

- LEGEND**
- PROPOSED SCHEME
 - SETTLEMENTS
 - NORTHERN IRELAND BOUNDARY

Client

Project

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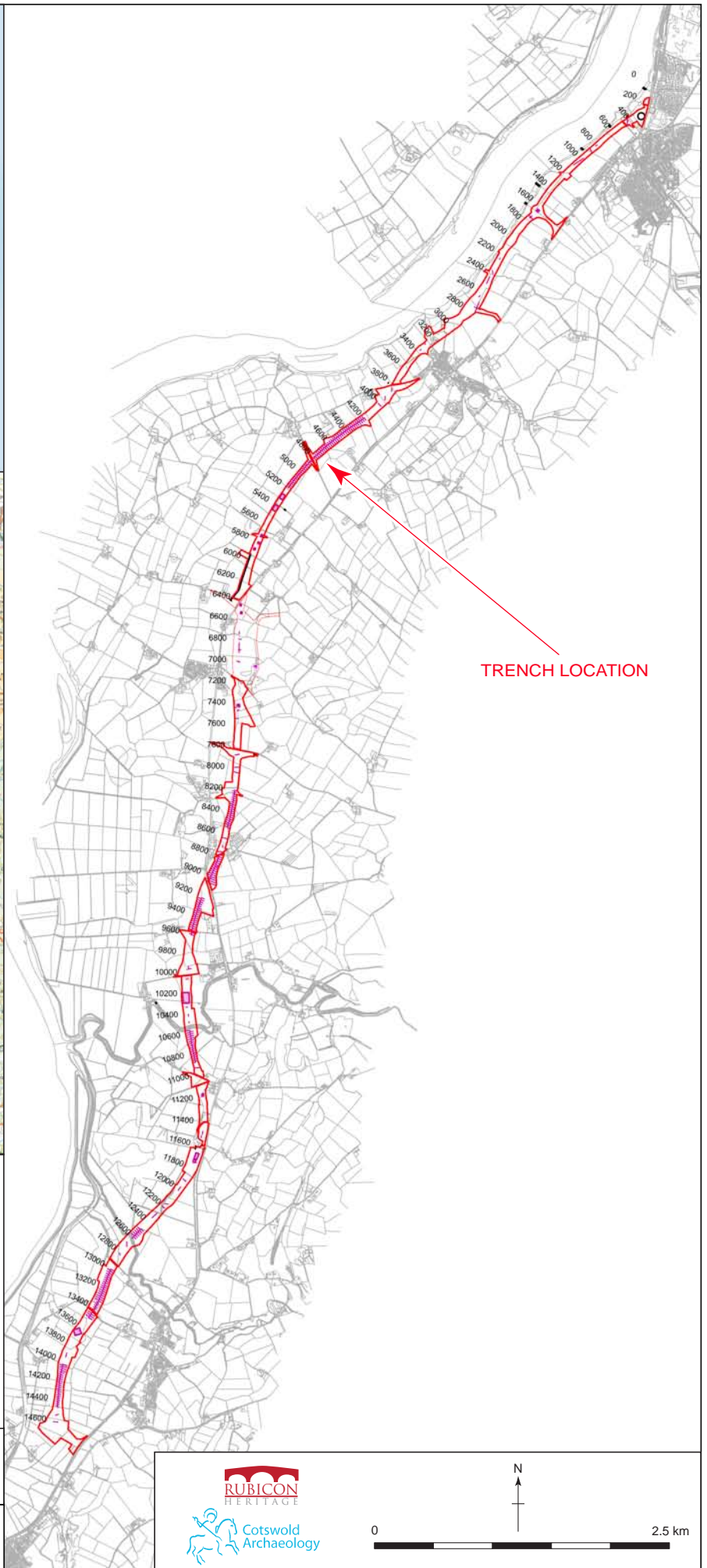


Figure 1 - Section 1 of proposed development

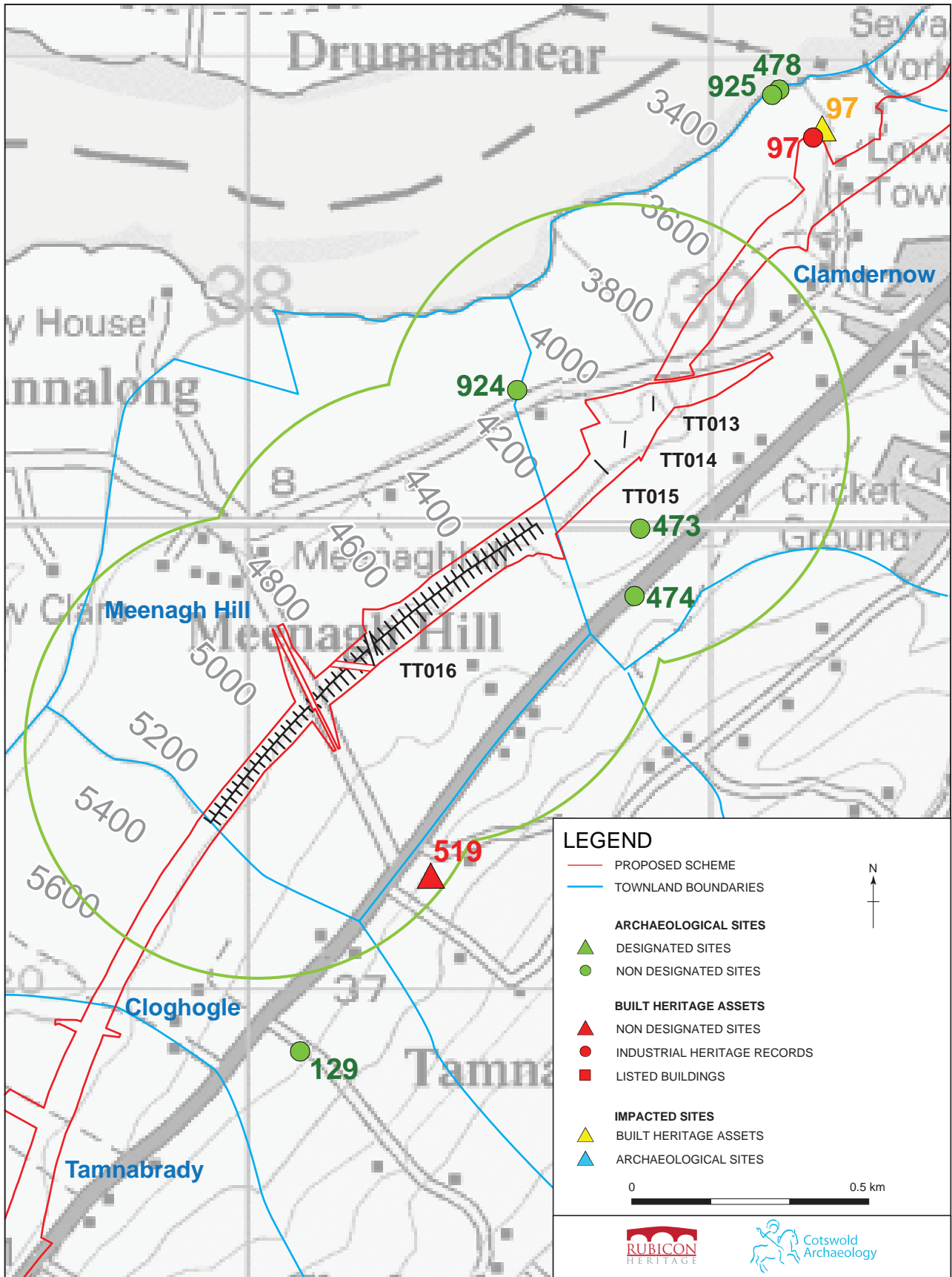


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT013; TT014; TT015 and TT016

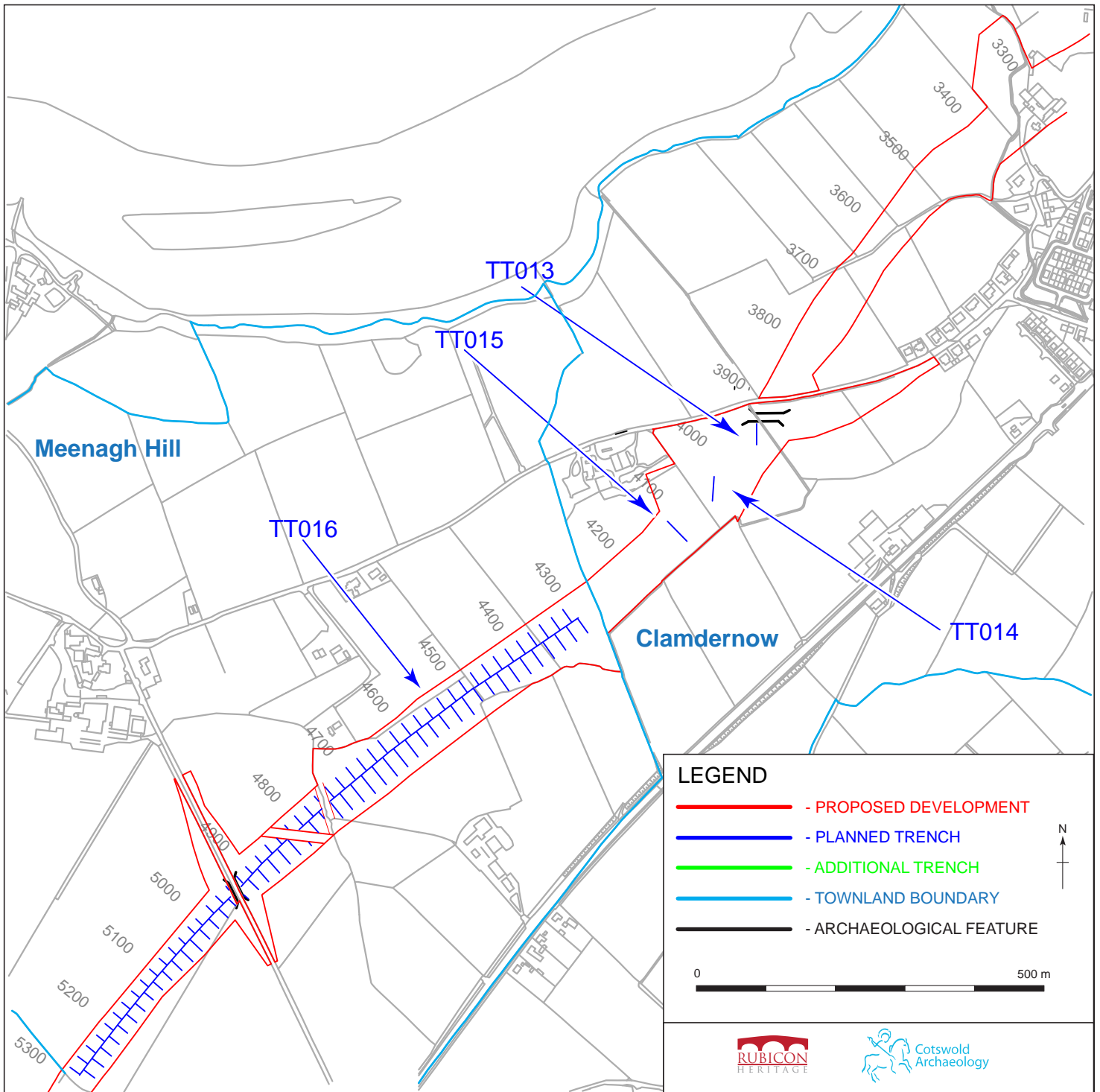


Figure 3 - TT013; TT014; TT015 and TT016 Trench Plans



PLATE 1: TT013 under excavation



PLATE 2: TT014 under excavation



PLATE 3: TT015 under excavation



PLATE 4: TT016 under excavation



Cotswold
Archaeology



A5 Western Transport Corridor

Section 1

New Buildings – South of Strabane

Assessment Report

Evaluation Trenching of TT022; 028; 039



Director: Brian O'Hara

Report Author: Mandy Stephens

Licence No: AE/13/13E



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1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon have been retained by Mouchel, on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service, to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation along the route of the proposed new A5 Western Transport Corridor. The proposed development comprises the construction of offline dual carriageway extending for 37 km (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed road corridor was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), under the terms of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and in compliance with policies BH1 – BH4 of Planning Policy Statement 6 (PPS6).

License **AE/13/13E** was issued to Brian O'Hara of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in these pre-determined locations along Section 1 of the road corridor.

This report outlines the results of trial trenching at TT022; 028; 039 in the townlands of Sollus, Magerareagh and Ballydonaghy Co. Tyrone, within Section 1 of the road scheme, New Buildings – Strabane (Figure 2).

2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Archaeological field work was carried out on the following dates at the following locations (Figure 1; Plates 1 -3):

08 March 2013	TT022	Ch. 7400 – Ch. 7500
15 February 2013	TT028	Ch. 8205 – Ch. 8595
12 February 2013	TT0039	Ch. 11480 – Ch. 11550

The trench layout was designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. During design each block of trial trenches were numbered consecutively (Figure 3) and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work for ease of recording and presentation.

Site conditions necessitated amendments to the planned locations of a number of trenches and Strip and Map Areas. All amendments to the originally planned excavations, including additional excavations and any omissions, were undertaken by agreement with and under direction from Mouchel's Senior Archaeologist.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The objective of the evaluation was to provide information about the recorded and unrecorded archaeological resource within the road corridor, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008). This information will enable NIEA and Mouchel to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it and design a strategy to mitigate the effect of the scheme.

The removal of topsoil during the evaluation was conducted using a 360° tracked machine fitted with a 1.9 m wide ditching (toothless) bucket under constant archaeological supervision. Assessment methodology at this time did not include investigation of identified features. As a result, minimum depths for these features are currently unknown.

Written, drawn and photographic records were made using CotswoldRubicon standard method on *pro forma* record sheets. Ordnance Datum levels and feature locations were recorded using GPS.

Any artefacts, materials and each category of data recovered during the test excavation were treated in accordance with the requirements and standards set by the following:

- *Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995*
- *Excavation Standards Manual EHS - HMU*
- *Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Ed.) (MAP 2) English Heritage*
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations IFA*
- *Guidelines for Archaeologists IAI*
- *A5 WTC Archaeological Investigation: Specification (Works Information Folder 4 of 8)*

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) undertaken for the proposed road scheme (Chapter 9; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx) identified the following sites in the vicinity of TT022 (Figure 2): vernacular buildings (Ref. 845); quarry (Ref. 168); field boundary (Ref. 572) and church (Ref. 679).

The following sites were recorded in the vicinity of TT028 (Figure 2): vernacular buildings (Ref. 846 & 847). Two further sites (Ref. 926 & 20) are not listed in the EIS gazetteer (Appendix 9C; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx).

The following sites were recorded in the vicinity of TT039 (Figure 2): church (Ref. 655), a milestone (ref. 570) and a lane (Ref. 915). Two further sites (Ref. 901) and (Ref. 842) are not listed in the gazetteer (Appendix 9C; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx).

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). Potential features indicated by that survey (Area 33; Area 91; Area 16) have proved to be modern in date and agricultural in character.

5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching

The results of the test trenching are presented in tabular form below:

Chainage	Trench	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description
7400-7500	22	TT022		1.9	0.42	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown peaty silt Natural subsoil: light grey sandy clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no
8205 - 8595	28	TT028.1	45	1.9	0.39	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange clayey silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no
11480-11550	39	TT039		1.9	0.3	N-S	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: mid brown silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no
11480-11550	39	TT039a		1.9	0.3	N-S	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: mid brown silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no

Table 1: Trench Register

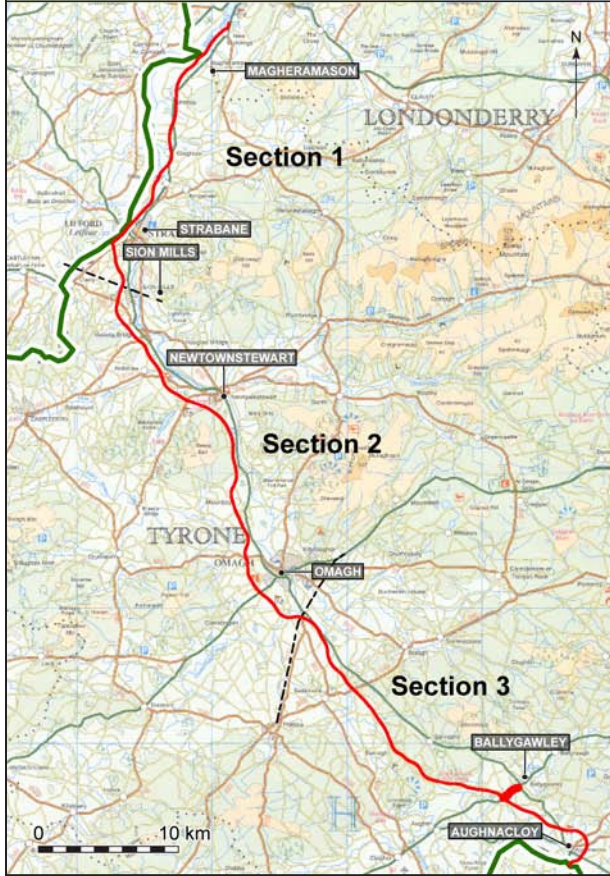
6 FACTUAL DATA: Results of archaeological investigation

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of this evaluation.

