

Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork
School of Archaeology and Palaeoecology
Queen's University Belfast



Data Structure Report: No. 3.

Excavations at Boho High Cross, Co. Fermanagh
AE/02/49

On behalf of



Data Structure Report: Boho High Cross, Toneel North, Co. Fermanagh

Colm Donnelly, Philip Macdonald, Eileen Murphy and Nicholas Beer

CAF DSR 003

SMR No: Ferm 210:14

Grid Reference: H1167 4621

Excavation Licence: AE/02/49

Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent: Ferm 210:14/B105/86

1 Summary

- 1.1 A small-scale excavation was undertaken at Boho High Cross, Toneel North, County Fermanagh, during the period from 29th May to 4th June 2002. The High Cross is perhaps 1,000 years old and – prior to the excavation - comprised a shaft and socketed base of red sandstone. A scheduled monument, it is positioned on an eminence within the Roman Catholic graveyard at Boho (Figure 1) in the parish of Botha.
- 1.2 The shaft of the High Cross had developed a pronounced eastward lean and there were concerns among the local inhabitants that it might topple over. The Parish Priest, Fr. Lorcan Lynch, therefore contacted Claire Foley (EHS Senior Inspector) who agreed for the EHS to undertake engineering work to rectify the monument's tilt and thereby secure its future. The engineering work, however, would require jacks to be placed underneath the socketed base, which was partially buried beneath the modern ground surface. This would mean that the area to the east of the cross would require excavation to provide the EHS conservation crew with a service trench of a suitable depth to enable access beneath the monument.
- 1.3 The archaeological excavation was directed by Dr Colm Donnelly and Dr Eileen Murphy, School of Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen's University Belfast, on behalf of the Environment and Heritage Service: Built Heritage. Further archaeological monitoring was undertaken between 19th and 20th June 2002 by Dr Philip Macdonald of the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork at Queen's, when the EHS conservation team, led by Mr Billy Silcock, undertook the engineering work to correct the cross's tilt. The results of the monitoring are incorporated into the account of the excavation presented in this Data Structure Report.
- 1.4 As the High Cross is located within a cemetery, great care was taken to ensure that only a minimum amount of disturbance was made to the graves and other deposits directly surrounding the monument. Consequently, the scale of the excavations was limited. A one metre square trench was opened to the east of the cross (Trench One) in order to provide a service trench so that the monument could be propped with jacks while new supports were put in place beneath it. In addition, an L-shaped trench (Trench Two) was opened on the northern and western side of the monument to remove the soil burden from behind the socketed base.
- 1.5 A research agenda, however, was incorporated into the project design and two objectives were identified. First, could the excavation help to establish the date when the High Cross was erected at its present location in the graveyard? Second, would the excavation help to ascertain the character and extent of the socketed base? Although of limited scale and

duration the excavation programme at Boho High Cross has provided a wealth of new information concerning this monument and provided new insight into its history.

- 1.6 The dimensions of the socketed base previously provided by academics (eg: Harbison 1992, 28) was based on what was visible above ground level. The excavation enabled the full dimensions of the base to be determined. In addition, it was hitherto unknown that the socketed base was placed on a large red sandstone foundation slab, the general dimensions of which have also now been recorded.
- 1.7 The excavation has shown that the High Cross does not appear to be located in its original position since it is set over a charnel pit containing post-medieval artefacts. It is considered probable that the cross was re-erected at its current location during the major work undertaken in the graveyard during the first decades of the 1800s when the old ecclesiastical site was re-used for Roman Catholic worship and a new church constructed. It may even have been the case that this work led to the re-discovery of the cross.

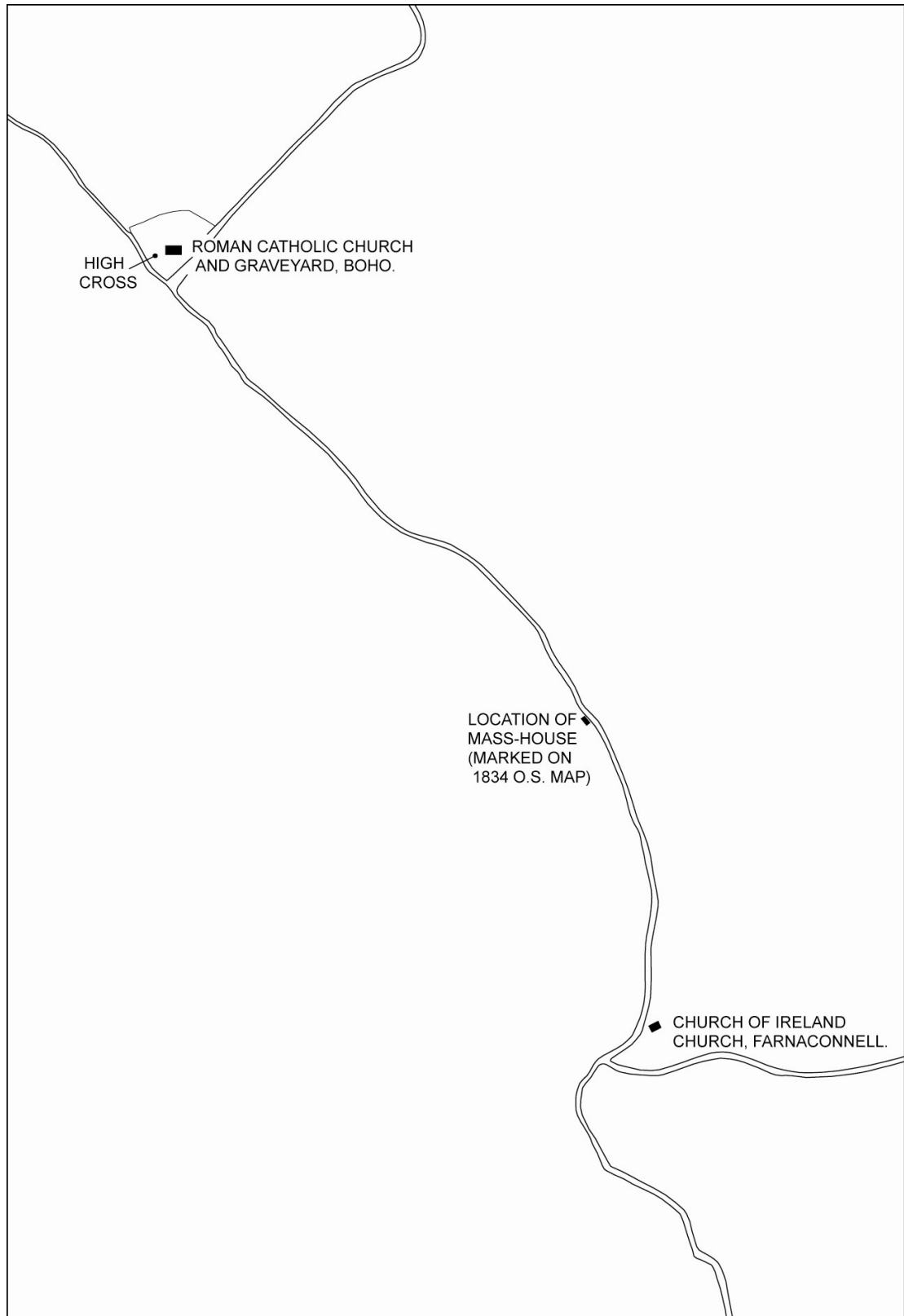


Figure 1: Location Map

2 Introduction

2.1 General

2.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological investigation undertaken at Boho High Cross, Toneel North, County Fermanagh, during the periods from 29th May to 4th June 2002 and 19th and 20th June 2002. The work was conducted by the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, School of Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen's University Belfast, on behalf of the Environment and Heritage Service: Built Heritage.

