



## Evaluation/monitoring Report No. 264

ADJACENT TO 80 BURNQUARTER ROAD  
CLAUGHEY TD, BALLYMONEY  
CO. ANTRIM

AE/13/84E

SARAH GORMLEY

### Site Specific Information

*Site Name:* Site adjacent to 80 Burnquarter Road  
*Townland:* Claughey  
*SMR No. :* Approx 50m from ANT 017:062  
*Status:* The site is not Scheduled or in State Care  
*Grid Ref.:* C9577021970  
*County:* Antrim  
*Excavation Licence No. :* AE/13/84E  
*Planning Ref / No. :* D/2012/0076/O  
*Dates of monitoring:* 13 May 2013  
*Archaeologist Present:* Sarah Gormley

*Brief Summary:* It is proposed that a new single dwelling is located at a site adjacent to 80 Burnquarter Road, which is approximately 30m from a souterrain. The precise extent of the souterrain and any associated remains is currently unknown and there was potential for previously unrecorded below ground archaeological remains to be encountered within the proposed development area. As such the archaeological potential of the area was evaluated using mechanically excavated trenches. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered.

*Type of monitoring:* Mechanical excavation of topsoil, to subsoil using a smooth-edged 'sheugh' bucket and supervised by an archaeologist.

*Size of area opened:* The proposed site measures a maximum 37.5m east-west x 35m north-south. Three trenches were opened 15m x 1.6m running approximately parallel, north-west to south-east.

*Current Land Use:* Grass and deciduous tree planting.

*Intended Land Use:* Residential development.

### **Account of the monitoring**

It is proposed that a new one and a half storey dwelling is constructed at a site adjacent to 80 Burnquarter Road, Claughey, Ballymoney (Figure 1). A souterrain (ANT 017:062) is located in the adjacent field, approximately 30m to the south-east of the proposed development (see Figure 1). As such there was the potential for previously unrecorded below ground archaeological remains to be encountered within the development area and consequently an archaeological evaluation was requested by Arlene Matthews, Inspector of Historic Monuments, NIEA, in order to inform the planning process.

The site lies on the corner between the Burnquarter and Finvoy Roads. A number of other detached single dwellings have been constructed in the immediate area in recent years. The site itself is in grass and is planted with deciduous trees (Figure 2). No archaeological remains have been recorded in the development area in the past and nothing is marked on any edition of the Ordnance Survey map. A souterrain is located in the adjacent field and was discovered in the 1950s when a septic tank outlet was being dug. No other archaeological features are recorded in the immediate area, although a corn mill was located to the south on the Claughey Water River and the associated mill pond was located in the field to the east.

The site was tested for below ground archaeological remains by the excavation of three roughly parallel strips, 15m long and 1.6m wide (Figure 3). These were excavated using a mechanical digger fitted with a back-acting sheugh bucket. The dark brown topsoil, 0.3-0.4m thick, was removed to the orange-brown clay subsoil and no archaeological remains were encountered (Figure 4-6).

