



Monitoring Report No. 121

**Site 50m west of 8 Crewe Road
Lurganteneil
Lisburn
County Antrim**

AE/07/76

Brian Sloan

Site Specific Information

Site Address: 50m west of 8 Crewe Road

Townland: Lurganteneil

SMR No.: ANT 064:026

State Care *Scheduled* *Other* ✓

Grid Ref: J 1859 6980

County: Antrim

Excavation Licence No: AE/07/76

Planning Ref / No.: S/2005/0034/F

Date of Monitoring: 2nd April 2007

Archaeologist Present: Brian Sloan

Brief Summary:

The supervision of the mechanical excavation of two test trenches was carried out at an application site 50m west of 8 Crewe Road, Lurganteneil, Lisburn, County Antrim. The site lies in an archaeologically-sensitive area, with many monuments recorded in the general vicinity. These monuments include Crewe Hill (ANT 063:020), an Early Christian Rath (ANT 063:021) and an Inauguration Stone (ANT 063:058). A simple stratigraphy was observed in all the trenches which were excavated to the surface of the natural subsoil. Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered during the evaluation and it is recommended that no further archaeological work is carried out at the application site.

Type of monitoring:

Excavation of two test trenches by mechanical excavator equipped with a smooth-edged 'sheugh' bucket under archaeological supervision.

Size of area opened:

Two trenches, each measuring 20m in length by 2m in width, aligned north-east/south-west in the area of the application site.

Current Land Use: Pastoral agricultural

Intended Land Use: Residential

Brief account of the monitoring

Introduction

The application site is located 50m west of 8 Crewe Road, Lurganteneil, Lisburn, County Antrim (Fig. 1). The site lies approximately 4km south-east of the town of Glenavy, and at a height of approximately 160m above sea level. The surrounding area is rich in archaeological sites (Fig. 2). Numerous raths and enclosures are marked on the Sites and Monuments Record in the immediate vicinity. The site lies approximately 400m south-east of Crewe Hill (ANT 063:020) which has been a focus for human activity since at least the Late Bronze Age, and is reputed to be an inauguration site. The surrounding landscape consists of both pastoral and arable land, interspersed with dwelling houses. The trenches were aligned north-east/south-west across the application site (Fig. 3) and were requested by Gina Baban (Case Officer Environment and Heritage Service: Built Heritage).

Excavation

Trench 1 was positioned at the south-eastern end of the application site and measured 20m by 2m. The trench was excavated to the surface of the natural subsoil (Context No. 103) (Plate 1), which was encountered at a depth of 0.25m.

The sod and topsoil layer in Trench 1 (Context No. 101) consisted of a mid to dark brown humic loam with few inclusions of small rounded and sub-angular stones (average size: 40mm x 20mm x 10mm). This layer had an average depth of 0.05m.

Below the sod and topsoil layer (Context No.101) was a compact dark brown clay loam (Context No. 102). This deposit had an average thickness of 0.2m and contained frequent inclusions of small rounded stones (average size 50mm x 30mm x 10mm). A corroded piece of iron (Small Find No. 1) was recovered from this deposit. This layer is interpreted as being cultivation soil.

Directly below the cultivation soil (Context No. 102) lay the natural subsoil (Context No. 103). This consisted of orange boulder clay (Plate 2). Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered in this trench.

Trench 2 was located approximately 5m north-west of Trench 1 and measured 20m by 2m. The trench was excavated to the surface of the natural subsoil (Context No. 203) (Plate 3), which was encountered at a depth of 0.3m.

The sod and topsoil layer in Trench 2 (Context No. 201) consisted of a mid to dark brown humic loam with few inclusions of small rounded and sub-angular stones (average size 40mm x 20mm x 10mm). This layer had an average depth of 0.1m.

Below the sod and topsoil layer (Context No. 201) was a compact dark brown clay loam (Context No. 202). This deposit had an average thickness of 0.2m and contained frequent inclusions of small rounded stones (average size 50mm x 30mm x 10mm). A single sherd of nineteenth-century transfer printed ceramic (Small Find No. 2) was recovered from this deposit. This layer is interpreted as being cultivation soil.