2.2 Background

2.2.1 The High Cross is located within Boho Graveyard, on an eminence overlooking the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart to the west. The monument is missing its ringed head and comprises a weathered red sandstone shaft with accompanying socketed base. The shaft is decorated with rectangular panels of interlace, spirals and biblical scenes and has attracted academic attention since the late 19th century. In more recent times the images have been described in detail by Hamlin (1976, 699-700) and Harbison (1992, 28-29). Hamlin noted that there are stylistic similarities between panel depicting Adam and Eve on the east face of the Boho High Cross and a similar depiction on the High Cross at Drumcliff in County Sligo (O Gallachair 1984, 42). In addition, there is a blank area with a neatly worked hole on each of the north and south faces of the shaft. It has been suggested that the holes housed a "tie-piece holding in place a vertical strut which would have supported the arm of the cross on each side" (Harbison 1992, 28) and this is another shared feature with the Drumcliff High Cross. The loose arm fragment of a cross at one time lay on the ground near the monument, but in the late 1970s it was moved inside the church for safekeeping (O Gallachair 1984, 42). It is possible that the arm fragment may have originally belonged to the High Cross (Harbison 1992, 29).

2.2.2 The ecclesiastic site in Toneel North has been in use since the Early Christian period when it is thought to have been the site of a monastery or nunnery (O Gallachair 1984, 38-41) whose patron saint was *Feadhbar* or Faber. The site housed a parish church in the medieval period and the *Annals of Ulster* refer to an erenagh in 1483. It would seem, however, that the site had fallen into disuse as a place of worship by the 17th century and that it had become abandoned. In 1777 the first Church of Ireland church in Boho was constructed in the townland of Farnaconnell (Rowan 1979, 148) and, significantly, the pointed-arched doorway in the west gable of this church is of medieval date (Hickey 1985, 84). The most probable source for this medieval carved stonework was the old abandoned church at Boho. Soon after 1777 the local Roman Catholic population, probably under the guidance of Fr. Patrick Thally, constructed a Mass-house also in the townland of

Farnaconnell (O Gallachair 1984, 43). It is to be noted that the location of this Mass-house is marked on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey six-inch map sheet for the area in 1834. The Mass-house, however, had become used as a school by 1824 (*ibid.*) and may have been abandoned by 1834. This was because Roman Catholic worship had moved back to the old ecclesiastical site at Boho where Fr. Nicholas Smyth had constructed a new church, completed by 1832. It is also of interest to note that the 1834 six-inch map sheet records the existence of a lime-kiln within the graveyard, no doubt used during the construction of the church. The church was subsequently refurbished in 1912-13 (*ibid.*, 45) and continues in use to the present.

- 2.2.3 The earliest reference to the High Cross belongs to 1834, when Captain Alexander Henderson reported in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* for the parish that: “In the townland of Toneel near the site of an old monastic building there is a stone about 5 feet high and about 1 foot and a half by 6 inches, rudely carved on each side, but the figures, though in tolerable good relief, are not sufficiently characterised to warrant anything more than conjecture as to whom they were intended to represent” (Day and McWilliams 1992, 10). Elsewhere in the memoir Captain Henderson noted that the Roman Catholic chapel in the parish had been built upon the site of an old abbey or monastery in the same townland (*ibid.*, 8) – evidently the church constructed by Fr. Smyth and completed in 1832.

2.3 *Reason for Excavation and Research Objectives*

- 2.3.1 The shaft of the High Cross had developed a pronounced eastward lean and there were concerns among local people that it might fall over. The Parish Priest, Fr. Lorcan Lynch, contacted Claire Foley (EHS Senior Inspector) who agreed that the EHS would undertake engineering work to rectify the monument’s tilt and thereby secure its future. The engineering work, however, would require jacks to be placed underneath the socketed base, which was partially buried beneath the modern ground surface. This would mean that the area to the east of the cross would require archaeological excavation to provide the EHS conservation crew with a service trench of a suitable depth to enable access beneath the monument.
- 2.3.2. The proposed excavation, however, also offered a first opportunity for the archaeological investigation of the High Cross and two research objectives were identified. First, the excavation might help to elucidate the date of the erection of the cross at its current location within the graveyard and, second, it might help ascertain the character and extent of its socketed base, the lower section of which was buried beneath the modern ground surface.

2.4 Previous work at the site

2.4.1 While the High Cross has been previously studied for its artistic and stylistic detail (see 2.2.1 above), there had not been any previous archaeological investigation at the site. The only known intrusive work undertaken in the vicinity of the cross – other than burials – was undertaken by a parishioner, Barney McHugh, in 1985. This work was an attempt to prevent the collapse of the cross and involved the opening of an area to the immediate east of the socketed base. A number of large stones were then placed at the front of the base and the opening then backfilled (Frank Lynch, pers comm, 2002).

2.5 Archiving

2.5.1 A copy of this report has been deposited with the Environment and Heritage Service, DOE NI. All site records and finds are temporarily archived with the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork within the School of Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen's University Belfast.

2.6 Credits and Acknowledgements

2.6.1 The excavations were directed by Dr Colm Donnelly and Dr Eileen Murphy. The subsequent monitoring was undertaken by Dr Philip Macdonald.

2.6.2 Assistance during the course of the excavation and in the preparation of this report was kindly provided by: John Davison (QUB); Claire Foley, Marion Meek and Billy Silcock (EHS); Fr Lorcan Lynch, Mr Maguire, John Curran, Frank Lynch, and Brian Black.

2.6.3 The illustrations in this report were prepared by Bronagh Murray of the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork.

