



Monitoring Report No. 133

**No.7 Hillview Avenue
Pomeroy Road
Donaghmore
County Tyrone**

AE/07/131

Brian Sloan

Site Specific Information

Site Address: 7 Hillview Avenue, Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore

Townland: Donaghmore

SMR No.: TYR 046:046

State Care *Scheduled* *Other* ✓

Grid Ref: H 7688 6556

County: Tyrone

Excavation Licence No: AE/07/131

Planning Ref / No.: M/2007/0319/F

Date of Monitoring: 10th July 2007

Archaeologist Present: Brian Sloan

Brief Summary:

Two test trenches were excavated to evaluate the potential impact of a proposed development of a residential dwelling on any hidden archaeological remains. The proposed development site is located in an archaeologically sensitive area with known Early Christian sites within the immediate vicinity (TYR 046:046 and Tyr 046:010). Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered in either of the trenches.

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 approximately 20m by 2m

Current Land Use: Green field

Intended Land Use: Residential dwelling

Brief account of the monitoring

Introduction

The site of the proposed dwelling is located at 7 Hillview Avenue, Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore, Co. Tyrone (Fig 1). The site lies in the village of Donaghmore, approximately 4km north-west of the town of Dungannon, at an approximate height of 100m above sea level. The surrounding area is rich in archaeological sites (Fig 2). The closest recorded archaeological sites are both of Early Christian character; a souterrain (TYR 046:046) is recorded approximately 110m south-south-east and a monastic site (TYR 046:010) is recorded approximately 120m south of the application site. The application site is within the confines of the developed town of Donaghmore, and the surrounding landscape consists of both pastoral and arable land, interspersed with dwelling houses. The trenches were positioned to incorporate the footprint of the proposed dwelling (Fig 3) and was requested by Edith Gowdy (Case Officer Environment and Heritage Service: Built Heritage).

Excavation

Trench 1 was positioned to the north-east of the application site and measured approximately 20m by 2m. The trench was aligned north-west/south-east and was excavated to the surface of the natural subsoil (Context No. 103) (Plate 1) which was encountered at an average depth of 0.3m. A simple stratigraphic sequence was encountered in this trench (Plate 2).

The sod and topsoil in Trench 1 (Context No. 101) consisted of a mid to dark brown clay loam. This deposit had infrequent inclusions of rounded and angular stones (average size: 30 x 30 x 40mm) and active tree roots were observed within it. The sod and topsoil (Context No. 101) had an average depth of 0.2m. The sod and topsoil (Context No. 101) lay directly above a dark brown cultivation soil (Context No. 102).

The cultivation soil in Trench 1 (Context No. 102) consisted of a dark brown, compact clay loam. This deposit had frequent inclusions of rounded and sub-angular

stones (average size: 30 x 30 x 40mm). The presence of this cultivation soil (Context No. 102) on site probably relates to a period prior to the construction of Hillview Avenue, when the area was an open green field on the outskirts of Donaghmore town (Gerry Donnelly *pers comm.*). The cultivation soil (Context No. 102) lay directly above the natural subsoil (Context No. 103), and was approximately 0.1m thick.

The natural subsoil in Trench 1 (Context No. 103) consisted of mid orange sandy clay. Numerous small and medium sized rounded stones were observed protruding from the surface of the subsoil (Context No. 103). There were no finds or features of an archaeological nature encountered in this trench.

Trench 2 was positioned approximately 2m south-west of Trench 1. The trench was aligned north-west/south-east and was excavated to the surface of the natural subsoil (Context No. 203) (Plate 3) which was encountered at an average depth of 0.3m. A simple stratigraphic sequence was encountered in this trench (Plate 4).

The sod and topsoil in Trench 2 (Context No. 201) consisted of a mid to dark brown clay loam. This deposit had infrequent inclusions of rounded and angular stones (average size: 30 x 30 x 40mm) and active tree roots were observed within it. The sod and topsoil (Context No. 201) had an average depth of 0.2m. The sod and topsoil (Context No. 201) lay directly above a dark brown cultivation soil (Context No. 202).

