



## **Monitoring Report No. 55a**

**68 Keerin Road  
Broughderg  
Co. Tyrone**

**AE/06/63**

Kara Ward

## Site Specific Information

*Site Address:* 20m north of 68 Keerin Road

*Townland:* Broughderg

*SMR No.:* near TYR:020:062 (burnt mound)

*State Care*    *Scheduled*    *Other* ✓

*Grid Ref:* H6504585112

*County:* Tyrone

*Excavation License No:* AE/06/63

*Planning Ref / No.:* I/2004/1362/O

*Date of Monitoring:* 4<sup>th</sup> April 2006

*Archaeologist Present:* Kara Ward

### *Brief Summary:*

Three 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 three test trenches by mechanical excavator equipped with a grading bucket under archaeological supervision

*Size of area opened:* Three trenches; Trench A measuring approximately 80m by 2m and Trenches B and C measuring approximately 50m by 2m each.

*Current Land Use:* Pasture

*Intended Land Use:* Residential

## **Account of the monitoring**

An archaeological evaluation was carried out as a result of a planning application for the construction of a private dwelling 20m to the north of 68 Keerin Road in Broughderg townland, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 1 and 2). The proposed development site is located in an area with a concentration of megalithic tombs, standing stones, cairns, alignments, circles and clearance cairns. There was, therefore, the potential for discovery of previously unknown associated below ground remains. The closest recorded archaeological site was a burnt mound (TYR:020:062), located 350m to the west of the proposed development.

An archaeological evaluation was requested by EHS: 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 4<sup>th</sup> April 2006. Three test trenches were excavated across the proposed development site (Fig. 3); Trench A measured approximately 80m by 2m and Trenches B and C measured approximately 50m by 2m each. The stratigraphy of the test trenches is described below:

Trench A had a topsoil (C101) with a depth of approximately 0.20m. The topsoil was a uniform moist mid-brown peaty silt with flecks of decayed stone. The underlying subsoil (C102) was a whitish grey sandy silt with decayed stone inclusions (Plates 1 and 2).

In Trench B the topsoil (C101) was a uniform moist mid-brown peaty silt with flecks of decayed stone and had a maximum depth of 0.40m. The topsoil (C101) directly overlay the subsoil (C102) which was a consistent whitish grey sandy silt with decayed stone inclusions across much of the site. However, the colour of the subsoil changed from a whitish grey to orange towards the bottom of the slope at the western end of the trench. This was probably caused by the leaching of iron down the slope. Two plough furrows were uncovered at the western end of Trench B. They were aligned north-east to south-west and were probably the result of an episode of deep ploughing. The furrows were approximately 0.35m wide and approximately the same distance apart. They were visible in this location as they had been cut into the subsoil (C102) although they had been cut from the topsoil (C101) and were filled by topsoil (C101) (Plates 3 and 4).

The topsoil (C101) in Trench C had a depth of approximately 0.28m, it was a moist mid-brown peaty silt with flecks of decayed stone. Underlying this was the subsoil (C102), a whitish grey sandy silt with decayed stone inclusions (Plates 5 and 6).

