

Figure 1 - Section 3 of proposed development

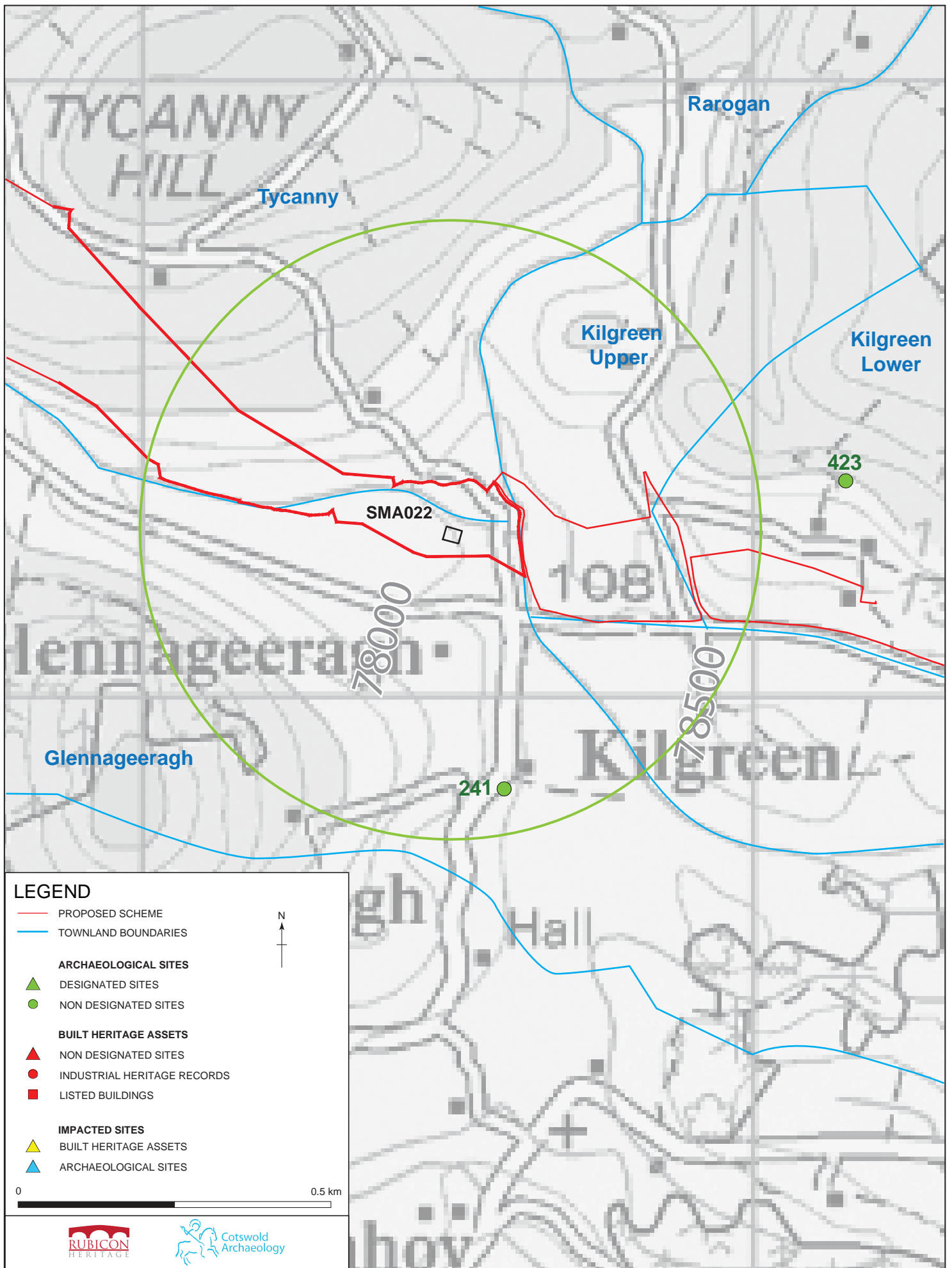


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of SMA 022

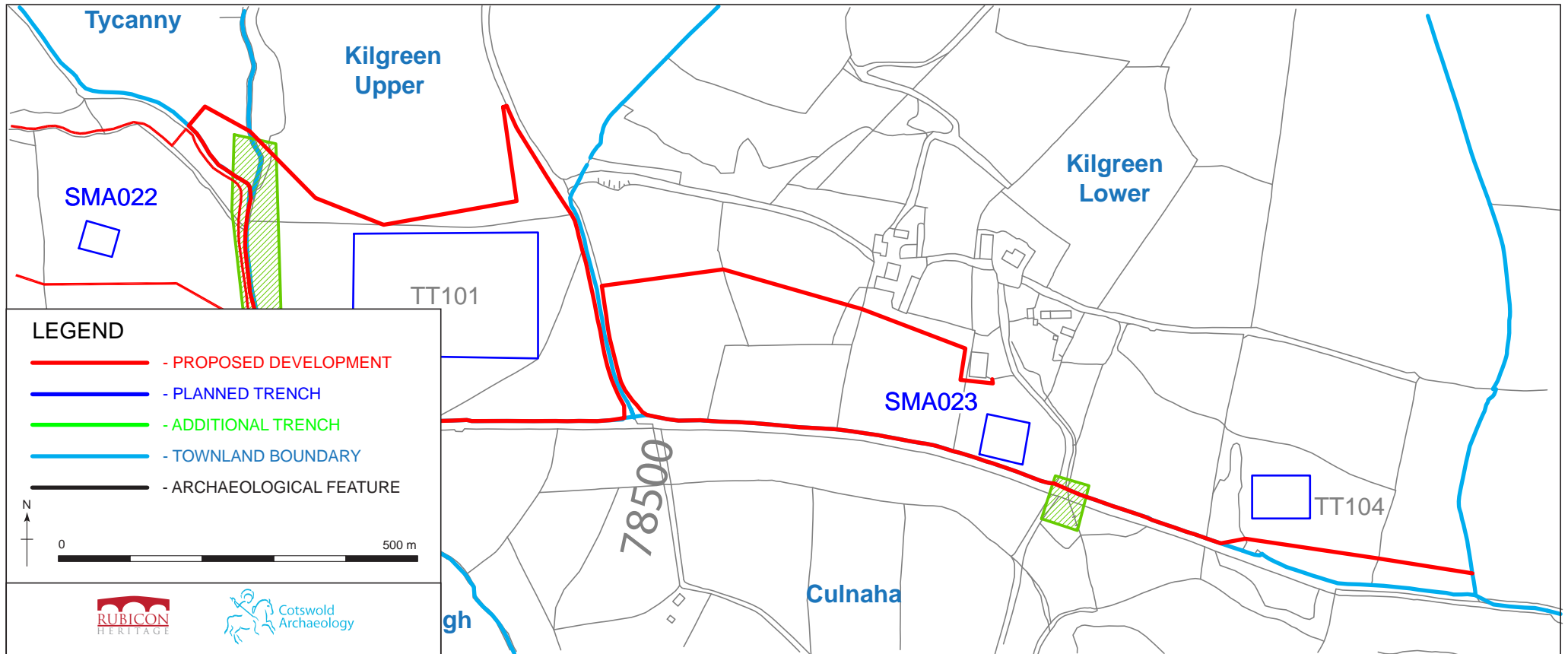


Figure 3 - SMA022; Strip & Map Area



PLATE 1: TT115; SMA022 pre excavation



PLATE 2: SMA022 under excavation



Cotswold  
Archaeology



## **A5 Western Transport Corridor**

### **Section 3**

South of Omagh – Ballygawley

### **Assessment Report**

Strip and Map of SMA 023



**Director:** James Hession

**Report Author:** Mandy Stephens

**Licence No:** AE/13/07E



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
2	CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK.....	2
3	OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY .....	2
4	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	3
5	FACTUAL DATA: Results of archaeological investigation .....	3
6	STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL .....	3

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Archaeological Background

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Section 3 of the proposed development

Figure 2: Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of SMA023

Figure 3: SMA023 area plan

## LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: SMA023 under excavation

Plate 2: Root burning at SMA023

## 1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon, in association with Cotswold Archaeology, have been retained by Mouchel on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service to carry out a program 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.

This document is an interim statement of results and relates to Section 3, South of Omagh - Ballygawley in Co. Tyrone (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed route was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, 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/13/07E** was issued to James Hession of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in pre determined locations along Section 3 of the route.

This report outlines the results of archaeological investigations Strip and Map Areas (SMA) 017 in the townland of Kilgreen Lower, Co. Tyrone.



## 2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Fieldwork was carried out at SMA023 (Ch. 78745 - Ch. 78800) on the 13 February 2013 (Figure 1; Plates 1 & 2). Strip and Map Area layouts were designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. These areas were numbered consecutively and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work, for ease of recording and presentation.

## 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx)) identified the following heritage assets in the vicinity of SMA023; a kiln (Ref. 423) and a house site (Ref. 424) (Figure 2).

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). Potential features identified by that survey (Area 18) proved to be agricultural in character and modern in date.

#### 5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of archaeological investigation

An area measuring 1104.4m<sup>2</sup> was stripped under archaeological supervision on the 13 February 2013 (Figure 3; Plates 1 & 2). No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of this evaluation. Areas of root burning were investigated and proved to be of agricultural character and modern in date (Plate 2).