7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of this evaluation.

No further archaeological investigations are required.



- LEGEND**
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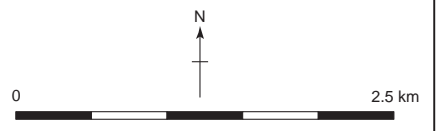
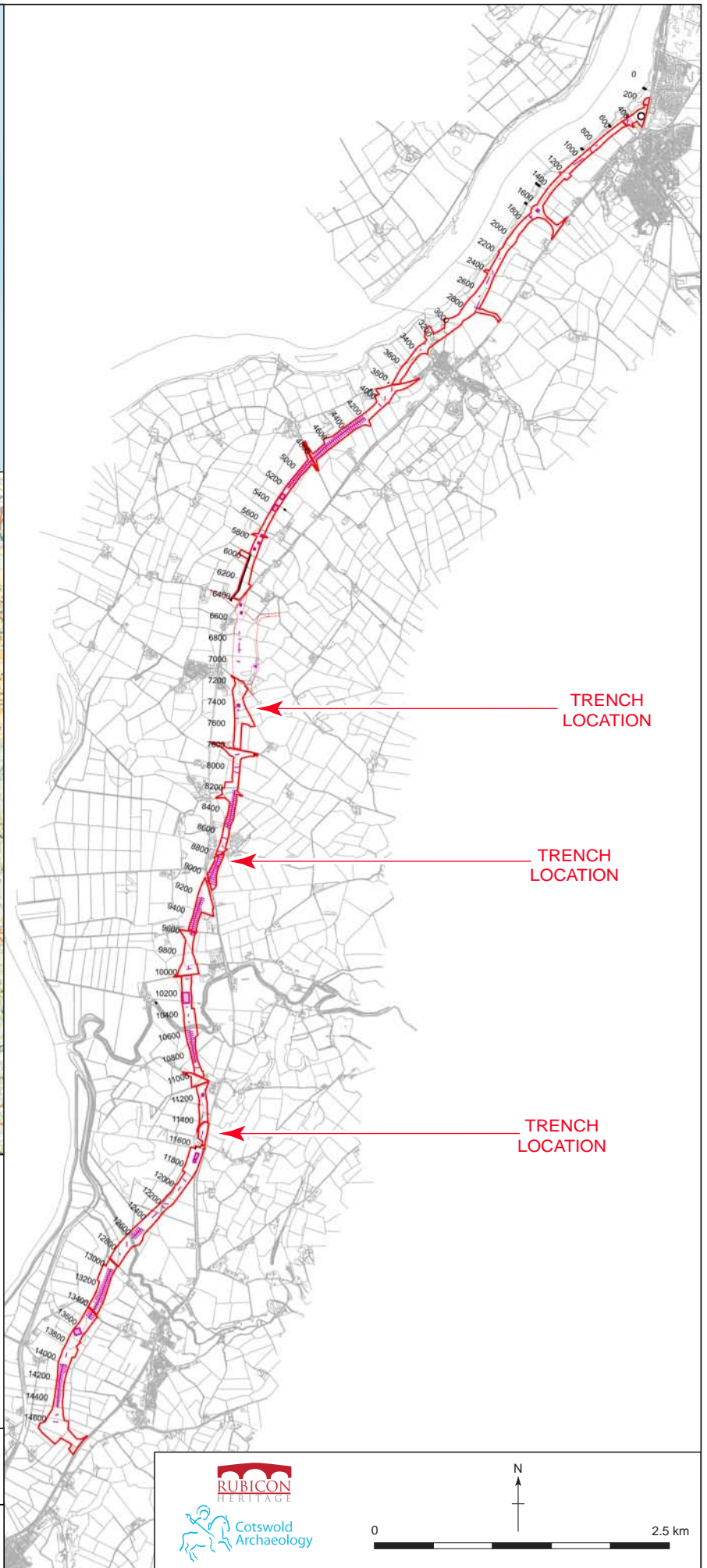


