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Data Structure Report No. 065

Excavations at Tullykevin, Ballywalter, Co. Down

AE/08/128

On behalf of



Excavations at Tullykevin, Ballywalter, Co. Down

Brian Sloan

CAF DSR 065

(Grid Reference: J 5992 6977)

(Licence No: AE/08/128)

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1 Summary

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 An excavation was carried out on archaeological features following their identification through an evaluation carried out in July 2008 at Tullykevin, Ballywalter, Co. Down. The original evaluation was prompted by a proposition to construct a dwelling that would replace 74 Dunover Road (X/2007/1297/F). The presence of a raised rath (DOW 012:005) approximately 20m north of the proposed development site prompted the archaeological investigation.

1.2 Aims

1.2.1 The primary aim of the excavation was to investigate the features of archaeological potential identified during the initial evaluation. As the site was intended to be developed, excavation was deemed necessary, with preservation by record necessitated prior to the development progressing.

1.3 Excavation

1.3.1 The archaeological investigations at Tullykevin was phased with the initial evaluation (phase 1) followed by the full excavation of the development area (phase 2). The phase 1 evaluation consisted of the mechanical excavation of three test trenches across the development site. The results of these trenches has been previously reported on (Sloan 2008; section 3.3 this report). Subsoil cut features were observed and further mitigation necessitated.

1.3.2 A follow up excavation commenced in November 2008 (phase 2). This involved the mechanical excavation of the entire development site (an area of approximately 500m²). Due to the truncation of the site through its use as a farmyard from the mid nineteenth century, very little strata overlay the natural subsoil. The removal of the overlying strata revealed two ditches, excavation of which produced numerous sherds of decorated pottery of the souterrain ware tradition. This tentatively dates the backfill of the ditches to between the tenth and thirteenth centuries (Cormac McSparron *pers comm.*).

1.4 *Results*

- 1.4.1 The excavation proved successful in that the features of archaeological significance were excavated in advance of the development of the site. It is envisaged that post-excavation analysis of the samples retrieved during the excavation will shed further light on the date and function of the archaeological features present at Tullykevin.

1.5 *Recommendations*

- 1.5.1 A number of recommendations can be made to progress this project to final publication. These are described in detail in section 5 of this report and the accompanying Costed Assessment.
- 1.5.2 It is proposed that a series of radiocarbon dates are obtained from the fills of the ditches. It is possible (based on the morphological characteristics of the pottery) that the ditches relate to a twelfth/thirteenth century phase of activity at the rath (DOW 012:005) (Cormac McSparron *pers. comm.*). It is hoped that processing of the soil samples will provide suitable material for high precision single entity (AMS) dating.
- 1.5.3 A large assemblage of souterrain ware pottery, as well as a small amount of slag and burnt animal bone was recovered from the fills of the ditches. It is proposed that the pottery assemblage is studied by a relevant specialist to provide a chronological and morphological framework that could be compared with the radiocarbon dates.
- 1.5.3 It is recommended that an article based on the results of the excavation is prepared for publication in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, as well as a short note in the Excavations Bulletin.

2 Introduction

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 The following report details the preliminary results of the archaeological excavation of two Early Christian ditches in Tullykevin townland, Ballywalter, Co. Down. The excavation took place following the identification of features of potential archaeological significance during initial evaluative trenching conducted by the author under the same licence (AE/08/128) in July 2008. The subsequent archaeological excavation took place between the 10th November and the 19th December 2008 and was carried out by members of the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF), Queen's University Belfast.
- 2.1.2 The excavation was directed by Brian Sloan of the CAF under the Licence No. AE/08/128. Both the initial evaluation and the subsequent excavation were carried out on behalf of, and funded by, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

2.2 Background

- 2.2.1 The townland of Tullykevin lies roughly 3km north-west of the town of Ballywalter in Co. Down at a height of approximately 40m above sea-level (Figure 1). The site is intended to be used for the construction of a replacement dwelling at 74 Dunover Road (Planning Ref: X/2007/1297/F). The site (roughly 500m²) is located within a rectangular yard to the north of the present building at 74 Dunover Road. The site is bounded by a roughly built, mortared stone wall on the east, an upstanding outhouse to the north, a well preserved raised rath (DOW 012:005) to the north-east and a laneway to the east. The current building (74 Dunover Road) that is to be replaced bounds the site to the south. The surrounding landscape consists largely of agricultural land (both pastoral and arable), interspersed with residential dwellings.
- 2.2.2 The excavation of archaeological features at Tullykevin was the second phase of archaeological investigation at the site. The first phase consisted of the mechanical excavation of three evaluative test trenches across the development site, undertaken by Brian Sloan of the CAF. The initial programme of works was carried out on 31st July 2008, and has previously been reported on (Sloan 2008, 2).
- 2.2.3 The results of these evaluative trenches indicated that archaeological features were present in the development area. A linear ditch feature was observed cutting the natural

