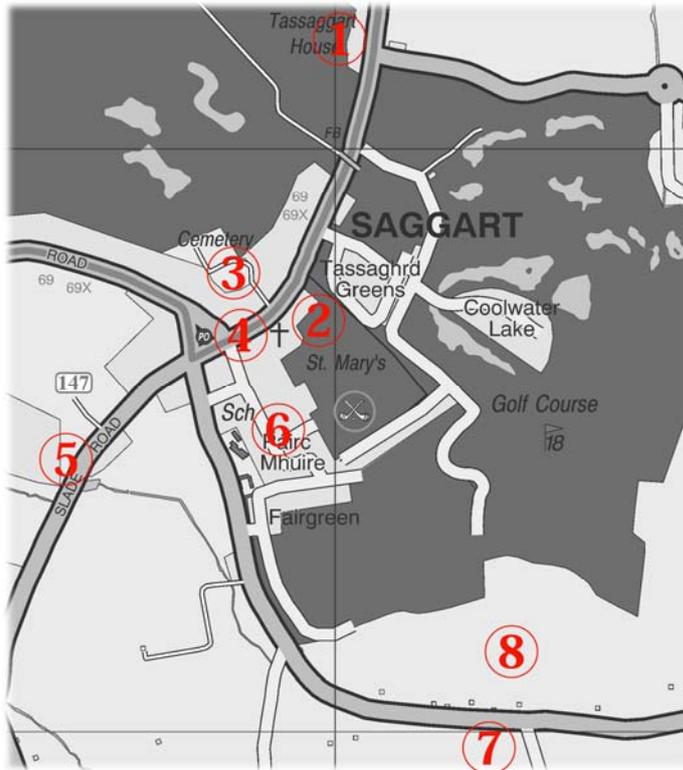


## Walking Tour

Garner Lane, Mill Road, past Moneyatta Commons as far as “Adam and Eve” – A Guided Walk



## Getting There

Luas – Saggart Stop

Dublin Bus:

- 69 from Hawkins Street (Hourly).

By Car:

Saggart Village is signposted from the Naas Road. On-street parking is Pay and Display, and is also available in the grounds of the Luas station.

Please use pedestrian crossings and apply the Safe Cross Code when crossing roads.

Distance: Approximately 2.5 km. The walk will take 30 to 40 minutes at a leisurely pace.

Alight from the bus at Citywest Golf Course, just after the metal pedestrian bridge over the road.



Double back and walk for 150 metres. Behind the wall you will see Tassagart House (1) and related outbuildings. Once the home of the Verscholye family, Tassagart House was built in two periods: the earlier part of the building dates from the eighteenth century and is Georgian in style; the other part of the building is Victorian. Refurbished in recent years, it's now a private

residence on the grounds of the City West golf course.

Head back under the metal bridge again and keep walking for 300 metres. To the left will be seen the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Saggart Church) (2): Work began in 1844 on the foundations of the church, the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Work on the structure began in 1847, and the dedication of the church took place



on 19th August 1849, carried out by the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Murray; The church was rendered in Wicklow granite in the gothic style popular at the time. Within the church is a plaque to Fr Andrew Hart, who ministered to Saggart's Catholic population during the harsh penal times of the early 19th century.

Directly opposite the church is a short lane leading to Saggart Graveyard (3):



The graveyard predates the current church, and is located on the site of previous church buildings, possibly the monastery of St Mosacra. The first edition Ordnance Survey map from 1843 shows the graveyard to be oval in shape, with access provided by a lane leading directly from the

village; prior to this, the area is recorded by mapmakers as the site of a ruined church. Within the graveyard, there is a noteworthy memorial to Dublin merchant Edward Byrne, who was a member of the Catholic Committee, a group that included Wolfe Tone, which petitioned King George II in 1793 on behalf of the Irish people.

Exit from the graveyard and head right towards the village. 100 metres on will be seen Jacob's Bar (4): Founded by members of the well-



known Jacob family in 1901, Jacob's has long been a landmark in the village. Long associated with the local GAA team, St. Mary's, the pub displays a variety of GAA memorabilia on its walls. In 2005 it was sold to new owners.



Head past the post office, across the crossroads and straight on for 250 metres. Opposite a derelict cottage is the entrance to the former site of Swiftbrook Mills, pictured here while still in operation (5): The Mill closed in 1972, and the Swiftbrook buildings were cleared in 2001; the site has been partially redeveloped for

housing, but remnants of the mills, such as mill ponds and some ruined buildings, remain. The Swiftbrook Paper Mills were founded around 1760, and later became famous for their Ancient Irish Vellum and Erin brands; they also produced paper for banknotes and stamps.

Heading back towards the crossroads you will turn right and after 150 metres you will see, on your left, St Mary's National School, Boherboy Road (6).

This whitewashed building, built in the 1940s, replaced an earlier building from the 1880s, which stands nearby, and has since been converted into apartments.



Keep going for 750 metres, following the road sign veering left at the Y in the road. (The right side of this Y leads to the Slade of Saggart which retains much of its unspoilt rural charm. It is, however, outside the scope of this walk.)

You will arrive at a crossroads, before which is a gate leading to a field containing two large standing stones set in the ground c. 1.6m apart. These are the Boherboy Standing Stones (7)



Known locally as ‘Adam and Eve’, the stones most probably date to the Bronze Age; their exact date and original function, however, remains unknown. They could be burial markers, memorials to the dead or the remains of another type of prehistoric burial monument such as a portal tomb.

Alternatively, they could be memorials to some long forgotten event, the location of a prehistoric ceremonial or ritual site, or markers of an ancient routeway passing through Slade valley.

Behind the houses opposite the “Adam and Eve” field was, in ancient times, a Holy Well – “St. Patrick’s Well”. The site is, unfortunately, no longer publicly accessible.

This is the last stop on the walking tour. The way back to the start is by retracing your steps, perhaps stopping for a refreshment in Jacobs.