



## **Evaluation/Monitoring Report No. 140**

**72 Kilnaslee Road  
Galbally  
Dungannon  
County Tyrone**

**LICENCE NO.: AE/07/166**

David McIlreavy

### Site Specific Information

Site Name : 72 Kilnaslee Road, Galbally, Dungannon

Townland : Kerrib

County : Tyrone

Grid Ref. : IH7273767471

SMR No. : TYR 045:014

State Care : Scheduled [  ]  
Other [  ]

Excavation Licence No : AE/07/166

Planning Ref / No. : M/2006/0394/F

Dates of Monitoring : 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2007

Archaeologist Present : David McIlreavy

#### *Brief Summary:*

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at a site in the townland of Kerrib, Co Tyrone as part of the planning application for a new dwelling. The application site lies to the east of a mound (TYR 045:014), which is described in the NISMR as a “small circular mound (or platform) on the back of a narrow ridge”. The date of this feature is uncertain, and despite depiction on the 1833 and 1854 OS 6” maps, there are no visible remains on the ground. The area of the proposed dwelling was mechanically excavated to the glacial sub soil level in order to assess the presence of archaeological remains. The area uncovered as a result of the evaluation revealed no features of potential archaeological interest.

#### *Type of monitoring:*

Excavation of the area of proposed dwelling, by mechanical excavator fitted with a 2 metre wide smooth edged ‘sheugh’ bucket, under archaeological supervision.

#### *Size of area opened:*

Area of evaluation approximately 25 X 17 metres, covering a ground area of approximately 341 m<sup>2</sup>.

*Current Land Use: Agricultural*

*Intended Land Use: Residential*

## **Brief account of the monitoring**

### *Introduction*

The development site is located in the townland of Kerrib, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone. The site is located between the villages of Donaghmore and Pomeroy, lying approximately 5 km northwest of the latter, in the townland of Kerrib (Fig. 1). The application site is situated in a roughly square field (Fig. 2), the boundaries of which are delineated by a wire and post fence to the southwestern edge, and wooden fences to the north western and south eastern edges. The development lies just off the summit of a drumlin, and slopes gently southwest to north east.

The evaluation took place as part of the planning application for the construction of a new dwelling, and was requested by Edith Gowdy (Caseworker with Environment and Heritage Service: Built Heritage) due to the proximity of the development site to an undated mound (TYR 045:014) and the possibility that there may be previously unrecorded remains associated with this site.

### *Excavation*

The evaluation consisted of the archaeological supervision of a mechanically excavated area 23 X 15 metres, with the shortest sides running parallel with two laneways running southwest-northeast on the site. The evaluation area was extended to the south by approximately 2 X 5 metres, and to the east by approximately 2 X 15 metres. The building footprint (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4) was excavated to the glacial subsoil level, which was noted as an orange sandy boulder clay (Context No. 106).

The surface of the development site showed signs of heavy disturbance in the recent past (Plate 1), although this disturbance was largely restricted to the sod and upper topsoil layer (Context No. 101). As noted above two laneways had been constructed on the development site, both running parallel to the development site's boundary running southwest-northeast, both of which can be seen illustrated in blue on Figs. 3 and 4. The laneway (Context No. 102) at the northern end of the development site had been excavated to the subsoil level and bedded with gravel (Context No. 103), although the majority of this material had been removed to form the base of another laneway (Context No. 104) which had been constructed at the southern end of the site (Plates 2 and 3). This second laneway had been excavated to cultivation soil level (Context No. 107). The gravel bedding of this feature (Plate 4) was awarded Context No. 105 (although it was noted that this is the same material as Context No. 103 – see Harris Matrix Fig 4.).

The topsoil layer (Context No. 101) consisted of a dark brown, silty clay loam. The layer contained occasional sub-rounded stone inclusions (average size: 30 x 20 x 10mm), and was approximately 0.05 – 0.10 metres thick. This topsoil layer overlay a compact, mid to dark brown, sandy loam cultivation soil (Context No. 107) which was 0.10 metres thick.

The cultivation soil (Context No. 107) directly overlay the glacial subsoil (Context No. 106), an orange sandy boulder clay encountered at a depth of approximately 0.20 metres below ground surface, deepening to 0.30 metres (below ground surface) at the northwestern end of the evaluation area where the overlying layers were less disturbed. Upon removal of the cultivation soil (Context No. 107), a number of potential archaeological features were exposed (see Fig 5.).