subsoil in both Trenches One and Two , whilst an extension of Trench Three to the north showed a substantial ditch encloses the rath (DOW 012:005). A small cutting excavated into the linear feature in Trench One produced 40 sherds of coarse pottery, consistent with the 'souterrain ware' tradition, as well as burnt flint and large fragments of charcoal. Although this feature was not fully excavated at this stage, it was recognised as having archaeological potential. The ditch encountered in Trench Three lay outside the development area and was thus not investigated further (Sloan 2008, 5).

- 2.2.4 Due to the presence of archaeological features on site, and the fact that these would be destroyed by the development, the decision was made that an excavation should proceed to record the features prior to their destruction. The Northern Ireland Environment Agency: Historic Monuments Unit funded an excavation that took place between 10th November – 19th December 2008.

2.3 *Cartographic evidence*

- 2.3.1 The cartographic evidence for the Tullykevin area lends little to the interpretation of the archaeological features. However, maps dating from the 1st edition (1835) show the development of the field systems around the rath (DOW 012;005) as well as the continued development of the house (74 Dunover Road) and surrounding farm buildings/farmyard. A substantial amount of building and re-building has occurred at the excavation site through out the nineteenth and twentieth century, explaining the significant truncation of the site.

2.4 *Geological background*

- 2.4.1 The site of Tullykevin is located approximately in the middle of the Ards peninsula, between the shores of Strangford Lough and the Irish Sea, in an area of relatively simple geology. This consists primarily of greywacke and shale that have been largely disturbed by the Orlock Bridge Fault, and dates to the Lower Palaeozoic of approximately 400 million years BP (Mitchell 2004, 51).

2.5 *Surrounding archaeological landscape*

- 2.5.1 The proposed development area is located immediately adjacent to a well preserved raised rath (DOW 012:005), and it was this proximity that prompted the original evaluation (requested by Gina Baban: NIEA Case Officer for the area). Several other

sites of archaeological interest are located in the general vicinity of the development area. These are detailed below (Table One).

SMR #	Type	Grid Ref.
DOW 012:002	Enclosure (Undated)	J 6104 7089
DOW 012:003	Enclosure (Undated)	J 6094 7051
DOW 012:004	Motte (Medieval)	J 6052 7032
DOW 012:005	Platform Rath (Early Christian)	J 5991 6983
DOW 012:007	Rath (Early Christian)	J 6125 6867
DOW 012:009	Platform Rath (Early Christian)	J 6071 6797
DOW 012:015	Crop mark (Undated)	J 6069
DOW 012:016	Aerial Photograph site (Undated)	J 6126 6963
DOW 012:017	Aerial Photograph site (Undated)	J 6080 6870

Table One: SMR sites within 1km of the development site

- 2.5.2 The Sites and Monuments Record shows that there is a predominance of Early Christian and Medieval activity in this area. A majority of the sites are labelled 'enclosure' or sites that have been identified through aerial photography. Although these sites are undated (and in some instances unlocated) there is the distinct possibility that they are the remains of ploughed out raths.
- 2.5.3 Approximately 1km north-east of the development site is a well preserved motte in the townland of Dunover (DOW 012:004). It is not readily apparent that this motte had an attached bailey, as substantial landscaping has taken place with the construction of Dunover House in the nineteenth century. A note in the SM7 file for the motte states that sherds of green-glazed pottery of twelfth/thirteenth century date were collected on the summit of the motte in 1951.
- 2.5.4 The motte is mentioned in the thirteenth century as being the caput of the manor of Lucian d'Arquilla, defender of Carrickfergus castle against King John. On the fall of Carrickfergus to King John in 1210, Lucian was deprived of Dunover motte which was then granted to Godfrey de Serland. It was later restored to Lucian in 1216 (Lawlor 1938, 159). In the inquisition of 1333 Dunover motte had passed into the ownership of the de Coyly family (PSAMNI 1940, 90).
- 2.5.5 Although it is tempting to associate the filling in of the ditches and the abandoning of the rath with the construction of the motte, it is not clear if a relationship exists between the

two monuments. The lack of glazed pottery sherds from the excavation of the ditches might suggest that either the ditches were filled in prior to the motte being constructed or the inhabitants of the rath did not have access to the glazed pottery associated with the advent of the Norman invasion of Ulster in the late twelfth century. Without further excavation on the rath itself, it is unknown whether activity continued at Tullykevin into the thirteenth century and later, or whether the rath was abandoned with the infilling of the external features.