#### 6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

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

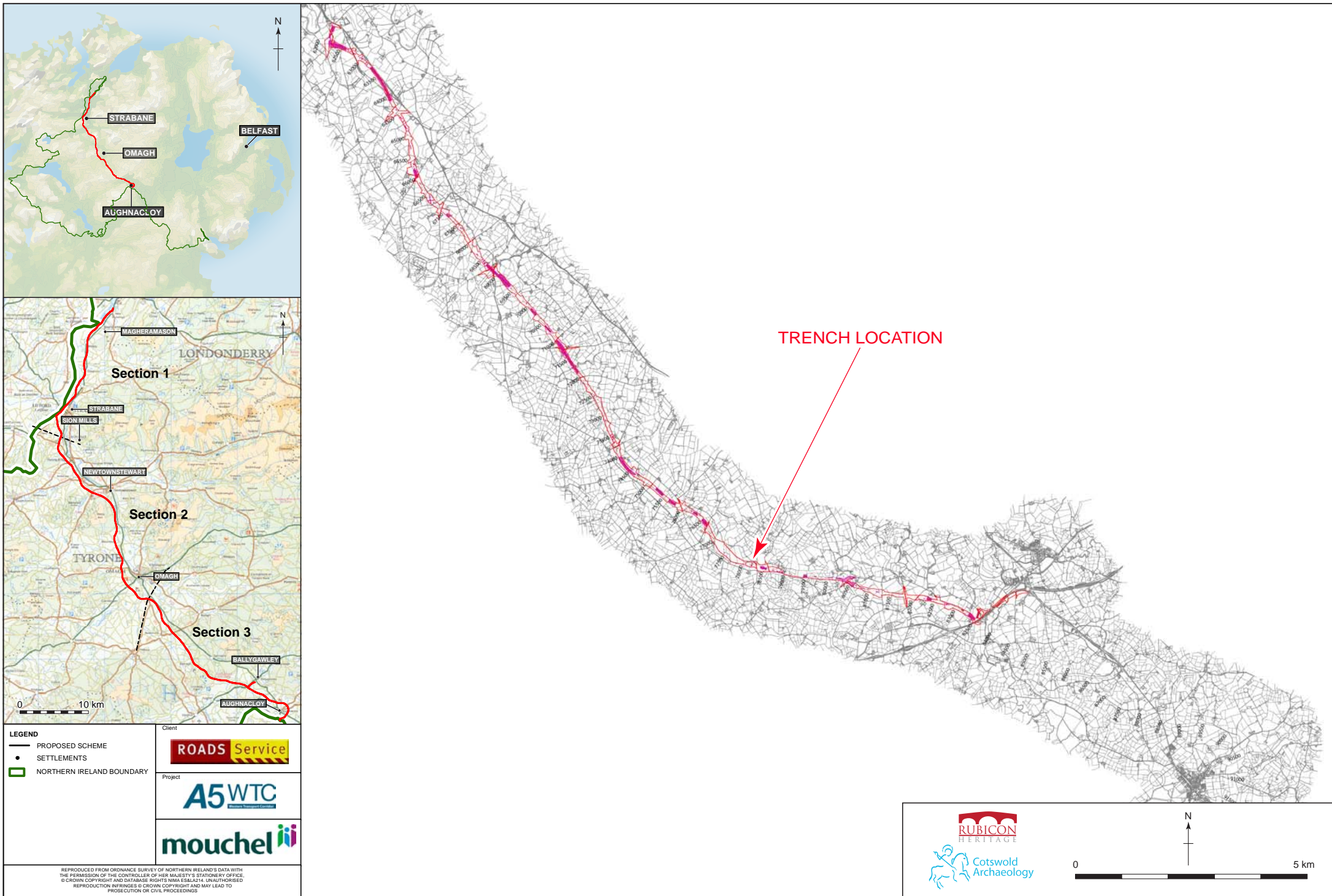


Figure 1 - Section 3 of proposed development

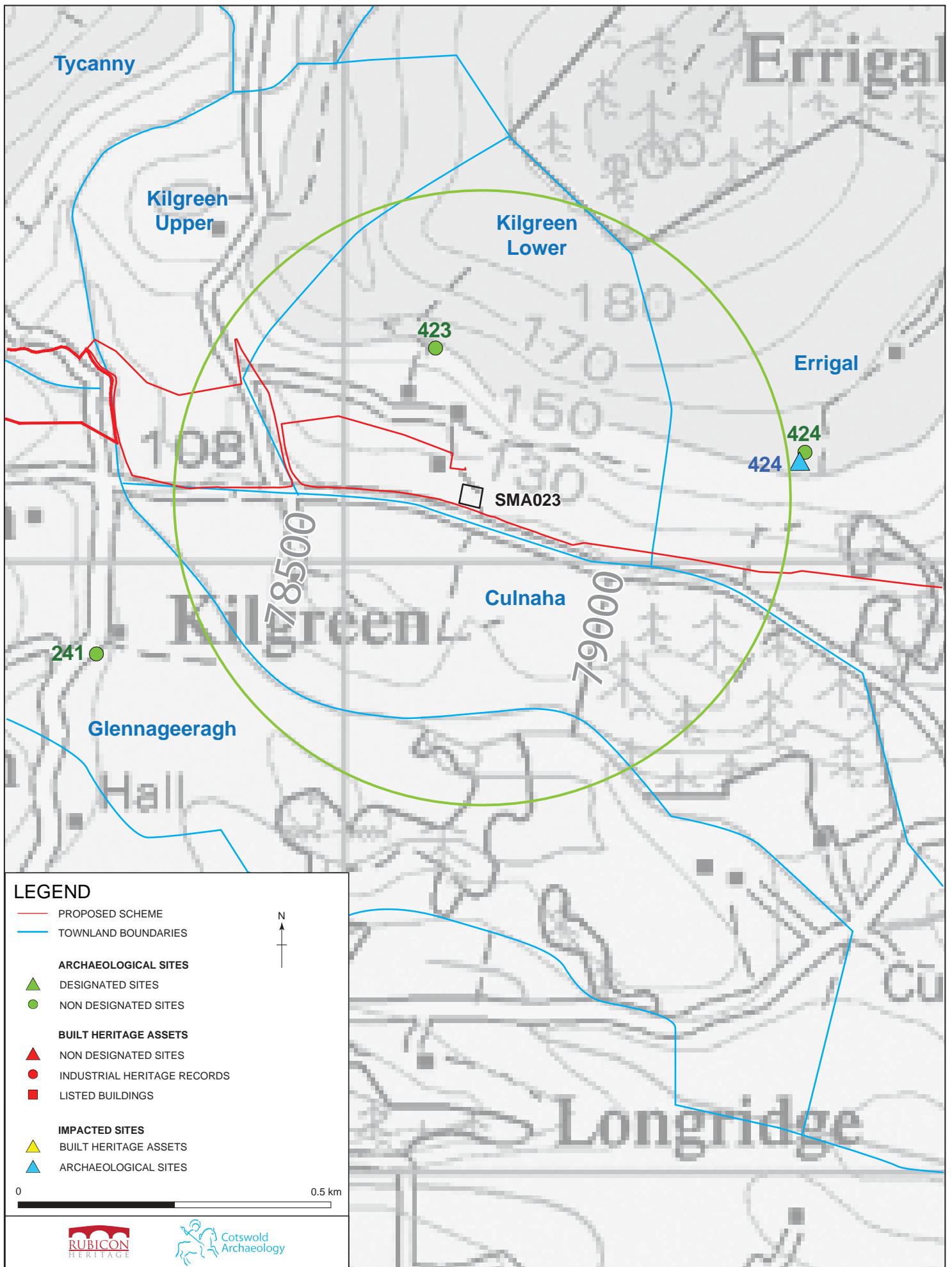


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of SMA 023

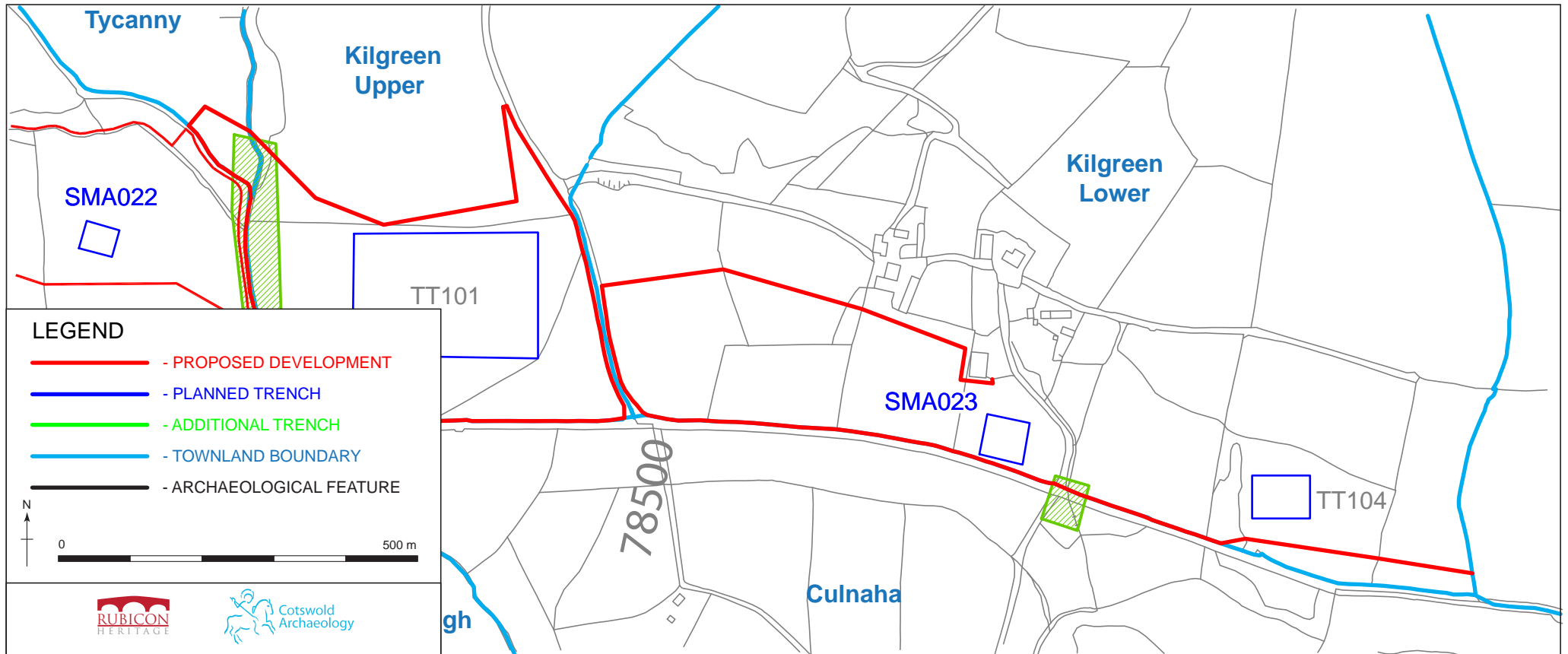


Figure 3 - SMA023; Strip & Map Area



PLATE 1: SMA023 under excavation



PLATE 2: Root burning at SMA023



Cotswold  
Archaeology



## **A5 Western Transport Corridor**

### **Section 3**

South of Omagh – Ballygawley

### **Assessment Report**

Strip and Map of SMA 024



**Director:** James Hession

**Report Author:** Mandy Stephens

**Licence No:** AE/13/07E



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION ..... 1

2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK..... 1

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY ..... 1

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ..... 2

5 FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features..... 4

6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL ..... 14

7 PROPOSED RESOLUTION ..... 21



## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Archaeological Background

Table 2: Context Register

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Section 3 of the proposed development

Figure 2: Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of SMA024

Figure 3: Archaeological features identified in SMA024

Figure 4a: Archaeological features identified within Area A

Figure 4b: Archaeological features identified within Area B

Figure 4c: Archaeological features identified within Area C

Figure 4d: Archaeological features identified within Area D

Figure 4e: Archaeological features identified within Area E

## LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: East facing section through Trough (004)

Plate 2: *Fulacht Fiadh* identified within Area A facing northeast

Plate 3: Occupation layer (084) within Area B facing southwest

Plate 4: Pits, troughs, postholes and stake-holes identified in Area C facing north

Plate 5: Pits, postholes and stake-holes identified in Area D.2 facing east

Plate 6: Occupation layer (041) within Area D.3 facing north

Plate 7: Pits, postholes and stake-holes identified in Area D.3 facing west

Plate 8: Stake-holes identified in Area E facing southeast

Plate 9: Stake-holes in Area E identified between Spreads (155) and (165) facing northeast

Plate 10: West facing section of Pit (031) Area B

## 1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon, in association with Cotswold Archaeology, 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 A5 Western Transport Corridor. The proposed development comprises the construction of offline dual carriageway extending for 37 km.

An excavation licence for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed route was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, 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/13/07E** was issued to James Hession of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in pre determined locations along Section 3, South of Omagh – Ballygawley, County Tyrone, of the proposed route (Figure 1).

This report outlines the results of archaeological investigations undertaken at Strip and Map Area (SMA) 024 in the townlands of Errigal and Gort, Co. Tyrone.

## 2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Fieldwork was carried out at SMA024 (Ch. 80024 - Ch. 80480) between 12 February and 20 March 2013 (Figure 1). Strip and Map Area layouts were designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. These areas were numbered consecutively and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work, for ease of recording and presentation.

## 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 1.9m 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx)) identified three known archaeological sites in the vicinity of SMA024; The Church and Graveyard site of Errigal Keerogue, a Holy Well dedicated to St Kieran and a Bullaun Stone (Table 1).

Errigal Keerogue church site (MBR/IHR Ref: TYR059:006) is a monument of high value and is in State Care. It is mentioned in the Annals of Ireland in 810AD and 839AD, which suggest that a monastic site was founded here by Dachiarag or Ciaran (Kieran) prior to 810AD. This early medieval site was in turn replaced by a church and graveyard. The remains visible today are those of the parish church that was destroyed in 1380AD.

Errigal Keerogue is an important multi-period site and it is likely that it not only extends beyond its present boundary wall, but that further associated sites would have been located close to the church and graveyard.

St Kieran's Bullaun Stone is situated c.100m WNW of the northwest corner of the current graveyard wall. The stone is rectangular in plan and blocky in shape, and measures 1.2m long, 0.6m wide & 0.5m deep.

St Kieran's Well is situated in an inter-drumlin valley, c.80 m northeast of the corner of the graveyard wall. It consists of a stone & mortar built circular grotto which is capped by a flat slab. The well itself is circular in plan, and measures approximately 0.8 m in diameter. It is set into the south facing bank of a pre-existing stream. Local tradition associates the well with St. Kieran and the water from it is said to have medicinal properties.

Consultation of NISMR identified further archaeological monuments listed within the parish of Errigal Keerogue to the south of SMA024 (1 km buffer) which are listed in tabular form below (Table 1).

The road corridor within SMA024 was assessed by a geophysical survey (Area 42; Durham University 2012), the results of which were included in the EIS for the scheme (Chap. 11). Geophysical anomalies were targeted during the archaeological works although a small number lay adjacent to the road-take itself and as a result they were not assessed during the current works.

EIS Ref	Townland	SMR	Site Type	Period
232	Gort	TYR059:006	Church and graveyard	Multi-period
233	Gort	TYR059:005	Bullan Stone	Late Medieval
234	Gort	TYR059:004	Holy Well	Medieval
N/A	Errigal	TYR 059:003	Rath	Early Christian
N/A	Errigal	TYR 059:008	Rath	Early Christian
N/A	Bloomhill	TYR 059:009	Platform Rath	Early Christian
N/A	Eady	TYR 059:010	Rath reused as a ringfort	Early Christian
N/A	Cleanally	TYR 059:073	Enclosure	Uncertain

Table 1: Archaeological Background

## 5 FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features

SMA024 was stripped of topsoil under archaeological supervision between 12 February and 20 March 2013. The removal of topsoil confirmed the presence of 278 archaeological features, comprising a *fulacht fiadh*, six burnt spreads, eleven occupation/habitation layers, two charcoal rich deposits, 77 pits, 14 linear features (including slot trenches), 44 post-holes and 123 possible stake-holes (Figure 3).

For clarity and ease of reference the site has been divided in to five areas (A, B, C, D and E) the archaeological findings of which are summarised in tabular form below.

## Area A

Type	Context(s)	Description	Dimensions	Findings
<i>Fulacht fiadh</i>	(007), (008)	The <i>fulacht fiadh</i> consisted of a sub-circular mound of heat shattered sandstone within a matrix of black silty clay (008) overlying a deposit of peat (007).	17.20m north-south by 16.60m east-west and at least 0.35 m deep.	N/A
Burnt spread	(018)	A roughly circular spread of heat shattered stone within a matrix of black silty clay was identified to the north of the <i>fulacht fiadh</i> (007/008)	7.50m north-south by 6.80m east-west and 0.16 m in deep	N/A
Burnt Spread	(003)	A second burnt spread identified in the SE corner of the stripped area consisted of heat shattered stone within a matrix of firmly compacted black silty clay (003). <b>NOTE:</b> This deposit extended beyond the vested lands to the south and southeast of SMA024. A substantial deposit of alluvial silt up to 0.40 m in depth overlay the eastern edge of the burnt spread.	At least 1.4m north-south by 4.4m east-west and 0.33m deep	N/A
Burnt spread	(038)	A third burnt spread was identified to the southwest of <i>fulacht fiadh</i> (007/008). It consisted of a large irregular spread of heat shattered stone within a matrix of black silty clay The identified spread was truncated by a series of plough furrows.	6m in diameter and 0.15m deep	A flint core AE/13/07:SMA02 4:038:002 and blade/arrowhead AE/13/07:SMA02 4:038:001 were recovered during

				an initial clean-back of the area.
Burnt spread/palaeochannel	(087)	The fourth burnt spread, or possible palaeochannel, was identified along the eastern side of area A. It consisted of linear shaped spread of heat shattered stone within a matrix of black silty clay. The burnt spread was not fully exposed due to water-logging/flooding in this area. The eastern extent of the burnt spread was overlain by 0.40 m of alluvial silt.	13.75m north-south by 3.60 m by 0.35 m in depth. The base of this feature was not reached due to high water table	N/A
Pits	(009), (012), (014), (016), (004) and (088)	Six pits, varying from rectangular to sub-circular in plan were identified across Area A. They were filled by material ranging from dark brown to black silty clay of moderate compaction that had inclusions of charcoal flecks and frequent heat shattered stone.	The pits ranged in size from 1.60 m by 0.75 m by 0.18 m deep [Pit (004)] to 0.90 m by 0.63 m by 0.14 m deep [Pit (009)].	N/A

### Area B

Type	Context(s)	Description	Dimensions	Finds
Occupation spread	(084)	Located in the NNW limit of the site, occupation spread (084) consisted of a mid to dark brown silty clay with inclusions of frequent flecks of charcoal.	10m north-south by 11.5m east-west	Seven flint artefacts AE/13/07:SMA02 4:084:001 to 007 inclusive, and three pieces of worked quartz 'AE/13/07:SMA02 4:084:008 to 010 inclusive were recovered during a clean-back of this spread.

Slot trenches/ linear features	(099), (104), (111), (113), (116), (122), (133), (135), (136), (134) and (142)	11 possible slot trenches/linear features were identified in Area B.	The ranged from 0.52m NW-SE by 0.30m NE-SW (135) to 1.55m NW-SE to 0.55m NE-SW (122).	N/A
Pits	(031), (033), (035), (060), (066), (085), (086), (091), (092), (102), (108), (130), (132), (146) and (147)	15 pits ranging from sub-circular to circular in shape were identified within Area B. The pits were filled by material ranging from firmly compacted dark brown grey silty clay with inclusions of small to large sized angular stone to loosely compacted mid grey brown silty clay with inclusions of pebbles and occasional angular stone.	The identified pits measured 0.32m by 0.24m (132) minimum to 3.8m by 1.8m maximum (085)	One shred of prehistoric pottery AE/13/07:SMA02 4:236:001 was recovered from the fill of pit (086) during the initial investigation of this area.
Postholes	(101), (105), (106), (107), (109), (110), (112), (117), (118), (119), (120), (121), (125), (127), (137), (138), (139), (140), (141), (143), (144) and (145)	22 postholes were identified across Area B. The postholes were all filled by a similar material: dark brown silty clay within inclusions of charcoal flecks.	The postholes ranged in size from 0.12m in length by 0.11m in width (minimum) (117) to 0.34m in length by 0.32m in width (maximum) (120)	N/A
Stake-holes	(093), (094), (095), (096),	14 stake-holes were provisionally identified within Area B. The stake-holes were all filled by a similar material: dark brown silty clay.	On average the stake-holes measured 0.13m in diameter	N/A

	(097), (098), (100), (103), (123), (124), (126), (128), (129) and (131)			
<p><b>NOTE:</b> It is possible that four structures/wind-breaks can be observed within the array of postholes and stake-holes identified across Area B</p> <p>Wind-break 1: (110), (111), (112), (095), (094), (093), (098), (101) and (126).</p> <p>Wind-break 2: (139), (140), (141), (142), (143), (144), (145) and (146).</p> <p>Wind-break 3: (107), (105), (106), (103), (096), (097), (124) and (125).</p> <p>Wind-break 4: (123), (127), (134), (128) and (129).</p>				

### Area C

Type	Context(s)	Description	Dimensions	Finds
Occupation spreads	(029), (077) and (080)	Three possible occupation spreads (029), (077) and (080) were identified within Area C. They consisted of irregularly shaped deposits of mid grey brown to mid black brown silty clay with inclusions of occasional charcoal flecks.	The ranged in size from 1.8m in length by 1m width (minimum) (080) to 2.75m in length by 2.65m in width (maximum) (029).	N/A
Burnt spread	(059)	A burnt spread, (059), was identified in the south-west corner of Area C. It consisted of dark black silty clay with frequent inclusions of heat shattered stone and charcoal flecks	The burnt spread measured 18.5m in length by 7.6m in width	N/A
Postholes	(073), (074), (076), (078), (081) and	Six postholes were identified across Area C. The postholes were all filled by a similar material: mid brown to mid grey brown silty clay within	The postholes ranged in size from 0.20m in length by 0.15m in width (minimum) (081) to	N/A



	(083).	inclusions of charcoal flecks.	0.32m in length by 0.25m in width (maximum) (073).	
Stake-holes	(030.1), (030.2), (037.1) to (037.11) and (058.1) to (058.31).	44 stake-holes were noted within Area C. The stake-holes were all filled by a similar material: a dark grey charcoal flecked silty clay or black charcoal rich silty clay.	Three sets or groupings were established from the identified stake-holes. The first set comprising two stake-holes measured between 0.07m and 0.09m in diameter (030); the second set comprising 11 stake-holes measured between 0.05m and 0.12m in diameter (037) and the third set consisting of 31 stake-holes measured between 0.07m and 0.15m in diameter (058).	N/A
Pits	(021), (023), (025), (027), (047), (048), (049), (051), (052), (061), (062), (063), (064), (065), (067), (068), (069), (082), (148), (149), (151) and (152).	22 sub-circular pits were identified in Area C. The fills of the respective pits varied greatly ranging from dark brown grey silty clay with inclusions of charcoal flecks to mid brown sandy clay.	The identified pits measured 0.31m in length by 0.30 m in width (minimum) (064) to 3.30m in length by 3.10 m in width (maximum) (082).	One piece of worked flint AE/13/07:SMA02 4:235:001 was recovered from pit (082) during the initial investigation of this feature
Irregular shaped pits	(070), (071), (072), (075), (079), and	Six irregularly shaped pits were noted within Area C. The fills of the respective pits varied greatly ranging from dark grey black silty clay to light grey brown silty clay. It is likely that one of these pits is a kiln.	The irregular shaped pits measured 0.83m in length by 0.20 m in width (minimum)	N/A

	(150)		(150) to 1.49m in length by 1.15m in width (maximum) (075).	
Modern drains	(020.A), (020.B) and (090).	Three modern land drains were identified across Area C	N/A	N/A

### Area D.1

Type	Context(s)	Description	Dimensions	Finds
Burnt Spread	(050)	The burnt spread (050) consisted of dark black silty clay with frequent inclusions of heat shattered stone and charcoal flecks	2.80m north-south by 2.20m by 0.16m deep	N/A

### Area D.2

Type	Context(s)	Description	Dimensions	Finds
Charcoal-rich deposits	(189), and (200)	Two charcoal-rich deposits were noted within Area D.2 consisting of black silty clay with inclusions of burnt stone and frequent charcoal flecks.	0.62m NW-SE by 0.43m (189) and 0.4 m E-W by 0.27m (200)	N/A
Pits	(039), (190), (193) and (199).	Four possible pits were noted within Area D.2. They were filled by material ranging from black grey charcoal rich silty clay to light grey silty sand with orange mottling and gravel inclusions.	The pits ranged in size from 0.79m north-south by 0.78m (minimum) (039) to 0.42m E-W to 0.25m by 0.31m deep (042).	Four sherds of decorated prehistoric pottery AE/13/07:SMA02 4:237:001 to 004 inclusive were recovered from

				pit (190) during a preliminary clean-back of this area.
Postholes	(186), (187), (191) and (196).	Four possible postholes were identified throughout Area D. They were filled by material ranging from dark grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks to medium grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	The postholes ranged from 0.20m north-south by 0.14m (minimum) (196) to 0.34m N-S to 0.22m (187).	N/A
Stake-holes	188), (192), (194), (195), (197) and (198).	Six stake-holes were identified in Area D.2. They were filled by material ranging from black charcoal rich silty clay to grey silty clay.	The stake-holes ranged from 0.03m to 0.10m in diameter.	N/A