3 Excavation

3.1 Methodology

- 3.1.1 As the high cross is a scheduled monument within an active graveyard, the excavation methodology was informed by the need to ensure that only a minimum amount of disturbance was made to the graves and other deposits surrounding the monument.
- 3.1.2 Excavation was undertaken from the 29th May to the 4th June 2002. A one metre square trench was opened immediately to the east of the cross (Trench One) in order to provide the EHS conservation team with access to the cross's foundation slab so that it could be levelled and secured. To provide additional access to the monument for the engineering team, a small L-shaped trench (Trench Two) was also opened on the northern and eastern sides of the monument (Figure 2). As the two trenches were joined, the same context numbers were used – where appropriate - for both stratigraphic sequences.
- 3.1.3 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken from the 19th to the 20th June 2002 while the EHS conservation team undertook the engineering work required to correct the cross's tilt. The results of the monitoring are incorporated into the following account of the excavations.
- 3.1.4 Both the excavation and the subsequent monitoring of the site were undertaken in accordance with the specification document supplied by EHS (see Appendix Seven). Scheduled Monument Consent was obtained from EHS prior to the commencement of the excavation.
- 3.1.5 The excavations were undertaken by hand and the context record for the site was created using the standard context recording method. Individual features and deposits were photographed both prior to and following their excavation and included in a series of overall plans (Scale 1:10) and sections (Scale 1:10) that were prepared throughout the course of the excavation. For details of site photography see Appendix Three and for field illustrations see Appendix Four. In addition to the photography and illustration, the principal site records consisted of context sheets augmented by separate registers of small finds (Appendix Five) and samples (Appendix Six). Following the completion of the site recording, the tilt of the high cross was corrected and both excavation trenches were manually backfilled by the EHS conservation team.
- 3.1.6 Prior to the commencement of the excavation the High Cross's shaft and socketed base were secured in place by scaffolding erected by the EHS conservation team. A rigorous assessment of the health and safety aspects of the work was also undertaken.

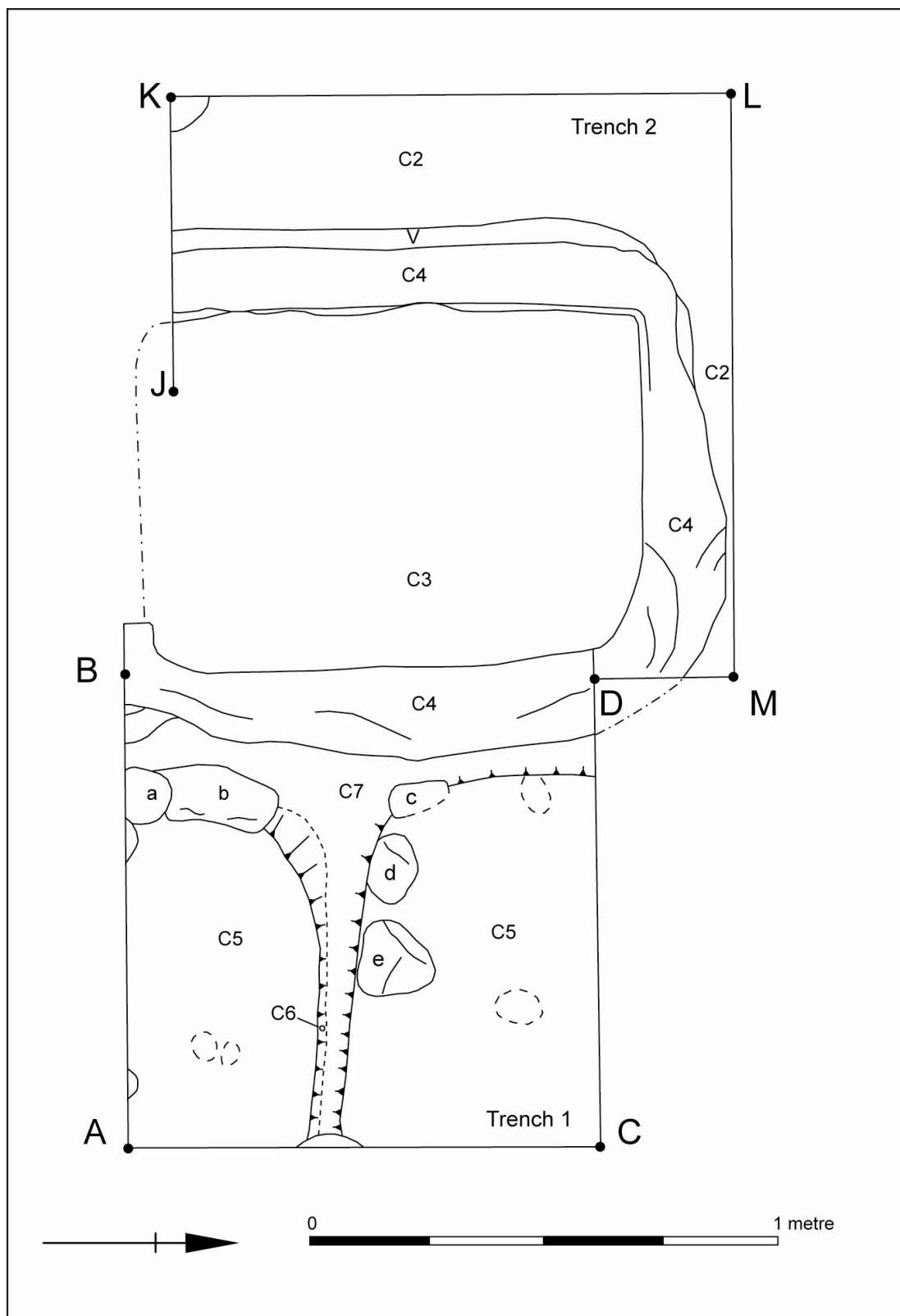


Figure 2: Plan of Trench One and Trench Two.

3.1.7 The excavation was certain to disturb human bones interred within the cemetery. While Fr Lynch had sought and gained approval for this programme of work from his congregation, every effort was made to advance the excavation in a sensitive manner. All human bones recovered from the trench were immediately collected and bagged on discovery, while sheeting was placed over the two trenches each evening and at weekends. The human bones retrieved during the excavation were taken to the Bone Laboratory in the Palaeoecology Centre at Queen's University Belfast for washing, storage and analysis. Once this analysis has been completed the bones will be returned to Boho graveyard for reburial.

3.2 *Account of the excavations*

3.2.1 The excavations consisted of two trenches, one to the east of the High Cross (Trench One) and the other to its west and north sides (Trench Two). It is recommended that the Harris Matrices for the site (see Appendix Two) and Figures 3 and 4 are referred to while reading the following account of the stratigraphic sequences revealed in both trenches.