2.6 *Aims and objectives*

2.6.1 Due to the application site being destined for a replacement dwelling, all archaeological remains would have been destroyed by the invasive groundworks associated with the development. The focus of the excavation was to determine the extent of the archaeological remains and preserve by means of record.

2.7 *Archiving*

2.7.1 Copies of this report have been deposited with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency: Historic Monuments Unit. All site records are temporarily archived within the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen's University Belfast.

2.8 *Credits and acknowledgements*

2.8.1 The excavation was directed by Brian Sloan of the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF). The excavation crew consisted of Nicholas Beer, Cormac Duffy, Garry McCabe, David McIlreavy, Christina Morgan, and Lindsey Poole, all of the CAF.

2.8.2 Assistance during the course of this excavation and the preparation of this report was kindly provided by; Naomi Carver (CAF), Lisa Coyle (QUB), Colm Donnelly (CAF), Colin Dunlop (Northern Archaeological Consultancy), Philip Macdonald (CAF), Ronan Mc Hugh (CAF), Cormac McSparron (CAF) and Sapphire Mussen (CAF). The illustrations were produced by Brian Sloan and Sapphire Mussen.

2.8.3 Many thanks are due to the landowner, Avril Davidson for facilitating the programme of archaeological investigations.

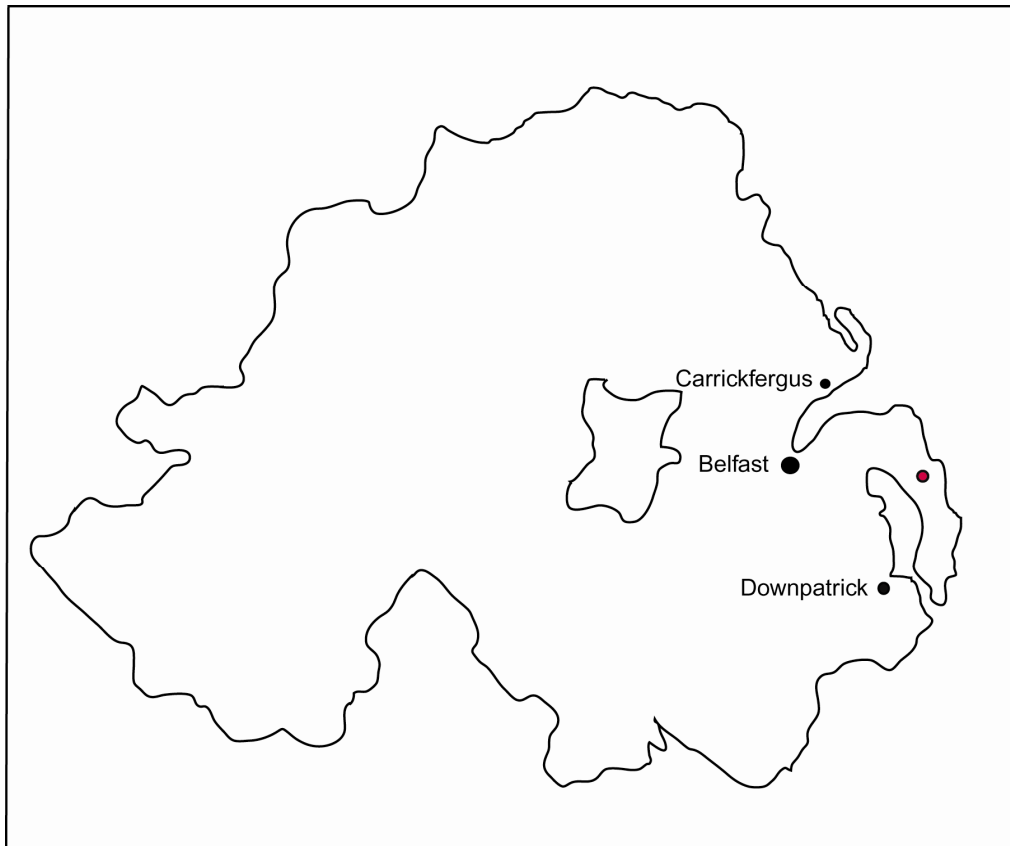


Figure One: General location map showing approximate area of Tullykevin (red dot)



Figure Two: General map showing the location of Tullykevin townland (red dot), north-west of Ballywalter in Co. Down.