### Area D.3

Type	Context(s)	Description	Dimensions	Findings
Possible occupation spreads/areas	(041), (206), (210), (211) and (222).	Five possible occupation spreads were identified within Area D.3. They consisted of irregularly shaped deposits of dark brown orange compact clay to mid brown silty clay with inclusions of occasional charcoal flecks and worked flint artefacts.	0.75m east-west by 0.70m (minimum) (206) and 4.50m NE-SW by 0.12m deep (222)	Four sherds of prehistoric pottery AE/13/07:SMA02 4:041:003 to 006 inclusive, Granite rubbing stone AE/13/07:SMA02 4:041:002 and a piece of possibly worked quartz AE/13/07:SMA02 4:041:001 were

				recovered from occupation surface (041). One piece of worked flint, AE/13/07:SMA024:222:001, was recovered from occupation spread (222).
Pits	(042), (154), (202), (207), (217), (218), (220), (223), (224), (225), (226), (228), (229), (230) and (231).	15 possible pits were noted within Area D.3. They were filled by material ranging from black grey charcoal rich silty clay to light grey silty sand with orange mottling and gravel inclusions.	The pits ranged in size from 0.19m NE-SW by 0.18m (minimum) (202) to 2.30m NW-SE to 0.66m SW-NE by 0.31m deep (042).	N/A
Postholes	(201), (203), (204), (205), (208), (212), (216) and (227).	Eight possible postholes were identified throughout Area D.3. They were filled by similar material which consisted of medium grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	The postholes ranged in size from 0.14m in diameter (minimum) (205) to 0.30m by 0.2 m (201).	N/A
Stake-holes	(045.A) to (045.D), (046.A), (046.B), (153), (209), (213), (214), (215), (219), (221)	13 stake-holes were identified in Area D. They were filled by material ranging from black charcoal rich silty clay, grey silty clay and mid brown silty clay.	The stake-holes ranged in size from 0.03m to 0.10m in diameter.	N/A

	and (232).			
--	------------	--	--	--

### Area E

Type	Context(s)	Description	Dimensions	Finds
Possible occupation spreads/deposits	(155) and (165).	Two spreads/deposits possibly representing occupation areas were identified within Area E. They were irregularly shaped in plan and consisted of dark brown to mid brown silty clay with inclusions of charcoal flecks and small pebbles and angular gravel.	The spreads measured 8m east-west by 5m by 0.15m deep and 15m by 10.5m respectively.	N/A
Pits	(160), (161), (164), (166), (167), (182), (183), (184) and (185).	Nine pits were noted within Area E. All of the pits were filled by a similar material: mid grey brown sandy silt.	The pits measured from 0.20m north-south by 0.10m (minimum) (160) to 0.66m north by 0.50m (maximum) (164).	N/A
Postholes	(178), (179), (180) and (181).	Four postholes were identified within Area E. They were sub-circular in plan and were all filled by a similar material; a friable mid brown silty clay.	The postholes ranged from 0.17m north-south by 0.10m (minimum) (179) to 0.28m by 0.16m (maximum) (181).	N/A
Stake-holes	(156), (157), (158), (159), (162), (163), (168), (169), (170), (171), (172), (173), (174), (175), (176) and (177.1) to (177.31).	46 possible stake-holes were identified within Area E. It was possible to establish three linear patterns perhaps representing wind-breaks or other similar light structures. Wind-break 1 consisted of stake-holes (156), (157), (158), (159), and (177.4) to (177.14). Wind-break 2 comprised of stake-holes (168), (169), (170), (171), (172), (173), (174) and (175). Wind-break 3 was formed from stake-holes (177.20) to (177.29)	The stake-holes ranged in size from 0.05m to 0.10m in diameter	N/A

---

Linear feature	(090)	A stone filled land drain was identified along the southern extent of Area E.	It measured 0.40m in width.	N/A
----------------	-------	---	-----------------------------	-----

## 6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

The results of the Phase 1 archaeological work carried at SMA024 indicate that archaeological features, deposits and artefacts represent prehistoric settlement and industrial activity dating from the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age. For clarity and ease of discussion the five areas, A, B, C, D and E, are discussed separately below.

### Area A

A *fulacht fiadh* was identified in Area A. It comprised a burnt mound (008) with an associated underlying layer of peat (007), a trough (004) and pits (009), (012), (014) and (016). In addition, two further deposits or spreads of burnt material (018) and (038) were identified. A further burnt spread or possible palaeochannel (087) was also noted to the north of burnt mound (008). A blade/arrowhead and a flint core (AE/13/07:SMA024:038:001 and AE/13/07:SMA024:038:002 respectively) were recovered during the initial hand cleaning of the area (Figure 4a; Plates 1 and 2).

### Chronology

*Fulachta fiadh* have been found to have a very broad date range, with a small number of such sites dating from the Late Neolithic and occasional examples producing dates from the Iron Age or later. However, the majority of burnt mounds that have been subject to radiocarbon dating have shown a marked concentration of use within the Middle Bronze Age, with a smaller, but significant group, indicating usage in the Late Bronze Age (Brindley and Lanting 1990). More recent dating programmes have generally corroborated the findings of Brindley and Lanting. *Fulachta fiadh* excavated in advance of the gas pipeline to the west of the current site had a significant concentration of dates in the period 2500-1700 BC (Grogan et al. 2007, 96), although the majority of sites were within the 1700-1000 BC period (*ibid.*).

### Setting and morphology of fulachta fiadh features

Burnt mounds or *fulachta fiadh* have been identified in almost every part of the country and are the most common prehistoric monument in Ireland (Waddell 2000, 174). Typically *fulachta fiadh* appear in the landscape as low, grassy mounds that are typically crescent or U-shaped in plan (Waddell 1998). However, it should be noted that archaeological excavation has shown that in many cases the mound has been subsequently ploughed out, or indeed may never have been on such a scale to remain identifiable

above ground. Excavated *fulachta fiadh* usually consist of a mound or spread of burnt stones and firing debris and a trough or troughs. Associated features such as hearths, pits, stake-holes and postholes are also frequently identified although there is a great deal of variation in the morphology of excavated site types.

Large, linear infrastructure projects have consistently identified large numbers of *fulachta fiadh* and related site types such as burnt mounds and spreads, and such evidence formed the bulk of the recorded archaeology in advance of the gas pipeline to the west (Grogan *et al.* 2007, 81).

The sitting of *fulachta fiadh* is noteworthy as they are almost invariably located close to a water source (e.g. O'Neill 2000). This was well demonstrated during the North Munster Project (Grogan 2005) where the identified *fulachta fiadh* were located along the margins of wetland, small lakes, turloughs, bog and marsh, as well as on the edges of river estuaries and on the banks of rivers and streams. The current site at Errigal/Gort is similarly located, being in a poorly drained field adjacent to the Glenhoy stream.

It has also been well documented that *fulachta fiadh* can be densely concentrated in areas that were suitable for their construction. O'Drisceoil (1988, 676) describes how they 'are frequently found together in groups of up to ten or more'. This phenomenon can also be seen at the current site where two burnt mound sites once existed in Areas C and D respectively and at least two further burnt mounds are visible in the landscape immediately south of SMA024 in an area outside the scope of the vested lands for the proposed road corridor.

#### *Fulacht fiadh function*

The technology of *fulachta fiadh* is well known. Stones were heated in a nearby fire and placed in a water-filled trough – the latter sometimes lined with timber, stones, clay or reed matting– which would then bring the water to boil. Once cool, the stones were removed from the trough and discarded, creating a characteristic burnt mound or spread of heat-shattered stones. For what purpose the boiled water was subsequently utilised, however, is more difficult to ascertain.

The traditional interpretation of these monuments is that they were cooking sites, a view supported by early texts, folk memory (Ó Drisceoil 1988; O'Neill 2004) and experimentation (O'Kelly 1954). The texts frequently give a dual function of cooking and bathing for the sites. However, other theories about their use have also been put forward. These include: fulling, brewing, leather working, and use as sweatshouses or as multifunctional sites. It is most likely that *fulachta fiadh* were multifunctional or that different sites



were used for different purposes. Determining which each site was used for is difficult in large part because of the lack of definitive evidence and recovered finds.

### Conclusions

No finds or animal bone were retrieved from the initial investigations carried out at the *fulacht fiadh* within Area A, and therefore there is no substantial evidence from this investigation to favour any of the common functions assigned to this site type. It is anticipated that palaeoenvironmental evidence gathered during subsequent Phase 2 excavation will aid in the determination of the function of the identified *fulacht fiadh*.

### **Area B**

A prehistoric settlement site, currently interpreted as being Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age in date, was identified in Area B. The site was located at the base of a south-east facing slope with an area of wetland to the southeast, and the Glenhoy stream situated approximately 100m to the east.. The excavated archaeological features consisted of a habitation or occupation spread (084) and associated pit (085), eleven slot trenches/linear features, 15 pits, 22 possible postholes and 14 stake-holes (Figure 4b; Plates 3 and 10).

### Structural evidence

The majority of the identified features were clustered in a broadly circular arrangement although it was not possible to define the ground plan of a circular structure within this cluster of features. Nevertheless, four possible linear wind-breaks or fence-lines were noted and these features may have provided shelter for any activities undertaken within or close to the adjacent pits. The four possible structures consist of the following: wind-break 1 comprised post/stake holes (110), (111), (112), (095), (094), (093), (098), (101) and (126); wind-break 2 comprised post/stake holes (139), (140), (141), (142), (143), (144), (145) and (146); wind-break 3 comprised post/stake holes (107), (105), (106), (103), (096), (097), (124) and (125); wind-break 4 comprised post/stake holes (123), (127), (134), (128) and (129).

### Setting

The setting and context of the site identified within Area B compares favourably to sites identified along the N8 Cashel to Mitchestown Road Scheme, Co. Tipperary, ROI such as; Site 173.1 Loughfeedora, Site 173.3 Caherabbey Lower, Site 189.1 Suttonrath and Site 207.2 Ballylegan (McQuade et al 2009). Such sites tended to be located on predominantly south facing, well drained fertile soils within easy access of water (Cooney 2000, 74). The majority of these sites comprised scatters of postholes and pits that did not form any readily identifiable or coherent ground plan.

### Artefacts

Seven flint artefacts AE/13/07:SMA024:084:001 to AE/13/07:SMA024:084:007 inclusive, and three pieces of worked quartz AE/13/07:SMA024:084:008 to AE/13/07:SMA024:084:010 inclusive, were recovered during hand cleaning of this spread. In addition, one sherd of prehistoric pottery, AE/13/07:SMA024:236:001, was recovered from the fill of pit (086).

### Conclusions

It is anticipated that Phase 2 excavation of the features identified in Area B will establish the presence of further structures and confirm whether the site is of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date.

## **Area C**

The initial archaeological clean-back of Area C identified the truncated remains of a *fulacht fiadh*, associated pits and possible evidence of a structure.

The excavated archaeological features consisted of a *fulacht fiadh*/burnt spread (059), three occupation spreads (029), (077) and (080), 6 postholes (073), (074), (076), (078), (081) and (083), 44 stake-holes (030.1), (030.2), (037.1) to (037.11) and (058.1) to (058.31), 22 sub-circular pits (021), (023), (025), (027), (047), (048), (049), (051), (052), (061), (062), (063), (064), (065), (067), (068), (069), (082), (148), (149), (151) and (152), 6 irregularly shaped pits (070), (071), (072), (075), (079), and (150) and three modern land drains (020.A), (020.B) and (090) (Figure 4c; Plate 4).

The chronology, setting, and morphology of features associated with *fulachta fiadh* and the function of *fulachta fiadh* sites have been dealt with in the discussion of Area A and as such will not be repeated here.

### Industrial Activity

Two key-hole shaped troughs/pits (062) and (079) were identified centrally within Area C. The identification of this type of trough is not as unusual as it may first appear and other examples are known from archaeological works carried out along the Sligo Inner Relief Road, Co. Sligo and the M3 Clonee to North of Kells Motorway Scheme, Co. Meath (Danaher 2007). On these schemes the key-hole shaped troughs were interpreted as possible overspill drains which would have absorbed the overflow of water created by the insertion of hot stones into the trough. An alternative interpretation is that they were used in the production of steam. This theory suggests that the linear feature rather than being an overspill drain was a gully that held split structural timbers/rods which were manipulated into shape by steam produced in the trough channeled along the gully. It is thought that the trough and linear element could have been covered by turfs or hides enabling the steam produced from the trough to funnel along the gully.

### Structural evidence

The majority of the features identified in Area C were situated immediately north of *fulacht fiadh*/burnt spread (059). Although grouped together in a broadly circular arrangement, it is not currently possible to accurately identify the perimeter of any composite structure (circular or otherwise). Nevertheless, four possible wind-breaks or fence-lines may have been present in this area providing shelter for the activity undertaken within or adjacent to the nearby pits. The four possible structures consist of the following: wind-break 5 comprised stake-holes (037A) – (037E); wind-break 6 comprised stake-holes (058.10) – (058.16), (058.20), (058.21) and (058.26); wind-break 7 comprised stake-holes (058.3) - (058.8) and wind-break 8 comprised features (058.27), (058.28), (058.30), and (058.31). It is also a possibility that wind-break 7 was utilized in association with trough (062).

### **Area D**

Further evidence of prehistoric activity was revealed within Areas D.1 to D.3. The excavated archaeological features consisted of a burnt spread (050) within Area D.1; four pits (039), (190), (193) and (199), 2 charcoal rich deposits (189), and (200), 4 possible postholes (186), (187), (191) and (196) and 6 stake-holes (188), (192), (194), (195), (197) and (198) within D.2; and five possible occupation areas (041), (206), (210), (211) and (222), 15 pits (042), (154), (202), (207), (217), (218), (220), (223), (224), (225), (226),

(228), (229), (230) and (231), 8 postholes (201), (203), (204), (205), (208), (212), (216) and (227) and 14 stake-holes (045.A) to (045.D), (046.A), (046.B), (153), (209), (213), (214), (215), (219), (221) and (232) within Area D.3 (Figure 4d; Plates 5, 6 and 7).

The chronology, setting, morphology of features associated with *fulachta fiadh* and function of *fulachta fiadh* sites have been dealt with under the discussion of Area A and as such it will not be repeated here.

### Prehistoric activity

The prehistoric settlement evidence identified in Area D shared many similar characteristics with that identified in Area B. The activity in Area D was located at the base of the south facing slope of Errigal/Keerogue church and graveyard site (TYR 059:006), with the Glenhoy stream situated approximately 150m to the east.

The majority of the identified features were grouped in two concentrations (Area D.2 and Area D.3). A significant number of postholes and stake-holes were identified in each of these areas and it was possible to identify a number of possible wind-break structures or fence lines within each area.

### Area D.2-Structural evidence

Two possible wind-break structures were identified in Area D.2; the first, wind-break 9, consisted of stake-holes (198), (197) and (095) and postholes (196) and (186). The second, wind-break 10, consisted of stake-holes (194), (192) and (188) and posthole (187). This light structure may have been erected to shelter the activity undertaken in the charcoal rich spreads (189) and (200) and pits (190), (193) and (199) situated to the east of the wind-break.

### Area D.2-Artefacts

Four sherds of decorated prehistoric pottery AE/13/07:SMA024:237:001 to AE/13/07:SMA024:237:001:004 inclusive, believed to be either a food vessel or a vessel in the Vase tradition, were recovered from the fill of pit (190). One of the recovered sherds was decorated with oblique stab marks forming a herringbone or chevron pattern interpreted as being Early Bronze Age in date. Interestingly, the vessel seemed to be associated with a domestic context as no cremated bone was readily identifiable within the fill of the pit.

### Area D.3-Structural evidence

Area D.3 was situated approximately 20m east of Area D.2 and it is currently thought that the two concentrations of activity may be broadly contemporary. In this area, three possible wind-break structures were identified; the first, wind-break 11, consisted of postholes (201), (203) (204) and (205) and stake-holes (153) and (209) and is thought to be related to the occupational spreads (210), (211) and pits (202), (206), (207) and (220) situated directly north of the structure. The second wind-break, wind-break 12, consisted of stake-holes (045A) – (045D), (219) and posthole (212). It is a possibility that this light structure may have been erected in association with occupation spread (041) located to the southwest of the windbreak. Wind-break 13 was located 2 m south of wind-break 13 and comprised stake-holes (213), (214), (215), (221) and posthole (216). Its function is unclear however as the main concentration of features consisting of occupation spread (222), and pits (042) (223), (224), (225), (226), (227), (228), (229), (230), (231) are situated to the south and perpendicular to the wind-break.

### Area D.3-Artefacts

Four sherds of prehistoric pottery, AE/13/07:SMA024:041:003 to AE/13/07:SMA024:041:006 inclusive, were recovered from occupation layer (041). The sherds were undecorated and are thought to relate to a domestic context (given that no cremated bone was found in association with the pottery during hand cleaning of the area). A granite rubbing stone, AE/13/07:SMA024:041:002, and a piece of possibly worked quartz, AE/13/07:SMA024:041:001, were also retrieved from this area. One piece of worked flint, AE/13/07:SMA024:222:001 was recovered during the preliminary investigation of occupation spread (222). Given the proximity of Area D.2 and the similar characteristics of the fills of the identified features it is thought likely that the activity identified at Area D.3 most probably dates to the Early Bronze Age.

### **Area E**

Preliminary hand cleaning of Area E identified a cluster of stake-holes (156), (157), (158), (159), (162), (163), (168), (169), (170), (171), (172), (173), (174), (175), (176) and (177.1) to (177.31), two large irregular shaped deposits (155) and (165), nine pits (160), (161), (164), (166), (167), (182), (183), (184) and (185) and four postholes (178), (179), (180) and (181) of uncertain date (Figure 4e; Plates 8 and 9).

### Structural evidence

All of the identified pits, stake-holes and postholes were clustered between the two large, irregularly shaped, deposits (155) and (165). It was possible to establish at least three fence lines or wind-breaks from amongst the stake-holes, which would have provided shelter for activities undertaken in or close to the adjacent identified pits. The three possible structures consist of the following stake-holes: wind-break 14 comprised stake-holes (156), (157), (159) and (177.4) to (177.11); wind-break 15 comprised features (168) to (175) and wind-break 3 comprised stake-holes (177.20) to (177.29).

No diagnostic artefacts were recovered within Area E, but given the close proximity of Areas C and D it is likely that Area E is associated and contemporary with this activity and as such is most likely prehistoric in date. It is anticipated that Phase 2 excavation, analysis of the palaeoenvironmental remains and subsequent radiocarbon dating will determine the function and date of the activity identified at Area E.