3.3 *Trench One*

3.3.1 Trench One was one metre square in size, and aligned north-south and east-west. Underneath the turf line (Context No.1) was a mixed, dark brown, humic layer (Context No.2) which varied in depth from 0.15 to 0.35 metres and extended throughout the trench. Artefacts recovered from this layer potentially ranged in date throughout the post-medieval period and up to the present day. They included a single sherd of post-medieval pottery (Small Find No.7), a clay pipe stem (Small Find No.14), 21 iron coffin nails (Small Find Nos.19-24, 37-51), two fragments of glass (Small Find Nos. 9 and 13) and a modern glass Rosary bead (Small Find No.12). The humic layer also contained a relatively small number of disarticulated human bones. Following its excavation the stratigraphic sequence for Trench One split into two separate elements: the socketed base and underlying foundation slab of the high cross (Context Nos. 3 and 4) and a relatively modern capping deposit and associated gully (Context Nos.5, 11 and 6).

3.3.2 Underlying the humic layer, and located c.0.05 - 0.10 metres to the east of the High Cross, was a thick deposit of dark grey sandy clay loam (Context Nos.5 and 11) which extended as far as the eastern edge of the trench. The deposit varied in thickness from 0.10 to 0.23 metres and appeared to be deliberately deposited as it respected the eastern edge of the foundation slab of the High Cross (Context No.4). Artefacts recovered from it included a modern glass Rosary bead (Small Find No.11) identical to the one found in the overlying humic layer (Context No.2), as well as several undiagnostic fragments of ironwork (Small

Find Nos.52-58) and 40 iron coffin nails (Small Find Nos.59-98). A relatively small amount of disarticulated human skeletal remains were also recovered from the deposit. The deposit is interpreted as a relatively recent deliberate capping of the underlying deposits within the graveyard.

- 3.3.3 Cut through the top of the capping deposit (Context Nos.5 and 11) was a straight, narrow gully (Context No.6) which ran for a length of c.0.70 metres from the western edge of the clay cap towards the eastern end of the trench. The gully narrowed along its length from a width of 0.20 metres at its western end to a width 0.07 metres, and it varied in depth from 0.15 to 0.20 metres. The function of the gully is not certain but given its relatively recent date, demonstrated by the recovery of a modern glass Rosary bead from the deposit it is cut into, it may be related to a previous attempt to halt the tilting of the High Cross by improving the drainage around the monument. The presence of a number of medium sized stones bedded into Context Nos. 5 and 11 (see stones marked "a" to "e" in Figure 2) may also relate to this programme of work.
- 3.3.4 In addition to exposing the capping deposit and associated gully (Context Nos.5, 11 and 6), the excavation of the humic layer (Context No.2) also uncovered the sandstone foundation slab (Context No.4) upon which the High Cross's socketed base (Context No.3) stands.
- 3.3.5 The rectangular-sectioned sandstone socketed base, which is decorated with a double roll moulding at the edges, had not been fully exposed prior to the 2002 excavations and so previous descriptions of the monument have not included a record its true dimensions. Excavations demonstrated that it is 0.80 metres high while, at its base, it measures 0.97 metres (north-south) by 0.77 metres (east-west). The socketed base was noticeably more weathered below the turf line giving its generally flared profile a slightly waisted character from the monument's eastern and western sides. In addition to the small circular depression previously recorded by Harbison (1992, fig.79) adjacent to the upper western corner on the socketed base's southern face, a second circular depression (diameter 0.03 metres) was uncovered on the northern side of the base in a relatively low, central position, c.0.15 metres above the foundation slab (Context No.4). Although on opposite faces of the socketed base, these two small circular depressions do not correspond and their original function is not obvious. The bottom of the socketed base was cracked and weathered on its eastern and western sides.
- 3.3.6 Excavation revealed that the socketed base (Context No.3) was set on a large red sandstone foundation slab that varied in thickness from 0.15 - 0.30 metres but had a flat upper face (Context No.4). The slab was not fully exposed during the excavations but measures at least 1.28 metres (north-south) by 1.13 metres (east-west). The upper surface of the foundation slab is recessed to accommodate the socketed base (Context

No.3). This recessing survives best on the western edge of the slab where a neatly formed raised edge meets flush with the edge of the socketed base (Plate Five).

3.3.7 Stratigraphically underlying both the capping deposit (Context Nos. 5 and 11) and the foundation slab (Context No.4), was a dark grey brown silty clay loam (Context Nos. 7 and 10) which included a charnel pit deposit (Context No.8) physically located underneath the foundation slab. These deposits were only partially excavated to a depth of 0.45 metres. The silty clay loam contained a relatively small amount of disarticulated human bones and four iron coffin nails (Small Find Nos. 99-101, 133) and probably represents a mixed graveyard soil.

3.3.8 The charnel pit deposit (Context No.8) located within the graveyard soil (Context Nos. 7 and 10) contained three iron coffin fittings (Small Find Nos.102, 131-132), 28 iron coffin nails, some with surviving fragments of partially mineralised wood, (Small Find Nos. 103-130) and a large amount of disarticulated human bone as well as the skulls and long bones of at least three individuals (the location of two of which are marked as S1 and S2 in Figure 3), some of which were partially articulated. The survival of fragments of partially mineralised coffin wood suggests that both the charnel pit (Context No.8) and the dark grey brown silty clay loam (Context Nos. 7 and 10) are not deposits of any great antiquity. As the surviving elements of the High Cross are stratigraphically later this suggests that the monument was only erected on its current site at some point in the relatively recent past.

3.4 *Trench Two*

3.4.1 Trench Two was a small L-shaped trench, c.0.2 metres wide, cut around the western and northern sides of the monument. The only deposits uncovered were the turf line (Context No.1) and the mixed, dark brown, humic layer (Context No.2) which was only partially excavated to a depth of 0.55 metres. The humic layer (Context No.2) contained disarticulated human bone and a variety of artefacts including worked slate (Small Find Nos.1-2), two clay pipe stems (Small Find Nos.3, 10), two fragments of glass (Small Find Nos.5, 8), a piece of plastic (Small Find No.4), a pocket knife (Small Find No.25), an iron coffin mount (Small Find No.16) and 13 iron coffin nails (Small Find Nos.17-18, 26-36). As with Trench One, the excavation of these deposits uncovered the socketed base (Context No.3) and foundation slab (Context No.4) of the High Cross. A longitudinal void (denoted as "V" in Figure 2) was present along the line of the foundation slab. This void was created by the forward movement of the foundation slab away from the dark brown humic layer when the monument began to lean eastward.