Figure 1 - Section 1 of proposed development

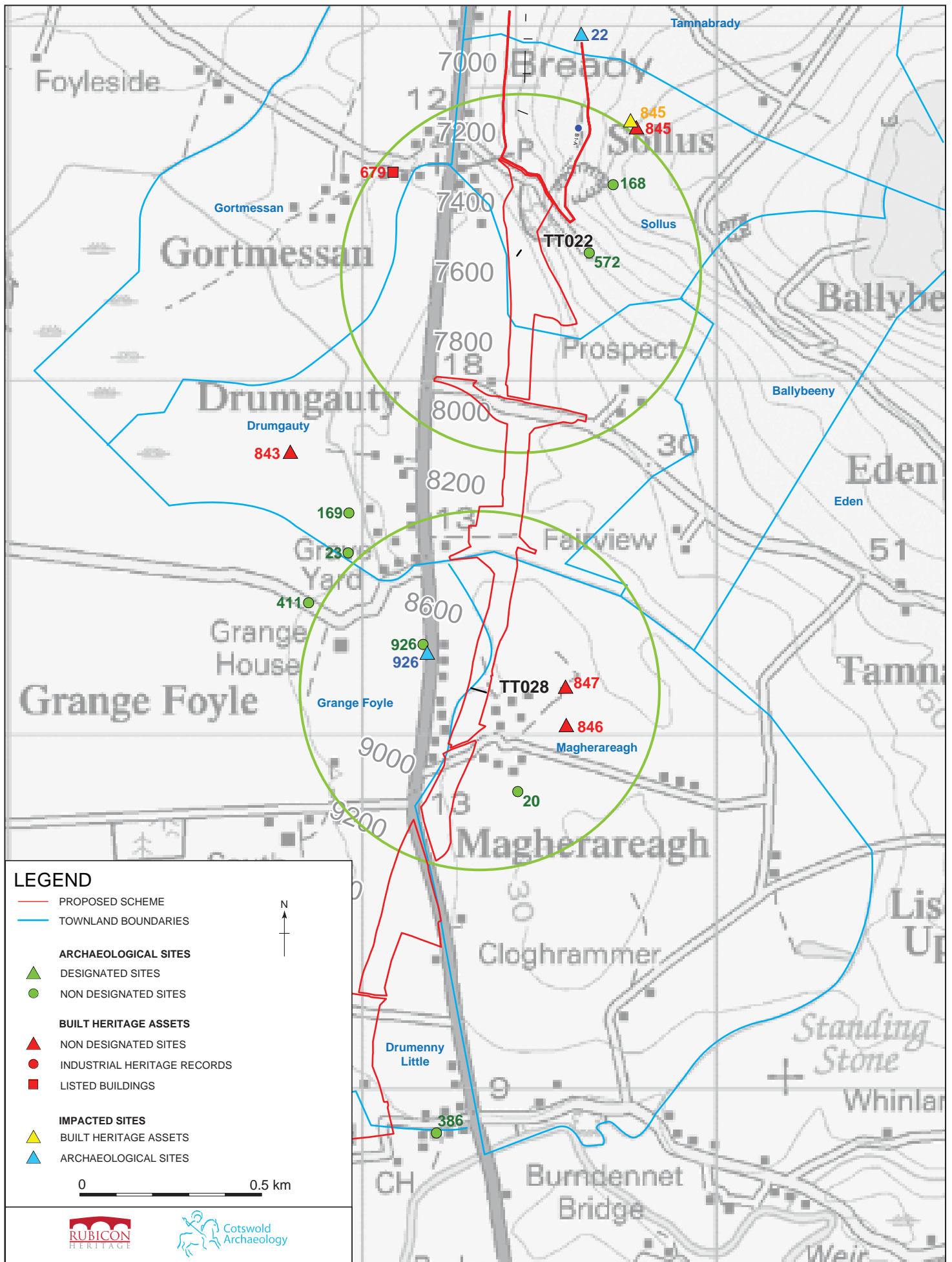


Figure 2a - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT022 and TT028

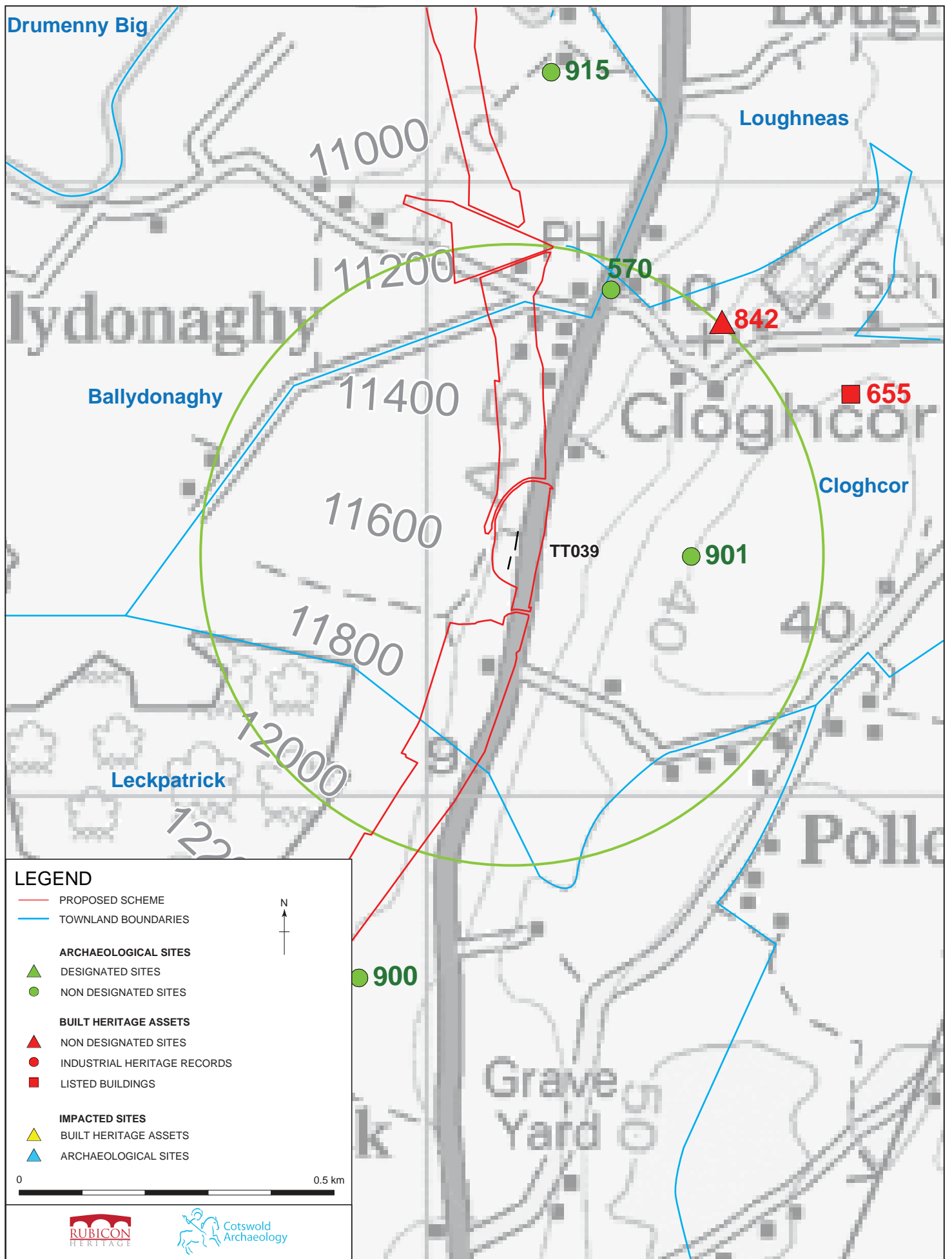


Figure 2b - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT039

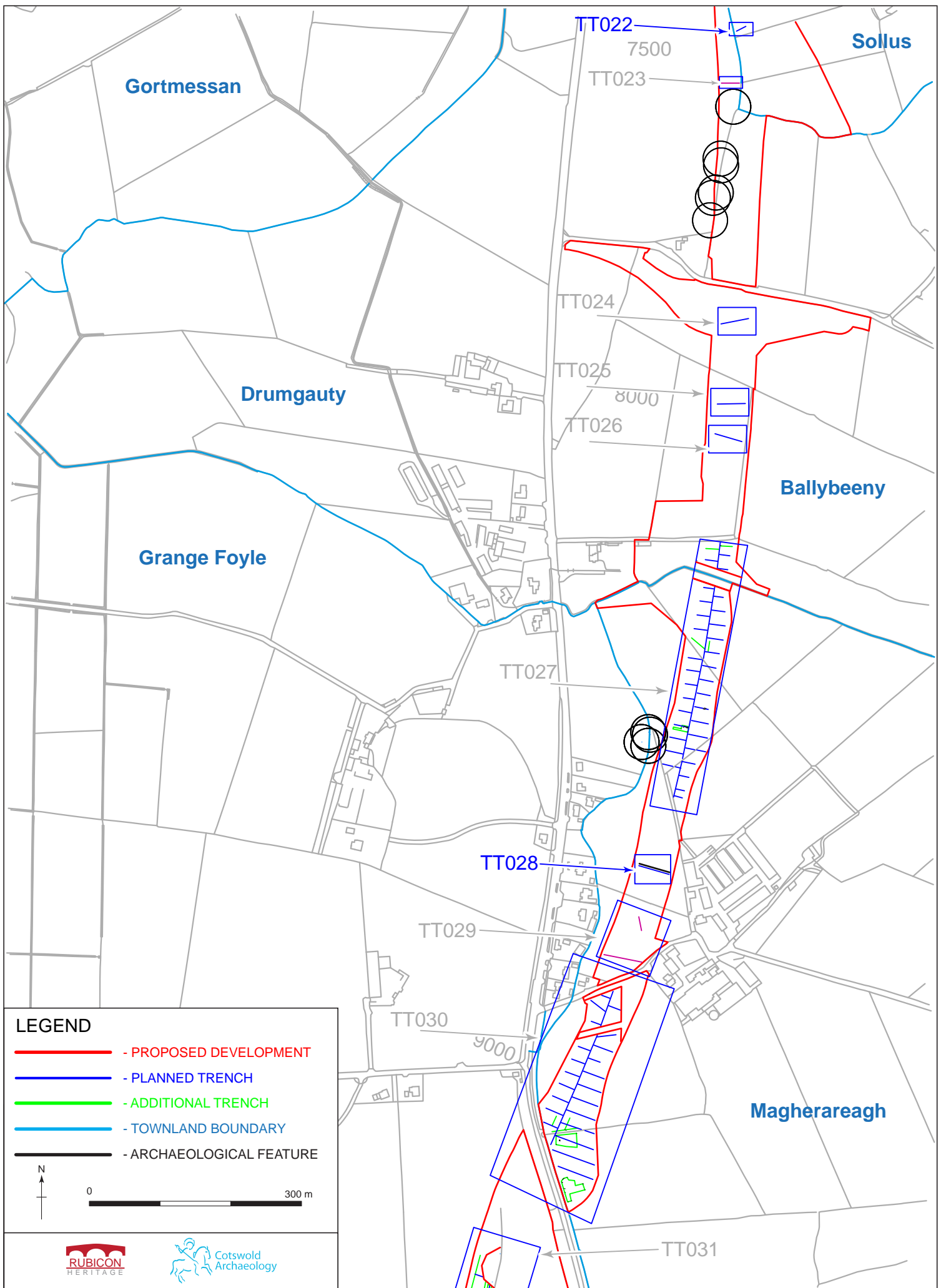


Figure 3a - TT022 and TT028 trench plan

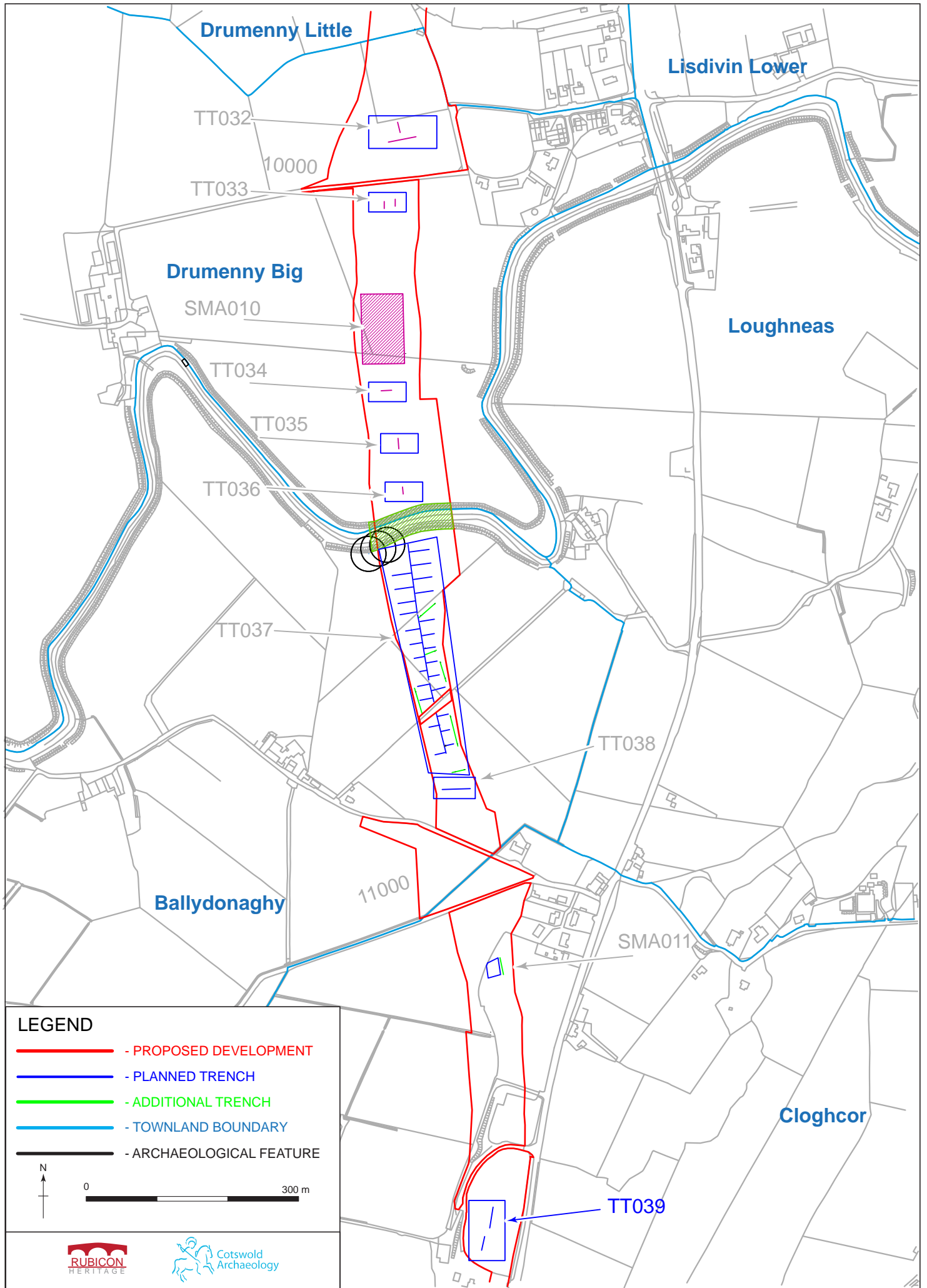


Figure 3b - TT039 trench plan



PLATE 1: TT022 under excavation



PLATE 2: TT028 under excavation



PLATE 3: TT039 under excavation



Cotswold
Archaeology



A5 Western Transport Corridor

Section 1

New Buildings – South of Strabane

Assessment Report

Evaluation Trenching of TT024; 025; 026



Director: Brian O'Hara

Report Author: Mandy Stephens

Licence No: AE/13/13E



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Plate 2: TT028 under excavation

Plate 3: TT039 under excavation

1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon have been retained by Mouchel, on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service, to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation along the route of the proposed new A5 Western Transport Corridor. The proposed development comprises the construction of offline dual carriageway extending for 37 km (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed road corridor was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), under the terms of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and in compliance with policies BH1 – BH4 of Planning Policy Statement 6 (PPS6).

License **AE/13/13E** was issued to Brian O’Hara of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in these pre-determined locations along Section 1 , New Buildings – Strabane, of the road corridor (Figure 2).

This report outlines the results of trial trenching at TT024, 025 and 026 in the townland of Drumgauty Co. Tyrone.

2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Archaeological field work was carried out at the three locations on 15 February 2013 (Plates 1 -3):

The trench layout was designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. During design each block of trial trenches were numbered consecutively (Figure 3) and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work for ease of recording and presentation.

Site conditions necessitated amendments to the planned locations of a number of trenches and Strip and Map Areas. All amendments to the originally planned excavations, including additional excavations and any omissions, were undertaken by agreement with and under direction from Mouchel’s Senior Archaeologist.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The objective of the evaluation was to provide information about the recorded and unrecorded archaeological resource within the road corridor, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008). This information will enable NIEA and Mouchel to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it and design a strategy to mitigate the effect of the scheme.

The removal of topsoil during the evaluation was conducted using a 360° tracked machine fitted with a 1.9 m wide ditching (toothless) bucket under constant archaeological supervision. Assessment methodology at this time did not include investigation of identified features. As a result, minimum depths for these features are currently unknown.

Written, drawn and photographic records were made using CotswoldRubicon standard method on *pro forma* record sheets. Ordnance Datum levels and feature locations were recorded using GPS.

Any artefacts, materials and each category of data recovered during the test excavation were treated in accordance with the requirements and standards set by the following:

- *Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995*
- *Excavation Standards Manual EHS - HMU*
- *Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Ed.) (MAP 2) English Heritage*
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations IFA*
- *Guidelines for Archaeologists IAI*
- *A5 WTC Archaeological Investigation: Specification (Works Information Folder 4 of 8)*

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) undertaken for the proposed road scheme (Chapter 9; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx) identified the following sites in the vicinity of TT022 (Figure 2): a corn kiln (Ref. 169), a vernacular farmhouse (Ref. 843). A further site (Ref. 23) is not listed in the EIS gazetteer (Appendix 9C; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx).

There are no archaeological monuments listed in the NISMR for the townland of Drumgauty or the adjacent townland of Magherareagh.

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Areas 75 and 92: Durham University 2012). Potential features indicated by that survey have proved to be modern in date and agricultural in character.

5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching

The results of the test trenching are presented in tabular form below:

Chainage	Trench	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description
7890	24	TT024	40	1.9	1.00	NE-SW	Modern dumping Topsoil: grey brown peaty silt Natural subsoil: light grey sandy clay Features identified: none Finds & samples: none
8000	25	TT025	40	1.9	0.35	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange clayey silt Features identified: none Finds & samples: none
8050	26	TT026	40	1.9	0.50	NW-SE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: mid brown silty clay Features identified: none Finds & samples: none

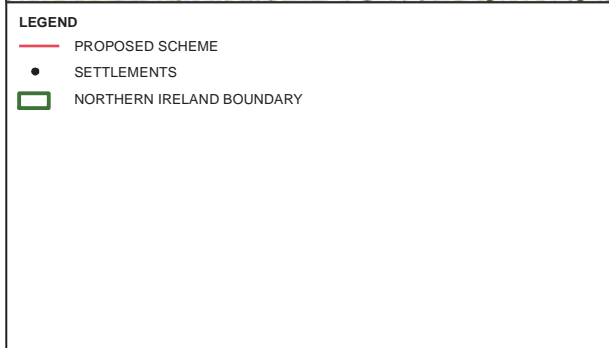
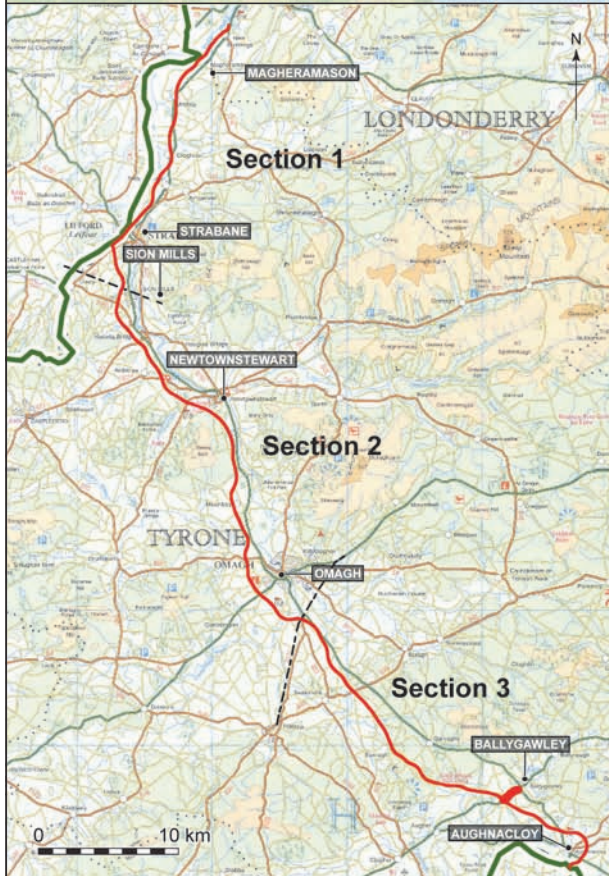
Table 1: Trench Register

6 FACTUAL DATA: Results of archaeological investigation

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of this evaluation. The modern leveling revealed sealing the pre-existing topsoil throughout TT024 correlates with the geophysical anomaly identified within this area. No features, excepting modern land drains were revealed with TT025 and TT026.

7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of this evaluation. No further archaeological investigations are required.



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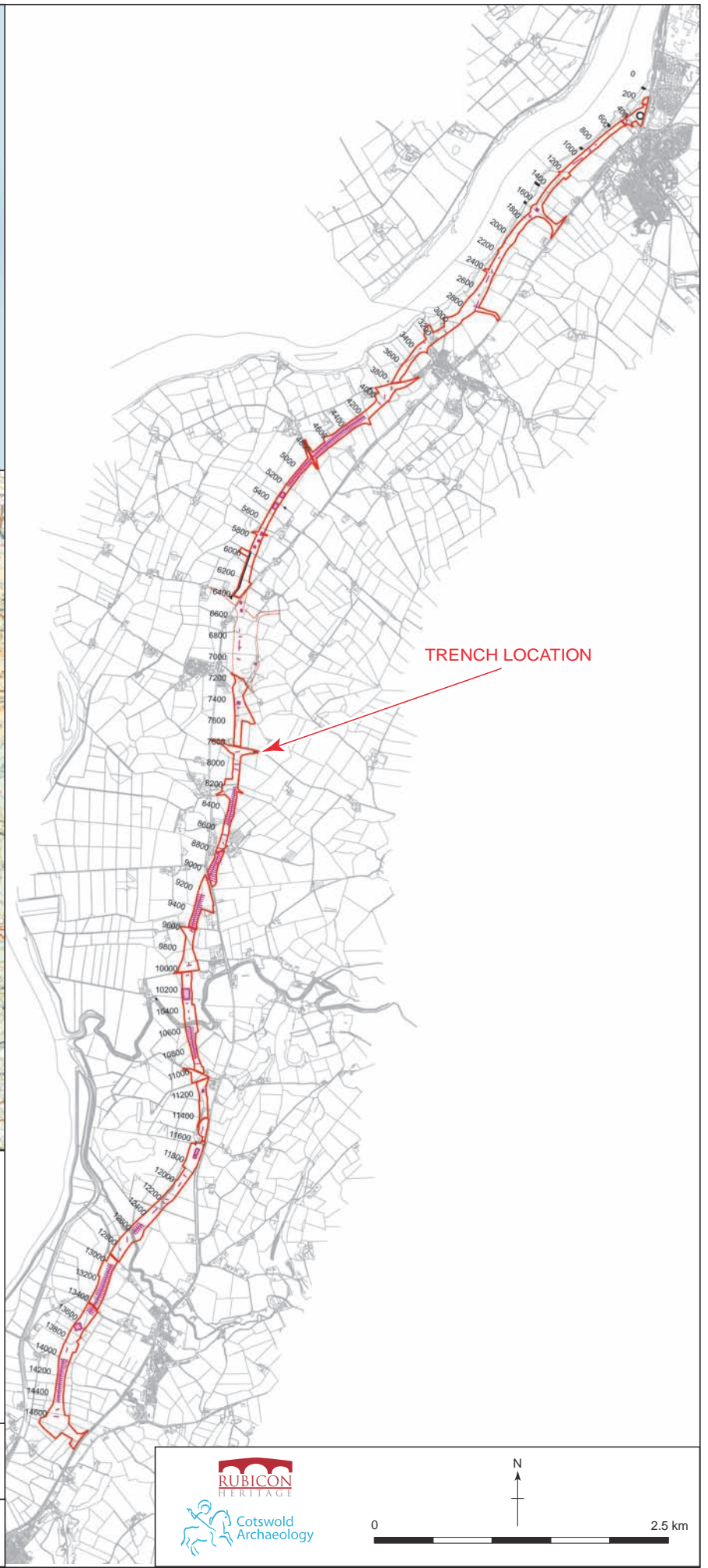


Figure 1 - Section 1 of proposed development.

