



Monitoring Report No. 100

**14 Lough Road
Ballylane
Glenanne
Co. Armagh**

AE/06/262

Ruth Logue

Site Specific Information

Site Name: 14 Lough Road, Ballylane, Glenanne

Townland: Ballylane

SMR No (if applicable): rath – ARM 021:033

State Care Scheduled Other

Grid Ref: H96303577

County: Armagh

Excavation Licence Number: AE/06/262

Planning Reference Number: O/2004/0375/O

Date of Monitoring: 7th November 2006

Archaeologist Present: Ruth Logue

Brief Summary:

Monitoring of four test trenches excavated to subsoil to evaluate the potential impact of a proposed development on any previously unrecorded below-ground remains. Nothing of archaeological significance found.

Type of monitoring: Mechanical back-acting digger

Size of area opened: Four trenches: 40.5m x 1.6m, 42m x 1.6m, 44.5m x 1.6m, 44m x 1.6m

Current Land Use: Rough grazing

Intended Land Use: Erection of dwelling, domestic garage, access, septic tank and run-off.

Account of the monitoring

The proposed development site is located adjacent to a derelict house at 14 Lough Road, Ballylane, Glenanne, County Armagh. A rath, ARM 021:033, is situated immediately north of the application site. Field reports from the 1960s describe a roughly circular earthwork, measuring 41m north-west to south-east and 42.5m north-east to south-west, enclosed on the south-west and north-east by a bank. Since this time the south-west bank has been levelled and buildings have encroached on the monument to the east. The bank now only survives, to any height, on the north and north-east sides of the monument. The field reports also mention a 3.6m wide ditch and a possible souterrain, neither of which can now be located.

An archaeological evaluation was requested to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on any hidden archaeological remains. Monitoring of test trench excavation took place on 7th November 2006, the Protecting Historic Monuments Casework Officer for the site was Stiofán Ó Cathmhaoil.

The topsoil was uniform in all four trenches, a mid-brown clay-sandy loam. The topsoil sat on top of the subsoil, a yellowish silty clay, with patches of orange silty clay, and many stone inclusions. All four trenches were aligned north-west to south-east. (Figure 2)

Trench 1 was 40.5m long and 1.6m wide (Plate 1). Topsoil (Context 100) was an average of 0.25m deep along the trench. Below topsoil was subsoil (Context 101).

Trench 2 was 42m long and 1.6m wide (Plate 2). The topsoil (Context 200) was an average of 0.275m deep. Below topsoil was subsoil (Context 201).

Trench 3 was 44.5m long and 1.6m wide (Plate 3). The topsoil (Context 300) was an average of 0.325m deep. Below topsoil was subsoil (Context 301).

Trench 4 was 44m long and 1.6m wide (Plate 4). The topsoil (Context 400) was an average of 0.27m deep. Below topsoil was subsoil (Context 401).

No features, or finds, of archaeological significance were found in any of the test trenches.

Archive:

Finds: N/A

Photographs: 9 digital photos, held in Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork offices

Plans / Drawings: N/A

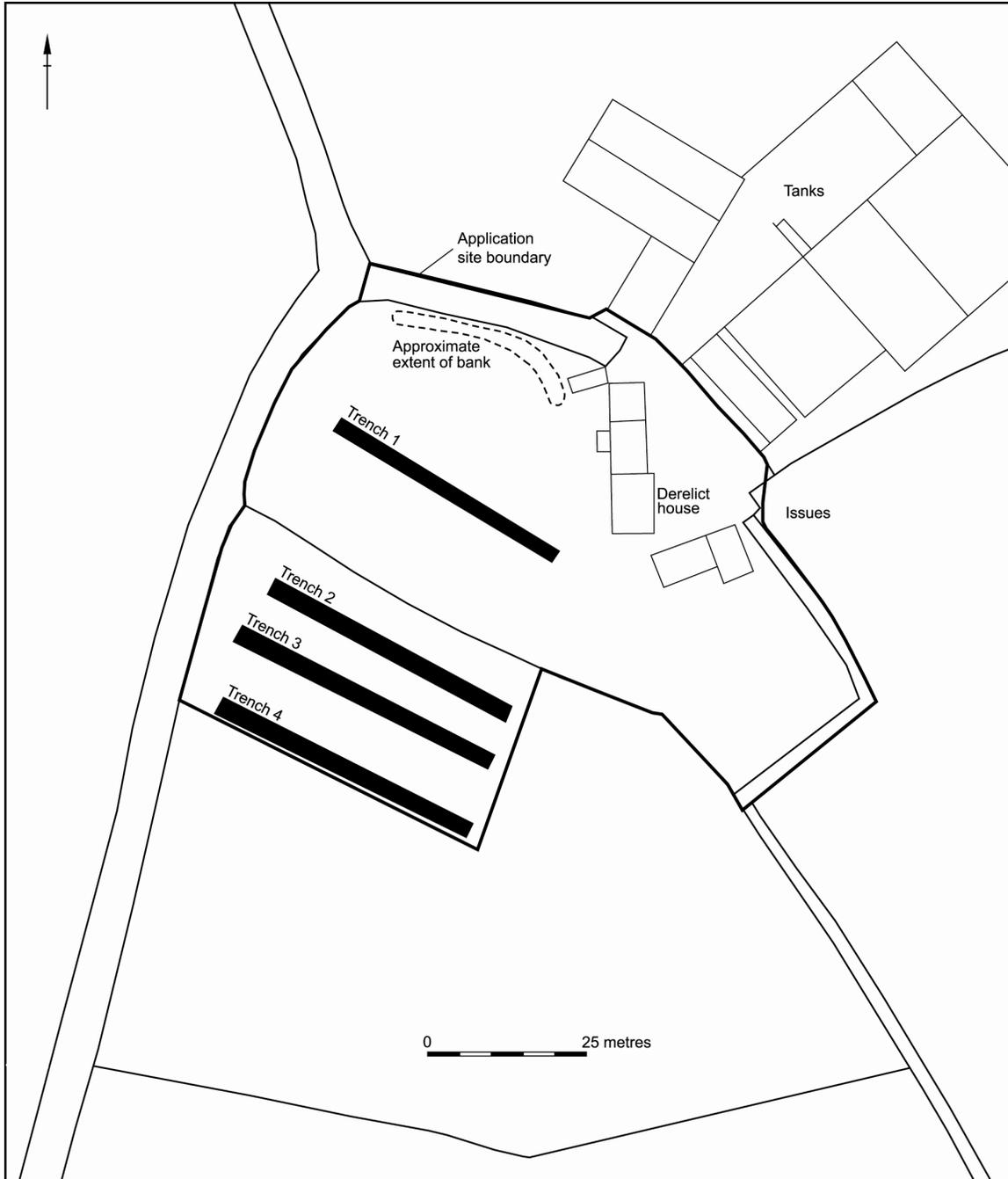


Figure 2: Plan showing application site and location of trenches.



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking north-west.



Plate 2: Trench 2 looking north-west.



Plate 3: Trench 3 looking north-west.



Plate 4: Trench 4, looking north-west.



Plate 5: Surviving portion of rath bank looking north.



Plate 6: Eastern end of bank.



Plate 7: Northern stretch of bank from exterior, looking west.



Plate 8: Western end of bank.