The first of these features (Context No. 108) was an irregularly-shaped cut, approximately 2 X 1 metres in dimension. The feature was filled by a waterlogged fine white-grey sand which included a number of angular stones (average size: 50 x 20 x 20mm; Context No. 109; Plate 5).

Two linear cut features (Context Nos. 110 and 111) were filled by similar white-grey sand to Context No. 109, and extended to the southwest and northwest of the irregular feature (Context No. 108). Context No. 110 extended 4.70 metres to the southwest of Context No. 108, Context No. 111 extended 4.65 metres to the northwest. The fills of the two features were attributed Context Nos. 112 (fill of Context No. 110) and 113 (fill of Context No. 111). A small section of Context No. 110 was archaeologically excavated, which showed the depth of the feature to be 0.07 metres (Plate 6). It was noted that the fill (Context No. 112) contained similar white-grey sand to Context No. 109, but did not have the same angular stones present.

Two further areas of white-grey sandy material were noted to the northeast and southeast of Context No. 108. These features were denoted Context Nos. 113 and 114, respectively. No fills were attributed to these features as it was considered that they represented localized deposits of the white grey sandy material (Context No. 109).

A waterlogged feature (Context No. 115) was identified immediately northwest of the site centre (Plate 7), approximately 0.70 x 0.50 metres in dimension. The fill (Context No. 116) was a waterlogged grey sandy clay (Context No. 117), containing a modern wooden stake, and a piece of modern nineteenth/twentieth century Staffordshire stoneware (Small Finds No. 1).

During the removal of the disturbed topsoil at the northeastern end of the evaluation area, it was noted by the excavator that the disturbance of the topsoil continued through the cultivation soil. The disturbed material was attributed Context No. 118, and was described as similar to the dark brown silty clay loam topsoil (Context No. 101), but with noticeable black humic inclusions. The glacial sub soil was noticeably darker underneath Context No. 118 (Plates 8, 9 and 10), and the excavator noted that this resulted from staining due to leaching of humic inclusions. The disturbed

cultivation soil contained some modern plastic bottles, a piece of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century ceramic (Small Finds No. 2), two pieces of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century 'Blackware' (Small Finds No. 3 and 4), a piece of 18<sup>th</sup> century glazed ware (Small Finds No. 5), and a piece of modern terracotta (Small Finds No. 6).

### *Interpretation*

The features represented by Context Nos. 108 – 113, filled by the waterlogged fine white grey sand (Context Nos. 109, 112 and 113), are considered to be drainage channels and an associated sump. Although no datable evidence was retrieved from the features it is not considered that they represent activity of any great antiquity. Similarly, the deposits of fine white grey sand represented by Context Nos. 113 and 114 are considered to be probably dumps of material associated with the above features, again of no great antiquity.

The waterlogged feature represented by Context No. 115 is considered to be modern due to the wooden stake embedded in the feature, which also supports the interpretation that the overlying topsoil layer had been deposited in the recent past. It was considered by the excavator that the Small Finds recovered from the disturbed cultivation soil in this area represent a relatively recent deposition of material, the staining of the glacial sub soil due to the leaching of this non consolidated material. Information from the developer confirmed that the site had been topsoil stripped and subsequently used for dumping associated with the construction of new housing in the vicinity.

### *Recommendations*

It is not thought that the development will impact upon previously unrecorded archaeological remains. It is therefore recommended that no further archaeological fieldwork is carried out. No publication is required save for a short summary in the annual '*Excavations*' bulletin.

**TABLE 1**

Context Register

Context No.	Description
101	Dark brown silty clay loam
102	Cut of laneway
103	Gravel deposit
104	Cut of laneway
105	Gravel deposit (same as 103)
106	Orange sandy boulder clay
107	Mid to dark brown sandy loam
108	Cut (filled by Context No. 109)
109	Grey white sand with stone inclusions
110	Cut (filled by Context No. 112)
111	Cut (filled by Context No. 113)
112	White grey sand
113	White grey sand
114	White grey sand - deposit
115	White grey sand - deposit
116	Cut (filled by Context No. 117)
117	Grey sandy clay
118	Dark brown silty loam with black humic inclusions

**TABLE 2**

Small Finds Register

Small Finds No.	Description
1	19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery – Staffordshire stoneware
2	19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> glazed ceramic
3	19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery – blackware
4	19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery – blackware
5	18 <sup>th</sup> century pottery - glazed
6	19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery - terracota