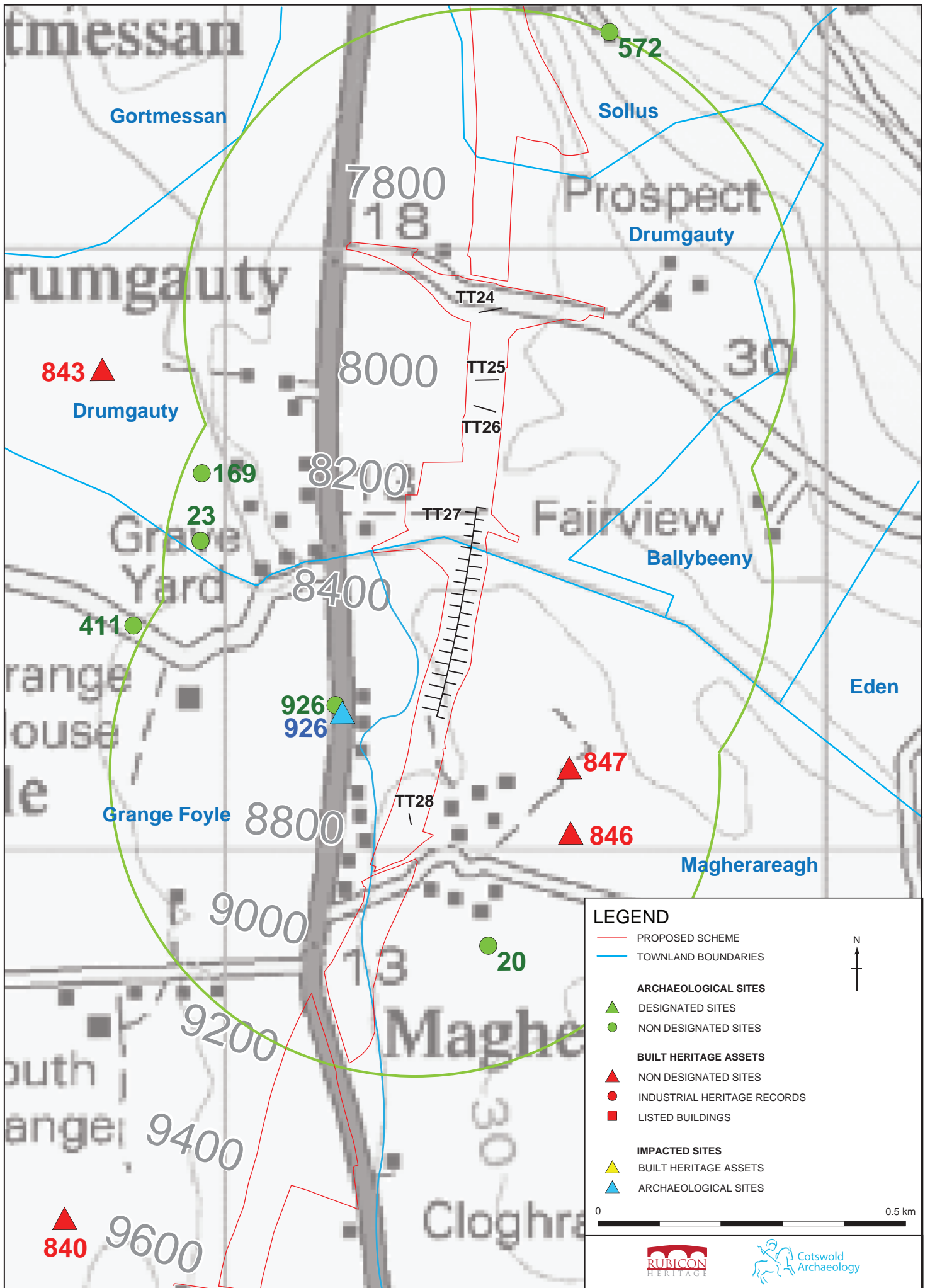


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT024; TT025 and TT026

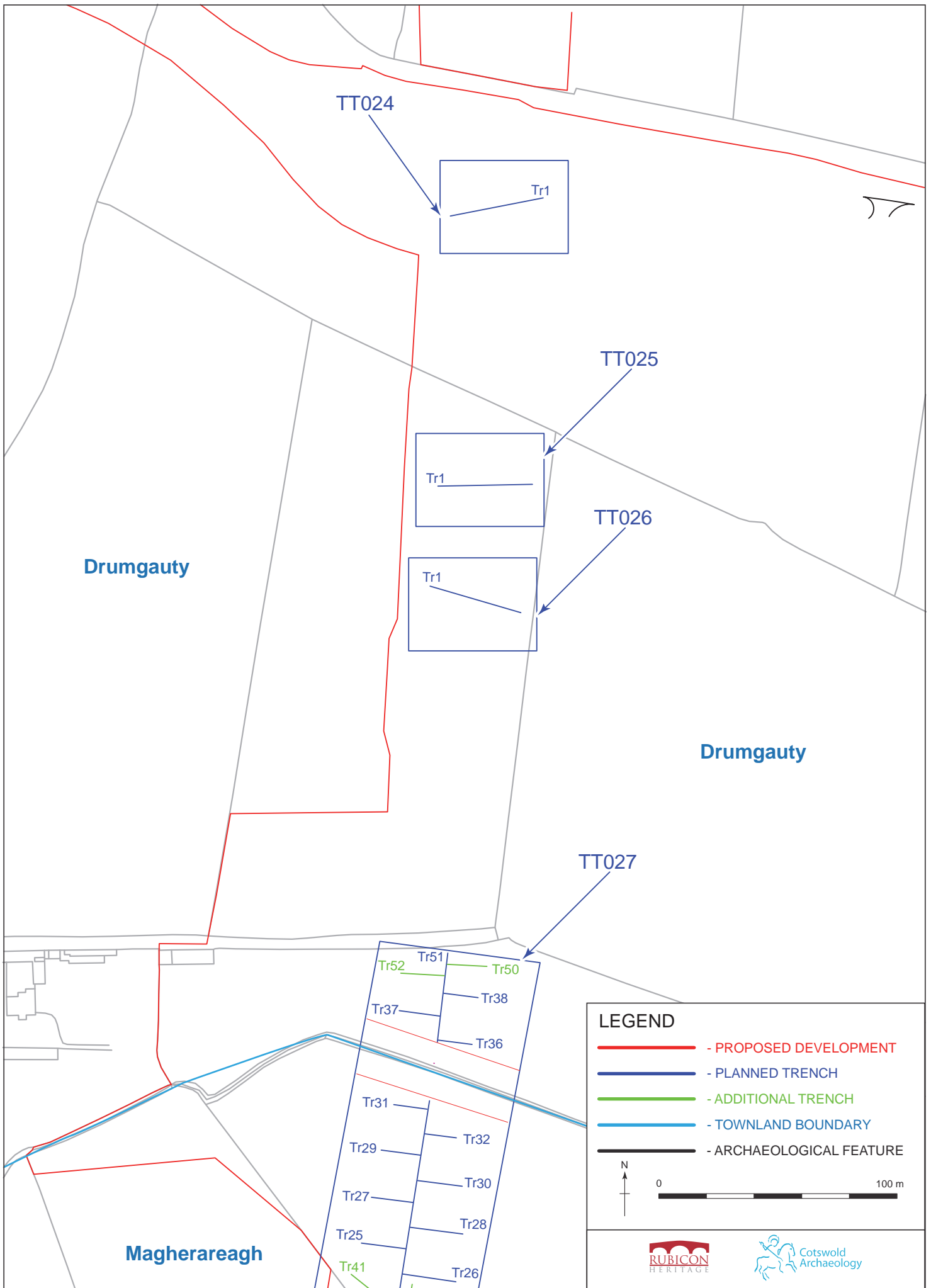


Figure 3 -TT 024; TT 025 and TT026 Trench Plans



Plate 1 - TT024 mid excavation.



Plate 2 - TT025 mid excavation.



Plate 3 - TT026 mid excavation.



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A5 Western Transport Corridor

Section 1

New Buildings – South of Strabane

Assessment Report

Evaluation Trenching of TT027



Director: Brian O'Hara

Report Author: Mandy Stephens

Licence No: AE/13/13E



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Figure 3: TT027; TT024; TT025; TT026 Trench Plans

Figure 4: Archaeological Features identified in TT027; TT024; TT025; TT026

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Plate 1: TT027 mid excavation

Plate 2: Pit (006) mid excavation

Plate 3: Pit (006); ditch (008) mid excavation

1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon have been retained by Mouchel, on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service, to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation along the route of the proposed new A5 Western Transport Corridor. The proposed development comprises the construction of offline dual carriageway extending for 37 km (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed road corridor was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), under the terms of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and in compliance with policies BH1 – BH4 of Planning Policy Statement 6 (PPS6).

License **AE/13/13E** was issued to Brian O'Hara of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in these pre-determined locations along Section 1 of the road corridor.

This report outlines the results of trial trenching at TT027 and TT024; TT025; TT026 in the townlands of Drumgauty and Magherareagh, undertaken within Section 1 of the road scheme, New Buildings – Strabane, County Tyrone (Figure 2).

2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Archaeological field work was carried out at TT027 (Ch. 8205 – Ch. 8595) and TT024; TT025; TT026 (Ch. 7870 – Ch. 8060) at the southern end of the route on the 08 February 2013 (Figure 1). The trench layout was designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. During design each block of trial trenches were numbered consecutively, ie TT027.1; TT027.2 (Figure 3) and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work for ease of recording and presentation.

Site conditions necessitated amendments to the planned locations of a number of trenches and Strip and Map Areas. All amendments to the originally planned excavations, including additional excavations and any omissions, were undertaken by agreement with and under direction from Mouchel's Senior Archaeologist.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The objective of the evaluation was to provide information about the recorded and unrecorded archaeological resource within the road corridor, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for

Archeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008). This information will enable NIEA and Mouchel to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it and design a strategy to mitigate the effect of the scheme.

The removal of topsoil during test trenching was undertaken using a 360° tracked machine fitted with a 1.9 m wide ditching (toothless) bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Written, drawn and photographic records were made using CotswoldRubicon standard method on *pro forma* record sheets. Ordnance Datum levels and feature locations were recorded using GPS.

Any artefacts, materials and each category of data recovered during the test excavation were treated in accordance with the requirements and standards set by the following:

- *Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995*
- *Excavation Standards Manual EHS - HMU*
- *Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Ed.) (MAP 2) English Heritage*
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations IfA*
- *Guidelines for Archaeologists IAI*
- *A5 WTC Archaeological Investigation: Specification (Works Information Folder 4 of 8)*

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) undertaken for the proposed road scheme (Chapter 9; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx) identified a number of cultural heritage sites in the vicinity of TT027 and TT024; TT025; TT026 (Figure 2). These include a corn kiln (Ref. 169), a graveyard (Ref. 411), a field boundary (Ref. 572) and vernacular buildings (Ref. 926; 847; 846).

There are no archaeological monuments listed in the NISMR for the townlands of Drumgauty and Magherareagh.

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). There were no geophysical anomalies indicated for these areas.

5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching

The results of the test trenching are presented in tabular form below:

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
7870 - 7900	24	TT024	40	1.9	0.2	NE-SW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: grey brown gravelly sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	Modern backfill deposits
8000 - 8020	25	TT025	40	1.9	0.35	WSW-ENE	Topsoil: orange brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange grey sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8040 - 8060	26	TT026	40	1.9	0.5	NE-SW	Topsoil: orange brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange grey sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	Modern drain
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.1a	52.6	1.9	0.42	NNE - SSW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown sandy clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.1b	143.3	1.9	0.48	NNE - SSW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown sandy clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.1c	104	1.9	0.46	NNE - SSW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.1d TT027.51		1.9	0.5	N-S	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Modern Drain
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.2	12.3	1.9	0.41	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.3					Trench not excavated: trench crosses road	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.4	12.5	1.9	0.42	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.5	23	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.6	14.2	1.9	0.4	ENE-WSW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.7	24.8	1.9	0.62	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - gravelly orange clay	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.8	18.4	1.9	0.39	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.9	23.4	1.9	0.57	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: orange brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.10	26	1.9	0.55	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: orange brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.11	21.3	1.9	0.48	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: gravelly orange silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Pits (005) (006) Ditch (008)
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.12	27.4	1.9	0.37	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: orange brown sandyclay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.13	27.4	1.9	0.51	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: yellow brown silty clay Natural subsoil: pale grey clay	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.14	19.8	1.9	0.46	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay; freq. Stones Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	Ditch (003)
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.15	16.1	1.9	0.39	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: pale grey clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.16	24.3	1.9	0.41	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.17	17.4	1.9	0.51	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: pale grey clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.18	18.9	1.9	0.4	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.19	19.3	1.9	0.45	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange clayey silt	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.20	19.1	1.9	0.41	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.21	19.6	1.9	0.39	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.22	19.5	1.9	0.4	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.23					Trench not excavated: access	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.24	20.6	1.9	0.39	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.25	18.8	1.9	0.42	ESE-WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.26	22.7	1.9	0.49	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.27	17.7	1.9	0.38	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.28	17.7	1.9	0.5	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange gravelly clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.29	16.7	1.9	0.38	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.30	19	1.9	0.5	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.31	14.2	1.9	0.38	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.32	13.4	1.9	0.5	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.33		1.9	0.31	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.34		1.9	0.31	WNW-ESE	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.36	14.4	1.9	NFE	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: not fully excavated due to presence of modern drain Finds & samples: no	Modern Drain
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.37	17.3	1.9	0.35	E-W	Topsoil: orange brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.38	14.6	1.9	0.35	E-W	Topsoil: orange brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.39	14.6	1.9	0.38	N-S	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	27	TT027.40 - TT027.49					Gap in numbering: trenches re start at 50	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.50	16.8	1.9	0.38	E-W	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.51	37.8	1.9	0.38	E-W	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	27	TT027.52	18.5	1.9	0.38	E-W	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8205 - 8595	28	TT028.1	45	1.9	0.39	E-W	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange clayey silt	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Table 2: Trench Register

6 FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features

A total of four features were identified in TT027 (Table 3), nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered in TT024; TT025; TT026.

The identified features comprised of two pits (005) and (006) and two ditches; (003) and (008). After investigation, pit (005) and ditch (003) were found to be the result of modern activity (Figure 4; Plates 2-6).

Tr No.	Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
All	1	Deposit	8205 - 8595				Orange brown clayey silt	Topsoil
All	2	Deposit	8205 - 8595				Orange grey sandy silt	Natural subsoil
TT027.14	3	Cut	8205 - 8595	1.9	1.1	0.3	Linear; NE-SW; gradual to sharp break of slope, top; gradual sides; imperceptible break of slope, base; concave base	Modern Ditch
TT027.14	4	Fill	8205 - 8595	1.9	1.1	0.3	Firm grey brown sandy clay; occ. Stones	Fill of ditch (003)
TT027.11	5	Cut	8205 - 8595	1.6	2.7		Irregularly shaped pit associated with (006); (008)	Pit
TT027.11	6	Cut	8205 - 8595	2.5	2.5	0.37	Sub-circular; gradual break of slope, top; sharp to gradual sides; sharp break of slope, base; concave base	Modern Pit
TT027.11	7	Fill	8205 - 8595	2.5	2.5	0.2	Firm, friable; grey brown sandy clay; moderate charcoal and burnt clay	Fill of pit (006)
TT027.11	8	Cut	8205 - 8595	3.5	0.85	0.15	Linear; NE-SW; gradual to sharp break of slope, top; gradual sides; imperceptible break of slope, base; concave base	Ditch
TT027.11	9	Fill	8205 - 8595	1	1	0.17	Soft; friable; dark brown - black silty sand; freq. charcoal	Fill of pit (006)

Tr No.	Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
TT027.11	10	Fill	8205 - 8595	0.6	0.5	0.4	Loose, grey brown silty clay; freq. Stones and boulders	Fill of pit (005)
TT027.11	11	Fill	8205 - 8595	3.5	0.85	0.15	Firm orange brown sandy clay; occ. Stones	Fill of ditch (008)

Table 3: TT027 Context register

7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

The results of the test excavation indicate that archaeological features and deposits are present at the site.

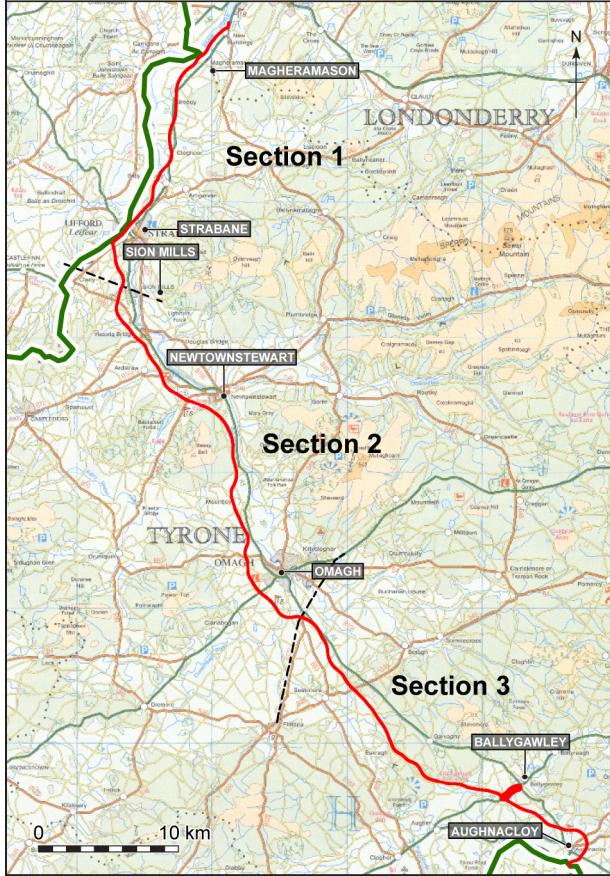
The identified archaeological features comprise of a pit containing charcoal-rich fills and a ditch. These remains have been provisionally interpreted as industrial in character and may represent past charcoal production activities for domestic use and/or industrial processes requiring high temperatures, such as ironworking.

Charcoal production pits are typically earth cut features which may be circular, oval or rectangular in shape with charcoal rich fills and evidence of burning or scorching along sides and bases of pits, such as those identified in the assessment area.

There is high potential for associated features within 10 m of pit (006) and ditch (008), which is an area of approximately 660 square meters.

8 PROPOSED RESOLUTION

In order to fully investigate record and characterise these features, an area around these groups of features should be mechanically stripped, sufficient to expose their full limits and determine if any other related archaeological features lie in proximity. A programme of archaeological hand excavation should then be undertaken to fully record all identified archaeological features and deposits.