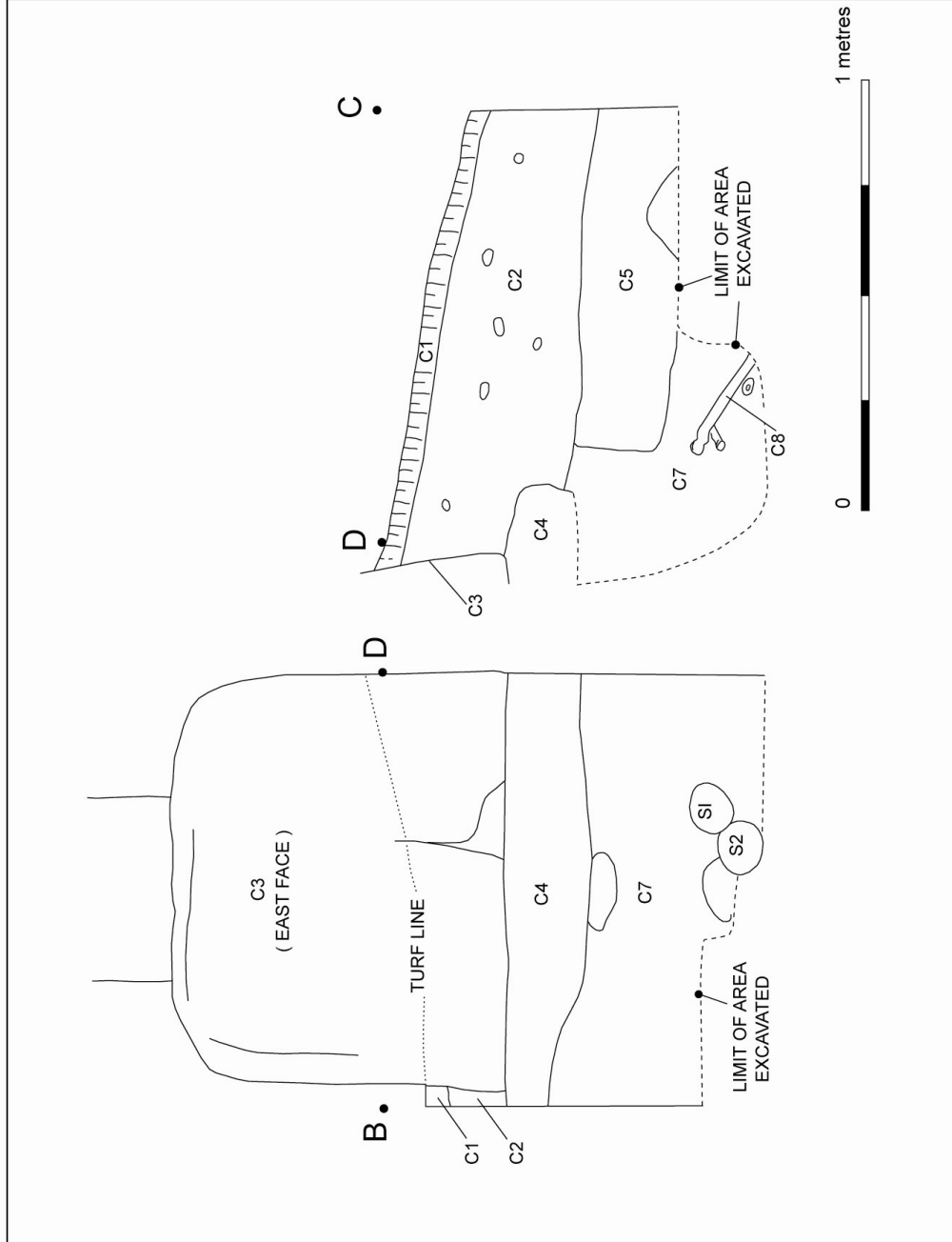


Figure 3: Trench One - Sections.

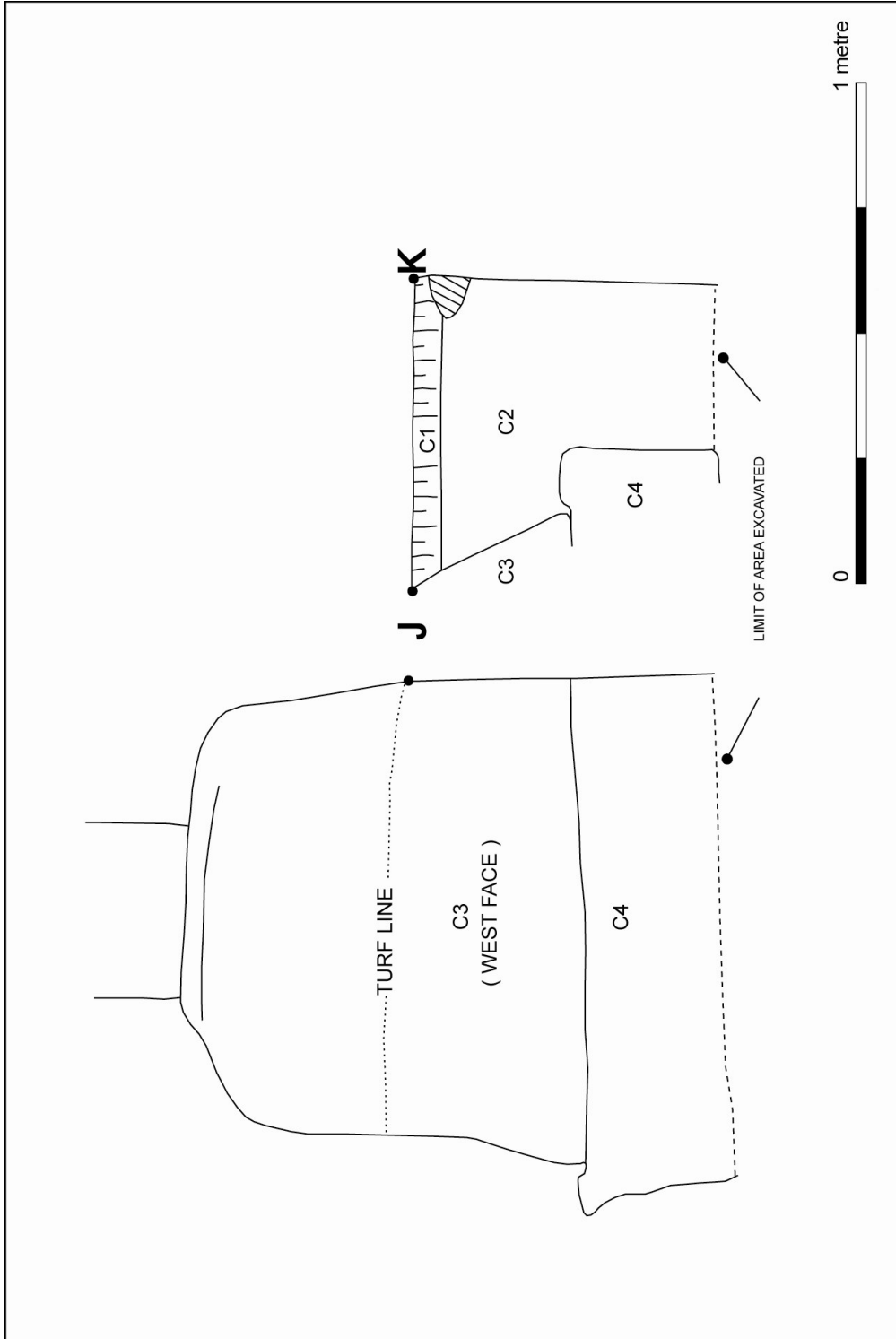


Figure 4: Trench Two - Sections.

