



Monitoring Report No. 54a

**45 Keerin Road
Broughderg
Co. Tyrone**

AE/06/66

Kara Ward

Site Specific Information

Site Address: 140m west of 45 Keerin Road

Townland: Broughderg

SMR No.: near TYR:020:058

State Care *Scheduled* *Other* ✓

Grid Ref: H6573383782

County: Tyrone

Excavation License No: AE/06/66

Planning Ref / No.: I/2005/1361/O

Date of Monitoring: 6th April 2006

Archaeologist Present: Kara Ward

Brief Summary:

Four test trenches were excavated to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed development on any hidden archaeological remains. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered in any of the trenches.

Type of monitoring:

Excavation of four test trenches by mechanical excavator equipped with a grading bucket under archaeological supervision.

Size of area opened:

Four trenches; Trench A measuring approximately 25m by 2m, Trenches B and C measuring approximately 20m by 2m each and, Trench D measuring approximately 35m by 2m.

Current Land Use: Pasture

Intended Land Use: Residential

Account of the monitoring

An application was made for the construction of a private dwelling on a site approximately 140m to the west of an existing dwelling at 45 Keerin Road in Broughderg townland, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 1). The proposed development site is in an area with a high concentration of archaeological monuments including megalithic tombs, standing stones, stone alignments, stone circles and cairns (Fig. 2). There was, therefore, potential that development at the site could disturb previously unrecorded below ground archaeological remains.

An archaeological evaluation was requested by EHS: Built Heritage, Protecting Historic Monuments Casework Officer, Paul Logue, to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on any hidden archaeological remains. Monitoring of test trench excavation took place on 6th April 2006. Four test trenches were excavated within the site boundary (Fig. 3). Trench A measured approximately 25m by 2m, Trenches B and C measured approximately 20m by 2m each, and Trench D measured approximately 35m by 2m. The stratigraphy of the test trenches is described below:

Trench A had a topsoil (C101) with a depth of approximately 0.32m. The topsoil was a uniform dark brown peat rich clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions. Underlying C101 was the subsoil (C102) consisting of a light greyish brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions (Plates 1 and 2). The subsoil was consistent across the site. The remains of plough furrows were found to cut north-south into the subsoil (C102) at the western end of the trench. These were cut through the topsoil (C101) and at their deepest they cut into the subsoil (C102). They were filled with topsoil (C101). Modern drains containing corrugated plastic pipes were also found to cut north-south through the site.

In Trench B the topsoil (C201) was a dark brown peat rich clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions and had an average depth of 0.22m. It directly overlay the subsoil (C202), a light greyish brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions. The faint trace of two plough furrows was visible where the plough blade had cut into the subsoil (C202). The furrows were up to 0.3m wide and extremely shallow with a maximum depth of 0.05m. They were filled by topsoil (C201) (Plates 3 and 4).

The topsoil (C301) in Trench C was a dark brown peat rich clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions. It had a depth of approximately 0.16m and overlay the subsoil (C302) which was a light greyish brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions (Plates 5 and 6).

In Trench D the topsoil (C401) was a dark brown peat rich clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions, it had a maximum depth of 0.30m. Below this depth the subsoil (C402) was encountered, it was a light greyish brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions. Two plough furrows were uncovered in Trench D. They were aligned north-south and were a maximum of 0.2m apart and up to 0.3m wide each. They were extremely shallow at less than 0.05m deep and appeared to be the result of an episode of deep ploughing. They were cut into the subsoil (C402) in parts and were filled by topsoil (C402) (Plates 7 and 8).

No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were apparent in any of the trenches.