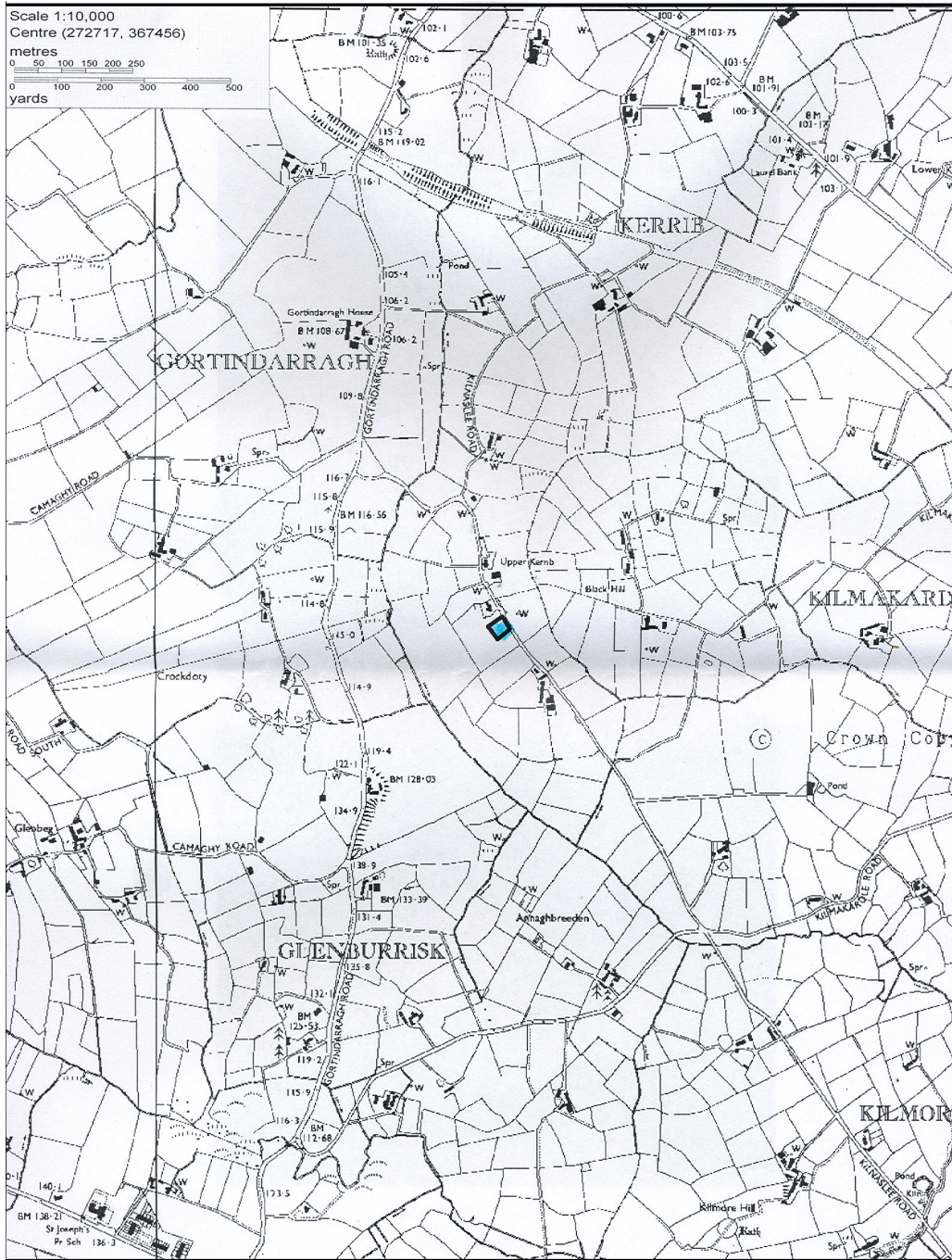


Fig 1. Location map of the development site – townland of Kerrib





Fig. 2 Location map of development site in relation to the mound feature (TYR 045:014)



Fig. 3 Map showing the excavated area of the proposed development site. The two laneways (Context Nos. 102 and 104) that border the excavation area are shown in blue.