4 Discussion

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The High Cross at Boho joins a small corpus of other examples of this monument type that have been excavated in Ireland in recent years and is the first example to be excavated in Northern Ireland. In the early 1990s Con Manning and Heather King investigated the sites of three crosses at Clonmacnoise, County Offaly, following the removal and relocation of the monuments into the monastery's Visitor Centre to protect them from deteriorating environmental conditions (King 1992). In 1999 Heather King also excavated at the North Cross in St John's Church of Ireland churchyard at Ballymore Eustace in County Kildare (King 2000), while in 1998 Miriam Clyne investigated the site of a High Cross at Moone Abbey, also in County Kildare (Clyne 2000).

4.2 Discussion

4.2.1 The transfer of Roman Catholic worship from Farnaconnell to Boho in the early decades of the 19th century evidently required the remodelling of the topography of the old ecclesiastical site in Toneel North to enable the construction of Fr. Smyth's new church. An area within the south-east quadrant of the old graveyard where the new church was to be built would have required heavy scarping to enable a level footprint to be obtained for its foundations. This was evidently the case and the church today is surrounded to the north and west by higher ground. In addition, countless generations of people have been buried within the small graveyard and the cemetery contains gravestones dating back to the 18th century. It should be noted, however, that there are no gravestones of pre-1830 date in the south-east quadrant of the graveyard where the church is positioned. Both of these strands of information provide evidence to support the idea that the south-east section of the graveyard was significantly remodelled in advance of the construction of the new church.

4.2.2 It is highly probable that this construction process would have disturbed human remains. It can further be suggested that the workers uncovered pieces of an old collapsed High Cross – its foundation slab, socketed base and shaft – during their work. It is worth noting at this point that local folk-lore relates how the High Cross arrived in Boho "overnight" (John Curran, pers comm, 2002)! A new location was required for the cross and the highest point in the graveyard was deemed appropriate, to the west of the new church. A pit was excavated and the bones and coffin pieces (Context No. 8) disturbed by the building work were placed into it. This charnel pit was then covered over with a mixed graveyard soil (Context Nos. 7 and 10) and the High Cross was re-erected on top (Contexts Nos. 3 and 4).

4.2.3 As the decades passed the foundation of the High Cross began to compact and the monument began to develop a pronounced eastward lean. An attempt was made by the parishioners to arrest this process in 1985; the topsoil and dark brown humic layer (Context Nos. 1 and 2) were dug into and a cap of clay (Context Nos. 5 and 11) laid down. The clay cap also included a gully (Context No. 6) to enable sub-surface water to escape from around the monument. A series of medium sized stones were also put in place at this time to provide additional support to the eastern side of the High Cross (stones marked as “a” to “e” on Figure 2). This work, however, was unsuccessful in its objective and the cross continued to tilt, thereby necessitating the engineering programme and archaeological excavation of early Summer 2002.

4.3 *Conclusion*

4.3.1 Although of limited scale and duration the excavation programme at Boho High Cross has provided a wealth of new information concerning this monument.

4.3.2 It was hitherto unknown that the socketed base was placed on a foundation slab, the dimensions of which have now been recorded. While exact parallels for this foundation slab will need to be identified among the corpus of High Crosses in Ireland, preliminary research has noted that it has some similarity to the North Cross at Graiguenamanagh, County Kilkenny, originally from Ballyorgan in the county, and moved to its current location during the 1820s. Harbison (1992, 96-97) notes that the shaft of this cross has been broken and that the socketed base and foundation slab are different to the shaft and ringed head. This might mean that both the base and slab were commissioned in the 1820s to support the sections of the Ballyorgan High Cross in its new setting. Alternatively, however, the North Cross may represent the marriage of sections from two different High Crosses to make one composite cross.

4.3.3 The dimensions of the socketed base previously provided by academics (eg: Harbison 1992, 28) was based on what was visible above ground level. The excavation has now enabled the full dimensions of the base to be determined.

4.3.4 The excavation has shown that the High Cross is not located in its original position since it is set over a charnel pit containing post-medieval artefacts. While it is possible that the cross always stood at this location in the graveyard but was taken down, the charnel pit dug, filled and covered over and the cross then re-erected over it at some date during the 18th or 19th centuries, it is considered more probable that the cross was re-erected at its current location during the major work undertaken in the graveyard during the first decades of the 1800s when the old ecclesiastical site was re-used for Roman Catholic worship and a new church constructed. It may even have been the case that this work led to the re-discovery of the cross.

5. Recommendations for further work

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Three areas of further work are required to bring the excavation report for Boho High Cross to final publication.
- 5.1.2 The iron artefacts recovered from the excavation are of post-medieval date and belong to the funerary furniture of the period. The corpus comprises iron nails and portions of coffins. The study of this collection would provide insight into a hitherto neglected aspect of post-medieval archaeology in Ireland.
- 5.1.3 A fragment of rotten sandstone broke off from the foundation slab during the excavation and was collected as Sample No. 1 (see Appendix Six). All three component parts of the High Cross (shaft, socketed base and foundation slab) are of red sandstone. The sample obtained from the foundation slab should be geologically studied to identify the source of the stone and determine if sandstone outcrops in the Boho region were used by the Early Christian craftworkers.
- 5.1.4 A large corpus of disarticulated and fragmentary human bones were discovered during the course of the excavation. The contents of the charnel pit (Context No. 8) located underneath the foundation slab, however, were of a more complete nature (eg: S1 and S2 – two of the three skulls recovered during the excavation) and were within a sealed context. Given this, as a minimum the human remains from the charnel pit should receive detailed osteoarchaeological and palaeopathological study.