Directly below the cultivation soil (Context No. 202) lay the natural subsoil (Context No. 203). This consisted of orange boulder clay (Plate 4). Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered in this trench

Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered in the areas investigated in the evaluation. It is recommended that no further archaeological fieldwork is carried out at the development site. No publication is required, apart from a short summary in the annual bulletin of excavations.

Archive:

Finds: The finds recovered during the evaluation are held by the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queen's University Belfast.

Photographs: 11 digital images, held by the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queen's University Belfast.

Plans / Drawings: n/a

Signed: _____

Date: _____

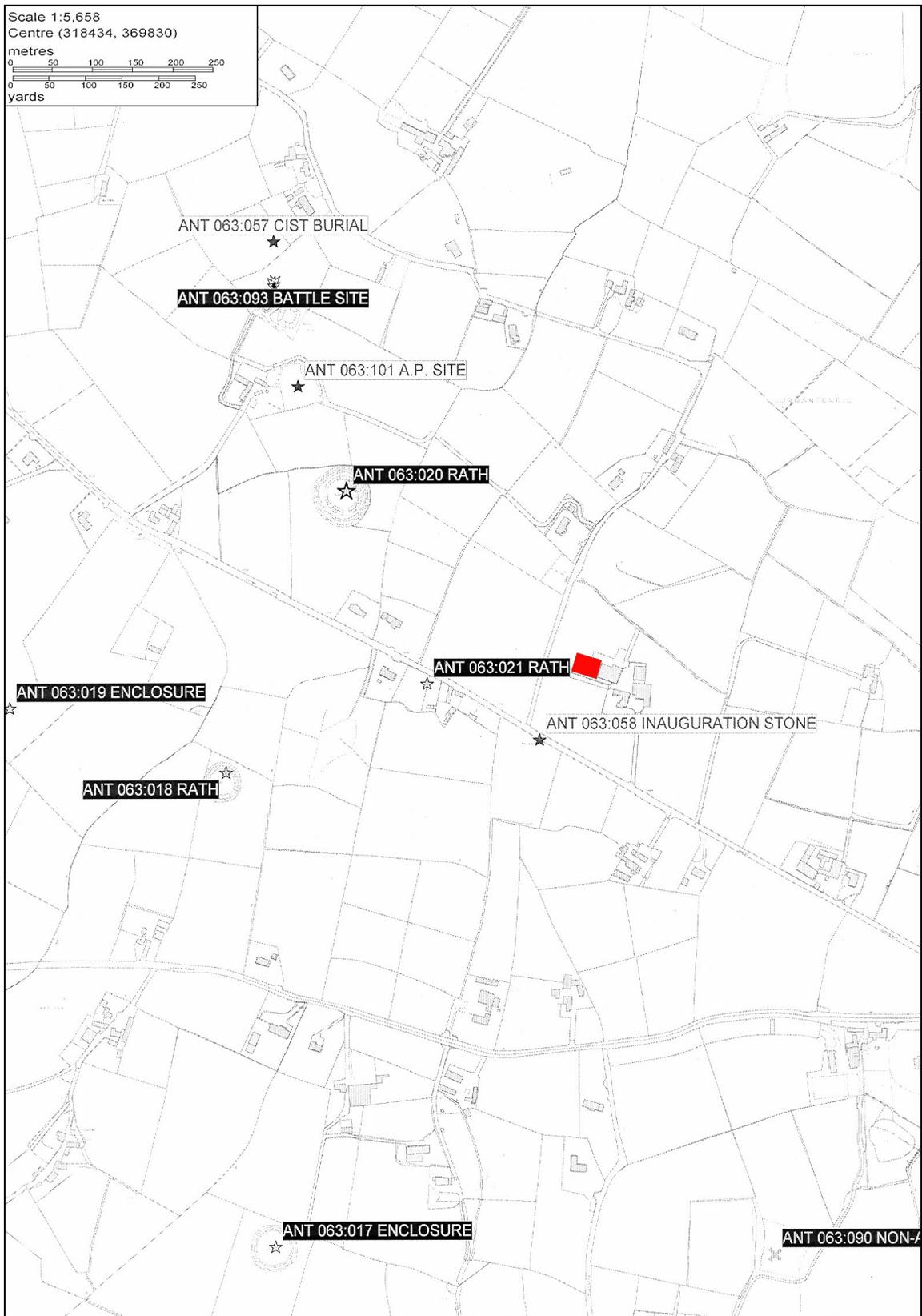


Fig. 2: Detailed location of application site (in red) and archaeological sites in the surrounding area.