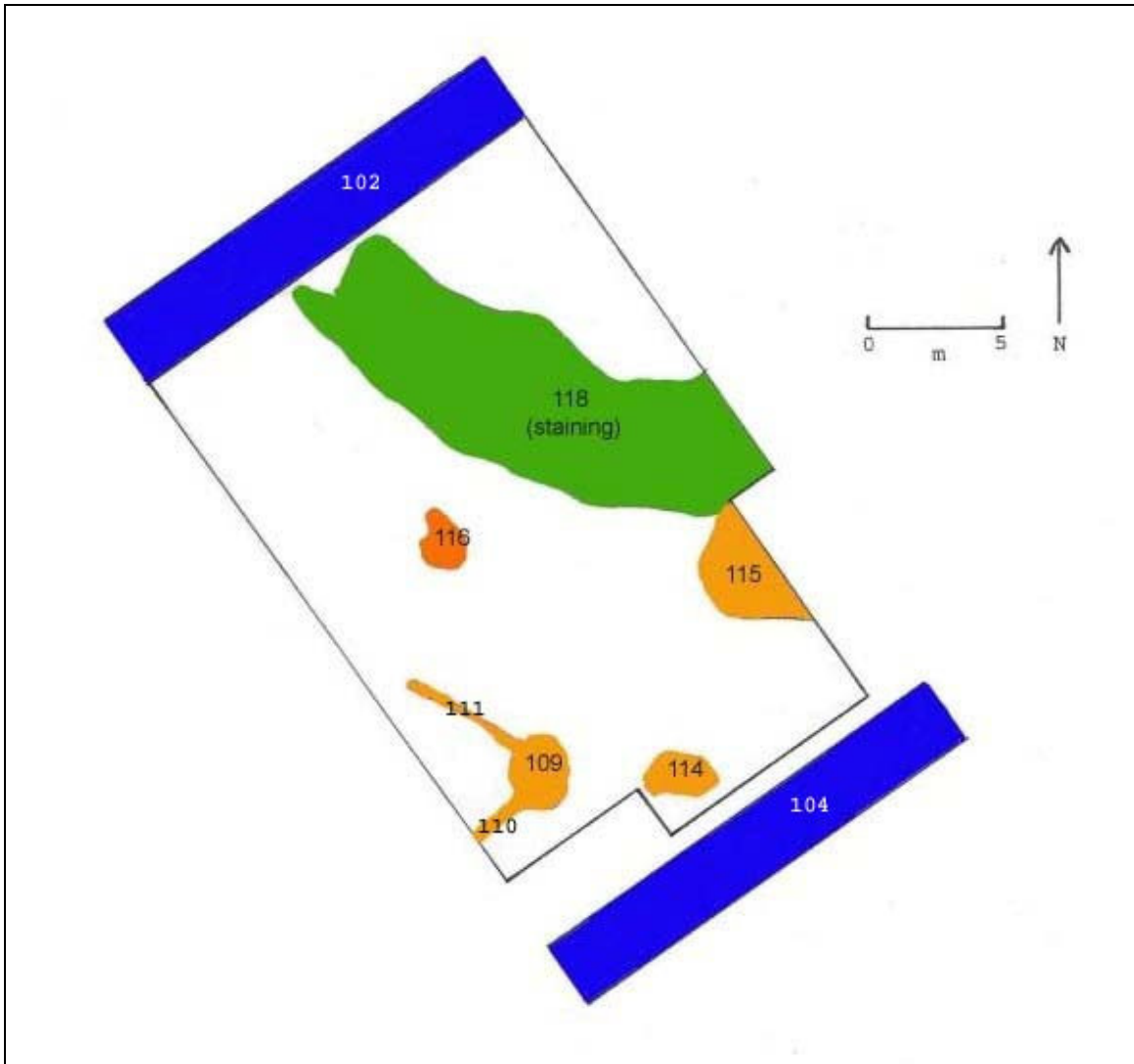


Fig. 4 Site plan after excavation to glacial subsoil (Context No. 106). The laneways across the site are denoted in blue (although the laneway to the southeastern end of the development site was only excavated to the cultivation soil). Features filled with the white grey sand are denoted in yellow, the feature containing a modern stake in orange and the dark staining of the subsoil is denoted in green. Context Nos. have been labeled on individual features.