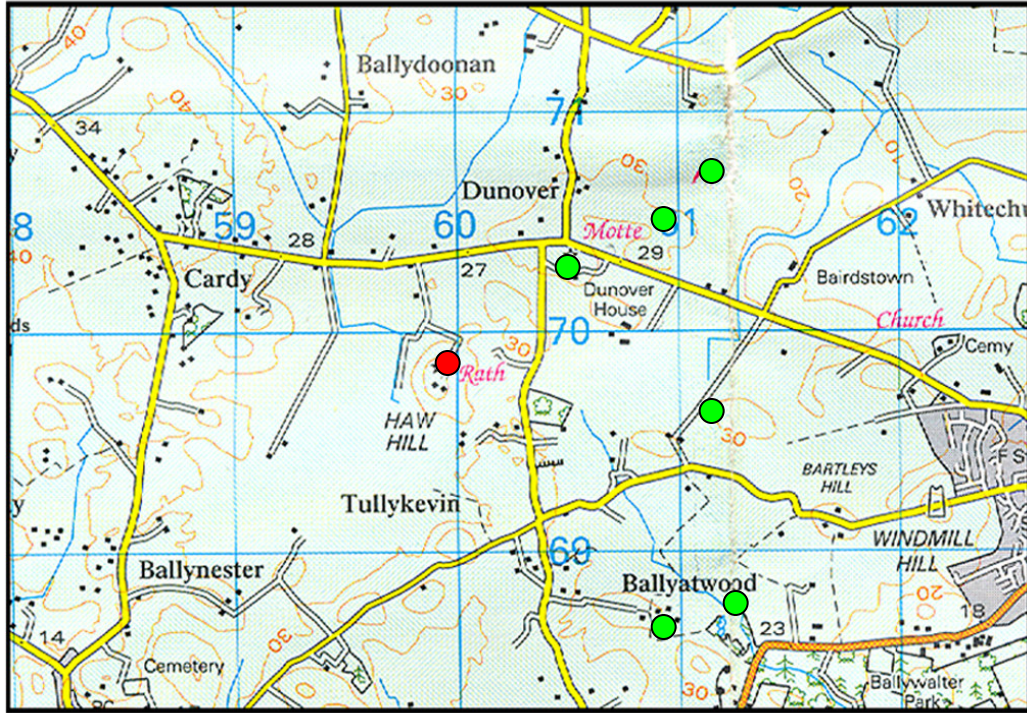


Figure Three: Map showing the excavation site (red dot) and surrounding sites that date to the Early Christian/Medieval period (green dots) (according to the Sites and Monuments Record).

3 Account of the excavation

3.1 Methodology

3.1.1 Three trenches were mechanically excavated during Phase 1 of the archaeological works. It was during this phase that features of archaeological potential were observed and the need for further archaeological excavation realised. At the evaluative stage (Phase 1) a linear ditch feature was observed in Trenches One and Two. However, the large curvilinear ditch (Context No. 112 – encountered during the Phase 2 excavation) was not observed during the Phase 1 evaluation.

3.1.2 For the purposes of this report, a short synopsis of the findings of the Phase 1 evaluation is included. Phase 2 of the archaeological programme of works consisted of the entire footprint of the proposed development being mechanically excavated to the surface of the natural subsoil prior to being manually cleaned. The context record was created using the standard context recording method. The list of contexts is reproduced as Appendix One, and the photographs taken during the excavation are reproduced as Appendix Three. The remainder of the site records are reproduced as the Field Drawing Register (Appendix Four), Small Finds Register (Appendix Five) and the Sample Register (Appendix Six).

3.2 Account of the excavations

3.2.1 The Harris Matrix for the site is reproduced as Appendix Two. It is intended that this is referred to whilst reading the account of the stratigraphic sequence present on site. The results of both the monitoring exercise and the subsequent excavation have been integrated into the single account which follows.