Archive:

Finds: n/a

Photographs: 10 digital images, held by CAF

Plans / Drawings: n/a

Signed: _____ Date: _____

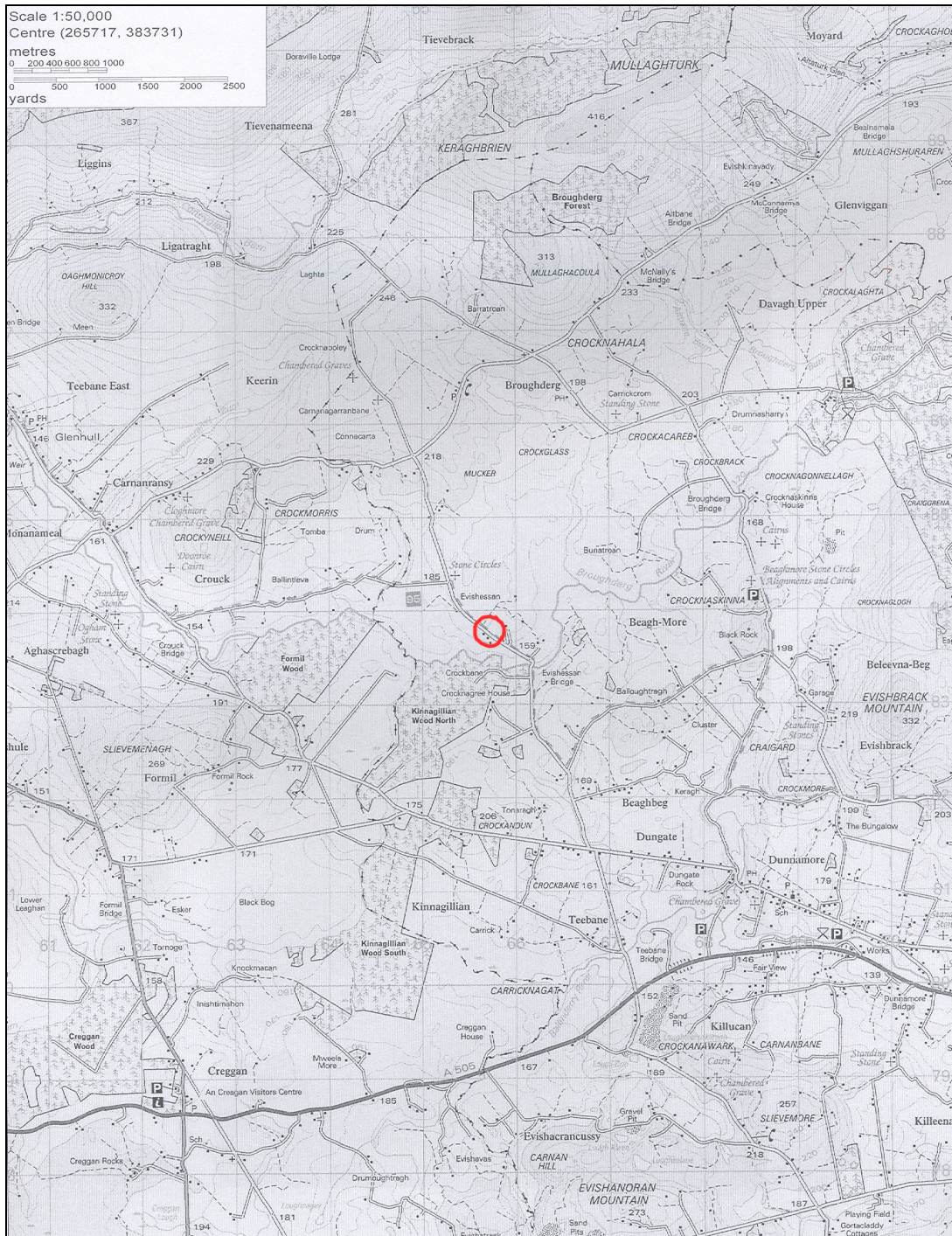


Fig. 1: 1:50,000 Map showing location of site (red circle).