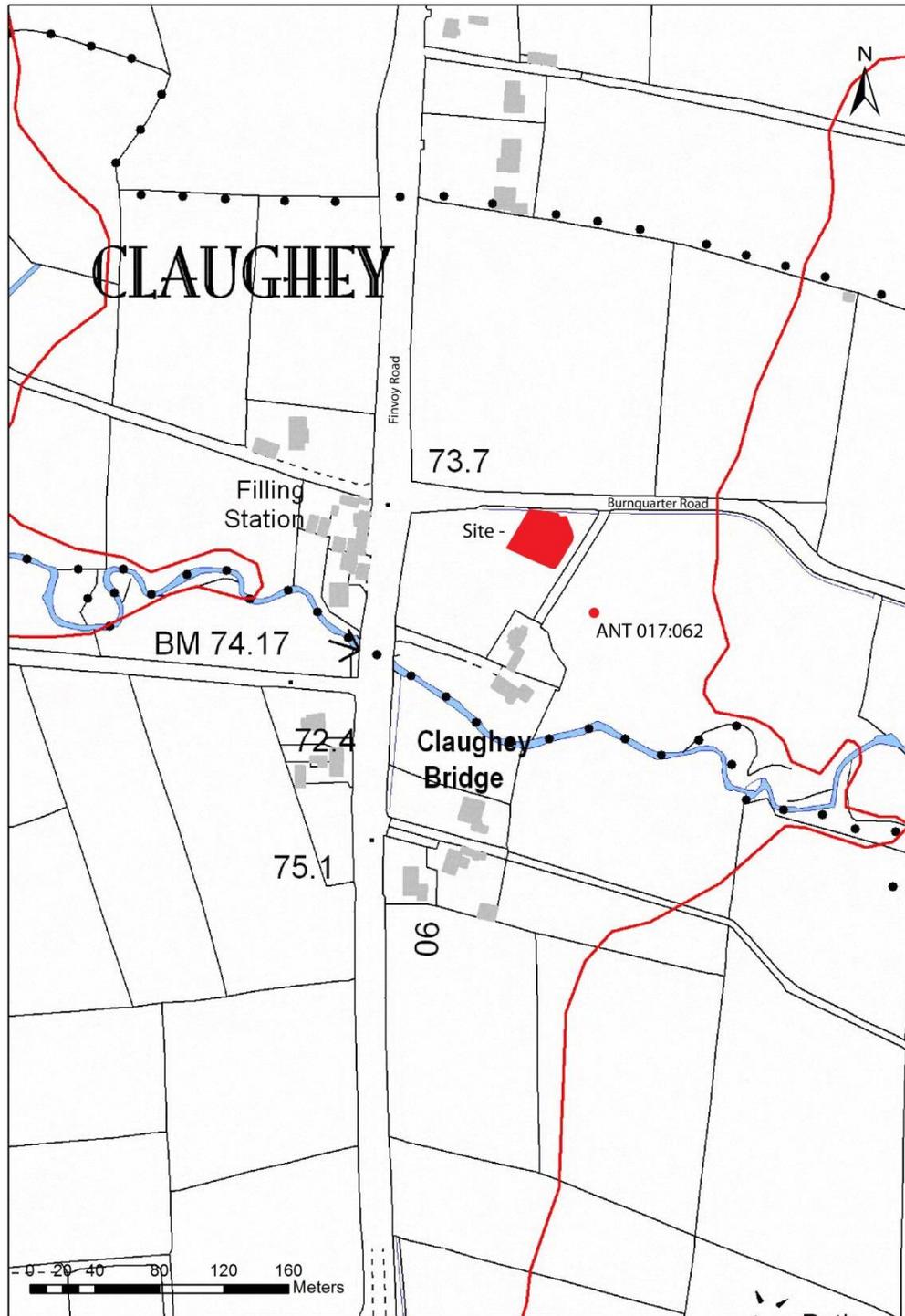


Figure 1 – Map showing location of the site and the souterrain (ANT 017:062).



Figure 2 – The site and trenches, looking north-north-west.

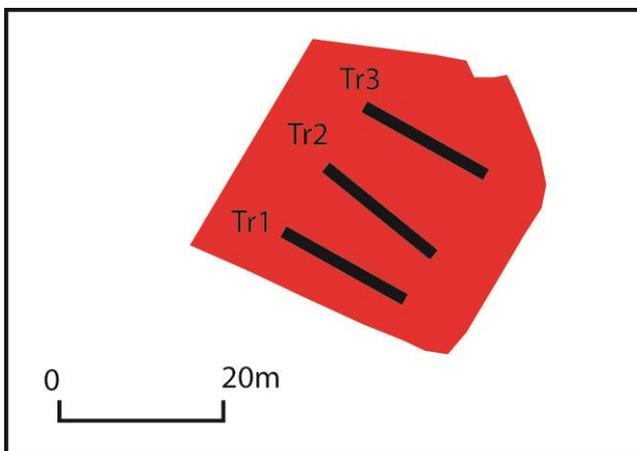


Figure 3 – Plan of trenches 1-3 and outline of site in red.



Figure 4 – Trench 1, looking north-west.



Figure 5 – Trench 2, looking north-west.



Figure 6 – Trench 3, looking south-east.

**Archive:**

*Finds:* No finds were uncovered.

*Photographs:* The photographs taken during the monitoring are stored digitally with the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queen's University Belfast.

*Samples:* No samples were taken.

*Drawings:* No drawings were compiled.