3.3 *Phase 1- monitoring of topsoil stripping*

- 3.3.1 Three trenches were mechanically excavated across the proposed location for the replacement dwelling. The trenches were approximately 2m wide and ranged in length from 15m to 18m. All three test trenches were excavated to the subsoil which consisted of an orange glacially derived boulder clay. The stratigraphy encountered in Trenches One and Two was very shallow (0.05m). Information provided by the landowner indicated that this truncation was carried out relatively recently to remove rubble that had collapsed from the dilapidated outbuildings. The results of this evaluation have been previously reported on (Sloan 2008).
- 3.3.2 The excavation of the trenches provided evidence for archaeological activity within the proposed development foot print. Trench One was located parallel to the northern wall of the previous dwelling, measured approximately 2m wide and 15m long, and was aligned approximately south-west/north-east. Upon removal of the topsoil a negative feature was observed cutting the natural subsoil. This feature was aligned roughly north/south and was approximately 1.6m in width. The fill of the feature consisted of a compact silty clay that had frequent inclusions of small rounded and sub-angular stones. A small cutting was excavated into the fill of the feature to assess its archaeological potential. Forty sherds of souterrain ware pottery (identified by Cormac McSparron) were recovered from the fill, along with charcoal and burnt bone. Excavation ceased following the identification of the feature as being of archaeological significance. This feature, again observed in Trench Two, was interpreted as a linear ditch dating to the Early Christian period (based on the identification of the pottery sherds), and provided the focus for the following excavation.
- 3.3.3 Trench Three was aligned roughly north-south and measured roughly 18m in length by 2m in width. The northern edge of the trench was positioned approximately 4m from the base of the bank of the rath (DOW 012:005). A curvilinear ditch was observed in this area that appeared to be respecting the arc of the bank of the rath. Although the feature was not archaeologically investigated, it is assumed that it represents the silted up/filled in ditch of the rath itself. Due to this feature lying outside the development footprint, it was not subject to archaeological investigation.

3.4 *Phase 2- The excavation*

3.4.1 Following the evaluation at Tullykevin, it was decided that the archaeological features should be subject to full excavation prior to the development progressing. This excavation was duly undertaken by members of the CAF during November and December 2008.

3.4.2 An area measuring approximately 19m (east/west) by 26m (north/south) was mechanically stripped to the surface of the natural subsoil. This area incorporated the location of the development footprint, as well as the locations of the Phase 1 evaluation trenches. Due to the substantial truncation of the site in recent years, it was decided that the manual excavation of strata overlying the subsoil was not merited; rather these deposits were mechanically removed. Despite there being visible differences in the make-up of these overlying deposits, they were removed as a single stratigraphic unit (Context No. 101). A manual cleanup of the area was then undertaken and any finds recovered during this were allocated the generic Context No. 103 and were not given small find nos.

3.4.3 The mechanical stripping of the Topsoil (Context No. 101) revealed archaeological features cut into the natural subsoil (Context No. 108). These include features dating to the Early Christian period (two curvilinear ditches Context Nos. 106 and 112) as well as features associated with use of the development site as a farmyard since the nineteenth century (notably a field drain Context No. 102 and the base of a brick gate pillar Context No. 127). The Early Christian ditches were annotated Ditch A (Context No. 112) and Ditch B (Context No. 106).

3.5 *Post-medieval features*

3.5.1 The removal of the topsoil revealed two features associated with the use of the development area as a farmyard since the nineteenth century. These are a field drain (Context No. 102), the base of a brick gate pillar (Context No. 127) and the line of an old hedge line/field boundary.

3.5.2 The field drain (Context No. 102) was 5.4m in length and roughly aligned east/west. The drain (Context No. 102) ran from near the centre of the development area towards the western edge of the excavation, where it ran into the baulk. The fill of the drain was made up of loose, angular stones and gravel. Due to the obviously modern nature of the feature, it was not excavated.

3.5.3 The brick gate pillar (Context No. 127) was located around the middle of the development area. This feature was excavated as it cut the upper fill of Ditch A (Context No. 105/115). This feature constituted a single course of bricks set in a roughly square plan, surrounding a large flat slate slab. The measurements of this feature are 0.75m (north/south) by 0.44m (east/west). Although it cut the upper fill of Ditch A (Context No. 105/115), no cut for the feature was observed. Numerous sherds of souterrain ware pottery were recovered immediately below the gate pillar (Context No. 127), and it is assumed that these derived from the upper fill of Ditch A (Context No. 105/115).

3.5.4 Approximately 1.8m to the north of the base of the gate pillar (Context No. 127), a dark linear feature (Context No. 114) was observed. This feature was aligned roughly north/south and measured 4.25m in length (north/south) by 0.9m in width (east/west). Excavation of this feature found it to be, on average, 0.35m in depth, with decomposing and active tree roots through-out. Several sherds of souterrain ware pottery as well as several sherds of white-glazed ceramics and glass were recovered from this feature (Context No. 114). It is postulated that this is an old hedge line or field boundary perhaps associated with the brick gate pillar (Context No. 127). The hedge line/field boundary followed the line of Ditch A and it is postulated that it was planted in a hollow produced by the settling of the fill deposits of Ditch A (Context No. 112). The presence of souterrain ware pottery in this feature (Context No. 114) is perhaps due to the root action of the hedge disturbing the upper fill (Context No. 105/115) of Ditch A (Context No.112).