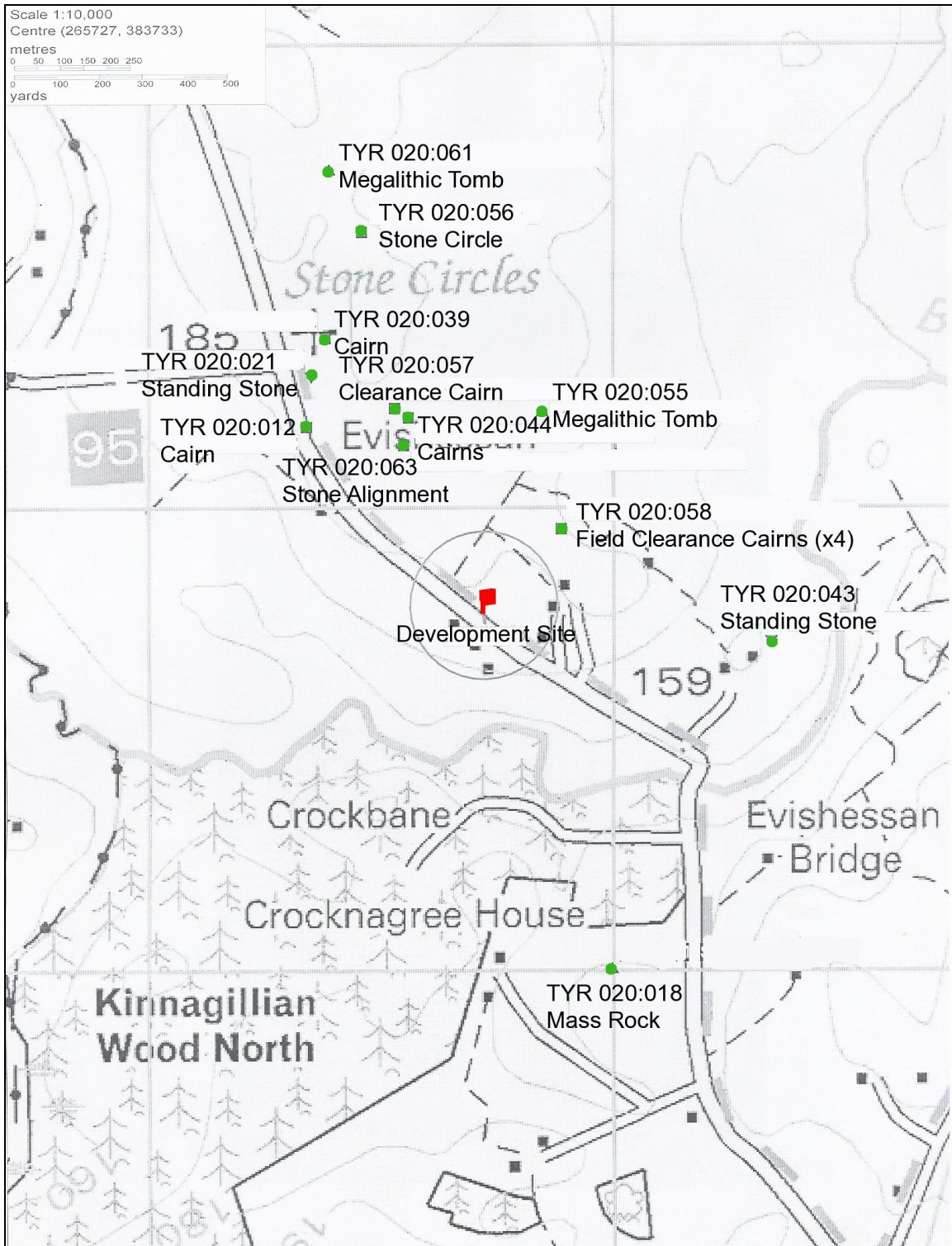


Fig. 2: Location of site (red) and archaeological monuments in the immediate vicinity (green).