- LEGEND**
- PROPOSED SCHEME
 - SETTLEMENTS
 - NORTHERN IRELAND BOUNDARY

Client

Project

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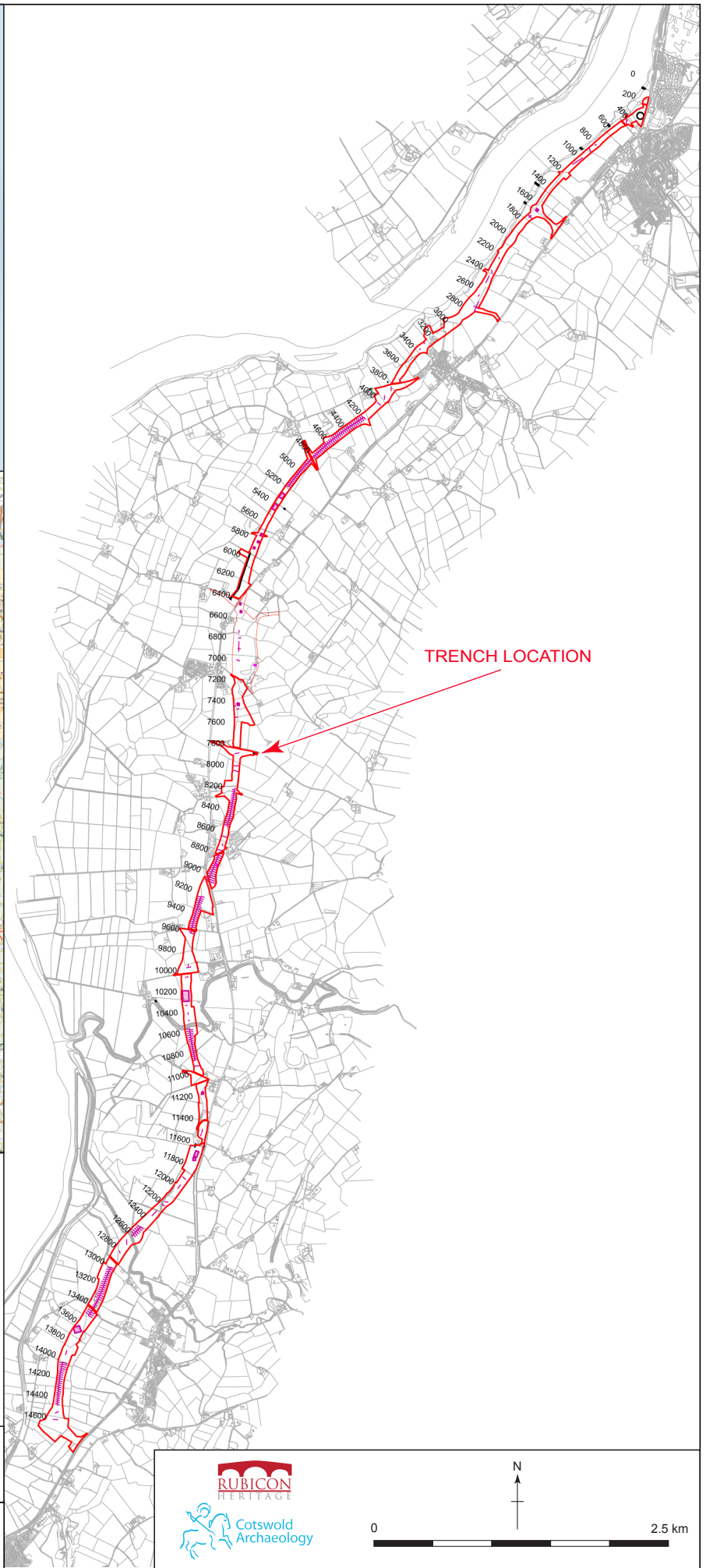


Figure 1 - Section 1 of proposed development.

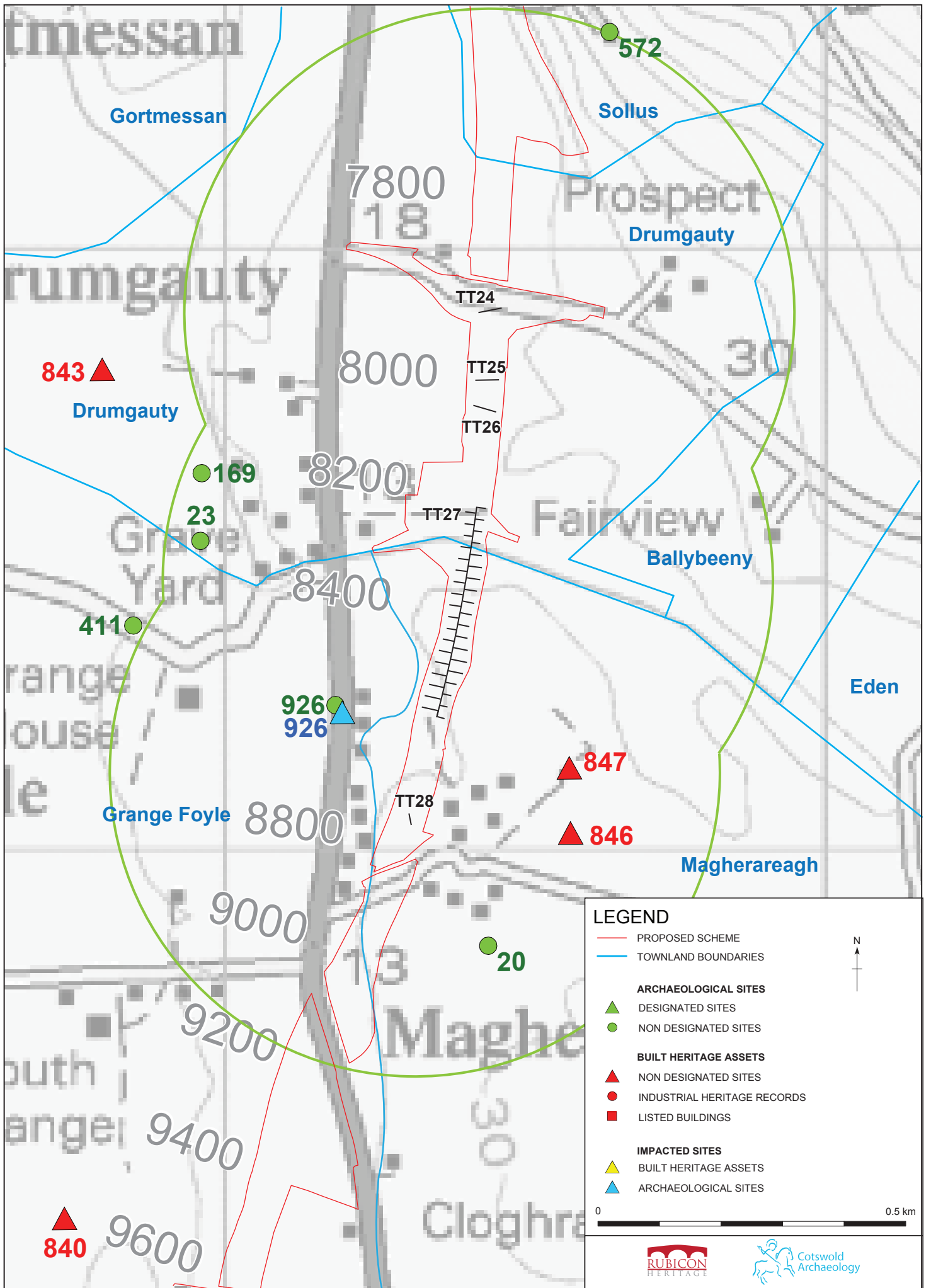


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT024; TT025; TT026; TT027 and TT028

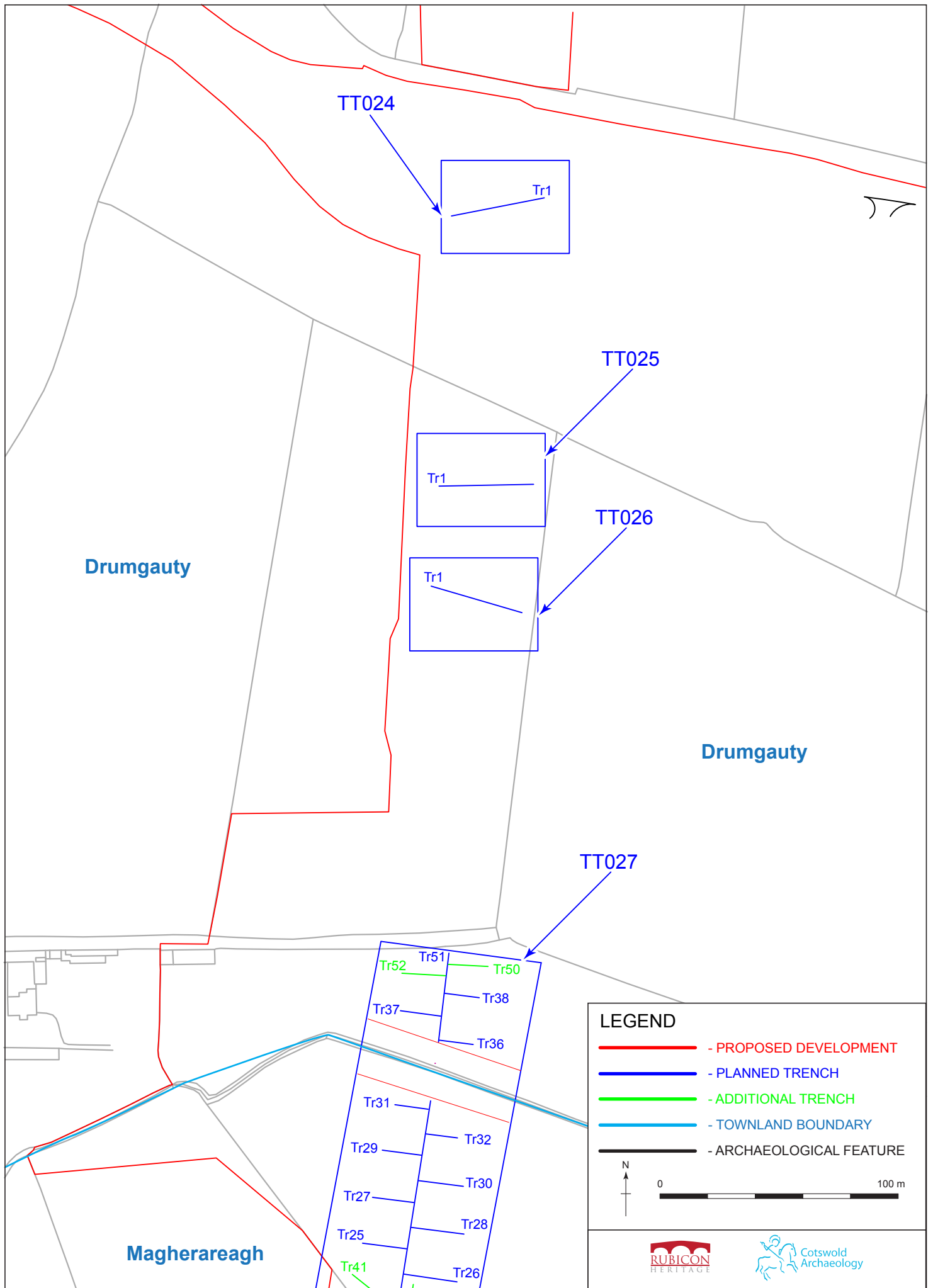


Figure 3a -TT 024; TT 025; TT026; and TT027 Trench Plans

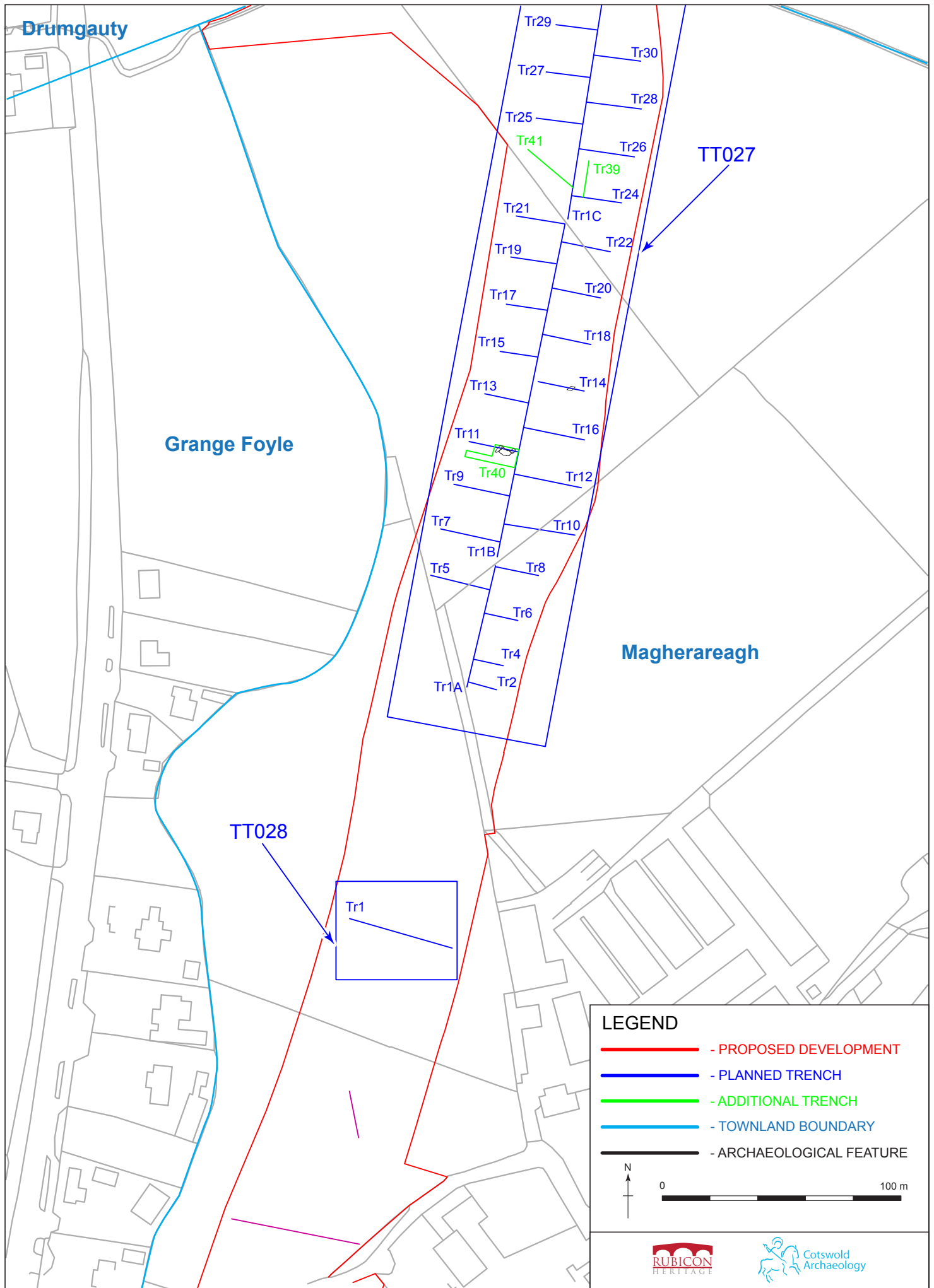


Figure 3b -TT 027 and TT 028;Trench Plans

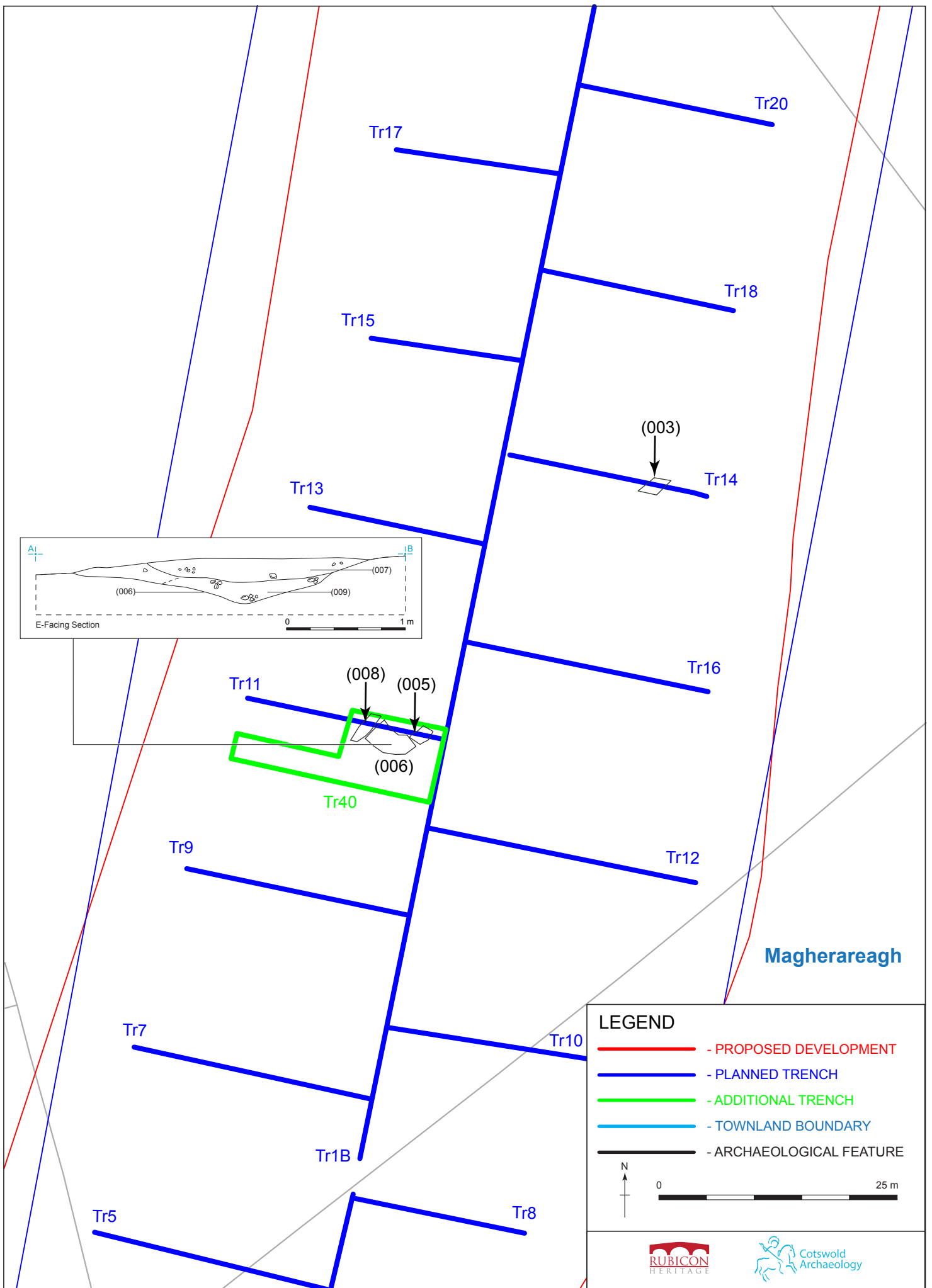


Figure 4 - Archaeological Features identified in TT027



PLATE 1: TT027 mid excavation



PLATE 2: Pit (006) mid excavation



PLATE 3: Pit (006); ditch (008) mid excavation



Cotswold
Archaeology



A5 Western Transport Corridor

Section 1

New Buildings – South of Strabane

Assessment Report

Evaluation Trenching of TT030



Director: Brian O'Hara

Report Author: Mandy Stephens

Licence No: AE/13/13E



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1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon have been retained by Mouchel, on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service, to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation along the route of the proposed new A5 Western Transport Corridor. The proposed development comprises the construction of offline dual carriageway extending for 37 km (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed road corridor was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), under the terms of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and in compliance with policies BH1 – BH4 of Planning Policy Statement 6 (PPS6).