6. Bibliography

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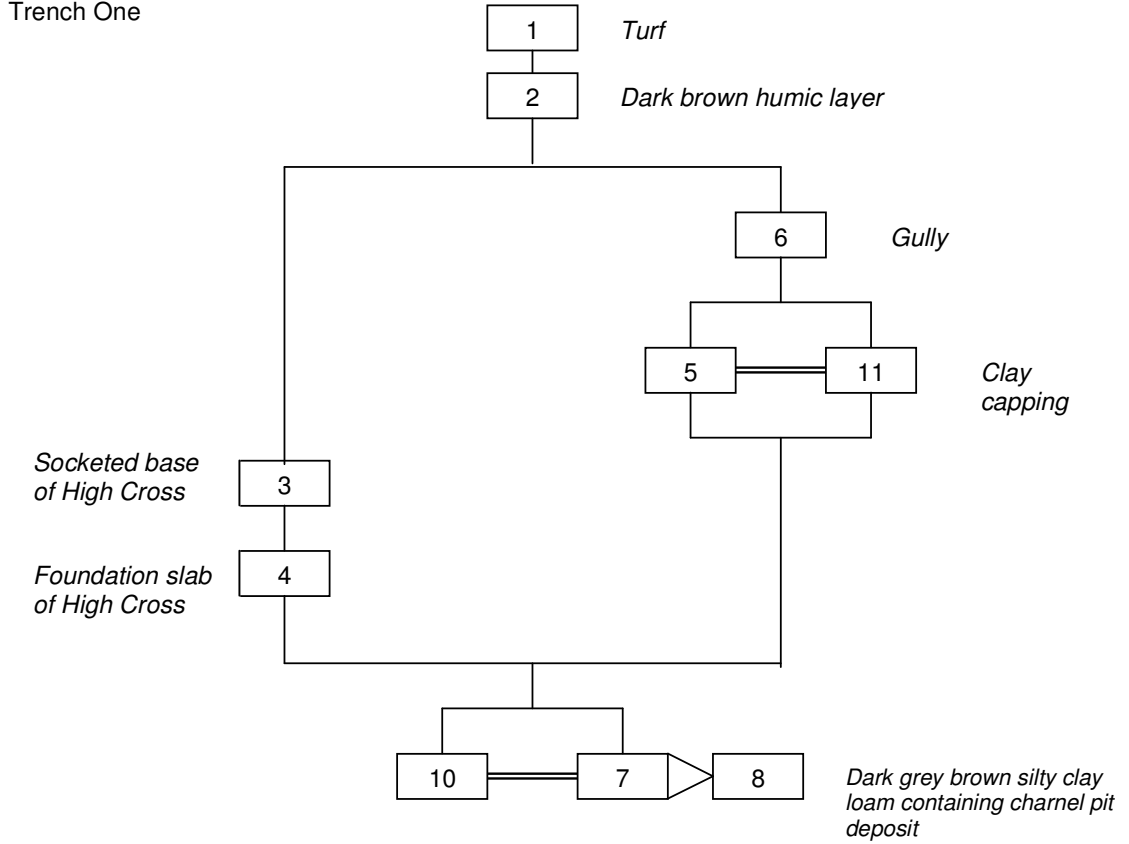
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Appendix One: Context list

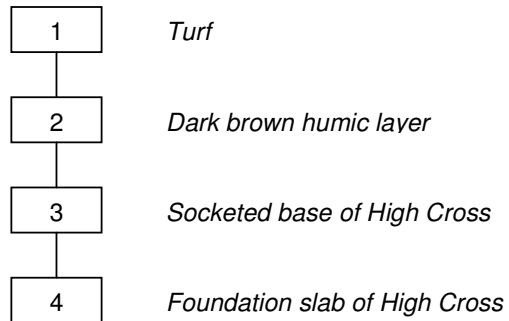
Context No.	Trench No.	Description
1	1 and 2	Turf layer
2	1 and 2	Dark brown humic layer
3	1 and 2	Socketed base of High Cross
4	1 and 2	Foundation slab of High Cross
5	1	Post-medieval cap of dark grey sandy clay loam (= Context No.11)
6	1	Fill and cut of gully
7	1	Dark grey brown silty clay loam (= Context No.10)
8	1	Charnel pit within Context No.7
9	1	N/A
10	1	Dark grey brown silty clay loam (= Context No.7)
11	1	Dark grey sandy clay loam (= Context No.5)

Appendix Two: Harris Matrices

Trench One



Trench Two



Appendix Three: Photographic Record

Film One: Colour Print.

- 1 Trench 1, foundation slab (Context No.4), post-medieval clay cap (Context No.5) and gully (Context No.6).
- 2 Trench 1, residue of dark brown humic layer (Context No.2), foundation slab (Context No.4) and post-medieval clay cap (Context No.5), looking east.
- 3 Trench 1, socketed base of High Cross (Context No.3) following removal of topsoil (Context No.1). looking west.
- 4 Trench 1, surface of dark brown humic layer (Context No.2), looking south.
- 5 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 6 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 7 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 8 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 9 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 10 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 11 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 12 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 13 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 14 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 15 General record view of site prior to excavation.
- 16 General record view of site prior to excavation.

Film Two: Colour Transparency

- 1 N/A
- 2 N/A
- 3 N/A
- 4 N/A
- 5 Trench 2. Vertical view of entire trench.
- 6 Trench 2. Vertical view of entire trench.
- 7 Trench 2. North face of socketed base (Context No.3) showing small circular depression and the possible cracked or eroded base of the foundation slab (Context No.4), looking south.
- 8 Trench 2. West face of High Cross, looking south-east.
- 9 Trench 2. Profile of dark brown humic layer (Context No.2) showing degree of eastward tilt evident in the High Cross, looking south.
- 10 Trench 2. Profile of dark brown humic layer (Context No.2) showing degree of eastward tilt evident in the High Cross, looking south.
- 11 Trench 2. Back of socketed base (Context No.3) and foundation slab (Context No.4), looking east.

- 12 Trench 2. Back of socketed base (Context No.3) and foundation slab (Context No.4) showing subsidence void and the possible niche in the foundation slab (Context No.4) to accommodate the socketed base (Context No.3).
- 13 Trench 2. Back of socketed base (Context No.3) and foundation slab (Context No.4) showing subsidence void and the possible niche in the foundation slab (Context No.4) to accommodate the socketed base (Context No.3).
- 14 Trench 1. Box trench through Context No.7 showing charnel pit deposit (Context No.8).
- 15 Trench 1. Box trench through Context No.7 showing charnel pit deposit (Context No.8).
- 16 Trench 1. Box trench through Context No.7 showing charnel pit deposit (Context No.8).
- 17 Trench 1. Box trench through Context No.7 showing charnel pit deposit (Context No.8).
- 18 N/A
- 19 N/A
- 20 N/A
- 21 N/A
- 22 Trench 1. Eileen Murphy excavating charnel pit deposit (Context No.8).
- 23 Trench 1. Eileen Murphy excavating charnel pit deposit (Context No.8).
- 24 Trench 1. Socketed base (Context No.3), foundation slab (Context No.4), Context No.7 and charnel pit deposit (Context No.8) following removal of clay cap (Context No.5) and gully (Context No.6), looking west.
- 25 N/A
- 26 N/A
- 27 Trench 1. Socketed base (Context No.3), foundation slab (Context No.4), Context No.7 and charnel pit deposit (Context No.8) following removal of clay cap (Context No.5) and gully (Context No.6), looking west.
- 28 Trench 1. Skeletal remains (Context No.8) within Context No.7 beneath foundation slab (Context No.4).
- 29 Trench 1. Skeletal remains (Context No.8) within Context No.7 beneath foundation slab (Context No.4).
- 30 Trench 1. Skeletal remains (Context No.8) within Context No.7 beneath foundation slab (Context No.4).
- 31 Trench 1. Deposits (Context No.7) beneath foundation slab (Context No.4), looking west.
- 32 Trench 1. Vertical shot of clay cap (Context No.5) showing gully (Context No.6) and foundation slab (Context No.4).
- 33 Trench 1. Deposits (Context No.7) beneath foundation slab (Context No.4), looking west.
- 34 Trench 1. Deposits (Context No.7) beneath foundation slab (Context No.4), looking west.
- 35 Trench 1. Vertical shot of clay cap (Context No.5) showing gully (Context No.6) and foundation slab (Context No.4).
- 36 Trench 1. Vertical shot of clay cap (Context No.5) showing gully (Context No.6) and foundation slab (Context No.4).