3.6 *Early Christian features*

3.6.1 The focus of the excavation was the Early Christian ditch encountered in Trenches One and Two of the original Phase 1 evaluation. Upon the mechanical excavation of the topsoil, this feature was exposed in full, as well as a large curvilinear ditch that was aligned roughly north/south and was not observed in the original evaluation. Both features were subject to full excavation.

3.6.2 The stratigraphically earliest feature excavated in the development area was the large curvilinear ditch (Ditch A - Context No. 112). Upon excavation, this feature was observed as a reasonably shallow ditch (maximum depth recorded as 0.95m) with steeply sloping sides and flat base. It was on average 2.2m in width. An extrapolation of this feature beyond the development area suggests that the feature will encounter the rath (DOW 012:005) to the north of its current entrance. The ditch (Context No. 112) looks to

- continue out of the excavation area to the south-east, and if this is the case then it is probable that it has been truncated by the current access lane to the site (this lane is represented on the 1st edition map of 1835).
- 3.6.3 The uppermost fill of Ditch A was a mid to dark brown silty clay (Context No. 105). In the northern part of the excavation area, this deposit (Context No. 105) was observed as being slightly darker and was allocated a different number (Context No. 115). However, on excavation it was found that the northern section of the site had been disturbed by a hedge line/old field boundary (Context No. 114) and in fact both these deposits (Context No. 115 and 105) are the same.
- 3.6.4 Beneath the dark brown silty loam (Context No. 105) an isolated spread of mid orange stony material (Context No. 118) was observed. This deposit measured 1.9m (east/west) by 0.65m (north/south) and had a maximum thickness of 0.15m. This deposit (Context No. 118) was similar to the natural subsoil (Context No. 108) and is interpreted as redeposited subsoil, put into the ditch (Context No. 112) in an effort to fill the feature.
- 3.6.5 Immediately below the redeposited subsoil (Context No. 118) was a homogenous mid brown clay (Context No. 119). This deposit (Context No. 119) is important as it is present in both Ditch A and Ditch B, indicating that both features were at least open and backfilled at the same time (see below for further discussion). The mid brown clay (Context No. 119) was present throughout the extent of the ditch (Context No. 112) and was on average 0.3m thick. This deposit produced numerous sherds of souterrain ware pottery (approximately 43% of the entire assemblage was recovered from this deposit; Figure Ten), as well as burnt bone and several pieces of iron slag. Due to the quantity of artefactual remains recovered from this deposit (Context No. 119) it was sampled heavily and is currently ongoing processing at QUB.
- 3.6.6 The mid brown clay physically overlay two deposits; a localised spread of iron pan (Context No. 124), as well as a charcoal rich clay (Context No. 121). The full extent of the iron pan deposit (Context No. 124) measured 0.6m (east/west) by 1.1m (north/south) by 0.03m thick. This deposit (Context No. 124) was orange red in colour, was compact in nature and was present in a 'dip' in the underlying loamy silt (Context No. 123). The presence of the iron pan (Context No. 124) suggests that following the deposition of the grey brown silt (Context No. 123), the ditch (Context No. 112) lay open; with water leeching from the subsoil creating the iron pan (Context No. 124). The charcoal rich clay (Context No. 121) measured 0.5m (north/south) by 0.65m (east/west) and had a

- maximum thickness of 0.25m. No artefacts were recovered from this deposit (Context No. 121) and it is hoped that post-excavation work on samples taken will yield macrofossil remains.
- 3.6.7 The lowermost deposit within this ditch (Context No. 112) was a relatively deep greyish brown loamy silt (Context No. 123). This deposit was present throughout the length of the ditch (Context No. 112) although it did get shallower towards the northern end of the feature. Coincidentally, the depth of the ditch (Context No. 112) also got shallower towards this end of the excavation area (with an average depth of 0.5m). Numerous angular and sub-angular stones (average size: 0.2m by 0.15m by 0.1m) were observed in the grey brown loamy silt (Context No. 123), as well as several sherds of souterrain ware pottery. Interestingly, the rim sherds of the recovered pottery showed the vessels represented by this portion of the assemblage as plain, undecorated vessels. It was not ascertainable whether the grey brown loamy silt (Context No. 123) accumulated naturally or was a deliberate deposit of primary ditch fill. The cut of Ditch A (Context No. 112) was excavated into the natural subsoil (Context No. 108) which consisted of glacially derived orange boulder clay.
- 3.6.8 A smaller ditch (Ditch B - Context No. 106) cut the curvilinear ditch (Ditch A - Context No. 112) prior to the silting up process (represented by Context Nos. 123 and 124). This feature (Ditch B) is the one that was originally encountered during the phase 1 evaluation. Excavation of this feature showed this to be a roughly 'u' shaped ditch that had various fills including those that possibly represent the natural silting of the feature (Context Nos. 120 and 122), as well as the purposeful backfilling (represented by Context Nos. 113, 116, 111, 119, 104 and 107). This feature (Context No. 106) was aligned roughly south-west/north-east and ran for a length of approximately 8m. The ditch was on average 1.8m wide and had a maximum depth of 1.1m. The feature (Context No. 106) was truncated by the house foundations (74 Dunover Road) at the south-west, and it is not clear whether the ditch carries on into the field to the south of the development area.
- 3.6.9 Two features were stratigraphically later than the upper fill of Ditch B. These were a stone setting (Context No. 107) about the middle of the feature as well as a small sub-circular pit (Cut – Context No. 110). This pit was cut through a dark grey silty clay (Context No. 104) and was filled by a charcoal rich friable loam (Context No. 109). The maximum recorded dimensions of the cut of this feature (Context No. 110) was 0.48m (east/west) by 0.36m (north/south), and was 0.21m deep. The full extent of the pit was not exposed as the southern extremity of the feature was truncated by a concrete path