The cultivation soil in Trench 2 (Context No. 202) consisted of a dark brown, compact clay loam. This deposit had frequent inclusions of rounded and sub-angular stones (average size: 30 x 30 x 40mm). The cultivation soil (Context No. 202) lay directly above the natural subsoil (Context No. 203), and was approximately 0.1m thick.

The natural subsoil in Trench 2 (Context No. 203) consisted of mid orange sandy clay. Numerous small and medium sized rounded stones were observed protruding from the surface of the subsoil (Context No. 203). There were no finds or features of an archaeological nature encountered in this trench.

Nothing of archaeological significance was noted during 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: n/a

Photographs: 9 digital images, held by the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queen's University Belfast.

Plans / Drawings: n/a

Signed: _____ Date: _____

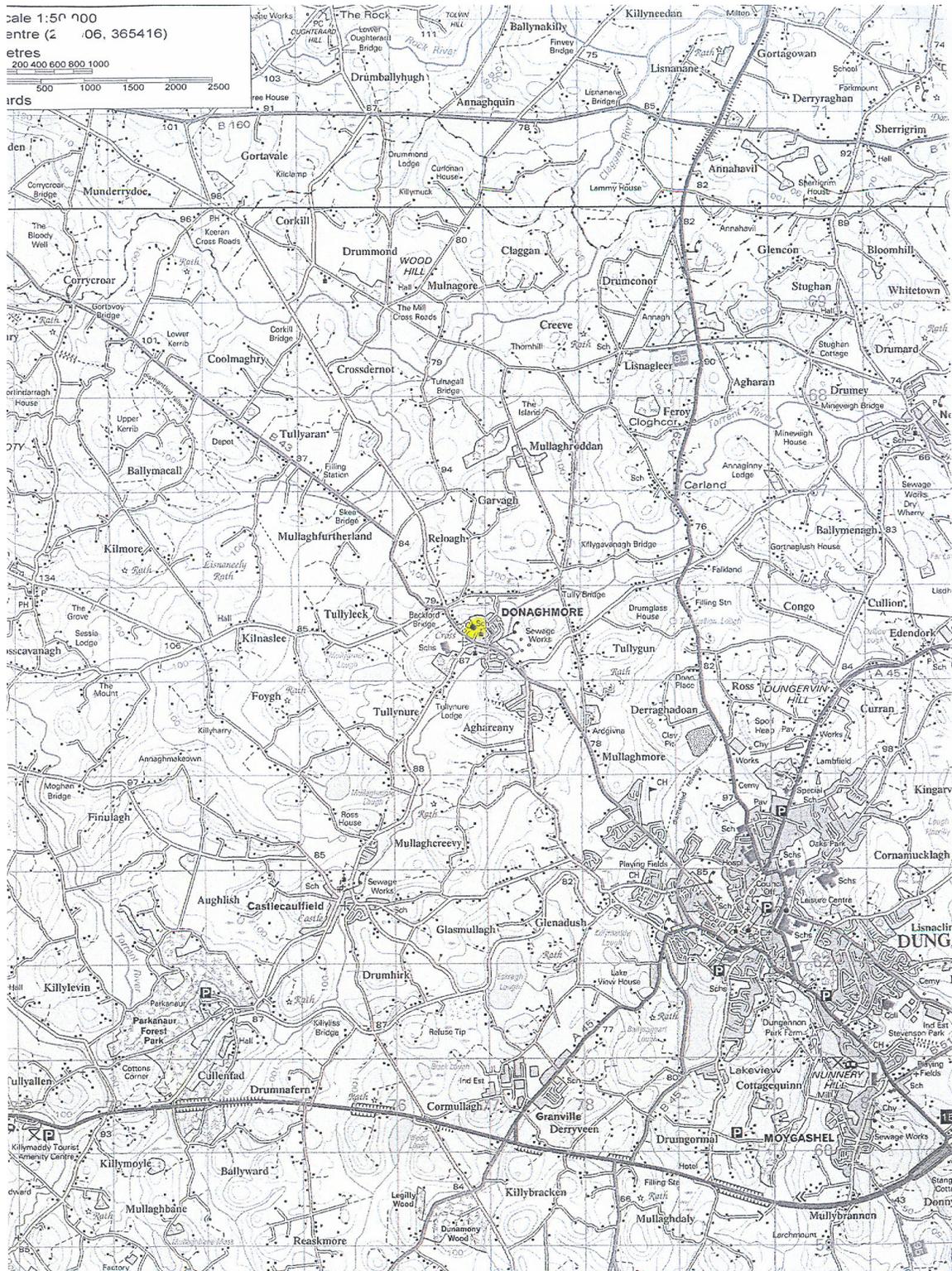


Fig. 1: General location map showing Donaghmore town (highlighted in yellow).



Fig. 2: Detailed location map showing application site (highlighted in yellow).