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

**Archive:**

*Finds:* n/a

*Photographs:* 11 digital images, held by CAF

*Plans / Drawings:* n/a

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



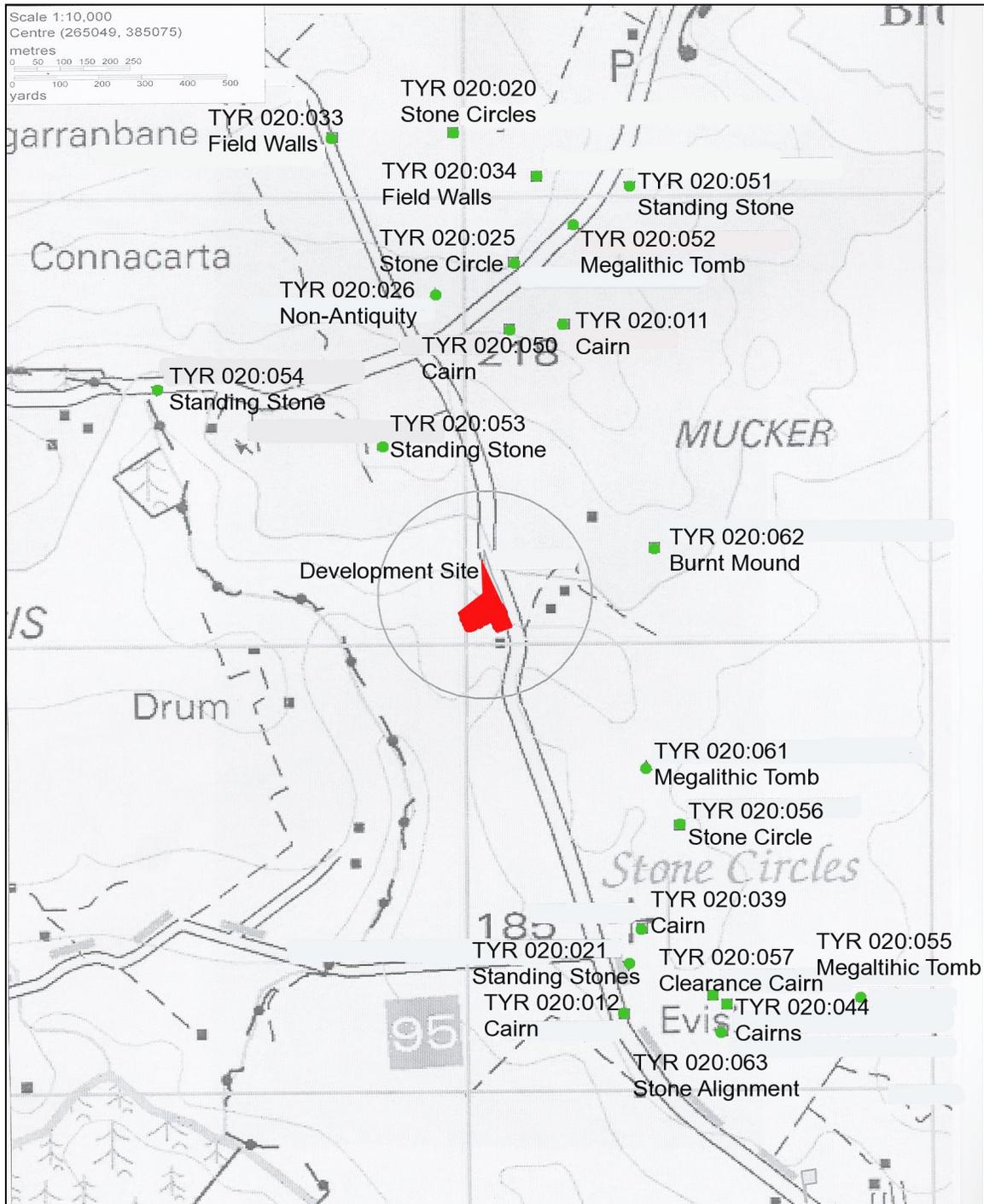


Fig. 2: Location of site (marked in red) and archaeological monuments in the immediate vicinity (green dots).

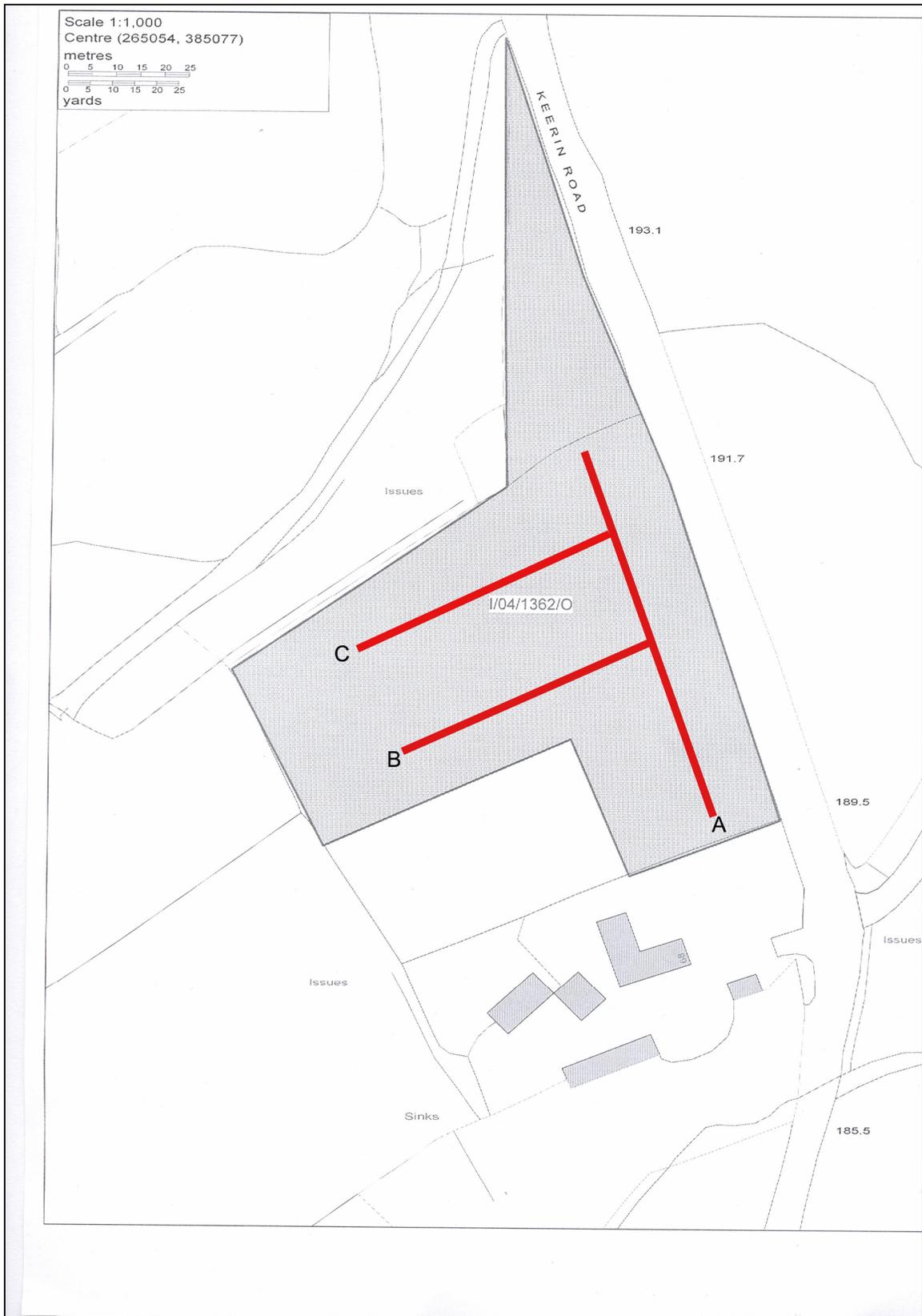


Fig. 3: Location of test trenches (marked in red) within proposed development site.



Plate 1: View of Trench A from south, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).



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



Plate 3: View of Trench B from west, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102). Two plough furrows are visible in the foreground.



Plate 4: View of north-facing section in Trench B, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).



Plate 5: View of Trench C from west, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).



Plate 6: View of north-facing section in Trench C, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).