- around the house and lay outside the excavation area. Numerous sherds of souterrain ware pottery (including some decorated with a 'pie-crust' cordon) were recovered from the fill of this feature (Context No. 109). The other feature that was stratigraphically later than the upper fill (Context No. 104) of Ditch B was a localised spread of sub-angular stones (average size 0.4m by 0.3m by 0.1m). These lay directly on the dark grey silty clay (Context No. 104) and no formal structure to the stone spread (Context No. 107) was noted. It is not clear of the purpose of this stone spread (Context No. 107), although it is assumed that their presence in this portion of Ditch B may be to fill up a hollow left following the settling of the ditch fill deposits.
- 3.6.10 The uppermost fill of Ditch B (Context. No. 106) was a dark grey gritty loam (Context No. 104). This deposit (Context No. 104) was present throughout the extent of the ditch and had a relatively uniform thickness of 0.3m. Numerous sherds of souterrain ware pottery (both decorated and plain varieties) were recovered from this deposit along with burnt bone and abundant charcoal. It is postulated that this deposit (Context No. 104) represents the 'sealing' of the ditch (Context No. 106) with refuse, perhaps originating from the rath (DOW 012:005).
- 3.6.11 The grey gritty loam (Context No. 104) physically overlay two deposits (Context No. 111 and 119). The stratigraphically latest of these deposits was a mid brown clay (Context No. 119) which was also encountered as a main fill in the curvilinear ditch (Context No. 112). The presence of this deposit (Context No. 119) in both ditches is important as it suggests that they were both backfilled at the same time, indicating that both features were open and in use contemporaneously. Stratigraphically below the mid brown clay (Context No. 119) was a light grey sandy clay (Context No. 111). Like the dark grey loam (Context No. 104) this deposit (Context No. 111) was relatively uniform in thickness (on average 0.2m thick). Again numerous sherds of souterrain ware, as well fragments of burnt bone and charcoal were recovered from this deposit (Context No. 111).
- 3.6.12 Immediately below the light grey sandy clay (Context No. 111) was a mid to dark brown clay loam (Context No. 116). This deposit (Context No. 116) varied in thickness from a maximum of 0.4m in the northern part of the feature to a minimum of 0.1m in the southern part. Pottery sherds were not abundant in this deposit (Context No. 116) although what little sherds recovered look to have originated from the same vessel. Specialist analysis would be required to confirm this. The brown clay loam (Context No. 116) physically overlay two deposits (Context No. 113 and 120).

- 3.6.13 The stratigraphically later of these two deposits (Context No. 113) was a thick deposit of stony infill (Context No. 113). The stones were on the whole rounded and on average 0.4m by 0.45m by 0.2m in size. The stones were present within a grey sandy clay and the deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.4m (in the extreme south-west of the feature). The stony deposit (Context No. 113) became shallower towards the north-east, ending approximately 2.7m from the south-western extremity of the ditch (Context No. 106). Below the stony fill (Context No. 113) was a thin layer of brown loamy silt (Context No. 120).
- 3.6.14 The brown loamy silt (Context No. 120) was present throughout the extent of the ditch (Context No. 106) and was on average 0.04m thick. Charcoal flecks were infrequent throughout the deposit. This silt overlay a dark grey silty clay (Context No. 122) which had numerous small rounded pebbles throughout. The excavation of this deposit (on average 0.06m thick) produced several sherds of coarse pottery. This deposit (Context No. 122), the primary fill of the ditch (Context No. 106), as well as the overlying brown loamy silt (Context No. 120) are interpreted as representing the natural silting up of the ditch (Context No. 106). The cut of Ditch B (Context No. 106) was excavated directly into the natural subsoil (Context No. 108) which consisted of glacially derived orange boulder clay.
- 3.6.15 Two monolith samples were recovered from the south facing section through the ditch feature (Context No. 106) in an effort to ascertain the presence and survival of pollen grains. In all, the fills sampled by this process were Context Nos. 122, 120, 116 and 111. The results of this sampling are provided in section 4 of this report.