## 7 PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Topsoil removal within SMA024 has identified a large, and previously unknown, site of archaeological significance – Errigal/Gort – within the area of the proposed road corridor. As currently designed, the construction of the A5WTC will impact directly on all archaeological features and deposits identified at the site.

Full Phase 2 excavation of the five areas (A, B, C, D and E) identified at Errigal/Gort is therefore proposed. This will involve archaeological excavation of all identified features and deposits (both currently known and yet to be discovered).

During the current archaeological works, two further burnt mound sites were visually identified outwith the current boundary of the road-take, along the southern edge of the vested land. The location of these mounds correlates with anomalies identified during the preceding geophysical survey.

018	Deposit	Black silty clay with inclusions of heat affected stone	Burnt Spread
<b>Context No?</b>	<b>Context Type</b>	<b>Context Description</b>	<b>Feature Interpretation</b>
000	Horizon	Mid to dark brown silty clay	Deposit
002	Horizon	Cut of pit from Orange to Area A silty sand to brown yellow silty clay	Narrow Pit
003	Deposit	Dark silty clay with inclusions of heat affected stone	Burnt mound
004	Cut	Rectangular shaped feature	Pit
004	Fill	Dark brown grey sandy silty clay - Fill of (023)	Fill of (004)
005	Deposit	Out of large pit (Area C)	Assoc with (003)
006	Deposit	Dark grey brown silty sand - Fill of (026) <i>fiadh</i> in Area A	Basal deposit
027	Cut	Black silty clay with inclusions of heat affected stone associated	Pit
008	Deposit	Cut of pit within Area C with <i>fulacht fiadh</i> in Area A	Burnt mound
028	Fill	Mid brown grey silty clay - Fill of (027)	Fill of pit
009	Cut	Cut of possible pit	Pit
029	Cut	Grey sandy silt - Occupation spread	Spread
010	Fill	Dark black grey sandy silt	Upper fill of (009)
030 a & b	Cut	Stake-holes filled by mid grey brown silty clay	Stake-holes Lower fill of (009)
011	Fill	Grey dark brown sandy silt	(009)
031	Cut	Cut of pit within Area B	Pit
012	Cut	Cut of pit north of (008)	Pit
032	Fill	Dark grey brown silty clay - Fill of (031)	Fill of pit
013	Fill	Dark grey black clayey silt - Fill of pit (012)	Fill
033	Cut	Cut of rectangular pit	Pit
014	Cut	Cut of pit west of (012)	Cut
034	Fill	Mid grey brown clay - Fill of (033)	Fill of pit
015	Fill	Dark grey sandy silt - Fill of (014)	Fill
035	Cut	Cut of shallow stone filled pit	Cut
016	Cut	Cut of possible posthole	Posthole
036	Fill	Mid grey brown clayey silt - Fill of (035)	Fill of pit
017	Fill	Fill of posthole (016)	Fill

037 a-k	Fill Cut	Mid grey silty clay – Fill of (048) Set of 1 stake-holes	Fill of pit
038.1 to 038.31 058.31	Deposit Cut	Black silty clay with inclusions of heat affected stone Cut of 32 stake-holes in Area C	Burnt spread Cut
039 059	Cut Deposit	Cut of charcoal rich pit in Area D.2 Black silty clay with inclusions of heat affected stone	Pit Burnt Spread
040 060	Fill Void	Black grey charcoal rich silty clay- Fill of (039) Void	Fill of pit Void
041 061	Deposit Cut	Dark brown black silty clay – Occupation spread Sub-circular shaped pit	Spread/deposit Pit
042 062	Cut Cut	Cut of curvilinear shaped pit in Area D.3 Possible trough in Area C	Pit Pit/trough
043 063	Fill Cut	Light grey silty sand – Fill of (042) Irregular shaped pit	Fill of pit Pit
044 064	Fill Cut	Mid grey brown silty clay – Fill of (039) Circular shaped pit	Fill of pit Pit
045 a-d 065	Cut Cut	Set of 4 stake-holes Circular shaped pit	Stake-holes Pit
046 a-b 066	Cut Void	Pair of stake-holes Void	Stake-holes Void
047 067	Cut Cut	Cut of sub-circular pit in Area C Sub-circular pit	Pit Pit
048 068	Cut Cut	Cut of irregular shaped pit Sub-circular pit	Pit Pit
049 069	Cut Cut	Cut of irregular shaped pit Sub-circular pit	Pit Pit
050 070	Deposit Cut	Black silty clay with inclusions of heat affected stone Kidney shaped pit	Burnt spread Pit
051 071	Cut Cut	Cut of sub-circular pit in Area C Elongated irregular shaped pit in Area C	Pit Pit
052 072	Cut Cut	Cut of small sub-circular shaped pit in Area C L shaped pit	Pit Pit
053 073	Fill Cut	Mid brown silty sandy clay – Fill of (047) Possible posthole	Fill of pit Posthole
054 074	Fill Cut	Mid grey brown sandy clay – Fill of (048) Possible posthole	Fill of pit Posthole
055 075	Fill Cut	Mid grey brown sandy clay – Fill of (049) Cut of irregular shaped pit	Fill of pit Pit
056 076	Fill Cut	Mid grey brown sandy clay – Fill of (048) Cut of posthole	Fill of pit Posthole



097	Deposit	Stake-hole/posthole deposit – possible occupation spread	Stake-hole
098	Cut	Stake-hole/posthole	Stake-hole
099	Cut	Cut of possible slot/trench/pit in Area C	Slot/trench/pit
100 080	Cut Deposit	Irregular shaped spread comprising mid brown silty clay with charcoal flecks Cut of Stake-hole	Stake-hole Spread
101 081	Cut Cut	Cut of Stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole
102 082	Cut Cut	Cut of sub-circular shaped pit Cut of sub-circular shaped pit	Pit Pit
103 083	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole
104 084	Cut Deposit	Cut of linear slot trench Dark brown silty clay with charcoal flecks – Occupation spread	Slot Trench Spread
105 085	Cut Cut	Cut of posthole Cut of circular shaped pit	Posthole Pit
106 086	Cut Cut	Cut of posthole Cut of sub-circular shaped pit	Posthole Pit
107 087	Cut Deposit	Cut of posthole Linear band of burnt mound material within palaeochannel	Posthole Burnt mound deposit
108	Cut	Cut of Pit	Pit
088	Cut	Cut of sub-circular shaped pit	Pit
109	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
089	Fill	Dark black grey clayey silt with frequent charcoal – Fill of (082)	Fill of pit
110	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
090	Linear	Modern drain	Drain Linear/slot
111 091	Cut Cut	Cut of linear feature Cut of small oval shaped pit	trench Pit
112 092	Cut Cut	Cut of posthole Cut of elongated pit	Posthole Pit
113 093	Cut Cut	Cut of linear feature/pit Stake-hole/posthole	Linear pit? Stake-hole
114 094	Void Cut	Void Stake-hole/posthole	Void Stake-hole
115 095	Void Cut	Void Stake-hole/posthole	Void Stake-hole
116 096	Cut Cut	Cut of linear shaped feature/pit Stake-hole/posthole	Linear pit? Stake-hole

137	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
138	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
139	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
120	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
121	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
122	Cut	Cut of linear elongated pit	Linear /pit?
123	Cut	Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole
124	Cut	Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole
125	Cut	Cut of posthole	Posthole
126	Cut	Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole
127	Cut	Cut of pits within Area B	Pitsthole
128	Cut	Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole
129	Cut	Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole
130	Cut	Cut of elongated pitular shaped pit	Pit
131	Cut	Cut of stake-hole pit	Stake-hole
132	Cut	Cut of large sub-circular shaped pit	Pit
133	Cut	Cut of stake-hole shaped pit	Stake-hole/pit?
134	Cut	Cut of elongated slot shaped pit	Slot trench?
135	Deposit	Integrally shaped pits within Area E	Slot trench?
136	Cut	Cut of stake-hole slot trench	Stake-hole?

177.1 to 157 177.31	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of 31 stake-holes	Stake-hole Stake-holes
158 178	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole
159 179	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole
160 180	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole
161 181	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole
162 182	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of sub-circular shaped pit in Area E	Stake-hole Pit
163 183	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of sub-circular shaped pit in Area E	Stake-hole Pit
164 184	Cut Cut	Cut of elongated pit Cut of sub-circular shaped pit in Area E	Pit Pit
165 185	Deposit Cut	Irregular shaped deposit in Area E Cut of sub-circular shaped pit in Area E	Spread Pit
166 186	Cut Cut	Cut of small sub-circular shape pit in Area E Cut of posthole	Pit Posthole
167 187	Cut Cut	Cut of small sub-circular shaped pit in Area E Cut of posthole	Pit Posthole
168 188	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole Stake-hole
169 189	Cut Deposit	Cut of stake-hole Charcoal rich spread	Stake-hole Spread
170 190	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of small sub-circular shaped pit	Stake-hole Pit
171 191	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole
172 192	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole Stake-hole
173 193	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of possible pit in Area D.2	Stake-hole Pit
174 194	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole Stake-hole
175 195	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole Stake-hole
176 196	Cut Cut	Cut of stake-hole Cut of posthole	Stake-hole Posthole

197	Cut	Cut of stake-hole elongated pit in Area D.3	Stake-hole
198	Cut	Cut of stake-hole shaped pit in Area D.3	Stake-hole
199	Cut	Cut of stake-hole shaped pit in Area D.2	Stake-hole
200	Deposit	Charcoal possible deposit Area D.3.2	Pitread
201	Cut	Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole
202	Deposit	Fragment of possible pitread (possible occupation layer)	Pitread
203	Cut	Cut of possible pit in Area D.3	Pitsthole
204	Cut	Cut of possible pit in Area D.3	Pitsthole
205	Cut	Cut of possible pit in Area D.3	Pitsthole
206	Deposit	Fragment of possible pitread (possible occupation layer)	Pitread
207	Cut	Cut of possible hole shaped pit in Area D.3	Pitsthole
208	Cut	Cut of possible pit in Area D.3	Pitsthole
209	Cut	Cut of stake-hole pit in Area D.3	Stake-hole
230	Deposit	Fragment of possible pitread (possible occupation layer)	Pitread
231	Deposit	Fragment of possible pitread (possible occupation layer)	Pitread
232	Cut	Cut of stake-hole	Stake-hole
233	Cut	Cut of stake-hole in fringing townland (Townland boundary ditch?)	Stake-hole
234	Fill	Fill of stake (233)	Stake-fill
235	Fill	Fill of stake-hole	Stake-hole
236	Fill	Fill of (236) hole	Pitsthole

237	Fill	Fill of (190`)	Fill
-----	------	----------------	------

Table 2. Context Register

## 8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barfield, L. H. and Hodder, M.A. (1987) Burnt Mounds as Saunas and the Prehistory of Bathing.

*Antiquity* **61**, 370-379.

Brindley A.L. and Lanting, J.N. (1990) The dating of *fulachta fiadh*. In V. Buckley (ed.) Burnt

*Offerings: International Contributions to Burnt Mound Archaeology*, 55-56. Wordwell, Dublin.

Cooney, G. 2000 landscapes of Neolithic Ireland. Routledge, London.

Danaher, E. 2007 'Monumental Beginnings. The archaeology of the N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road'. NRA Scheme Monographs 1. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Gleeson, C., Breen, G. and Price, J. Rathpatrick 40, Co. Kilkenny. In J. Eogan and E. Shee Twohig (ed.), *Cois TSiúre – Nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir valley*. National Roads Authority: Dublin, 179–186.

Grogan, E. 2005 The North Munster Project (two vols). Wordwell, Dublin.

Grogan, E. 2005 The prehistoric landscape of North Munster. Discovery Programme Monograph 6, Volume 2. The Discovery Programme/Wordwell, Bray.

Grogan, E. 2007 General evaluation and assessment of archaeological results: *Fulachta Fiadh* and related sites. In E. Grogan, L. O'Donnell and P. Johnston (eds.) *The Bronze Age Landscapes of the Pipeline to the West: An integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. 81-101.

Wordwell, Bray.

Hackett, L. 2009 *Ballyburn Lower, Co. Kildare*. Unpublished report for Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd.

Laing, L. 2006 *The Archaeology of Celtic Britain and Ireland c. AD 400-1200*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

McQuade, M., Molloy, B and Moriarty, C. 2009 *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Quinn, B and Moore, D. 2007 'Ale, Brewing and "Fulachta Fiadh" *Archaeology Ireland*, Vol. 21, No. 3 (Autumn, 2007), pp. 8-11

Monk, M. (2007) A greasy subject, *Archaeology Ireland*. **79**. 22-24.

Ó Drisceoil, D.A. 1988 Burnt mounds: cooking or bathing? *Antiquity*, **62**, 671-80.

Ó Drisceoil, D.A 1990 *Fulachta Fiadh: the value of Early Irish Literature*. In V. Buckley (ed.) *Burnt Offerings: International Contributions to Burnt Mound Archaeology*, 157-164. Wordwell Ltd, Dublin

Ó Drisceoil, D.A. 1991 *Fulacht Fiadh: a general statement*. *North Munster Antiquarian Journal* **33**, 3-6.

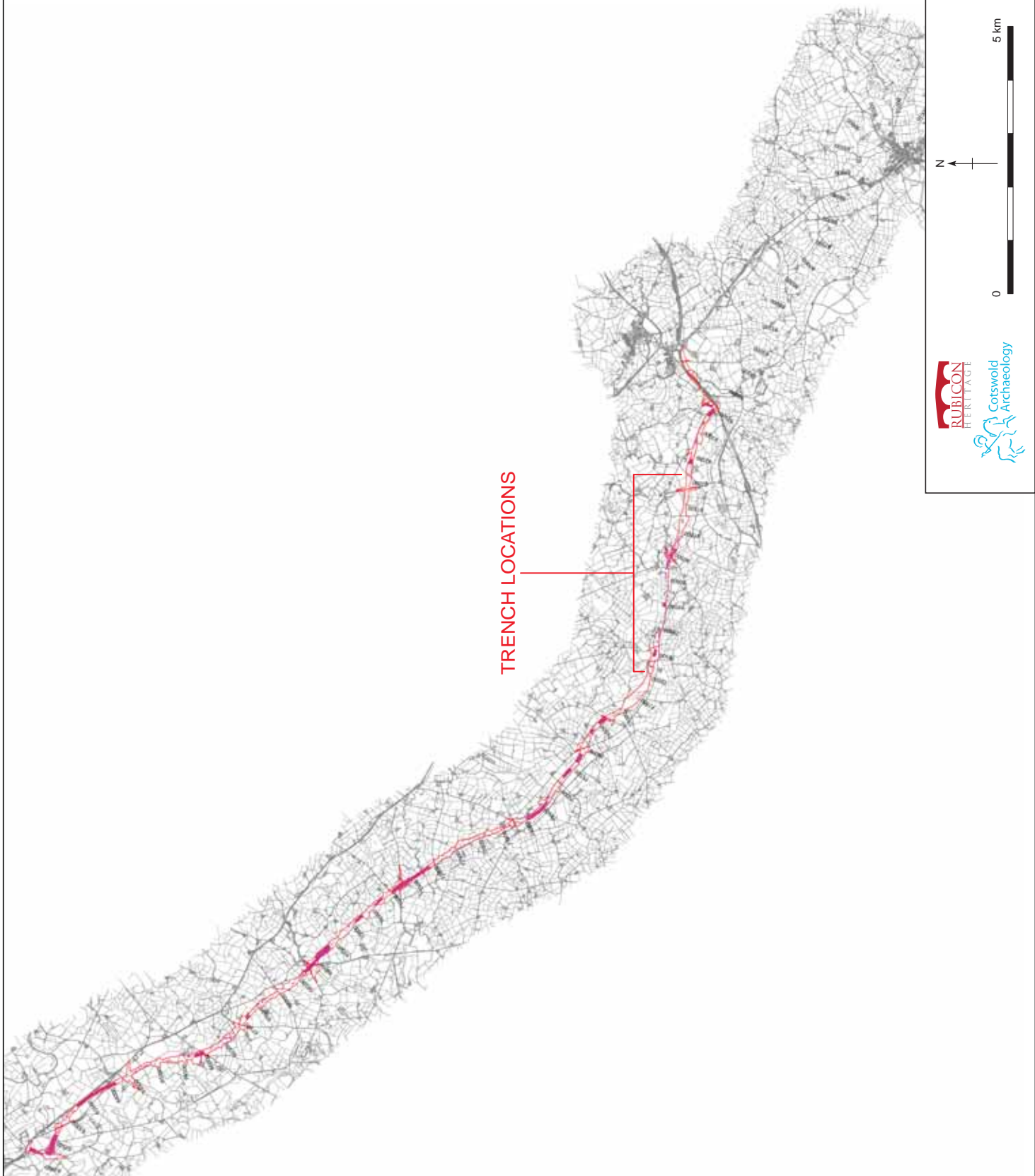
O Kelly, M. J. 1954 Excavations and Experiments in Ancient Irish Cooking -Places. *Journal of Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland* **84**, 105-155.



Ó Néill, J. 2000 Just another fulachta fiadh story. *Archaeology Ireland*. **52**. 19.



