

# SLIEVE KIRK NIE POWER LINES, CO. LONDONDERRY

NAC Ltd carried out an archaeological impact assessment and subsequent fieldwork in advance of the installation of overhead power lines for Northern Ireland Electricity (NIE) at Slieve Kirk, Co. Derry.

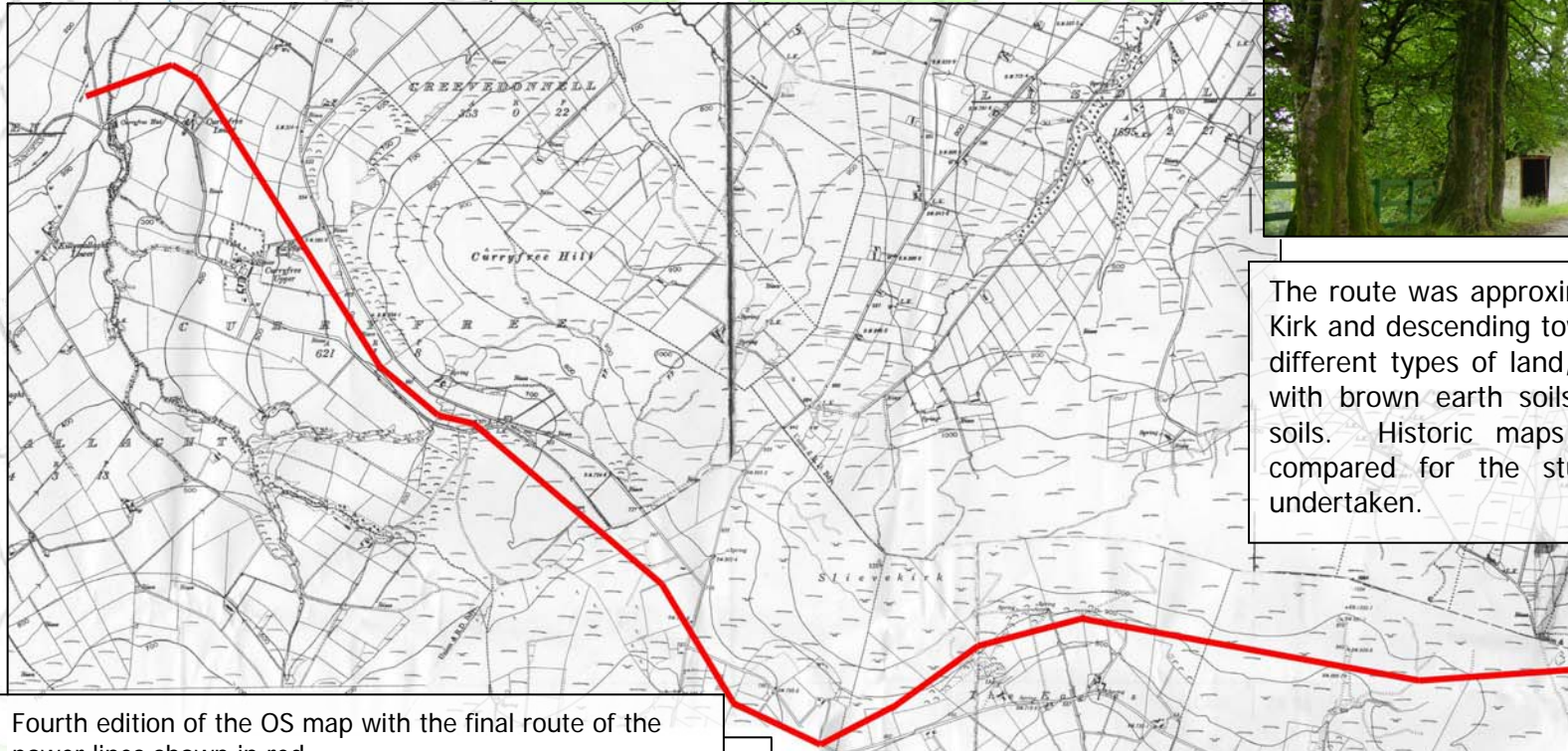
A route was selected that represented the best compromise in terms of all environmental and economic factors, one consideration being impact of the archaeological landscape. A corridor of width 300m, centred on this route, was taken as a study area that was examined for sites of archaeological importance or of other types of heritage.



Vernacular building at site of 19<sup>th</sup> Century mill



Vernacular building on selected power line route



The route was approximately 3km in length, crossing Slieve Kirk and descending towards Disertowen. It crossed several different types of land, from peaty upland, rolling hill-slope with brown earth soils, to ears of alluvial lands and gley soils. Historic maps and sources were examined and compared for the study area and a walk over study undertaken.

Fourth edition of the OS map with the final route of the power lines shown in red.

A mill site with associated race and mill pond was identified at one point on the selected route, around which the power lines were diverted to minimise impact on the historic landscape. Vernacular buildings were also located along the chosen route and it was determined that their setting would be compromised.



Panorama view along part of the route