Fig 5. Harris Matrix Trench 1

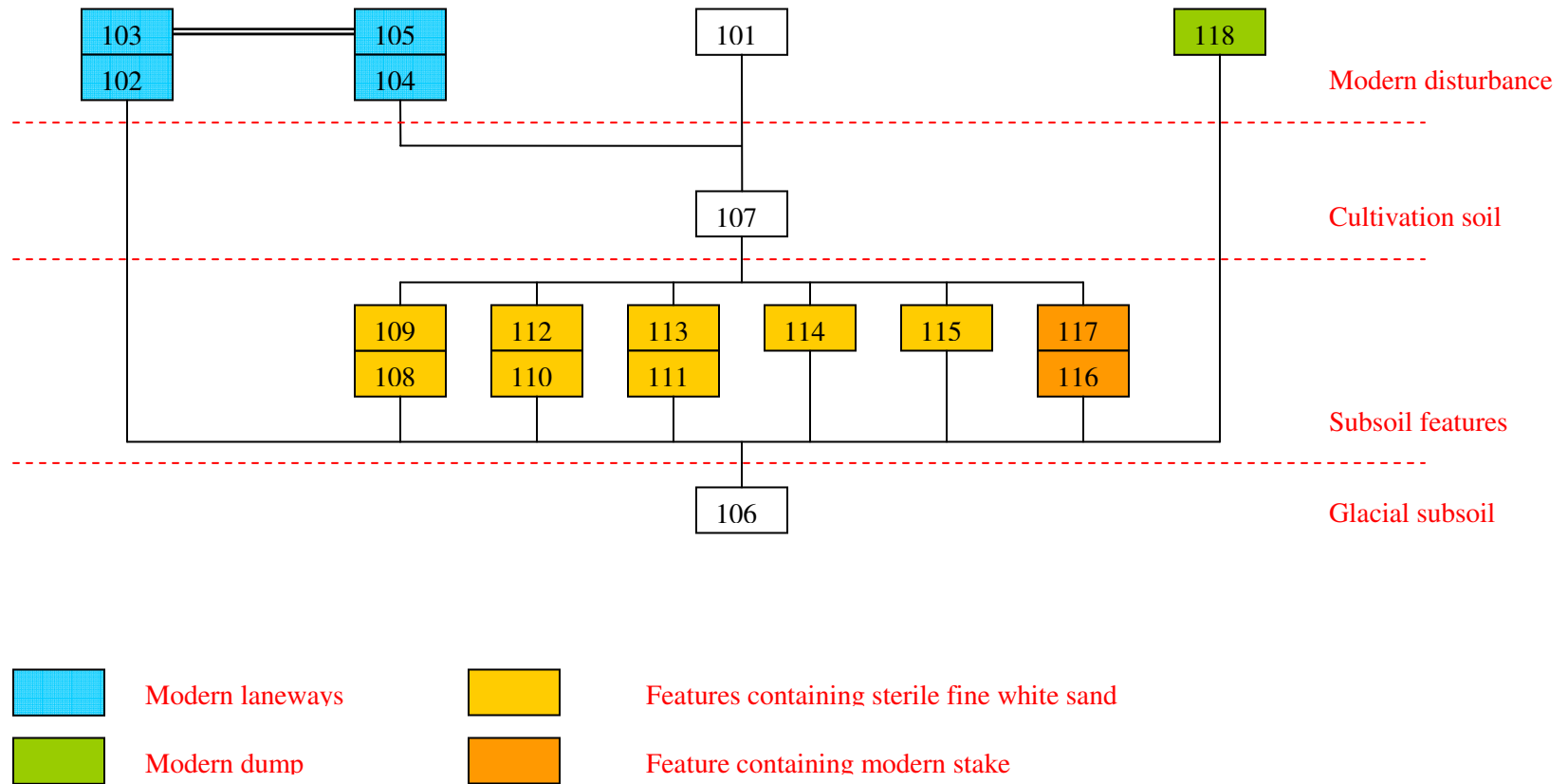




Plate 1      View of disturbed topsoil layer (Context No. 101) on development site, looking southeast



Plate 2 View of laneway (Context No.102), looking northeast



Plate 3 View of laneway (Context No. 102) showing removed gravel base (Context No. 103)



Plate 4      View of laneway (Context No. 104), looking northeast.





Plate 5 View of feature (Context No. 108) filled with fine white grey sand (Context No. 109). Also note linear features (Context Nos. 110 and 111) radiating from main feature. Looking north.



Plate 6 View of half section through linear feature (Context No. 110) showing sterile white grey sand fill. Looking southeast.



Plate 7 View of feature (Context No. 116) containing modern wooden stake.  
Looking north.



Plate 8 View of development site excavated to glacial subsoil level, showing dark staining of subsoil to the northeast. Looking northeast.



Plate 9 View of development site excavated to glacial subsoil level, showing the dark staining of subsoil to the northeast. Looking southwest.



Plate 10 View of development site excavated to glacial subsoil level, showing the dark staining to northeast. Looking northwest.



Plate 11      Small Finds from the cultivation soil layer.  
*From top left to right*      Small Finds No. 5, Small Finds No. 3  
*Middle left to right*      Small Finds No.1, Small Finds No. 4  
*Bottom left to right*      Small Finds No. 6, Small Finds No. 2