O'Neill, J (2004). *Lapidibus in igne calefactis coquebatur: The Historical burnt mound 'tradition'*. *The Journal of Irish Archaeology* Volumes XII and XIII, 2003-2004

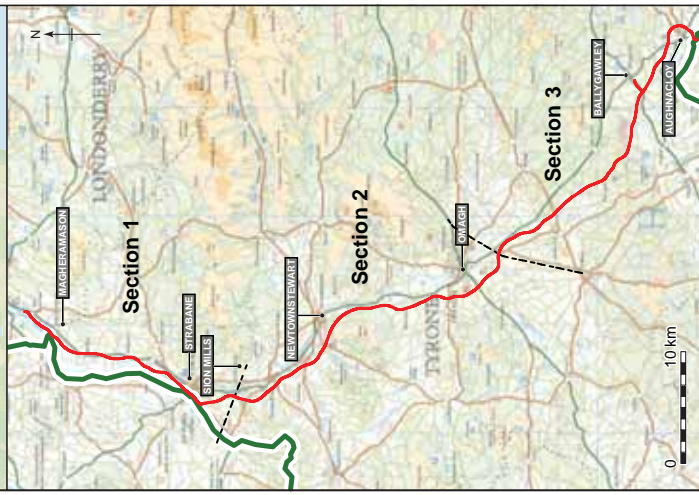
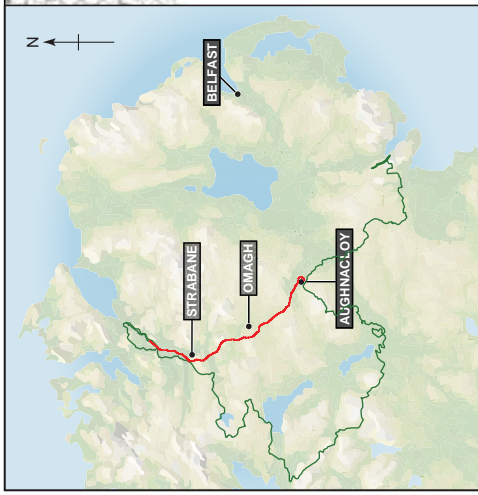
Tourunen, A and Stewart, K. 2008 'pH analysis of Burnt Mounds: Implications for preservation of organic material' N9/N10 Kilcullen to Waterford Scheme. [www.wac6.org](http://www.wac6.org) <http://ebookbrowse.com/wac-071-stewart-tourunen-pdf-d152849821>

Waddell, J. 1998 *The Prehistoric Archaeology of Ireland*. Galway University Press







<p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— PROPOSED SCHEME</li> <li>• SETTLEMENTS</li> <li>□ NORTHERN IRELAND BOUNDARY</li> </ul>	<p>Client</p>  <p>Project</p>  	<p>THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED AND IS MADE AVAILABLE BY THE PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE. © COPYRIGHTATION AND ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS, ELECTRONIC OR MECHANICAL, INCLUDING PHOTOCOPYING, RECORDING, OR BY ANY INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM, WITHOUT PERMISSION IN WRITING FROM THE PUBLISHER.</p>
--	--	--

