



## **Monitoring Report No. 230**

**750m south-south-east of Loughguile Chapel  
Loughguile  
Tully South townland  
County Antrim**

**AE/11/103E**

Ruth Logue

## Site Specific Information

*Site location:* 750m south-south-east of Loughguile Chapel, Loughguile

*Townland:* Tully South

*SMR number:* stone idol – ANT 018:029  
findspot of urns – ANT 018:074

State Care                      Scheduled                      Other

*Grid reference:* D09102470

*County:* Antrim

*Excavation licence number:* AE/11/103E

*Planning reference number:* D/2011/0017/F

*Date of monitoring:* 22 September 2011

*Archaeologist present:* Ruth Logue

### *Brief summary:*

Monitoring of five test trenches excavated to subsoil to evaluate the potential impact of the 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:* Trench A: 40.0m by 1.8m  
Trench B: 25.0m by 1.8m  
Trench C: 25.0m by 1.8m  
Trench D: 10.0m by 1.8m  
Trench E: 10.0m by 1.8m

*Current land use:* Pasture

*Intended land use:* Dwelling, garage and septic tank

## **Account of the monitoring**

The application site was located in a field 750m south-south-east of Loughguile Chapel, Tully South townland in County Antrim. The proposed development was for a dwelling and garage with septic tank. The southern site boundary contained parts of a possible stone idol, The Pagan, (ANT 018:029). It is recorded in the NISMR as being set upright with the top section, the 'head', broken off and lying loose; the bigger stone is now recumbent with the other piece lying beside it (Plate 1). A field immediately to the north of the application site is recorded as having been the findspot of urns (ANT 018:074), although their exact findspot remains unlocated. (Figure 1).

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 22 September 2011. Five test trenches (A to E) (Figure 2) were excavated in the area requested by the Protecting Historic Monuments Caseworker, Andrew Gault.

The topsoil was uniform in all five trenches, a mid-brown silty loam; it ranged in depth from 0.15m to 0.40m. The topsoil lay directly above subsoil, an orange silty clay with shale bedrock protruding in places.

Trench A was 40.0m long, Trench B was 25.0m long and Trench C was also 25.0m long. These three trenches were located over the footprint of the house, garage and driveway. Trenches C and D were both 10.0m long and located where the septic tank would be situated. All five trenches were 1.8m wide. (Plates 2 to 6)