License **AE/13/13E** was issued to Brian O'Hara of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in these pre-determined locations along Section 1 of the road corridor.

This report outlines the results of trial trenching at TT030 in the townland of Maherareagh, undertaken within Section 1 of the road scheme, New Buildings – South of Strabane, County Tyrone (Figure 2).

2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Field work was carried out at trench group TT030 (Ch. 8800 – Ch. 9140) between the 05 and 07 February 2013 (Figure 1). The trench layout was designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. During design each block of trial trenches were numbered consecutively, ie TT030.1; TT030.2 (Figure 2) and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work for ease of recording and presentation.

Site conditions necessitated amendments to the planned locations of a number of trenches and Strip and Map Areas. All amendments to the originally planned excavations, including additional excavations and any omissions, were undertaken by agreement with and under direction from Mouchel's Senior Archaeologist.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The objective of the evaluation was to provide information about the recorded and unrecorded archaeological resource within the road corridor, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008). This information will enable NIEA and Mouchel to identify

and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it and design a strategy to mitigate the effect of the scheme.

The removal of topsoil during test trenching was conducted using a 360° tracked machine fitted with a 1.9 m wide ditching (toothless) bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Written, drawn and photographic records were made using CotswoldRubicon standard method on *pro forma* record sheets. Ordnance Datum levels and feature locations were recorded using GPS.

Any artefacts, materials and each category of data recovered during the test excavation were treated in accordance with the requirements and standards set by the following:

- *Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995*
- *Excavation Standards Manual EHS - HMU*
- *Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Ed.) (MAP 2) English Heritage*
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations IFA*
- *Guidelines for Archaeologists IAI*
- *A5 WTC Archaeological Investigation: Specification (Works Information Folder 4 of 8)*

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) undertaken for the proposed road scheme (Chapter 9; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx) identified the following sites in the vicinity of TT030: vernacular buildings (Ref. 846; 847) shown on Figure 2. A further two sites are shown (Ref. 20; Ref. 926).

There were no archaeological monuments listed in the NISMR for Maherareagh, monuments listed for adjacent townlands (1 km buffer) are listed in tabular form below. These include a graveyard of uncertain date and a modern landscape feature (Table 1).

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). The location of TT050 has not been subject to geophysical assessment.

Townland	SMR	Site Type	Period
Grange Foyle	TYR002:019	Graveyard	Unknown
Grange Foyle	TYR002:020	Landscape Feature	Modern

Table 1: Archaeological Background

5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching

Archaeological test trenching was carried out TT030 between the 04 and 07 March 2013. Archaeological features were identified in two discrete areas, recorded as Magherareagh B and Magherareagh C, described below (Table 2).

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.1a	224	1.9	0.39	N-S	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.2	18	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.3	13	1.9	0.39	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.4	27	1.9	0.45	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.5	26	1.9	0.3	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.6	29	1.9	0.38	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.7	14	1.9	0.6	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.8	18	1.9	0.6	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.9					Trench not excavated: Underground services	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.10	32	1.9	0.5	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown silt - light grey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.11	18	1.9	0.68	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Natural subsoil: orange brown silt - light grey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.12	35	1.9	0.48	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.13	20	1.9	0.35	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: grey brown silty sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.14	39	1.9	0.55	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.15	21	1.9	0.42	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.16	43	1.9	0.42	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.17	23	1.9	0.6	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.18	31	1.9	0.34	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: light brown gravelly sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.19	24	1.9	0.45	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.20	18	1.9	0.4	N-S	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange grey gravelly sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.21	26	1.9	0.38	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange grey silty sand	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.22	58	1.9	0.6	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: yellow stony silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: yes	Pit group (003) - (020) inc. Lithic and ceramic artefacts
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.23	21	1.9	1.2	E-W	Topsoil: red brown silt Natural subsoil: orange brown gravelly sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.24	63	1.9	0.7	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: yellow stony silt	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.25	53	1.9	0.53	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: yellow stony silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.26	14	1.9	0.5	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange brown stony silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.28	14	1.9	0.4	NW-SE	Topsoil: grey brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: grey brown silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: yes	Burnt mound (009) Stone axe fragment

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
8800 - 9140	30	TT030.1b		1.9	0.8	N-S	Topsoil: grey brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange clayey silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Table 2: Trench Register

6 FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features

Archaeological features were identified in two discrete areas, recorded as Magherareagh B and Magherareagh C. A site known as Magherareagh A was identified in TT027 and comprised of a pit and ditch, located approx. 700m north east of TT030.

The archaeological features identified at TT030 comprised of a burnt mound spread in Magerareagh B and a series of pits in Magherareagh C, described below (Tables 3 & 4).

Recovered pottery sherds and lithic artefacts have been provisionally categorised as prehistoric in date and are awaiting specialist analysis.

Magherareagh B comprised spreads of burnt mound material, which may be characterised as a *fulachta fiadh* (Fig 4; Plates 1-3). The spread measured 30.6m x 9.4m x 0.14m and was comprised of four deposits of heat shattered stone and charcoal, (009) (010) (011) (012), which overlay a deposit of peat and natural subsoil. Two wooden pegs were identified in deposit (009). The pegs measured 0.10m in diameter. The mound was sealed by topsoil.

A stone axe fragment was recovered from the topsoil which sealed the burnt mound.

Magherareagh B							
Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
1	Deposit	8800 - 9140				Grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil
2	Deposit	8800 - 9140				Grey brown silty clay	Natural subsoil
3		8800 - 9140				Investigated as possible ditch, deemed NAS	
4		8800 - 9140				Investigated as possible ditch, deemed NAS	
5		8800 - 9140				Investigated as possible pit, deemed NAS	
6		8800 -				Investigated as possible pit,	

Magherareagh B							
Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
		9140				deemed NAS	
7		8800 - 9140				Investigated as possible pit, deemed NAS	
8		8800 - 9140				Investigated as possible pit, deemed NAS	
9	Deposit	8800 - 9140	19	11	0.1	Irregular spread of heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of sandy silt	Burnt mound
10	Deposit	8800 - 9140	6.3	3.5		Irregular spread of heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of sandy silt	Burnt mound
11	Deposit	8800 - 9140	6.9	2.86		Irregular spread of heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of sandy silt	Burnt spread
12	Deposit	8800 - 9140	4	10		Peat deposit beneath (009); (010). Two wooden uprights were identified in this material	Natural deposit

Table 3: Context Register: Magherareagh B

Magherareagh C comprised of a series of pits from which pottery sherds of prehistoric type were recovered (Fig 4; Plates 4- 8).

A total of sixteen pits were uncovered and these features varied in size and shape. The pits ranged in size from 0.10m in diameter to 2.16m in length and 2.16m in width. The smaller pits in the group were circular to sub-circular in plan, the larger pits were irregular in shape.

Pit (010) was dumbbell shaped and pits (011) and (016) were keyhole shaped in plan. Based on their shape in plan, these pits may represent kilns. Pottery sherds were collected from the fills of pits (010) and (016).

Magherareagh C							
Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
1	Deposit	8800 - 9140				Grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil
2	Deposit	8800 - 9140				Yellow stony silt	Natural subsoil
3	Cut	8800 - 9140	0.82	0.72		Circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.22	Pit
4	Cut	8800 - 9140	0.74	0.74		Circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.23	Pit
5	Cut	8800 - 9140	0.65	0.65		Sub-circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.24	Pit
6	Cut	8800 - 9140	0.86	0.69		Circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.25	Pit
7	Cut	8800 - 9140	2.16	1.24	0.2	Irregular pit; gradual break of slope, top; gradual sides; gradual break of slope, base; base not reached. One of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.26	Pit
8	Fill	8800 - 9140	2.16	1.24	0.2	Circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.27	Fill of pit (007)
9	Cut	8800 -	1.36	0.71		Irregular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group	Pit

Magherareagh C							
Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
		9140				identified in extended area TT030.28	
10	Cut	8800 - 9140	2.82	1.28		Dumbell shaped pit/kiln; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.29	Pit/kiln
11	Cut	8800 - 9140	3.46	1.97		Keyhole shaped pit/kiln; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.30	Pit/kiln
12	Cut	8800 - 9140	2.67	1.22		Sub - circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.31	Pit
13	Cut	8800 - 9140	0.99	0.72		Circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.32	Pit
14	Cut	8800 - 9140	1.17	0.92		Sub-circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.33	Pit
15	Cut	8800 - 9140	1.23	0.79		Sub-circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.34	Pit
16	Cut	8800 - 9140	2.18	0.74		Keyhole shaped pit/kiln; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.35	Pit/kiln
17	Cut	8800 - 9140	0.42	0.39		Circular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area	Pit

Magherareagh C							
Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
						TT030.36	
18	Cut	8800 - 9140	3.98	1.87		Irregular pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.28	Pit
19	Cut	8800 - 9140	1.94	1.58		Oval pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.38	Pit
20	Cut	8800 - 9140	1.7	0.95		Oval pit; not sectioned; one of 16 pits in group identified in extended area TT030.39	Pit
21	Fill	8800 - 9140	0.74	0.74		Moderately compact; grey brown silty clay; occ. Stone inclusions. Not excavated	Fill of pit (004)
22	Fill	8800 - 9140	0.65	0.65		Moderately compact; grey brown silty clay; occ. Stone inclusions. Not excavated	Fill of pit (006)
23	Fill	8800 - 9140	0.86	0.69		Moderately compact; light grey sandy silty. Not excavated	Fill of pit (005)
24	Fill	8800 - 9140	1.36	0.71		Moderately compact; grey brown sandy silt; occ. Stone and charcoal inclusions. Not excavated.	Fill of pit (009)
25	Fill	8800 - 9140	2.82	1.28		Moderately compact; grey brown sandy silt. Not excavated.	Fill of pit (010)
26	Fill	8800 - 9140	3.46	1.97		Moderately compact; grey brown silty clay; occ. Stone and charcoal inclusions. Not excavated.	Fill of pit (011)

Magherareagh C							
Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
27	Fill	8800 - 9140	2.67	1.22		Loose, grey brown silt; freq. medium sized stones. Not excavated	Fill of pit (012)
28	Fill	8800 - 9140	0.99	0.72		Loose, dark brown - black charcoal rich silty clay. Not excavated.	Fill of pit (013)
29	Fill	8800 - 9140	1.17	0.92		Loose, grey brown silty clay; freq. stones. Not excavated	Fill of pit (014)
30	Fill	8800 - 9140	1.23	0.79		Moderately compact; grey brown sandy clay. Not excavated	Fill of pit (015)
31	Fill	8800 - 9140	2.18	0.74		Moderately compact; mid brown silty sand. Not excavated	Fill of pit (016)
32	Fill	8800 - 9140	0.42	0.39		Moderately compact; grey brown silty clay. Not excavated	Fill of pit (017)
33	Fill	8800 - 9140	3.98	1.87		Moderately compact; orange brown silty clay. Not excavated	Fill of pit (018)
34	Fill	8800 - 9140	1.94	1.58		Loose; grey brown sandy silt; freq. medium sized stones. Not excavated	Fill of pit (019)
35	Fill	8800 - 9140	1.7	0.95		Moderately compact; grey brown sandy silt. Moderate stone inclusions. Not excavated.	Fill of pit (020)
36	Fill	8800 - 9140	0.82	0.72		Moderately compact; grey brown silty clay. Not excavated	Fill of pit (003)

Table 4: Context Register: Magherareagh C

7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

The results of the test excavation at the proposed development site indicate that archaeological features or deposits are present at the site and are potentially significant.

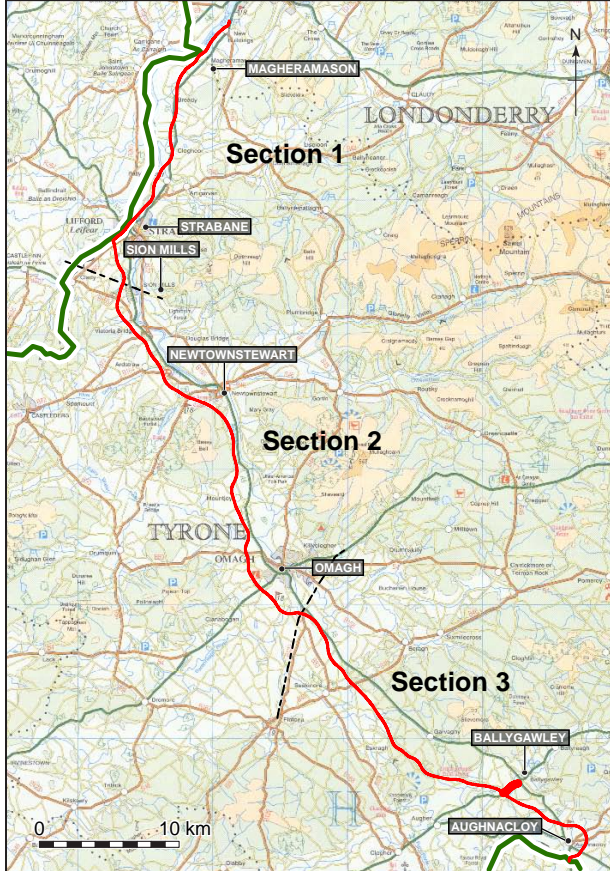
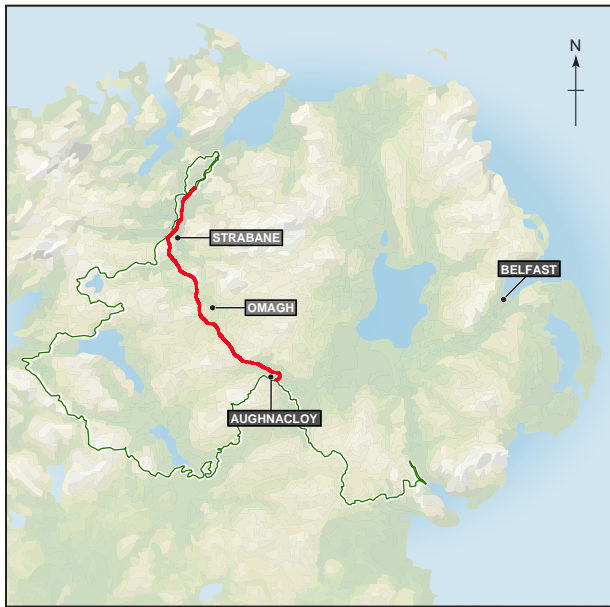
Features were identified in two discrete areas, now named Magherareagh B and C. The recovered sherds of prehistoric pottery suggest prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Magherareagh. The presence of burnt spreads and pits is also typical of the prehistoric period.

While the archaeological features are scattered across TT030 they are likely to be an indicator of more substantial prehistoric activity in the area. Further investigation may determine the nature of this as well as whether the identified features are contemporary in date.

Evidence for past settlement in the vicinity of the assessment area consists of a later medieval graveyard in Grange Foyle (TYR002:019) and an unclassified enclosure of uncertain date in the adjacent townland of Drumenny Big (TYR002:016).