Figure 1 - Section 3 of proposed development





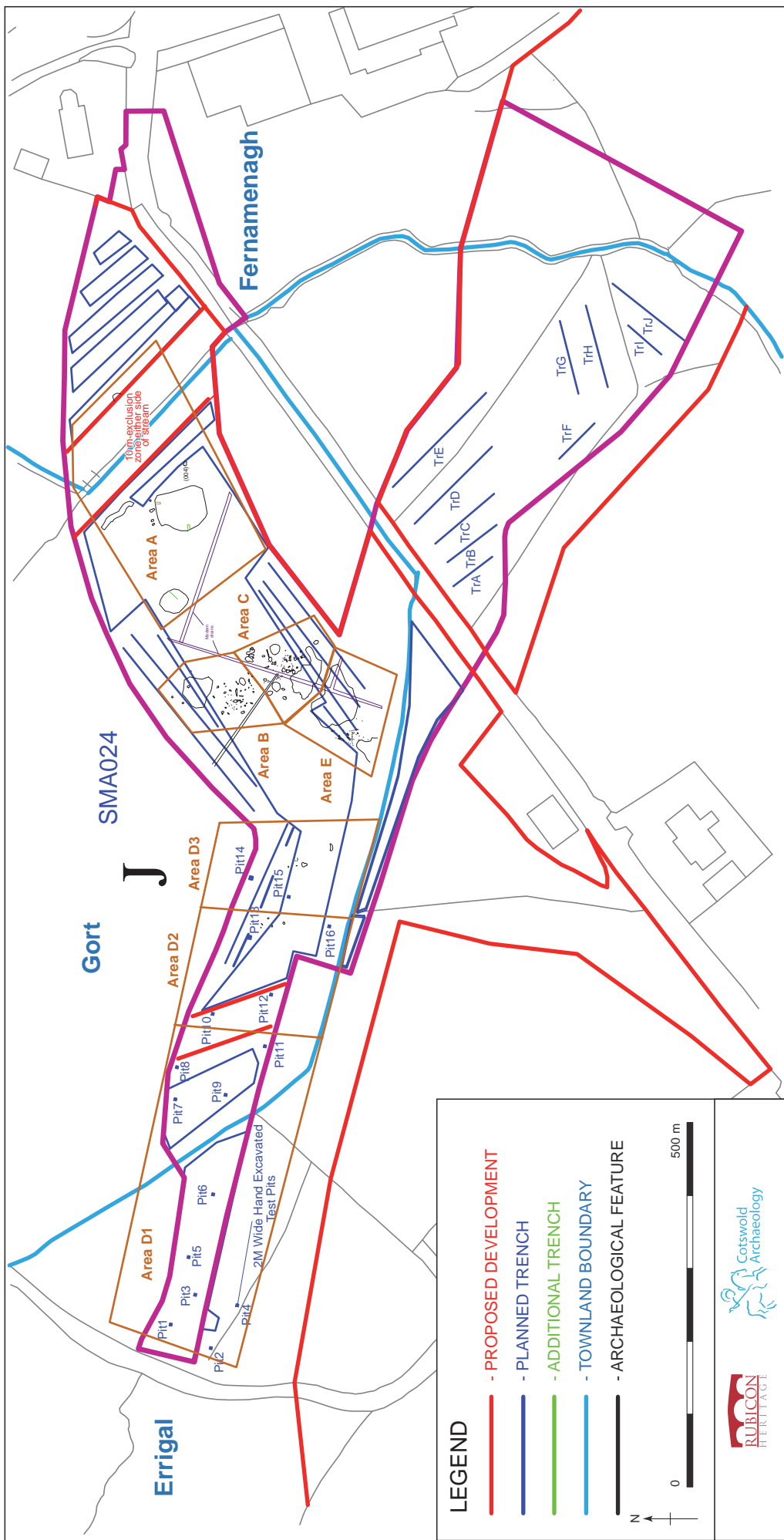


Figure 3 - Archaeological Features identified in SMA024

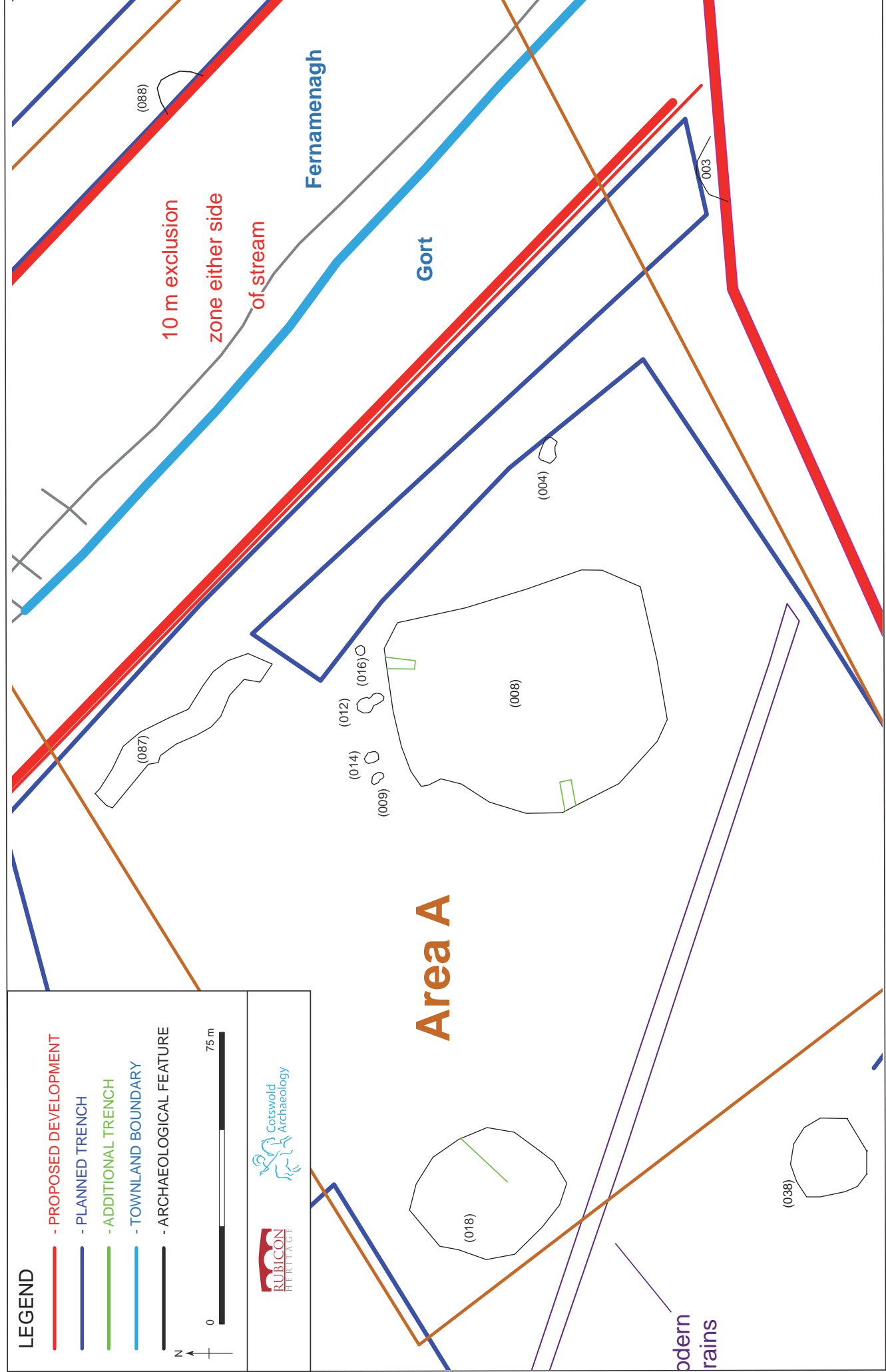


Figure 4A - Archaeological Features identified within Area A

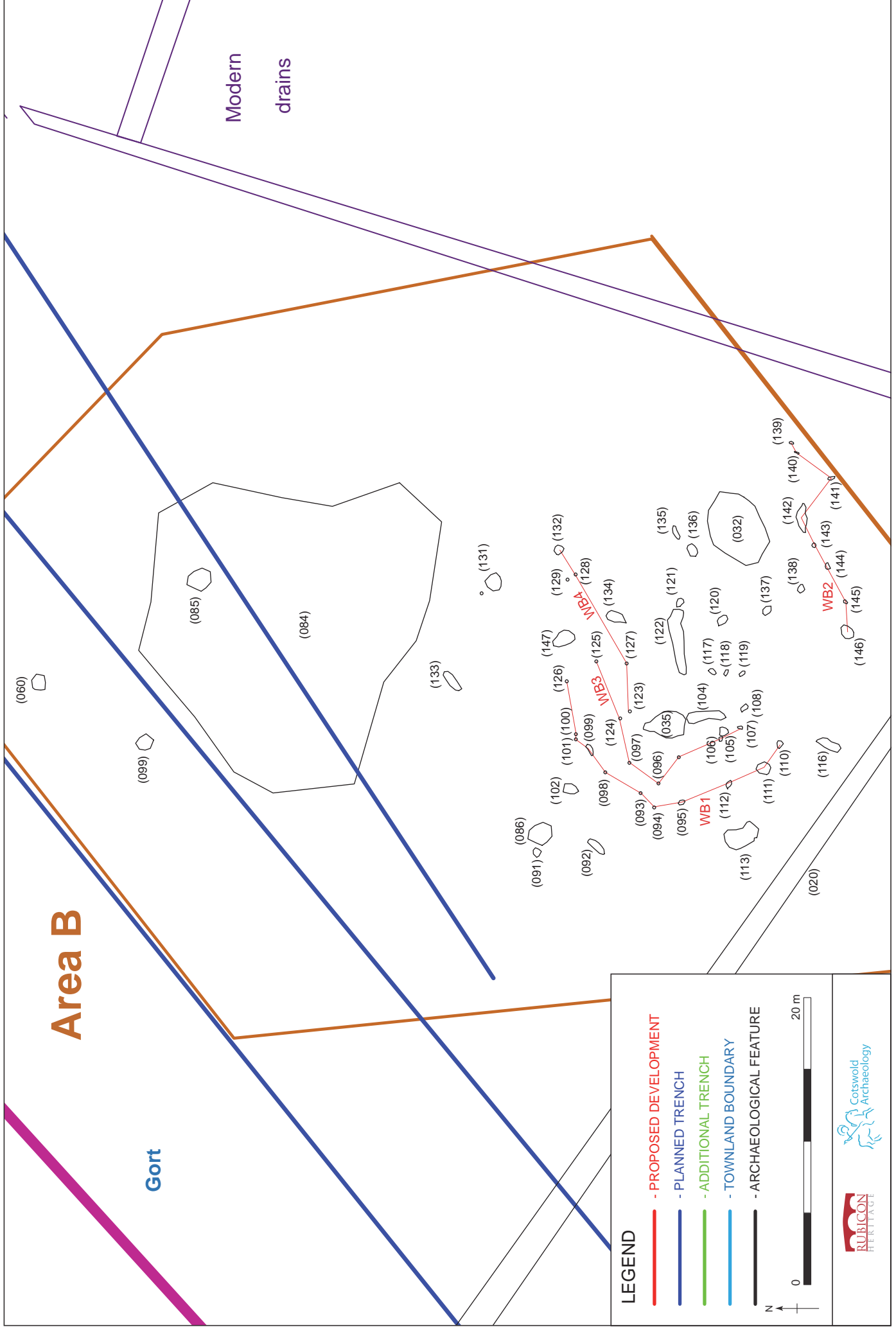


Figure 4B - Archaeological Features identified within Area B

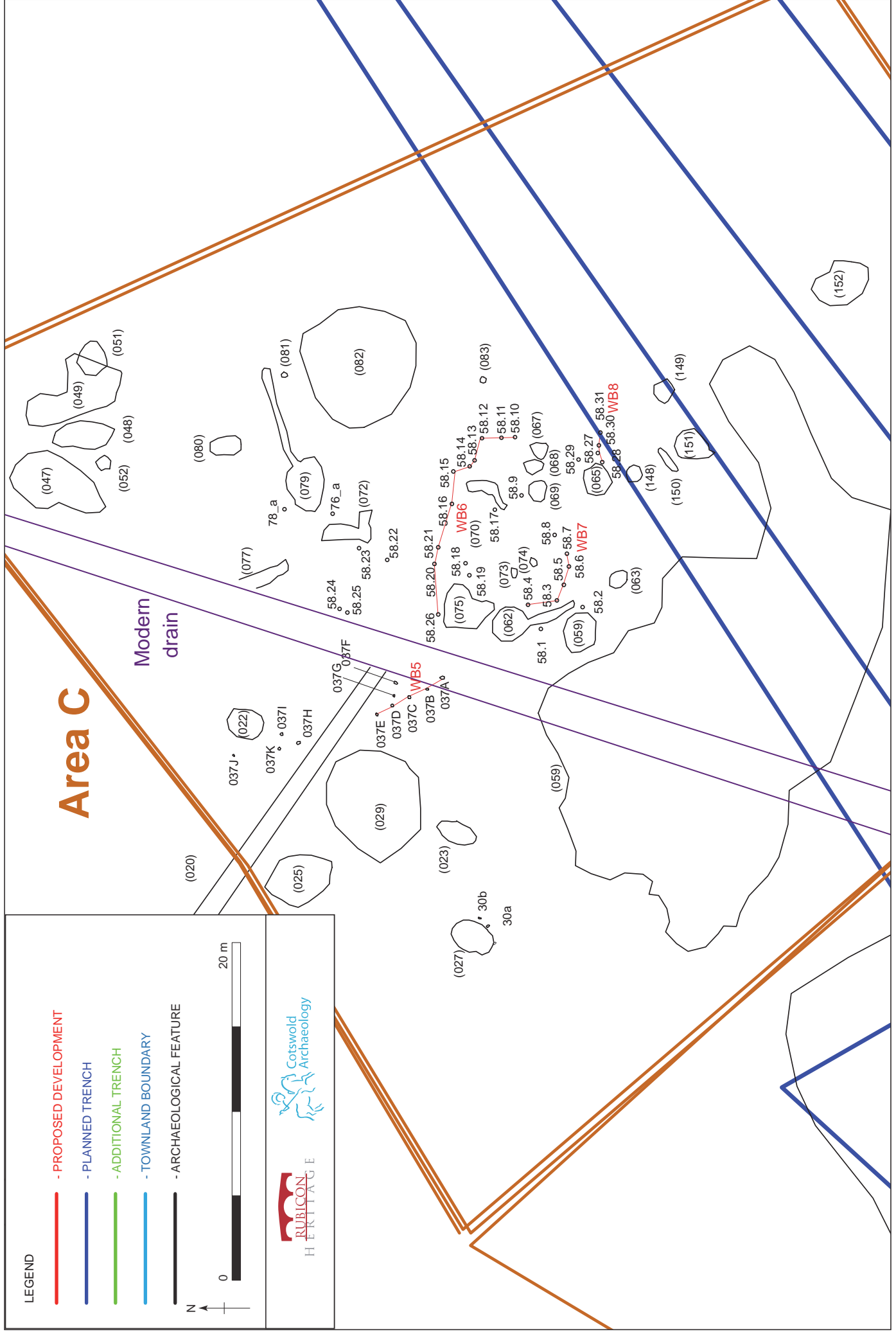


Figure 4C - Archaeological Features identified within Area C

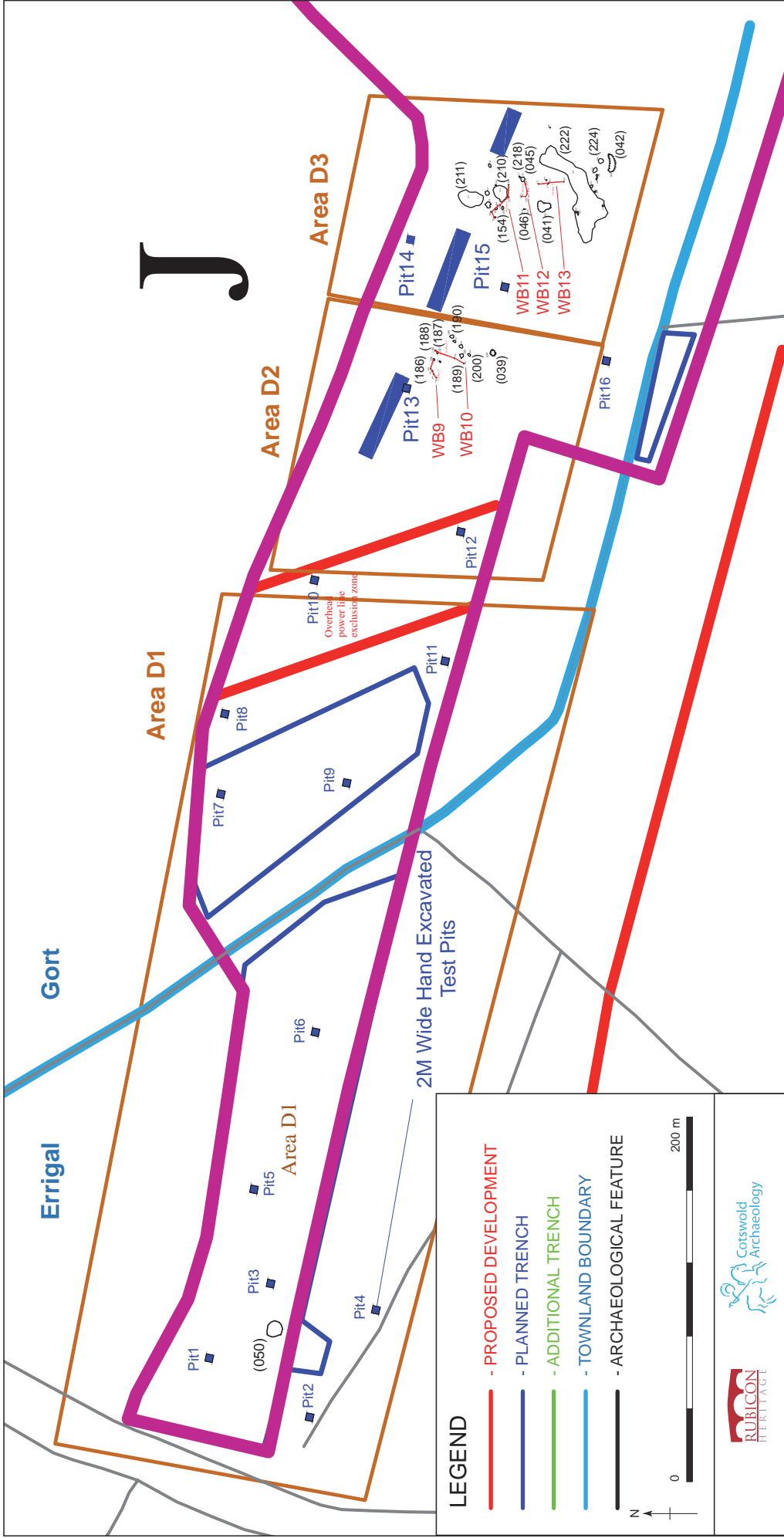


Figure 4D - Archaeological Features identified within Area D





Plate 1 - East facing section through Trough (004)



Plate 2 - *Fulacht Fiadh* identified within Area A facing northeast





Plate 3 - Occupation layer (084) within Area B facing southwest



Plate 4 - Pits, troughs, postholes and stake-holes identified in Area C facing north



Plate 5 - Pits, postholes and stake-holes identified in Area D.2 facing east



Plate 6 - Occupation layer (041) within Area D.3 facing north



Plate 7 - Pits, postholes and stake-holes identified in Area D.3 facing west



Plate 8 - Stake-holes in Area E facing southeast



Plate 9 - Stake-holes in Area E identified between Spreads (155) and (165) facing northeast



Plate 10 - West-facing section of Pit (031) Area B



Cotswold  
Archaeology



## **A5 Western Transport Corridor**

### **Section 3**

South of Omagh – Ballygawley

### **Assessment Report**

Strip and Map of SMA 025



**Director:** James Hession

**Report Author:** Mandy Stephens

**Licence No:** AE/13/07E



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
2	CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK.....	2
3	OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY .....	2
4	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	3
5	FACTUAL DATA: Results of archaeological investigation .....	3
6	STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL .....	3

#### LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1: Section 3 of the proposed development
- Figure 2: Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of SMA025
- Figure 3: SMA025 area plan

#### LIST OF PLATES

- Plate 1: SMA025; under excavation
- Plate 2: Additional trench, west of SMA025; under excavation

## 1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon, in association with Cotswold Archaeology, have been retained by Mouchel on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service to carry out a program 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.

This document is an interim statement of results and relates to Section 3, South of Omagh - Ballygawley in Co. Tyrone (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed route was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, 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/13/07E** was issued to James Hession of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in pre determined locations along Section 3 of the route.

This report outlines the results of archaeological investigations Strip and Map Area (SMA) 017 in the townland of Feddan, Co. Tyrone.



## 2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Fieldwork was carried out at SMA025 (Ch. 83000 - Ch. 83070) on the 07 February 2013 (Figure 1; Plates 1 & 2). Strip and Map Area layouts were designed by Mouchel and formed part of the contract documents for the Phase 1 works. These areas were numbered consecutively and these numbers have been retained for Phase 1 work, for ease of recording and presentation.

## 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx)) identified the following heritage assets in the vicinity of SMA025; two unclassified enclosures (Ref. 264; Ref. 266), listed respectively as TYR059:069 and TYR059:015 in the NISMR.

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). Potential features identified by that survey (Area 1) proved to be agricultural in character and modern in date.

#### 5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of archaeological investigation

An area measuring 668.4m<sup>2</sup> was stripped under archaeological supervision on the 07 February 2013 (Figure 3; Plates 1 & 2). No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of this evaluation.

#### 6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

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

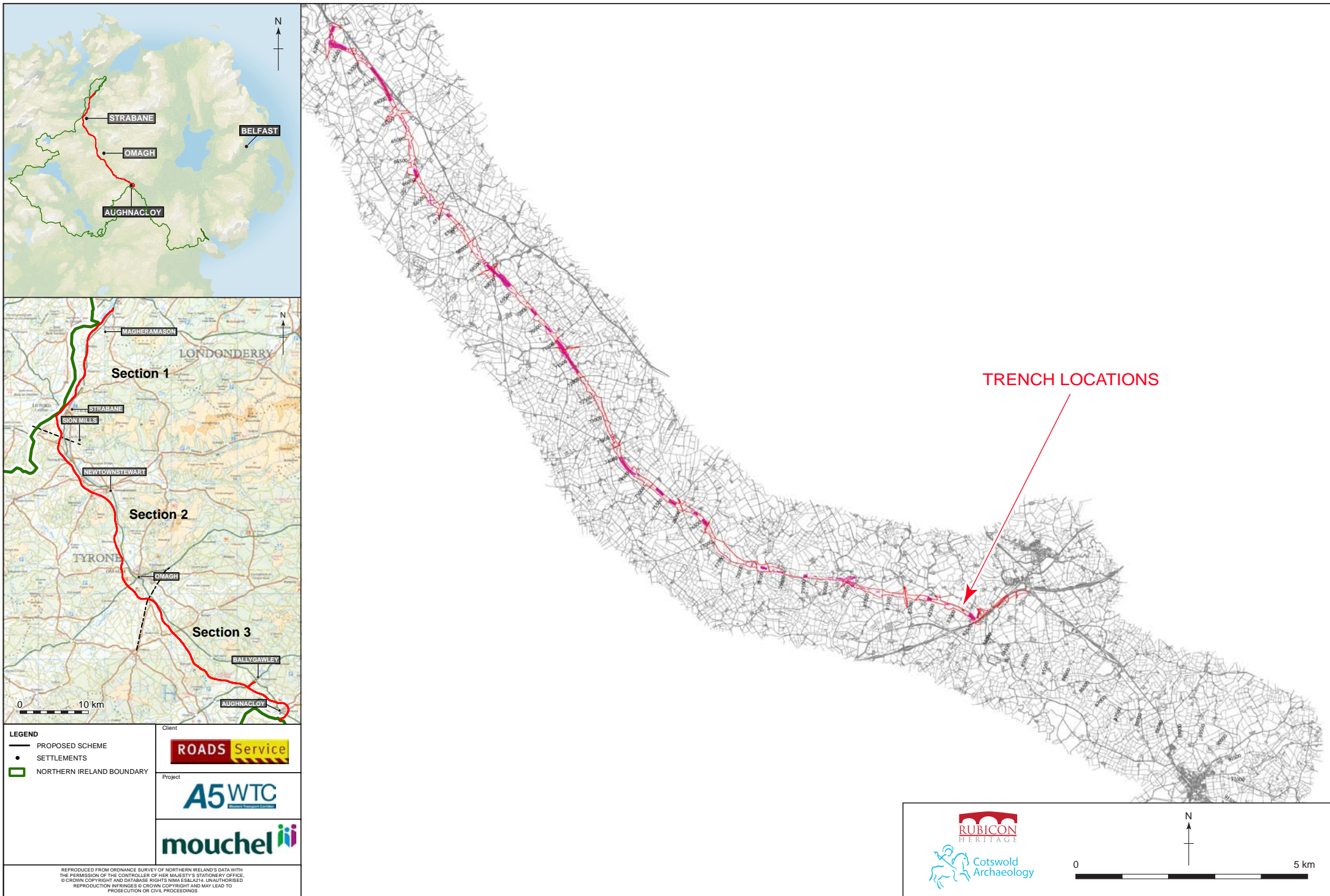


Figure 1 - Section 3 of proposed development

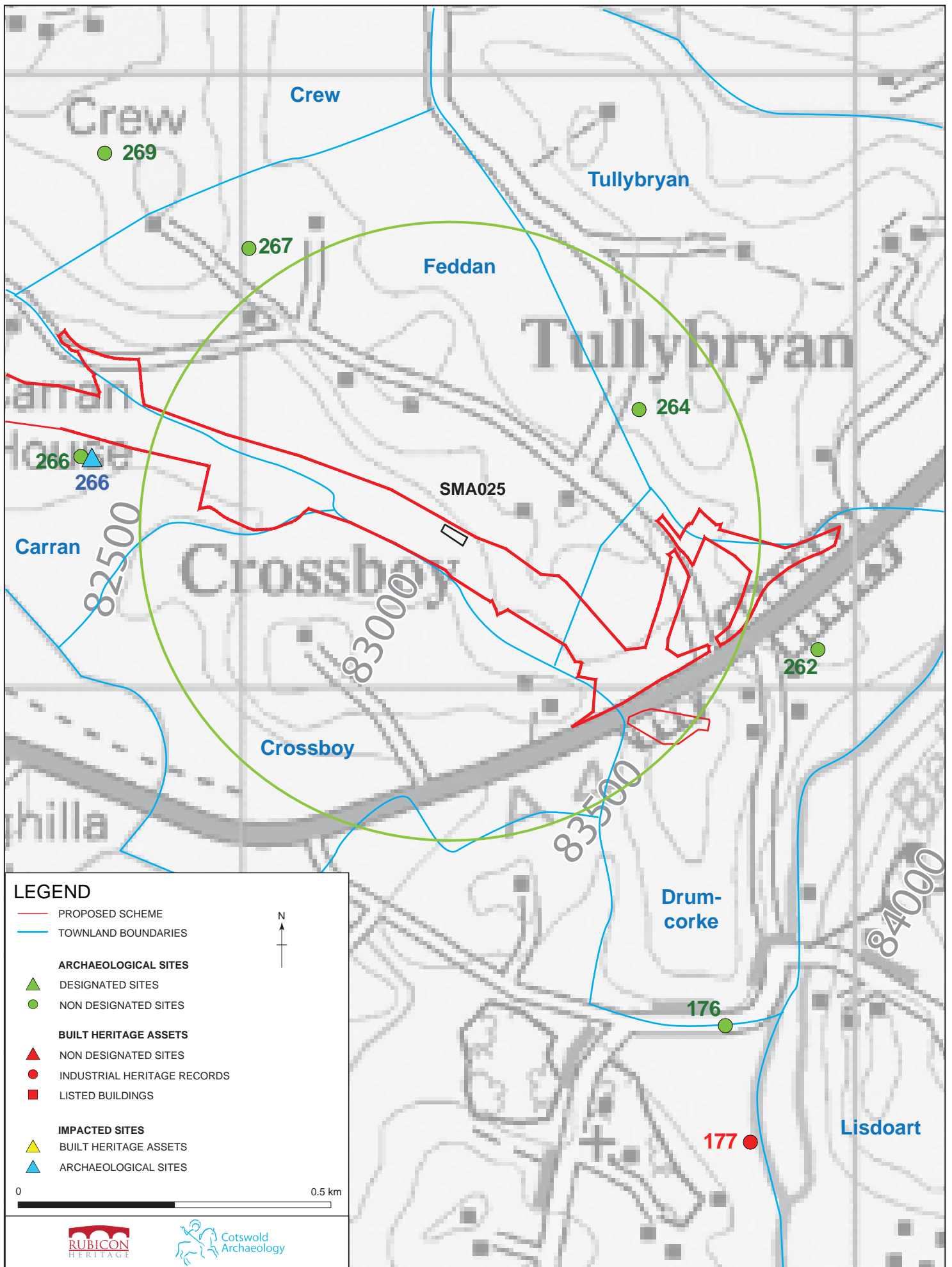


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of SMA 025

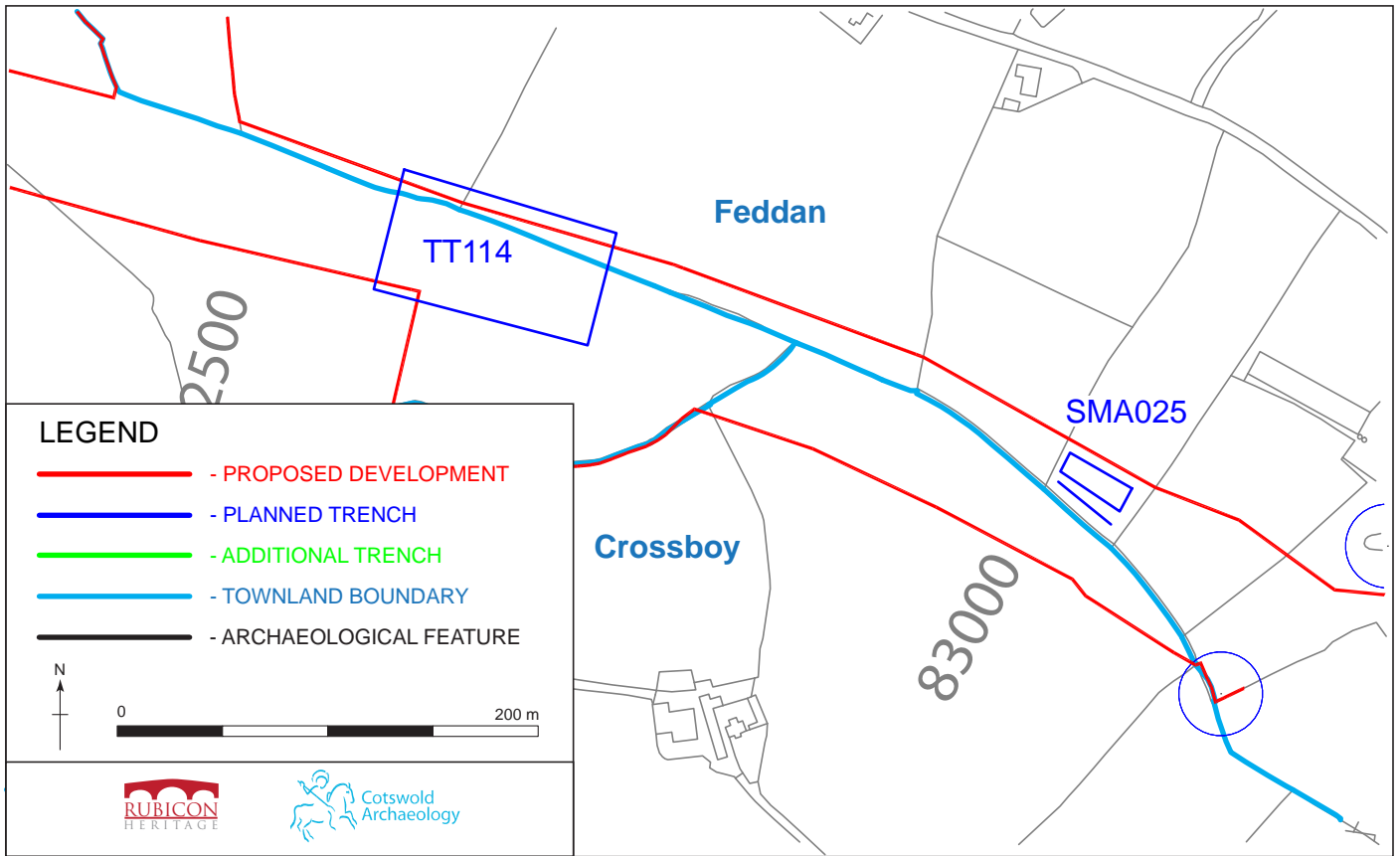


Figure 3 - SMA025; Strip & Map Area



PLATE 1: SMA025 under excavation



PLATE 2: Additional trench, west of SMA025; under excavation



Cotswold  
Archaeology



## **A5 Western Transport Corridor**

### **Section 3**

South of Omagh – Ballygawley

### **Assessment Report**

Evaluation Trenching of TT079



**Director:** James Hession

**Report Author:** Mandy Stephens

**Licence No:** AE/13/07E



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION .....2

2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK.....2

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY .....3

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND .....3

5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching.....4

6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL .....4



## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: TT079 Trench Register

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Section 3 of the proposed development

Figure 2: Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT079

Figure 3: TT079 trench plan

## LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: TT079 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.

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/13/07E** was issued to James Hession of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in these pre-determined locations along Section 3 of the road corridor, South of Omagh – Ballygawley, County Tyrone.