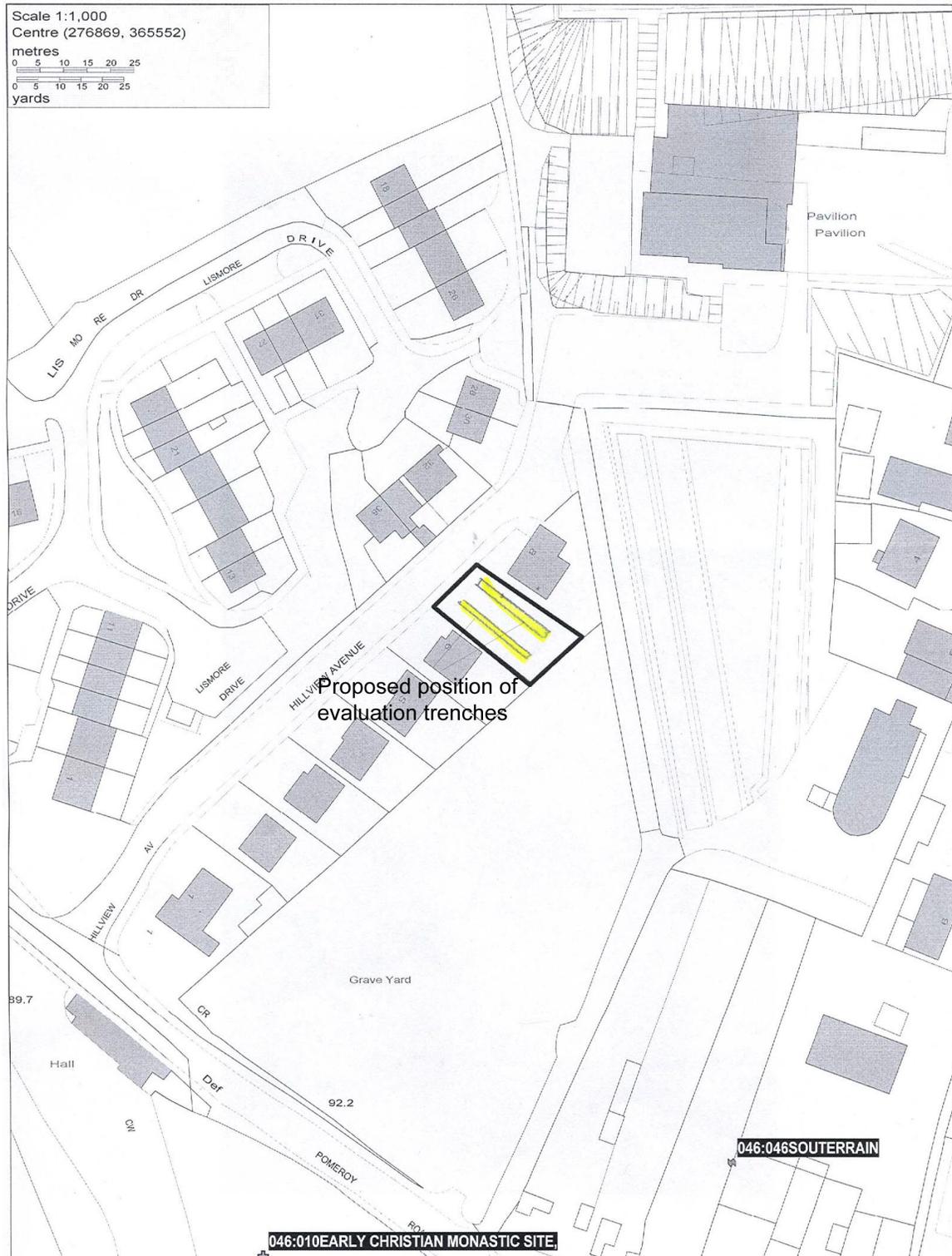


Fig. 3: Detailed location map showing positions of trenches.