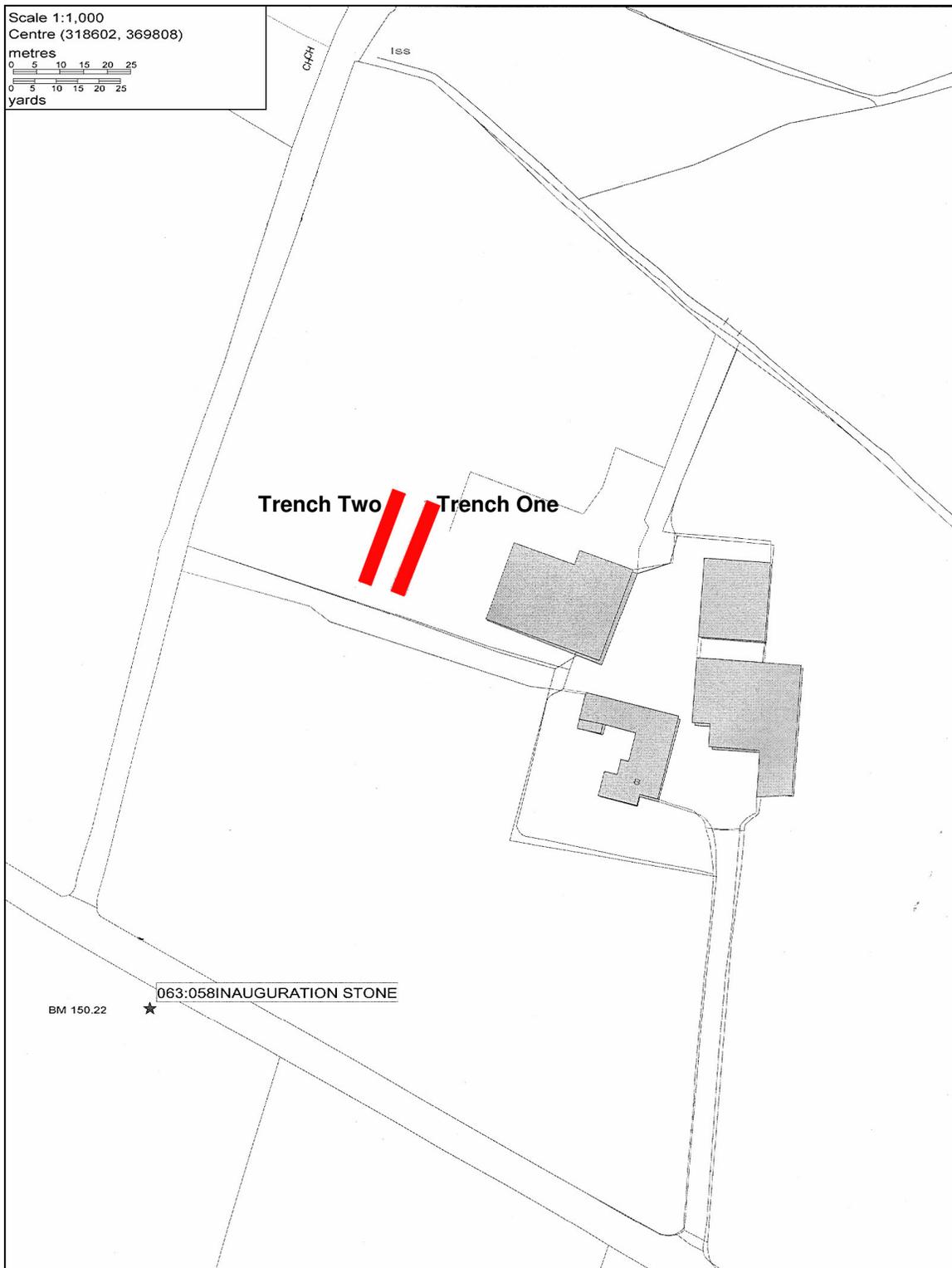


Fig. 3: Detailed map of application site showing location of Trenches One and Two.