This report outlines the results of trial trenching at TT079 in the townland of Moylagh, within Section 3 of the road scheme, (Figures 1).

## 2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Archaeological fieldwork was carried out at TT079 (Ch. 68230 – Ch. 68280) on the 04 March 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 TT079.1; TT079.2 (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 Test 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx)) identified three heritage assets in the vicinity of TT079 (Figure 2): two creameries (Refs. 99 & 100) and a corn or flax mill (Ref. 106) (Figure 2).

Two burnt mounds, Moylagh A and Moylagh B, were identified at TT080 and TT081, approximately 210m south east of TT079, during the Phase 1 archaeological works (see Figure 3).

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey, with an irregular geophysical anomaly being targeted by TT079 (Area 86; Durham University 2012).

## 5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching

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

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
68230 - 68280	79	TT079		1.9	0.4	NW-SE	Topsoil: grey brown sandy clay Natural subsoil: orange silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no

Table 1: TT079 Trench Register

## 6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

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

No further archaeological investigations are required.

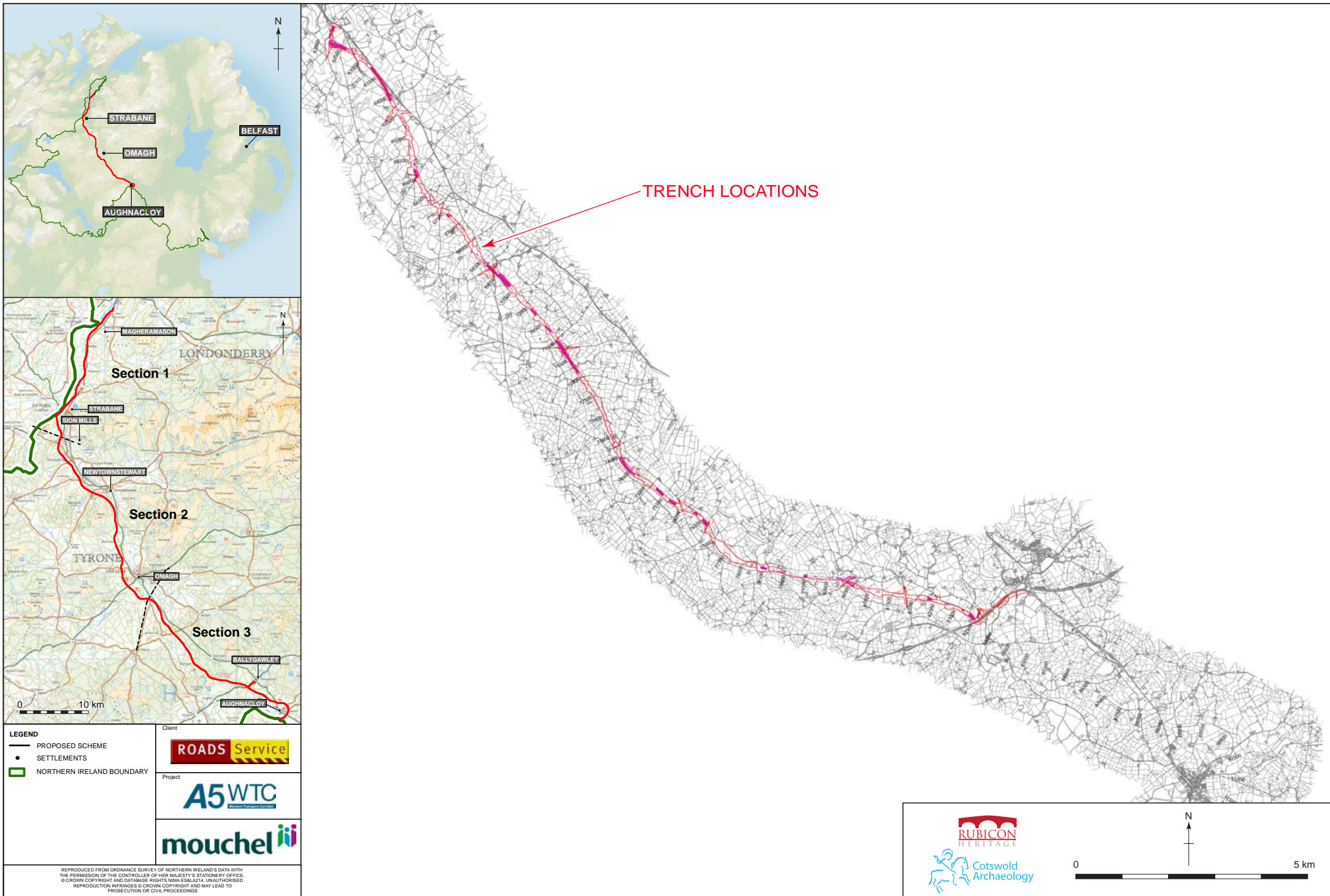


Figure 1 - Section 3 of proposed development

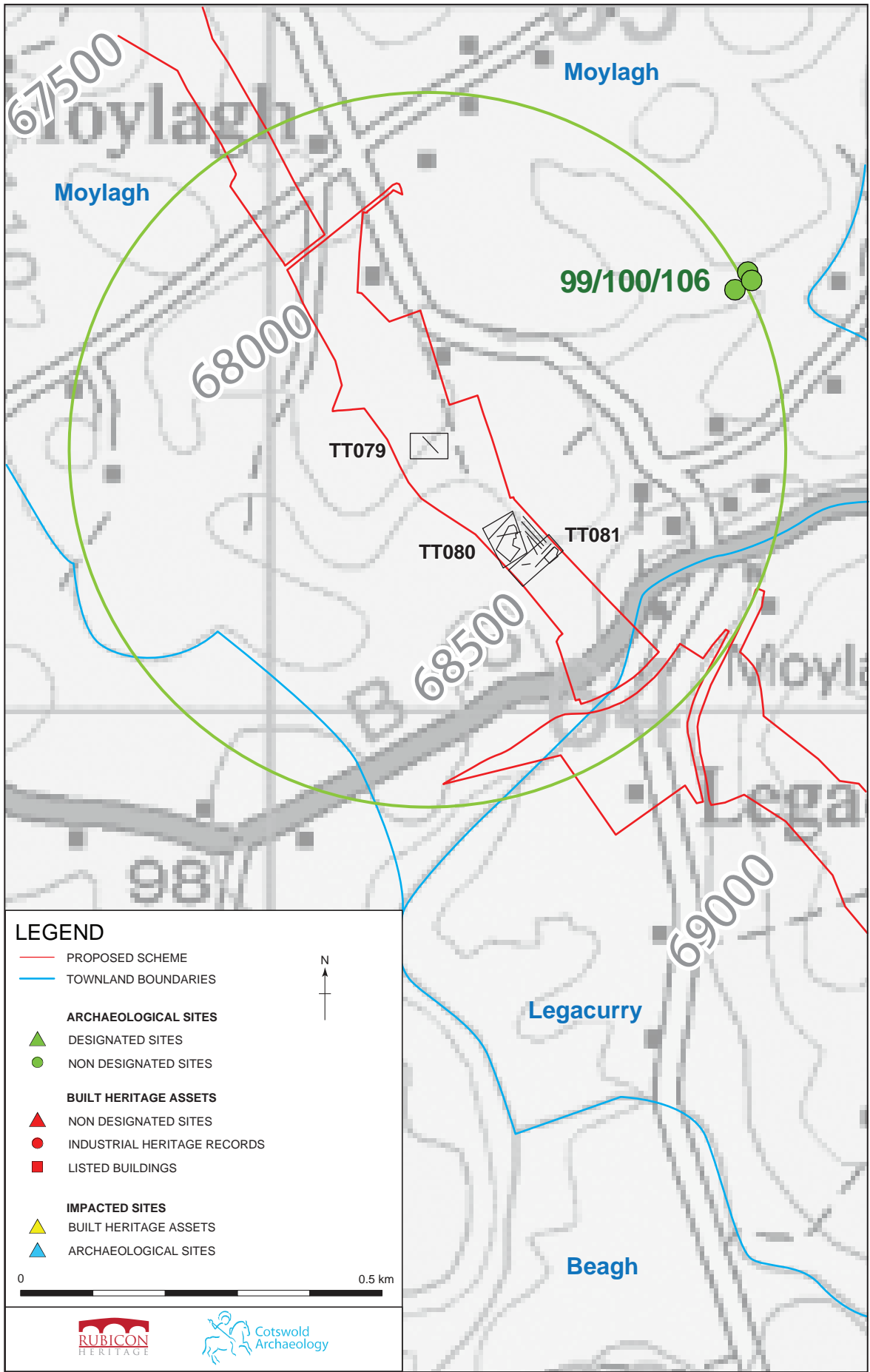


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT079

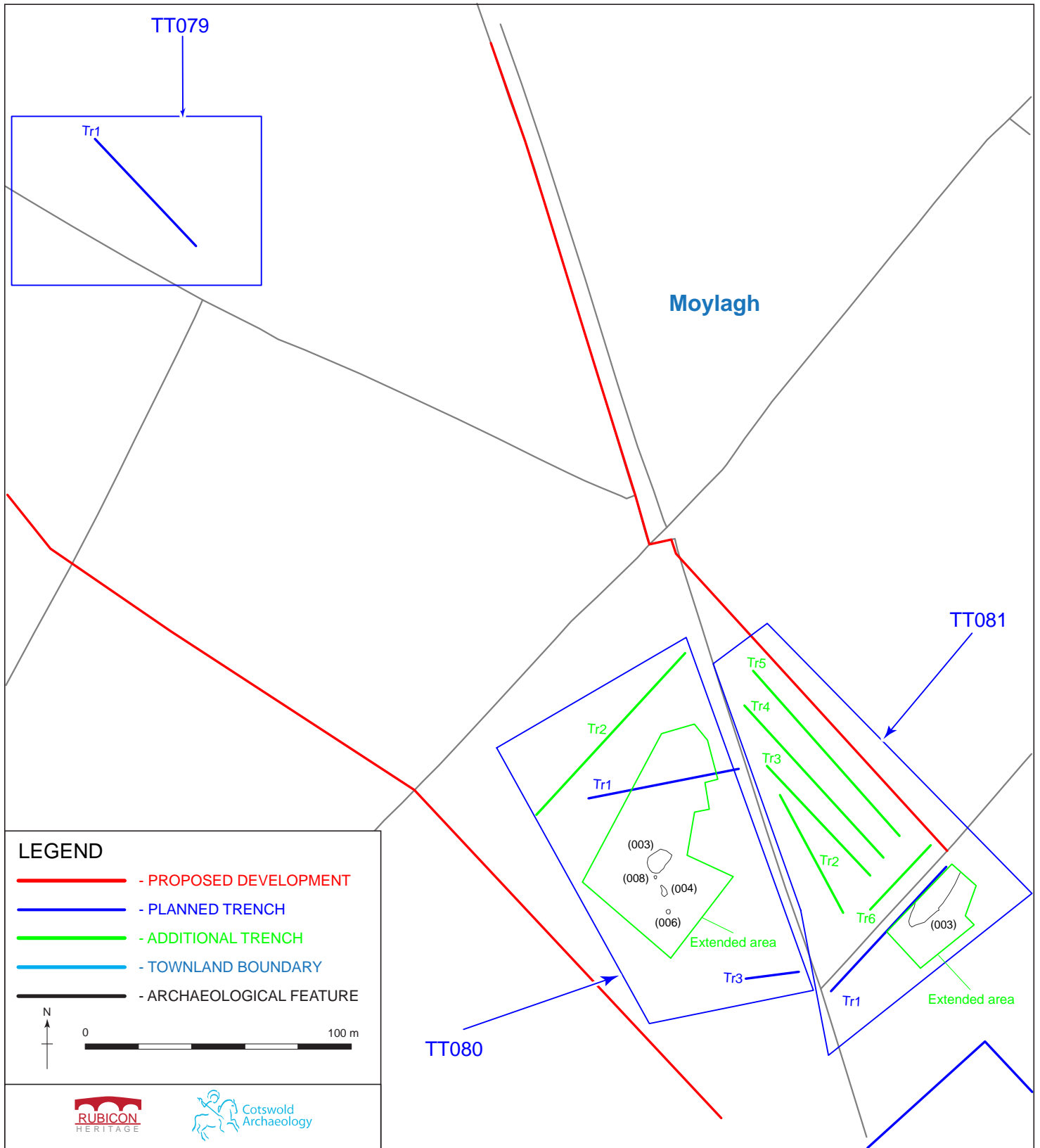


Figure 3 - TT079 trench plan



PLATE 1: TT079 under excavation





Cotswold  
Archaeology



## **A5 Western Transport Corridor**

### **Section 3**

South of Omagh – Ballygawley

### **Assessment Report**

Evaluation Trenching of TT080



**Director:** James Hession

**Report Author:** Mandy Stephens

**Licence No:** AE/13/07E



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
2	CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK.....	1
3	OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY .....	1
4	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	2
5	FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching.....	4
6	FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features TT080.....	5
7	STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL .....	5
8	PROPOSED RESOLUTION .....	5

#### LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Archaeological Background

Table 2: Trench Register

Table 3: Context Register

#### LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Section 3 of the proposed development

Figure 2: Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT080

Figure 3: TT080 trench plan

Figure 4: Archaeological features identified in TT080

#### LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: TT080 under excavation

Plate 2: Burnt spread (003)

Plate 3: Burnt spread (003); mid excavation

## 1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon, in association with Cotswold Archaeology, have been retained by Mouchel on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service to carry out a program 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.

This document is an interim statement of results and relates to Section 3, South of Omagh - Ballygawley in Co. Tyrone (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed route was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, 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/13/07E** was issued to James Hession of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in pre determined locations along Section 3 of the route.

This report outlines the results of archaeological investigations at TT080 in the townland of Moylagh, Co. Tyrone.

## 2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Archaeological field work was carried out at trench groups TT080 (Ch. 68400 – Ch. 68445) on the 04 March 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 TT080.1; TT080.2; (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 on-site 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.) (MAP 2) English Heritage 1995*
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations IFA 2008*
- *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](http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx)) identified three heritage sites in the vicinity of TT080: two creameries (Refs. 99 & 100) and a corn or flax mill (Ref. 106) (Table 1; Figure 2).

There are two recorded archaeological monuments listed in NISMR for the townland of Moylagh, an Early Medieval rath (TYR043:011) and an enclosure (TYR043:012) of unknown date. A further four monuments were listed for adjacent townlands (1 km buffer), listed in tabular form below (Table 1).

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). Geophysical survey undertaken in this area (Area 70) indicated the potential presence of soil filled features.

<b>Townland</b>	<b>SMR</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Period</b>
MOYLAGH	TYR043:011	RATH	Early Medieval
MOYLAGH	TYR043:012	ENCLOSURE	Unknown
LEGACURRY	TYR025:035	A.P. SITE - circular enclosure	Unknown
GORTACLARE	TYR003:003	RATH	Early Medieval
GORTACLARE	TYR006:028	MOUND - CAIRN?	Unknown
GORTACLARE	TYR006:029	MOUND - CAIRN?	Unknown

Table 1: Archaeological Background

## 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
68400 - 68445	80	TT080.1	32	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy silt Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey silt/ light grey marl Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Fulacht Fiadh (003)
68400 - 68445	80	TT080.2	46	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy silt Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey silt/ light grey marl Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
68400 - 68445	80	TT080.3	11	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy silt Natural subsoil: orange brown clayey silt/ light grey marl Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Table 2: Trench Register

## 6 FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features TT080

One archaeological feature was identified in TT080. This feature was interpreted as a burnt spread, located in TT080.1 (Plates 2 – 3). The area was extended by agreement with and under direction from Mouchel’s Senior Archaeologist, in order to define the extent of the archaeological remains. The burnt spread had been truncated by a series of modern field drains. Its’ location is shown on Figure 3.

Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
1	Deposit	68400 - 68445				Grey brown sandy silt	Topsoil
2	Deposit	68400 - 68445				Orange brown clayey silt/ light grey marl	Natural Subsoil
3	Deposit	68400 - 68445	6.5	3.5	0.15	Irregular deposit of heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of silt	Burnt spread
4	Deposit	68400 - 68445	6.3	5.5	0.16	Irregular deposit of heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of silt	Burnt spread

Table 3: Context Register

## 7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

The results of the assessment indicate that archaeological features, comprising of spreads of burnt stone and charcoal are present at TT080 and are potentially significant.