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

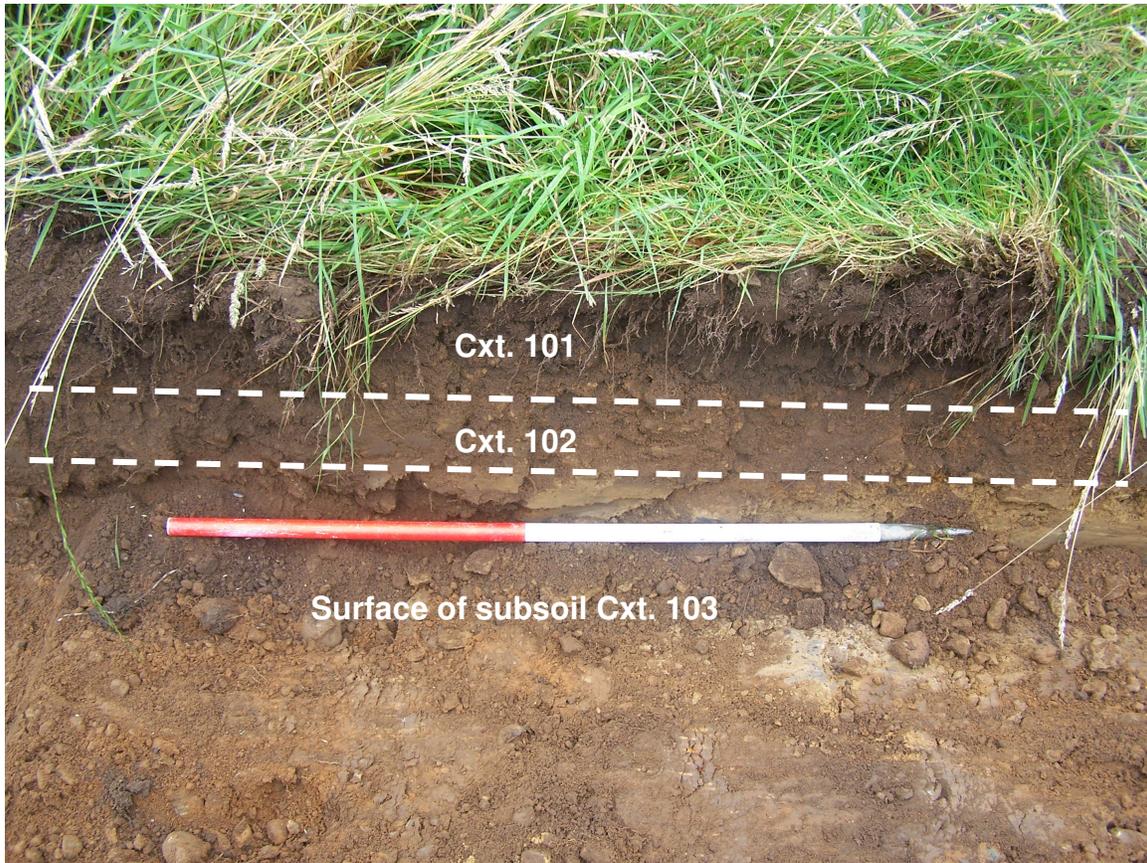


Plate 2: South-west facing section of Trench 1.