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

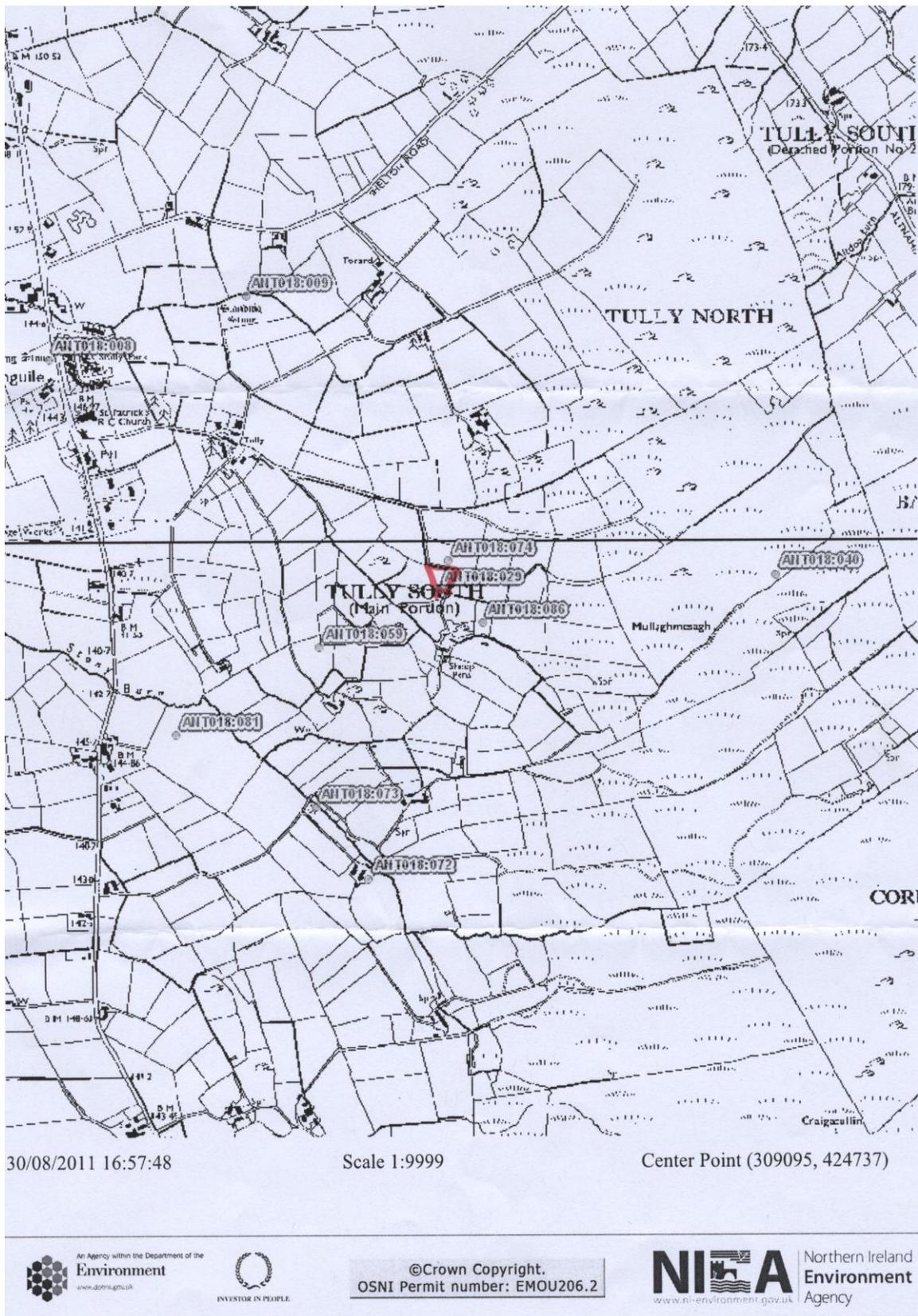


Figure 1: Map showing application site (highlighted) and sites of archaeological interest in the surrounding area.

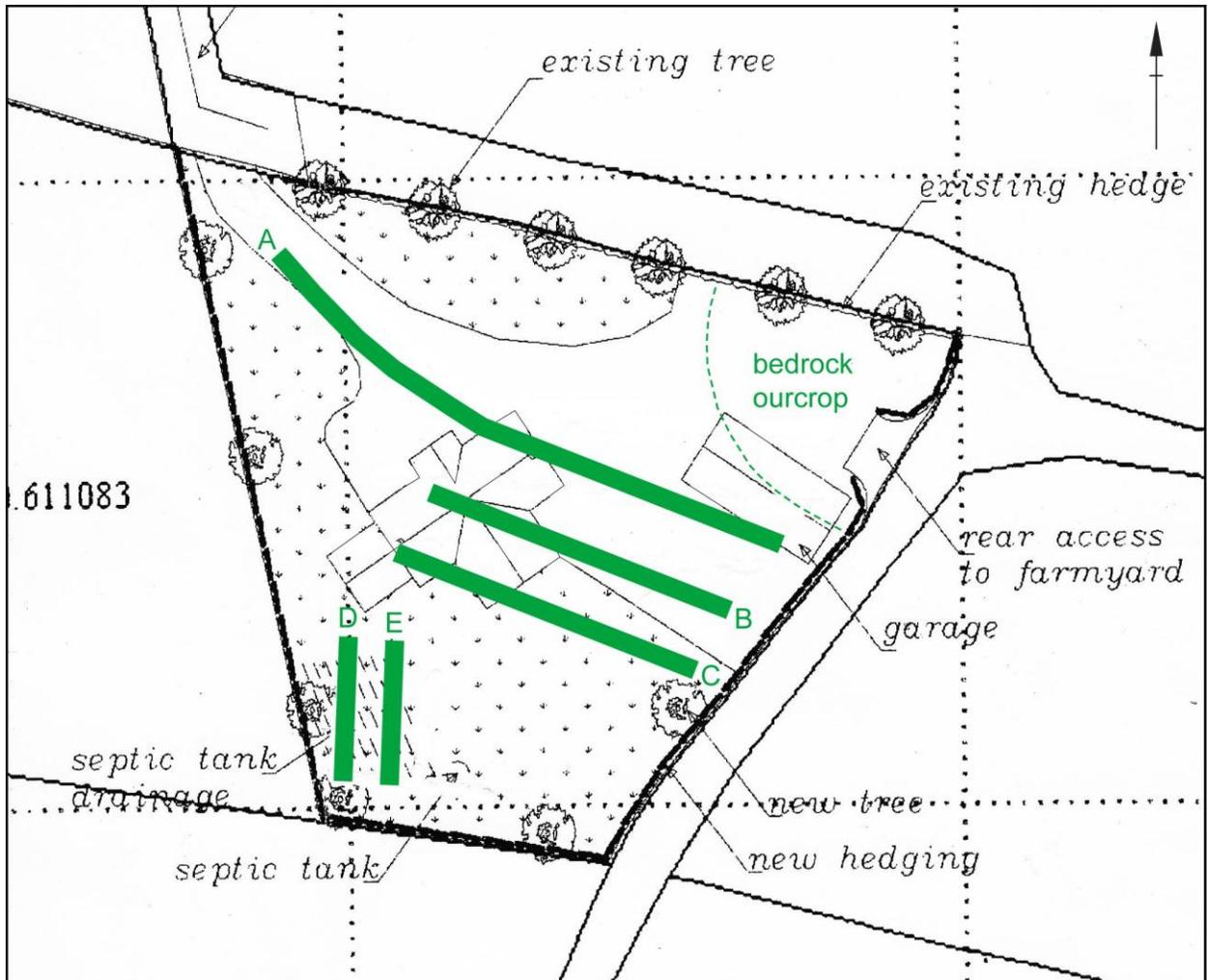


Figure 2: Plan showing application site and approximate location of test trenches. (not to scale)



Plate 1: Stone idol, ANT 018:029.



Plate 2: Trench A, post-excavation, looking south-east.



Plate 3: Trench B, post-excitation, looking north-west.



Plate 4: Trench C, post-excitation, looking north-west.



Plate 5: Trench D, post-excitation, looking north.



Plate 6: Trench E, post-excitation, looking south.