Plate 1: Trench 1 following excavation to the surface of the subsoil (Context No. 103), looking north-east.

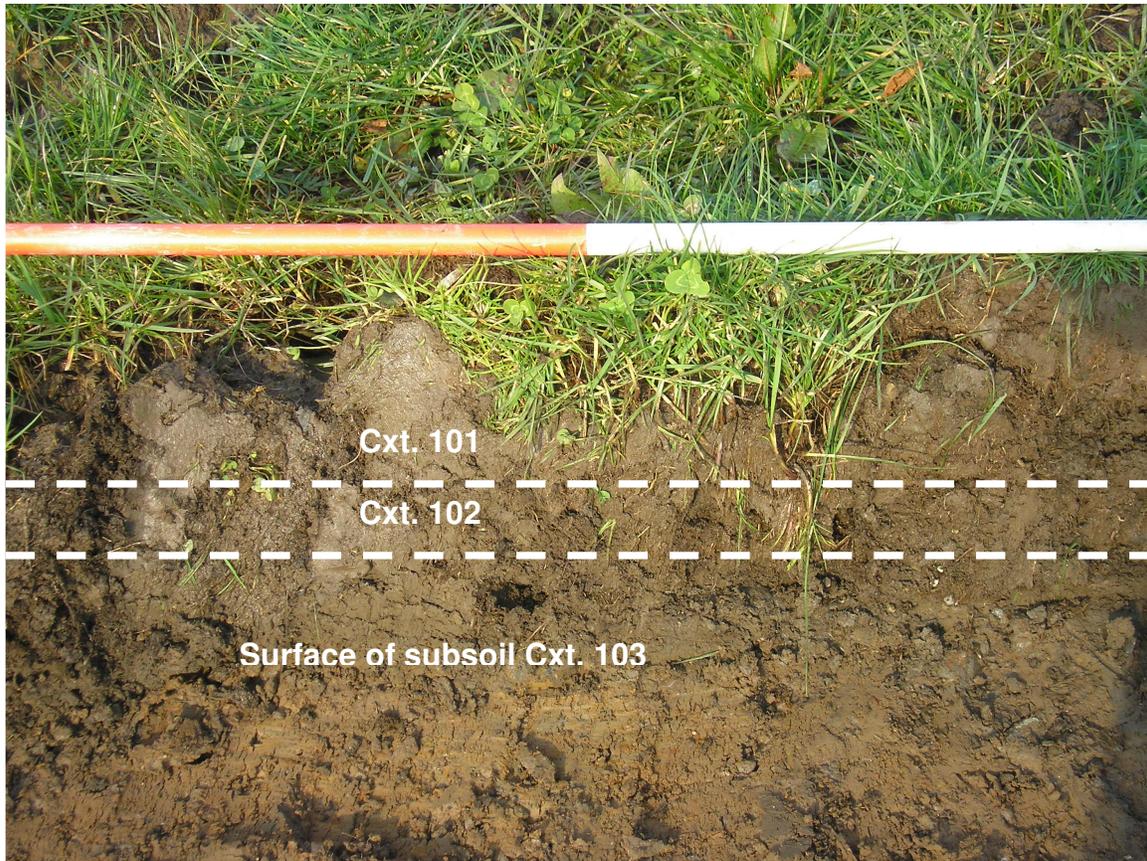


Plate 2: South-east facing section in Trench 1.



Plate 3: Trench 2 following excavation to the surface of the subsoil (Context No. 203), looking north-east.



Plate 4: South-east facing section of Trench 2.