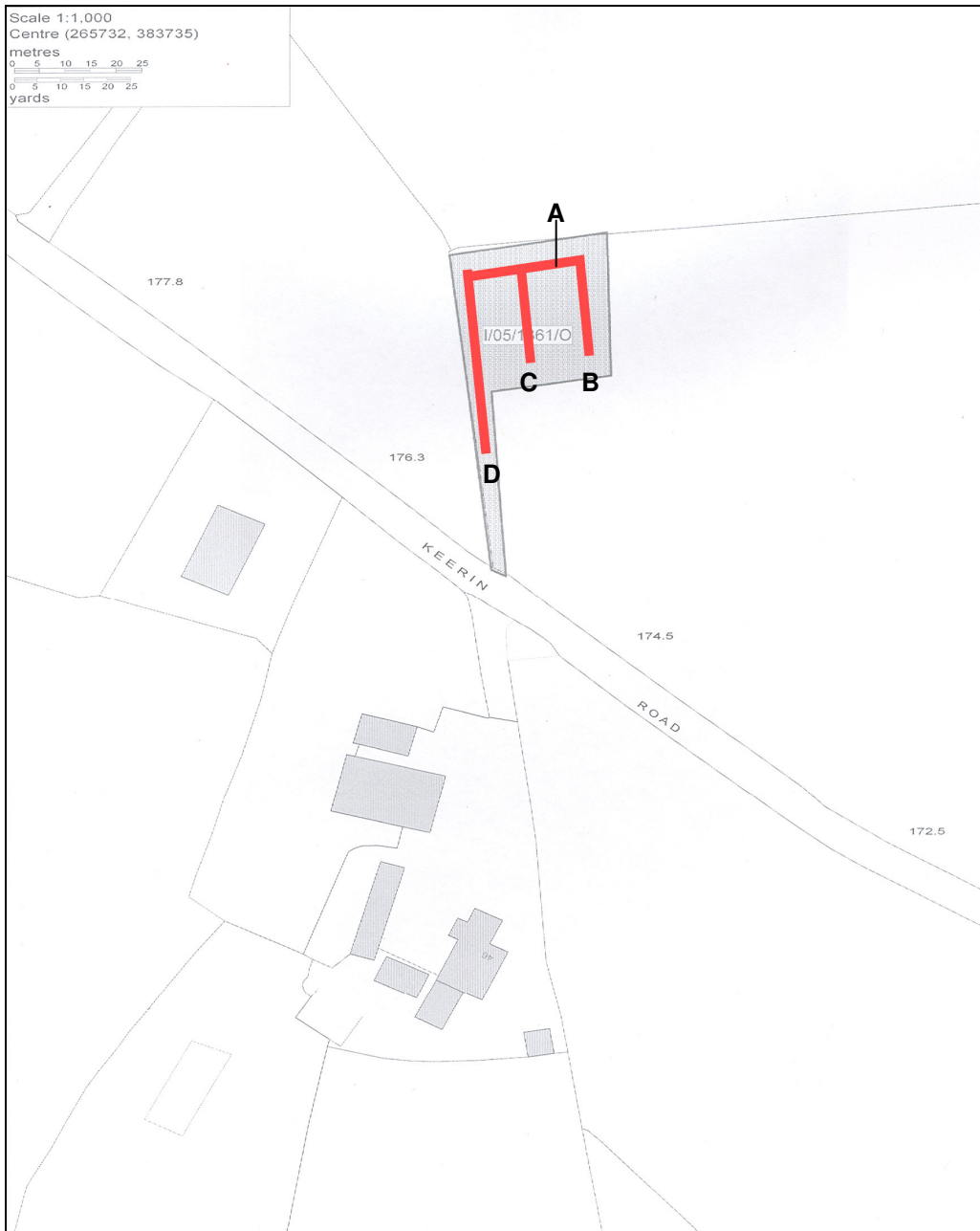


Fig. 3: Location of test trenches (marked in red).



Plate 1: View of Trench A from west, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102). The trace of a number of plough furrows can be seen running north-south across the trench.



Plate 2: View of south-facing section in Trench A, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).



Plate 3: View of Trench B from north, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C202). The faint trace of two plough furrows can be seen running north-south along the trench.



Plate 4: View of east-facing section in Trench B, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C202).



Plate 5: View of Trench C from north, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C302).



Plate 6: View of east-facing section in Trench C, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C302).



Plate 7: View of Trench D from north, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C402). The plough furrows are visible running parallel to each other down the centre of the trench.



Plate 8: View of east-facing section in Trench D, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C402).