8 PROPOSED RESOLUTION

In order to fully investigate record and characterise these features, areas around these groups of features should be mechanically stripped, sufficient to expose their full limits and determine if any other related archaeological features lie in proximity. A programme of archaeological hand excavation should then be undertaken to fully record all identified archaeological features and deposit

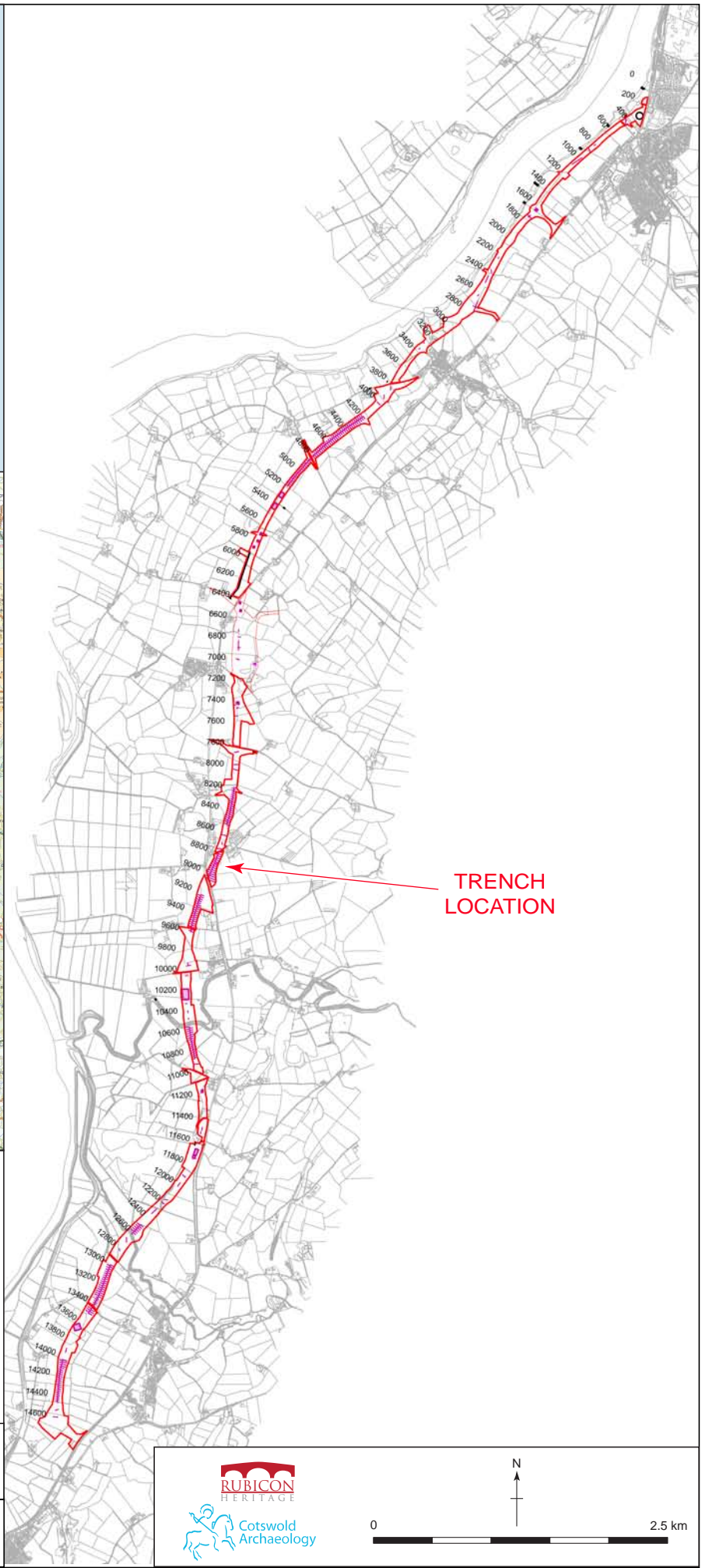


- LEGEND**
- PROPOSED SCHEME
 - SETTLEMENTS
 - NORTHERN IRELAND BOUNDARY

Client

Project

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0 2.5 km

Figure 1 - Section 1 of proposed development

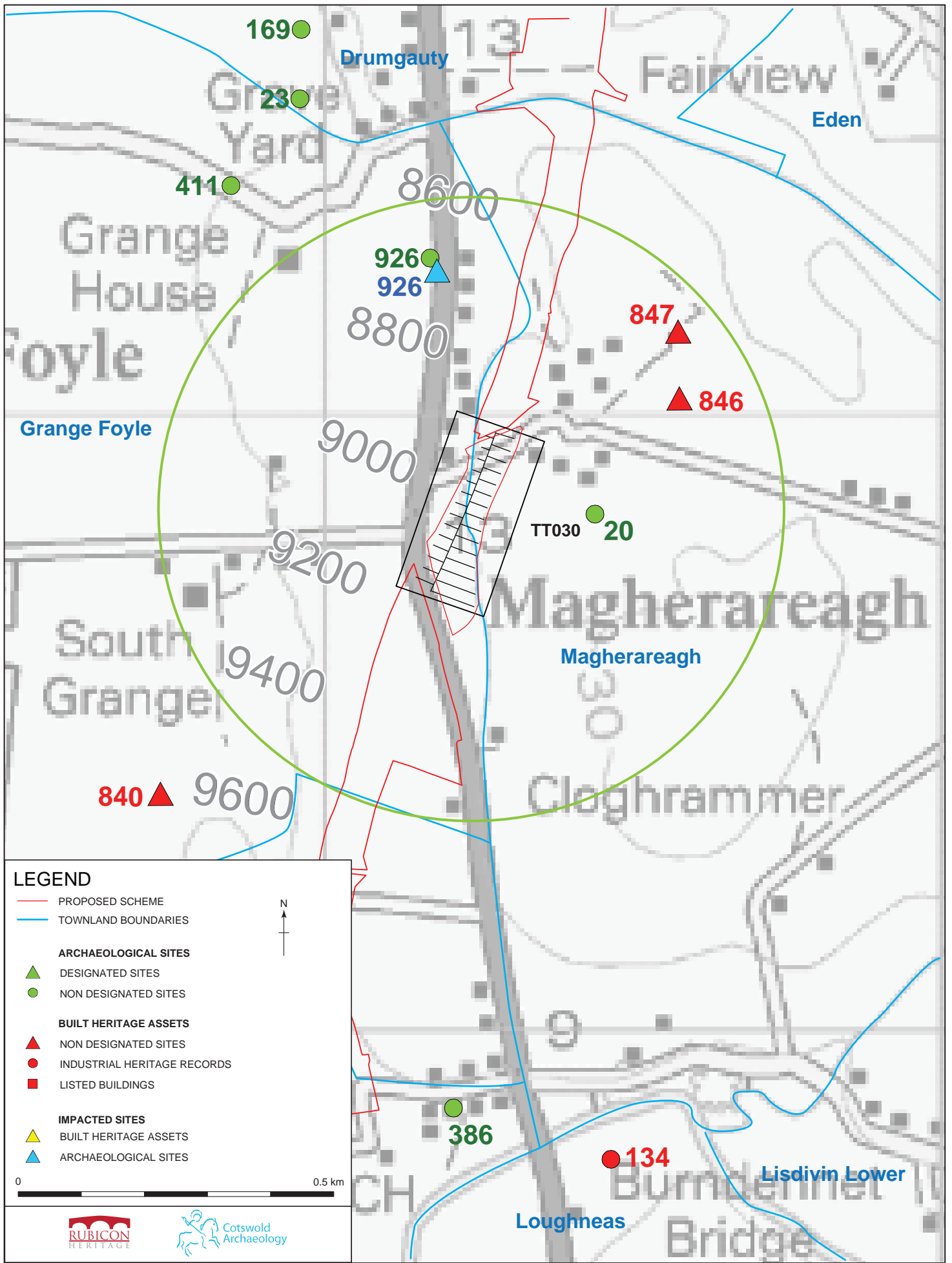


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT030

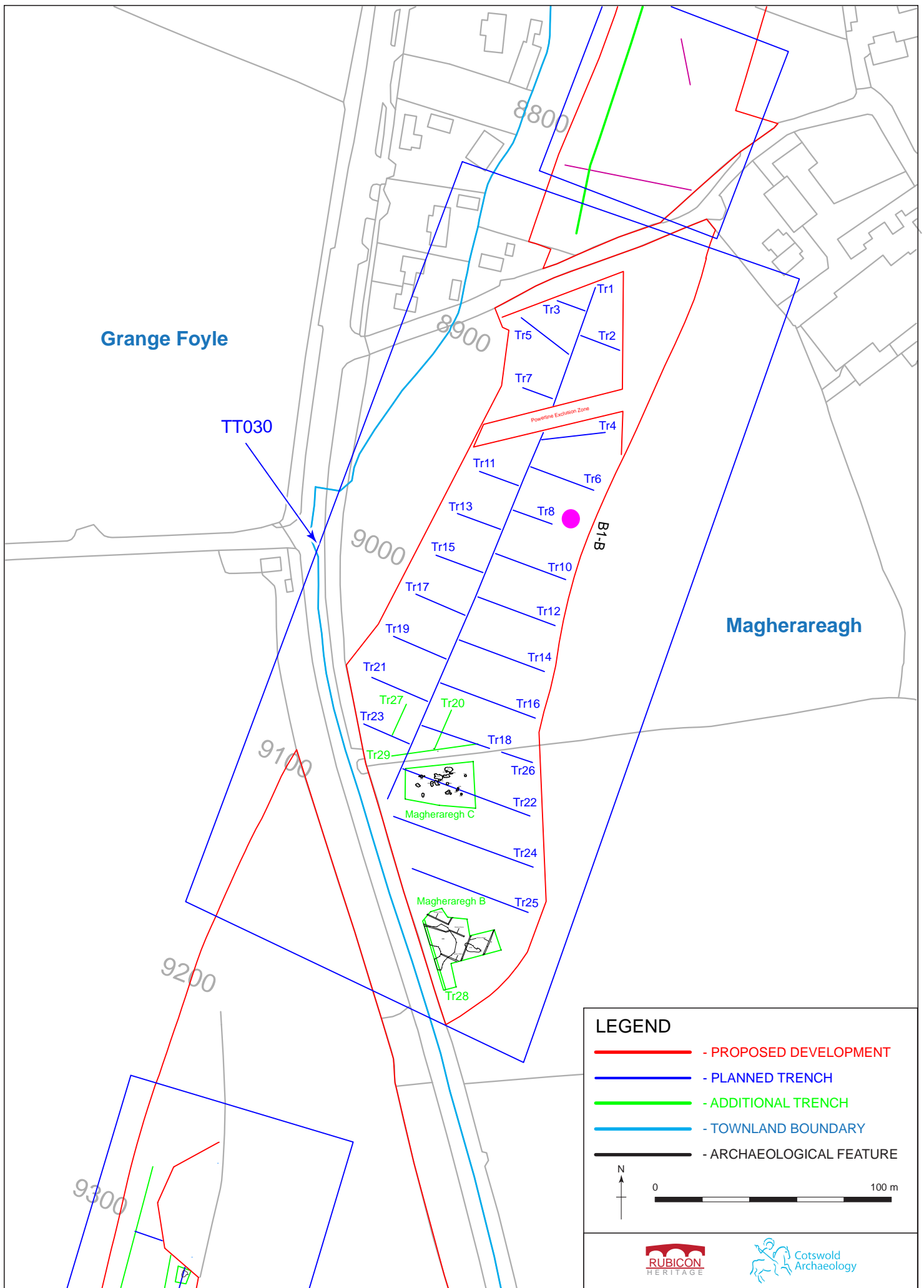


Figure 3 - TT030 trench plan

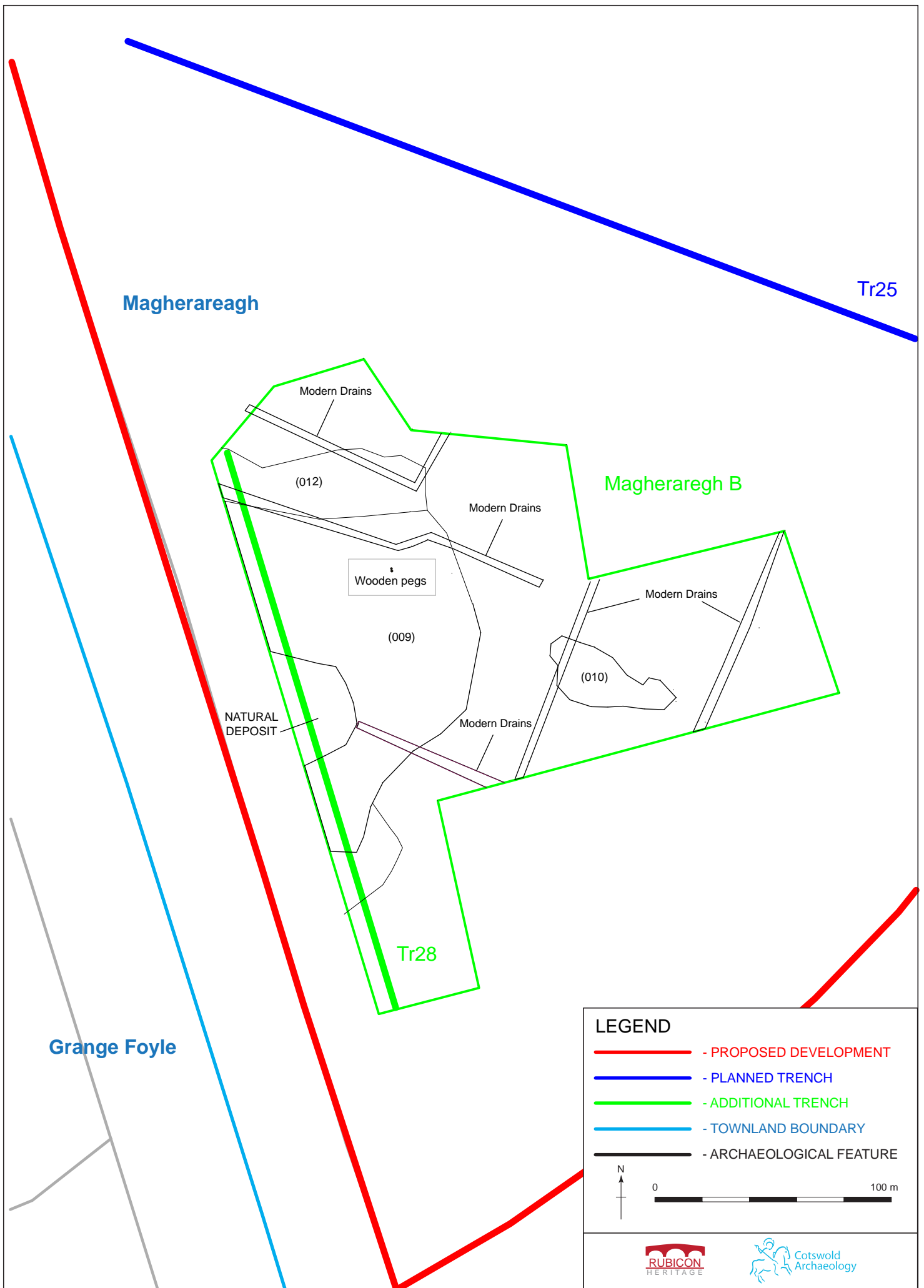


Figure 4a - Archaeological Features identified in TT030

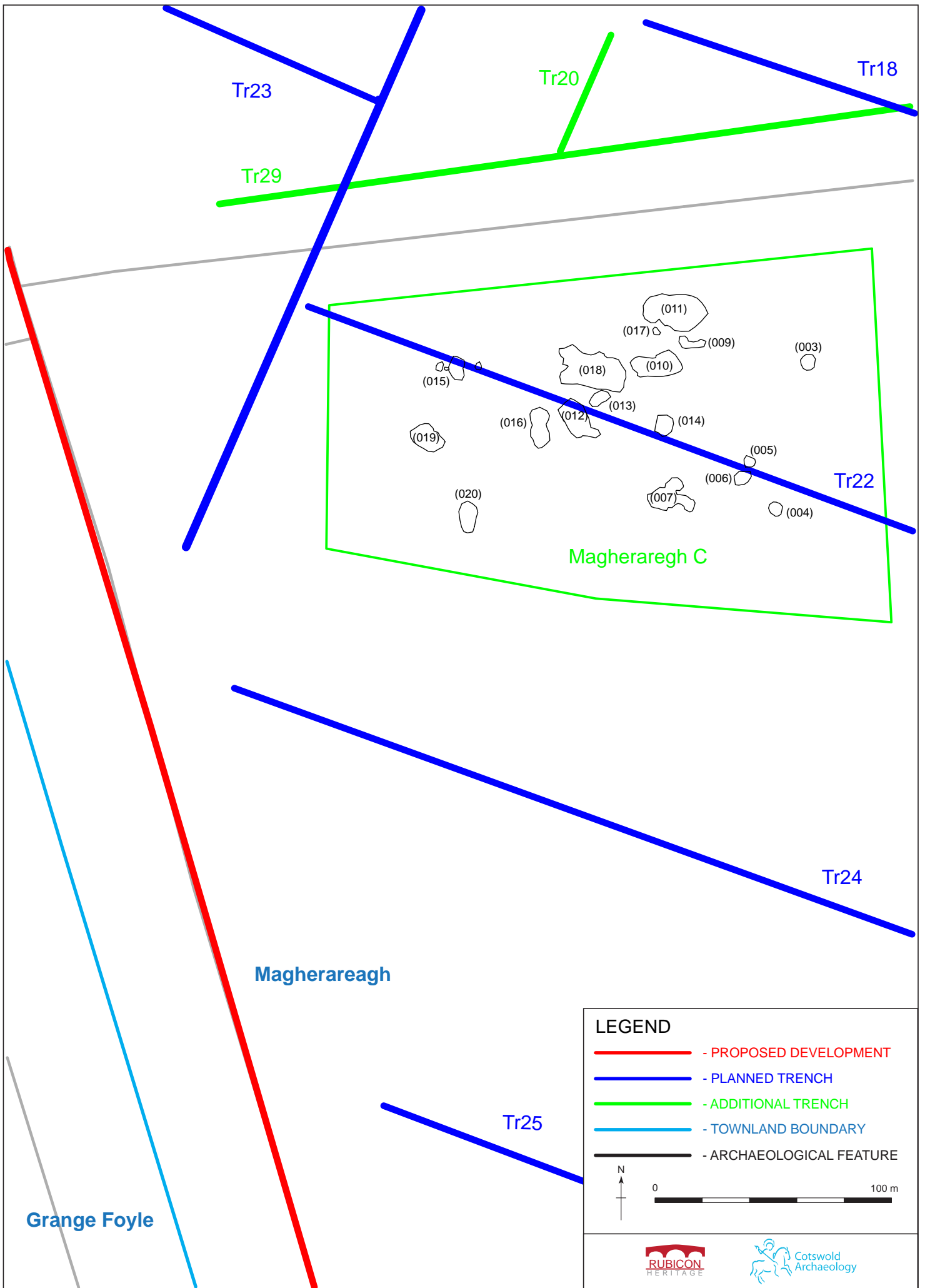


Figure 4b - Archaeological Features identified in TT030



PLATE 1: TT030 under excavation



PLATE 2: Burnt mound (009) at Magerareagh B



PLATE 3: Burnt mound (009); mid excavation at Magerareagh B



PLATE 4: Magherareagh C under excavation



PLATE 5: Pit (005) at Magherareagh C



PLATE 6: Pit (007); mid excavation at Magherareagh C



PLATE 7: Pit (013) at Magerareagh C



PLATE 8: Pit (011) at Magerareagh C



Cotswold
Archaeology



A5 Western Transport Corridor

Section 1

New Buildings – South of Strabane

Assessment Report

Evaluation Trenching of TT031



Director: Brian O'Hara

Report Author: Mandy Stephens

Licence No: AE/13/13E



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1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon have been retained by Mouchel, on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service, to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation along the route of the proposed new A5 Western Transport Corridor. The proposed development comprises the construction of offline dual carriageway extending for 37 km (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed road corridor was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), under the terms of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and in compliance with policies BH1 – BH4 of Planning Policy Statement 6 (PPS6).

License **AE/13/13E** was issued to Brian O’Hara of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in these pre-determined locations along Section 1 of the road corridor.

This report outlines the results of trial trenching at TT031 in the townlands of Drumenny little and Grange Foyle, undertaken within Section 1 of the road scheme, New Buildings – South of Strabane, County Tyrone (Figure 2).

2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Field work was carried out at trench group TT031 (Ch. 9250 – Ch. 9650) on the 14 February 2013 (Figure 1). The trench layout was designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. During design each block of trial trenches were numbered consecutively, ie TT031.1; TT031.2 (Figure 2) and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work for ease of recording and presentation.

Site conditions necessitated amendments to the planned locations of a number of trenches and Strip and Map Areas. All amendments to the originally planned excavations, including additional excavations and any omissions, were undertaken by agreement with and under direction from Mouchel’s Senior Archaeologist.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The objective of the evaluation was to provide information about the recorded and unrecorded archaeological resource within the road corridor, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008). This information will enable NIEA and Mouchel to identify

and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it and design a strategy to mitigate the effect of the scheme.

The removal of topsoil during test trenching was conducted using a 360° tracked machine fitted with a 1.9 m wide ditching (toothless) bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Written, drawn and photographic records were made using CotswoldRubicon standard method on *pro forma* record sheets. Ordnance Datum levels and feature locations were recorded using GPS.

Any artefacts, materials and each category of data recovered during the test excavation were treated in accordance with the requirements and standards set by the following:

- *Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995*
- *Excavation Standards Manual EHS - HMU*
- *Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Ed.) (MAP 2) English Heritage*
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations IFA*
- *Guidelines for Archaeologists IAI*
- *A5 WTC Archaeological Investigation: Specification (Works Information Folder 4 of 8)*

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) undertaken for the proposed road scheme (Chapter 9; http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx) identified the following sites in the vicinity of TT031: vernacular buildings (Ref. 840; 844) shown on Figure 2.

There were no archaeological monuments listed in the NISMR for Drumenny Little, monuments listed for Grange Foyle and adjacent townlands (1 km buffer) are listed in tabular form below. These include an unclassified enclosure and a graveyard of uncertain date. A modern landscape feature is also recorded (Table 1).

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). Archaeological remains identified in TT031 were not related to potential features indicated by that survey.

Townland	SMR	Site Type	Period
Grange Foyle	TYR002:019	Graveyard	Unknown
Grange Foyle	TYR002:020	Landscape Feature	Modern
Drumenny Big	TYR002:016	Enclosure	Unknown

Table 1: Archaeological Background

5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching

Archaeological test trenching was carried out TT031 on the 14 February and 07 February 2013 (Plate 1). Excavation details are listed in tabular form below:

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.2	24	1.9	0.36	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.3	19.3	1.9	0.4	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.4	25.6	1.9	0.35	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.5	22.1	1.9	0.35	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.1b	75	1.9	0.3	NNE - SSW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Ditches (003); (006)

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.7	21.7	1.9	0.39	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.8	25.5	1.9	0.3	NNE - SSW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Ditch (003)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.9	21.7	1.9	0.3	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.10	26.4	1.9	0.25	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Pit (010)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.11	20.8	1.9	0.5	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.12	27.3	1.9	0.3	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.13	20	1.9	0.3	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Ditch (009)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.14	28	1.9	0.4	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.15		1.9	0.4	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.16		1.9	0.4	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange gravelly silty clay	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.17	15.8	1.9	0.47	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.18	27.8	1.9	0.47	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.19	14.3	1.9	0.39	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.20	29.7	1.9	0.43	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.21	15	1.9	0.4	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay	Hearth (022)

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Natural subsoil: yellow - orange silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: yes	Prehistoric pottery
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.22	31.8	1.9	0.44	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Pit (035)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.23	16.2	1.9	0.39	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.24	33.7	1.9	0.38	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: mid brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow - orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.1d1	27.4	1.9	0.45	N-S	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	Burnt spread (025)

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.26	10	1.9	0.38	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.27	20.9	1.9	0.35	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.28	11.4	1.9	0.55	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.29	11.4	1.9	0.55	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.30		1.9	0.33	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.31	10.9	1.9	0.33	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.33	30	1.9	0.4	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.35		1.9	0.33	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.1d2	12.4	1.9	0.33	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Burnt spread (025)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.36 - TT031.49					Gap in numbering; additional trenches start at 50	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.50	123.5	1.9	0.35	E - W	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.51	31.9	1.9	0.35	E - W	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Ditches (003) (006)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.52	24.6	1.9	0.35	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: :no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.53	23.5	1.9	0.35	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.55	25	1.9	0.26	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Ditch (006)