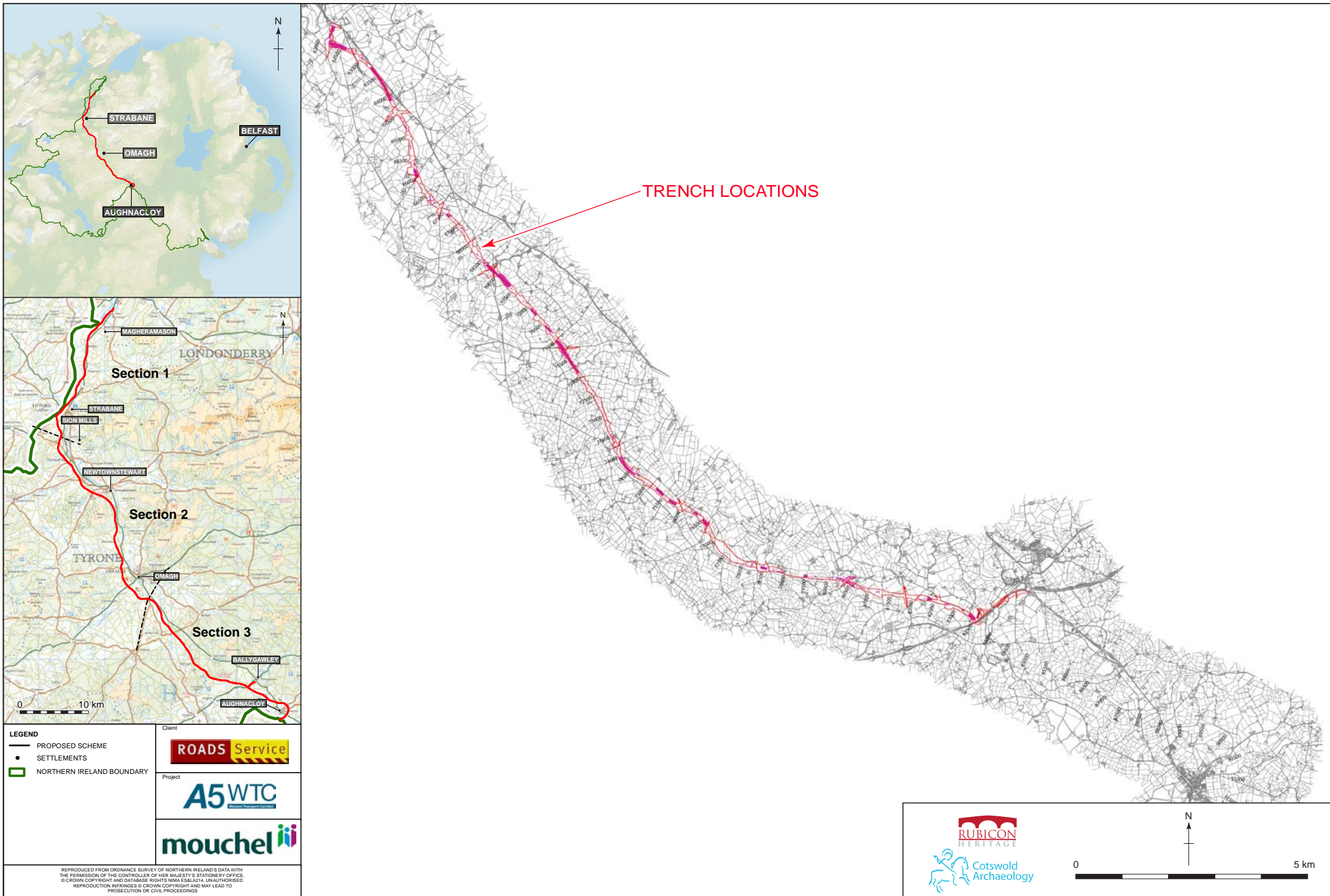
The spread may represent a burnt mound or *fulachta fiadh*. Such sites are one of the most frequently discovered monument types in Ireland, characterised by circular or horseshoe shaped mounds of fired debris (fire cracked stone and charcoal) and an associated trough, the latter typically used to hold water. These site types are typically discovered close to watercourses and in wet boggy areas and principally date to the Bronze Age.

Another of these monuments was identified in the course of this scheme of works, at an adjacent trench group, TT081, 59 m east of the location of (003).

## 8 PROPOSED RESOLUTION


In order to fully investigate record and characterise this feature, a programme of archaeological hand excavation should be undertaken to fully record all identified archaeological features and deposits at TT080.







**LEGEND**

- PROPOSED SCHEME
- SETTLEMENTS
- NORTHERN IRELAND BOUNDARY

Client  


Project  
  


REPRODUCED FROM ORDNANCE SURVEY OF NORTHERN IRELAND'S DATA WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE. © CROWN COPYRIGHT AND DATABASE RIGHTS NIMA ES44214. UNAUTHORISED REPRODUCTION INFRINGES © CROWN COPYRIGHT AND MAY LEAD TO PROSECUTION OR CIVIL PROCEEDINGS

Figure 1 - Section 3 of proposed development

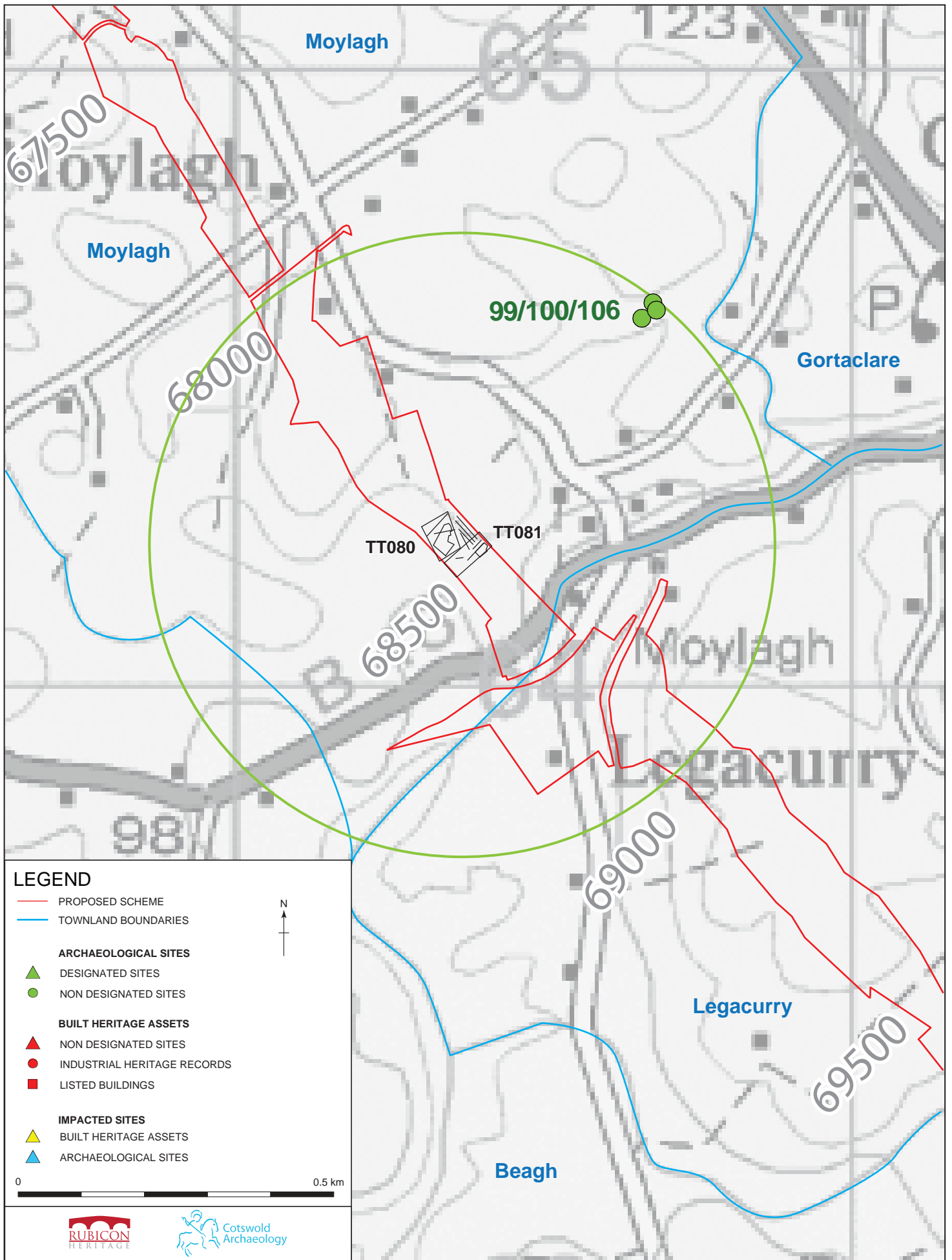


Figure 2 - Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT080 & TT081

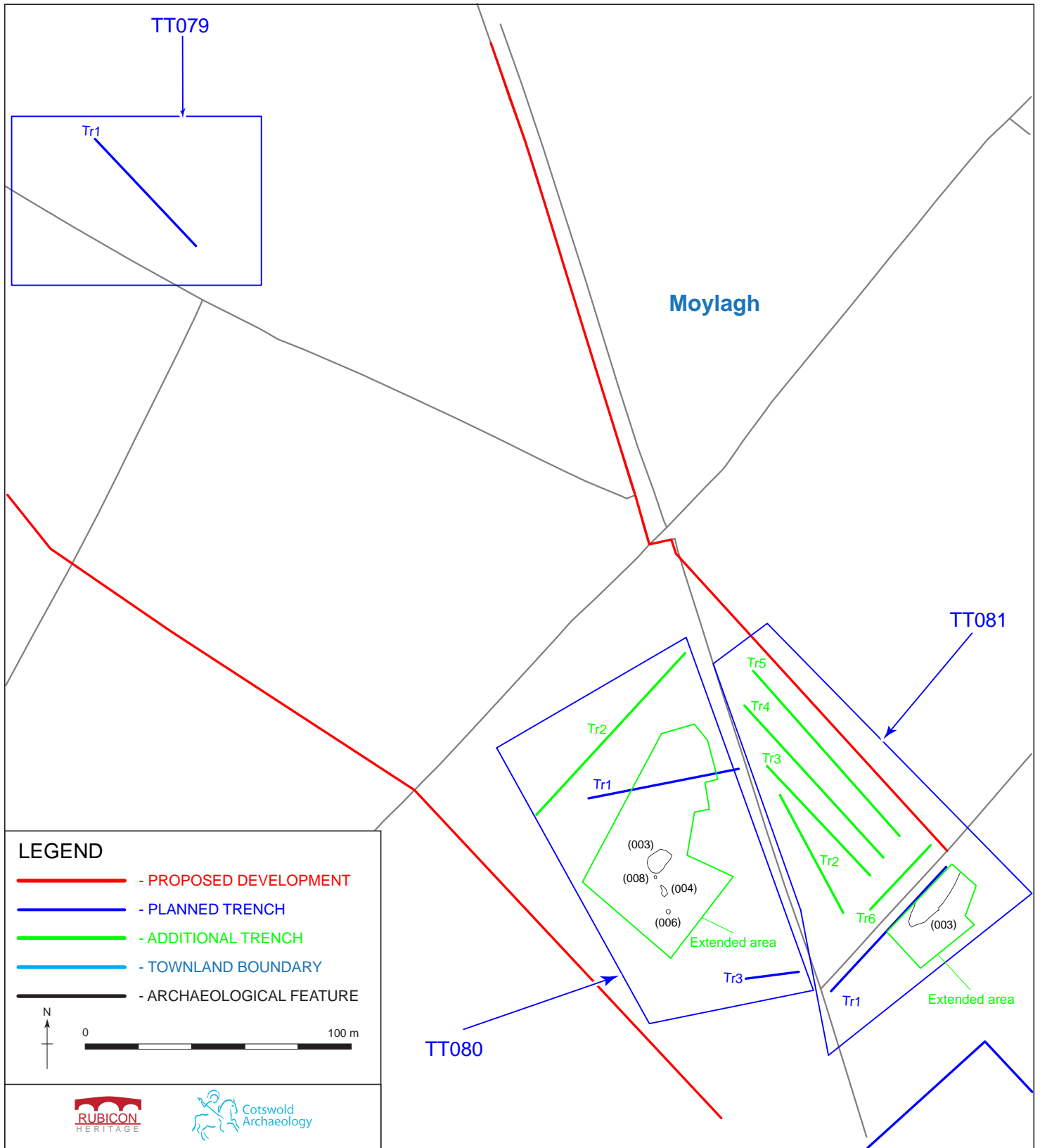


Figure 3 - TT080 & TT081 trench plan



PLATE 1: TT080 under excavation



PLATE 2: Burnt spread (003)



PLATE 3: Burnt spread (003); mid excavation



Cotswold  
Archaeology



## **A5 Western Transport Corridor**

### **Section 3**

South of Omagh – Ballygawley

### **Assessment Report**

Evaluation Trenching of TT081



**Director:** James Hession

**Report Author:** Mandy Stephens

**Licence No:** AE/13/07E



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
2	CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK.....	1
3	OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY .....	1
4	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	2
5	FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching.....	4
6	FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features.....	5
7	STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL .....	5
8	PROPOSED RESOLUTION .....	5

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Archaeological Background

Table 2: Trench Register

Table 3: Context Register

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Section 3 of the proposed development

Figure 2: Archaeological and built heritage assets within 1km of TT081

Figure 3: TT081 trench plan

Figure 4: Archaeological features identified in TT080

## List of Plates

Plate 1: TT081 and burnt spread (003)

Plate 2: Burnt spread (003); mid excavation



## 1 INTRODUCTION

CotswoldRubicon, in association with Cotswold Archaeology, have been retained by Mouchel on behalf of The Department for Regional Development, Roads Service to carry out a program 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.

This document is an interim statement of results and relates to Section 3, South of Omagh - Ballygawley in Co. Tyrone (Figure 1).

An excavation license for the purpose of undertaking archaeological assessment of designated areas of the proposed route was issued by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, 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/13/07E** was issued to James Hession of CotswoldRubicon by the NIEA-HMU to conduct archaeological evaluations in pre determined locations along Section 3 of the route.

This report outlines the results of archaeological investigations at TT081 in the townland of Moylagh, Co. Tyrone.

## 2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND DATES OF FIELDWORK

Archaeological field work was carried out at trench groups TT081 (Ch. 68450 – Ch. 68485) on the 04 March 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 TT081.1; TT081.2; (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 on-site 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.) (MAP 2) English Heritage 1995*
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations IFA 2008*
- *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](http://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental_Statement.aspx)) identified three heritage sites in the vicinity of TT081; two creameries (Refs. 99 & 100) and a corn or flax mill (Ref. 106) (Table 1; Figure 2).

There are two recorded archaeological monuments listed in NISMR for the townland of Moylagh, an Early Medieval rath (TYR043:011) and an enclosure (TYR043:012) of unknown date. A further four monuments were listed for adjacent townlands (1 km buffer), listed in tabular form below (Table 1).

The road corridor was also partially assessed by a geophysical survey (Durham University 2012). Geophysical survey undertaken in this area (Area 70) indicated the potential presence of soil filled features.

<b>Townland</b>	<b>SMR</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Period</b>
MOYLAGH	TYR043:011	RATH	Early Medieval
MOYLAGH	TYR043:012	ENCLOSURE	Unknown
LEGACURRY	TYR025:035	A.P. SITE - circular enclosure	Unknown
GORTACLARE	TYR003:003	RATH	Early Medieval
GORTACLARE	TYR006:028	MOUND - CAIRN?	Unknown
GORTACLARE	TYR006:029	MOUND - CAIRN?	Unknown

Table 1: Archaeological Background

## 5 FACTUAL DATA: Results of Trial Trenching

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

Chainage	Trench	Trench No.	Length	Width	Depth	Orientation	Description	Feature Interpretation
68450 - 68485	81	TT081.1	36	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy clay Natural subsoil: orangey silty clay Features identified: yes Finds & samples: no	Fulacht Fiadh
68450 - 68485	81	TT081.2	28	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy clay Natural subsoil: orangey silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
68450 - 68485	81	TT081.3	32	1.9	0.5	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy clay Natural subsoil: orangey silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
68450 - 68485	81	TT081.4	43	1.9	0.6	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy clay Natural subsoil: orangey silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
68450 - 68485	81	TT081.5	47	1.9	0.4	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy clay Natural subsoil: orangey silty clay Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	
68450 - 68485	81	TT081.6	19	1.9	0.6	E-W	Topsoil: grey brown sandy clay Natural subsoil: grey marl Features identified: no Finds & samples: no	

Table 2: Trench Register

## 6 FACTUAL DATA: Recorded Features

One archaeological feature was identified, a burnt spread in TT081.1 (Plates 2 – 3). The area was extended by agreement with and under direction from Mouchel’s Senior Archaeologist, in order to define the extent of the archaeological remains. The burnt spread had been truncated by a series of modern field drains. Its’ location is shown on Figure 3.

Context no.	Context Type	Chainage	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Context Description	Feature Interpretation
1	Deposit	68400 - 68445				Grey brown sandy silt	Topsoil
2	Deposit	68400 - 68445				Orange brown clayey silt/ light grey marl	Natural Subsoil
3	Deposit	68400 - 68445	6.5	3.5	0.15	Irregular deposit of heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of silt	Burnt spread
4	Deposit	68400 - 68445	6.3	5.5	0.16	Irregular deposit of heat shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of silt	Burnt spread

Table 3: Context Register

## 7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

The results of the assessment indicate that archaeological features, comprising of spreads of burnt stone and charcoal are present at TT081 and are potentially significant.

The spread may represent a burnt mound or *fulachta fiadh*. Such sites are one of the most frequently discovered monument types in Ireland, characterised by circular or horseshoe shaped mounds of fired debris (fire cracked stone and charcoal) and an associated trough, the latter typically used to hold water. These site types are typically discovered close to watercourses and in wet boggy areas and principally date to the Bronze Age.

Another of these monuments was identified in the course of this scheme of works, at an adjacent trench group, TT080, 59 m west of the location of (003).

## 8 PROPOSED RESOLUTION

In order to fully investigate record and characterise this feature, a programme of archaeological hand excavation should be undertaken to fully record all identified archaeological features and deposits at TT081.