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

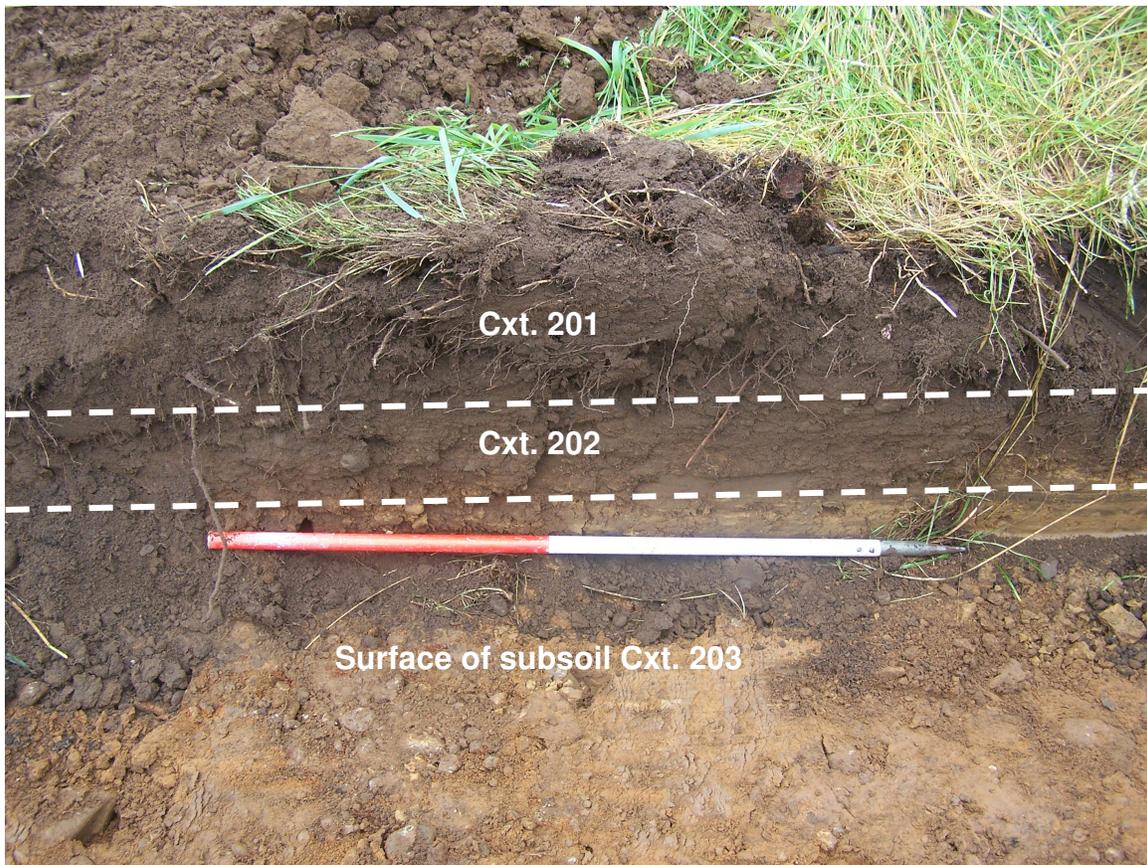


Plate 4: South-west facing section of Trench 2.