Film Three: EPP – 36Professional Colour reversal film.

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- 1 Excavation in Trench 1 underneath Context No.4, looking north.
- 2 Excavation in Trench 1 underneath Context No.4, looking north.
- 3 Excavation in Trench 1 underneath Context No.4, looking north.
- 4 Excavation in Trench 1 underneath Context No.4, looking north.
- 5 Excavation in Trench 1 underneath Context No.4, looking west.
- 6 Excavation in Trench 1 underneath Context No.4, looking west.
- 7 General shot of EHS workmen completing fine adjustments to the angle of the cross.
- 8 General shot of EHS workmen completing fine adjustments to the angle of the cross.
- 9 General shot of EHS workmen completing fine adjustments to the angle of the cross.

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- 10 General shot of EHS workmen removing scaffolding round the cross.
- 11 General shot of EHS workmen removing scaffolding round the cross.
- 12 East facing side of the cross's plinth showing two cracks, looking west.
- 13 East facing side of the cross's plinth showing two cracks, looking west.
- 14 West facing side of the cross's plinth showing single crack, looking east.
- 15 West facing side of the cross's plinth showing single crack, looking east.
- 16 West facing side of the cross's plinth showing single crack, looking east.
- 17 West facing side of the cross's plinth showing single crack, looking east.
- 18 Trench 1 following excavation showing the extent of intervention, looking west.
- 19 Trench 1 following excavation showing the extent of intervention, looking west.
- 20 Trench 1 following excavation showing the extent of intervention, looking north.
- 21 Trench 1 following excavation showing the extent of intervention, looking north.
- 22 Trench 2 following excavation showing the extent of intervention, looking north.
- 23 Trench 2 following excavation showing the extent of intervention, looking north.
- 24 Panel on west side of cross, looking east.
- 25 Panel on east side of cross, looking west.
- 26 General record view of cross.
- 27 General record view of cross.
- 28 General record view of cross.
- 29 General record view of cross.
- 30 General record view of cross.
- 31 General record view of cross.
- 32 General record view of cross.

Appendix Four: Field Drawing Register

Drawing Nos.	Scale	Type	Date	Description
1	1:10	Plan / Section / Profile	29.5.02	(i) Plan of Trench One following removal of humic layer (Context No.2). (ii) North, east, south and west facing sections of Trench One. (iii) North-south running profile across surface of clay cap (Context No.5) and associated gully (Context No.6).
2	1:10	Plan / Section / Profile	30.5.02	(i) Plan of Trench Two following partial removal of humic layer (Context No.2). (ii) North, east, south and west facing sections of Trench Two. (iii) North-south and east-west running profiles across socketed base (Context No.3) and foundation slab (Context No.4) of High Cross.
3	1:10	Plan / Section	11.6.02	(i) Plan of extension to Trench Two. (ii) North, east and south facing sections of extended Trench Two.
4	1:10	Section	19.6.02	(i) Sketch of south facing section of Trench One (with special reference to Context Nos.10 and 11).

Appendix Five: Small Finds Register

<i>Small Find No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>
1	Slate	2	2
2	Slate	2	2
3	Clay pipe stem	2	2
4	Plastic fragment	2	2
5	Glass fragment	2	2
6	Pot sherd	2	2
7	Pot sherd	1	5
8	Glass fragment	2	2
9	Glass fragment	1	2
10	Clay pipe stem	2	2
11	Glass bead	1	11
12	Glass bead	1	2
13	Glass bottle neck	1	2
14	Clay pipe stem	1	2
15	Slate	1	2
16	Iron coffin mount	2	2
17-18	Iron nails (2)	2	2
19-24	Iron nails (6)	1	2
25	Iron pocket knife	2	2
26-36	Iron nails (11)	2	2
37-51	Iron nails (15)	1	2
52-58	Fragments of ironwork (7)	1	5
59-98	Iron nails (40)	1	5
99-101	Iron nails (3)	1	7
102	Iron coffin handle	1	8
103	Iron nail	1	8
104-115	Iron nails with surviving wood fragments (12)	1	8
116-130	Iron nails (15)	1	8
131-132	Iron (?) coffin plate fragments (2)	1	8
133	Iron nail	1	10
S1	Human Skull	1	8
S2	Human Skull	1	8

Appendix Six: Samples Record

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	2	4	Samples of eroded stone which broke off from foundation slab
2	2	4	Samples of stone presumably eroded from foundation slab
3	1	5	Stone

Appendix Seven: Project Specification Document

TONEEL NORTH

BOHO CROSS CO FERMANAGH

FERM 210:14

B 105/8

Proposal to excavate at base of cross to enable the plinth (partly buried) to be levelled up.

The engineering proposal for propping the stone on advance of excavation and for levelling the plinth shall be detailed separately and included in the Scheduled Monument Consent application for the work.

1. An area needs to be opened to west and south of the cross of sufficient width to enable one or two (to be discussed in relation to engineering proposal) people to work within it. This area has many burials and it is desirable to keep the trench size to an absolute minimum –say 1m wide.
2. The plinth may be stepped and of greater extent than we see. The width of the trench will depend on what is discovered at say .50m depth.
3. The trench does not have to be ‘bottomed’ but to be excavated to a depth below the lowest corner of the plinth (to be determined by the engineering proposal).
4. Any human bone uncovered in the process of the excavation shall be carefully stored for reburial when the trench is back-filled.

Claire Foley

24.4.02



Plate One: Trench One showing clay capping (Context Nos.5 and 11) and gully (Context No.6).



Plate Two: Trench One showing charnel pit deposit (Context No.8).



Plate Three: Trench One showing charnel pit deposit (Context No.8)



Plate Four: Trench One following the excavation of the humic layer (Context No.2) (looking west).



Plate Five: Trench Two following partial excavation of humic layer (Context No.2) (looking north). Note the exposed the raised western edge of the foundation slab (Context No.4) which meets flush with the edge of the High Cross's socketed base (Context No.3).



Plate Six: Excavation in progress.



Plate Seven: Engineering work to correct the High Cross's tilt in progress.