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.56	28.6	1.9	0.4	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.57	27.8	1.9	0.28	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Ditch (006)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.58	24.2	1.9	0.4	ESE - WNW	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt Natural subsoil: mid orange sandy silt Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Ditches (006) (019)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.59	19.1	1.9	0.35	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.60	19.9	1.9	0.35	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow brown clayey sand Features identified: no	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.61	14.3	1.9	0.35	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.62	18.4	1.9	0.35	E - W	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow brown clayey sand Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Burnt spread (037)
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.63	18	1.9	0.35	NNE - SSW	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: yellow brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.64	41	1.9	0.4	N - S	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
9250 - 9650	31	TT031.65	17.5	1.9	0.4	N - S	Topsoil: grey brown silty clay Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey sand	

Chainage	Trench Group	Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
							Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Table 2: Trench Register

6 FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features

Archaeological remains identified in TT031 consisted of two pits (010); (035), three ditches (003), (009); (019); two burnt spreads (025); (037), a hearth (022), which contained pottery sherds of prehistoric date (Plates 2 – 6). Features were identified in four discrete areas.

Tr No.	Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
All	1	Deposit	9250 - 9650				Mid brown silty clay	Topsoil
All	2	Deposit	9250 - 9650				Yellow - orange silty clay	Natural Subsoil
TT31.1b; TT31.8; TT31.51	3	Cut	9250 - 9650	3.5	1.3	0.52	Linear; NE -SW; sharp break of slope top, steep sides; sharp break of slope, base; tapered base	Ditch
TT31.1b;	4	Fill	9250 - 9650	3.5	0.85	0.2	Moderately compact; dark brown silt; occ. Stones	Fill of ditch (003)
TT31.1b;	5	Fill	9250 - 9650	3.5	0.3	1.3	Loose, orange brown, sandy silt; freq. Small pebbles	Fill of ditch (003)
TT31.1b; TT31.57; TT31.51; TT31.55	6	Cut	9250 - 9650	20	1.75	0.7	Linear; NE - SW; sharp break of slope, top; gradual sides; gradual break of slope, base; irregular base.	Ditch
TT31.1b	7	Fill	9250 - 9650		1.25	0.55	Loose, grey brown silty sand	Fill of ditch (006)
TT31.1b	8	Fill	9250 - 9650		1.75	0.15	Compact; mid brown sandy silt; freq. Decayed stone	Fill of ditch (006)
TT31.13	9	Cut	9250 - 9650	5.4	0.7	0.23	Linear; E - W; gradual break of slope, top; gradual sides; sharp break of slope, base; flat base	Ditch

Tr No.	Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
TT31.10	10	Cut	9250 - 9650	2.3	1.3	0.2	Sub - circular; N-S; gradual break of slope, top; irregular sides; imperceptible break of slope, base; uneven base	Pit
TT31.10	11	Fill	9250 - 9650	2.3	1.3	0.2	Loose, dark brown - black silty sand; freq. Heat shattered stone	Fill of pit (010)
TT31.13	12	Fill	9250 - 9650	5.4	0.7	0.23	Loose grey brown clayey silt	Fill of ditch (009)
	13 - 18		9250 - 9650				Investigated as possible ditch, deemed NAS	
TT31.58	19	Cut	9250 - 9650	2	0.55	0.29	Linear; NE-SW; sharp break of slope, top; steep sides; gradual break of slope, base; rounded base	Ditch
TT31.58	20	Fill	9250 - 9650	2	0.55	0.29	Loose, orange brown, gritty sand; freq. Small pebbles	Fill of ditch (019)
	21		9250 - 9650				Investigated as possible pit, deemed NAS	
TT031.21	22	Cut	9250 - 9650	1.6	1.6	0.3	Sub -circular; imperceptible break of slope, top; gradual sides; imperceptible break of slope, base; concave base	Hearth
	23 - 24		9250 - 9650				Investigated as possible ditch, deemed NAS	
TT031.1d	25	Deposit	9250 - 9650	3	2.5	0.15	Loose, dark brown - black clayey silt; freq. Heat shattered stone	Burnt spread

Tr No.	Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
	26-27		9250 - 9650				Investigated as possible ditch, deemed NAS	
TT031.21	28	Fill	9250 - 9650	0.4	0.4	0.15	Loose, dark grey - black sandy silt; gritty, freq. Charcoal	Fill of hearth (022)
TT031.21	29	Fill	9250 - 9650	1.1	1.1	0.4	Firm, orange brown silty sand; occ. Stones	Fill of hearth (022)
TT031.21	30	Fill	9250 - 9650	0.4	0.4	0.45	Soft, mid grey sandy silt; occ. charcoal. Prehistoric pottery sherd	Fill of hearth (022)
TT031.21	31	Fill	9250 - 9650	1.2	1.2	0.6	Firm, orange brown sandy clay; occ. Stones. Prehistoric pottery sherd	Fill of hearth (022)
TT031.21	32	Fill	9250 - 9650	1.4	1.4	0.1	Soft, dark brown - black sandy silt; freq. Charcoal	Fill of hearth (022)
TT031.21	33	Fill	9250 - 9650	1.6	1.6	0.3	Firm, reddish brown, clayey sand	Fill of hearth (022)
TT031.22	34	Fill	9250 - 9650	3	2.55	0.32	Loose, dark grey - black, silty peat; occ. Stones	Fill of pit (035)
TT031.22	35	Cut	9250 - 9650	3	2.55	0.32	Sub-circular, gradual break of slope, top; steep sides; gradual break of slope, base; concave sides	Pit
TT031.21	36	Fill	9250 - 9650	0.6	0.6	0.6	Soft, grey-brown silty sand; occ. Charcoal	Fill of hearth (022)
TT031.62	37	Deposit	9250 - 9650	3.8	2.2	0.1	Irregular; heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of dark brown clayey	Burnt spread

Tr No.	Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
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Table 3: Context Register

7 FACTUAL DATA: Finds and Samples

A total of two artefacts were recovered in the course of the assessment. These consisted of two sherds of pottery recovered from hearth (022) (Table 4; Plate 5). These have been provisionally dated to the Neolithic and Mid to Late Bronze Age (Alison Kyle; Pers. Comm). These artefacts have been stabilised and recorded and are awaiting specialist analysis.

Licence No.	Trench No.	C	Find No.	Material	Description	Approx. Spot date
AE/13/13E	031.21	030	AE/13/13E:031.21:030:001	Pottery	Sherd	Neolithic
AE/13/13E	031.21	031	AE/13/13E:031.21:031:001	Pottery	Sherd	Mid-Late Br. Age

Table 4: Finds Register

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

The results of the test excavation at the proposed development site indicate that archaeological features or deposits are present at the site and are potentially significant.

Features were identified in four discrete areas, now named Drumenny Little /Grange Foyle A, B, C, and D. Feature and area locations are shown on Figure 4.

Drumenny Little /Grange Foyle A comprised of burnt spread (025)

Drumenny Little /Grange Foyle B comprised of hearth (022) and pit (035)

Drumenny Little /Grange Foyle C comprised of ditches (003), (006), (009), (019) and pit (010)

Drumenny Little /Grange Foyle D comprised of burnt spread (037)

The recovered sherds of prehistoric pottery suggest prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Drumenny Little/Grange Foyle B; however the sherds are likely to date to different periods and may be deposited in the hearth at any point up the last firing of that feature. A hearth such of this would be typical of domestic settlement activity.

The presence of burnt spreads and pits is also typical of the prehistoric period. The archaeological significance of the ditches is however uncertain as no datable material was recovered within their fills.

While the archaeological features are scattered across TT031 they are likely to be an indicator of more substantial prehistoric activity in the area. Further investigation may determine the nature of this as well as whether the identified features are contemporary in date.

Evidence for past settlement in the vicinity of the assessment area consists of a later medieval graveyard in Grange Foyle (TYR002:019) and an unclassified enclosure of uncertain date in the adjacent townland of Drumenny Big (TYR002:016).

There is high potential for related archaeological features to be present within 10 m of the burnt spread at Drumenny Little/ Grangefoyle A, which would constitute an area of 400 m². The area immediately north of the identified spread is within a badger exclusion zone and so could not be investigated during the evaluation.

At Drumenny Little/ Grange Foyle B there is high potential for hearth (022) and pit (035) to be related to each other, and so there is also high potential that additional features may be present between them. This area of potential constitutes approximately 900 m².

There is high potential for related archaeological features to be present within 10 m of the pit at Drumenny Little/ Grangefoyle C, which would constitute an area of 400 m². In addition there are linear features of uncertain archaeological significance in this area within an area of approximately 2300 m². There is high potential for related archaeological features to be present within 10 m of the burnt spread at Drumenny Little/ Grangefoyle C, which would constitute an area of 400 m².

9 PROPOSED RESOLUTION

In order to fully investigate record and characterise these features, areas around these groups of features should be mechanically stripped, sufficient to expose their full limits and determine if any other related archaeological features lie in proximity. A programme of archaeological hand excavation should then be undertaken to fully record all identified archaeological features and deposit