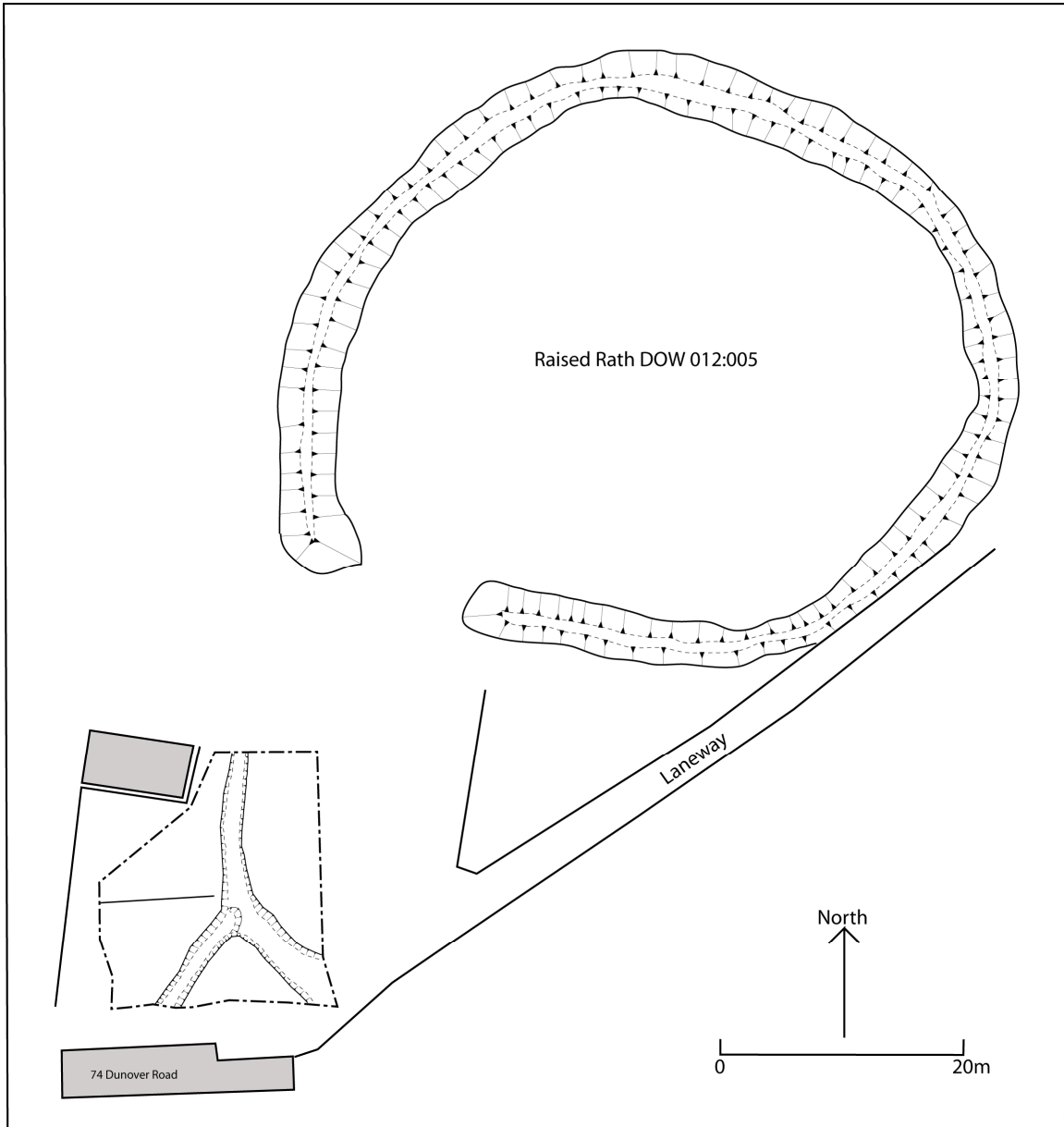


Figure Four: Plan showing excavated features in relation to the rath (DOW 012:005).

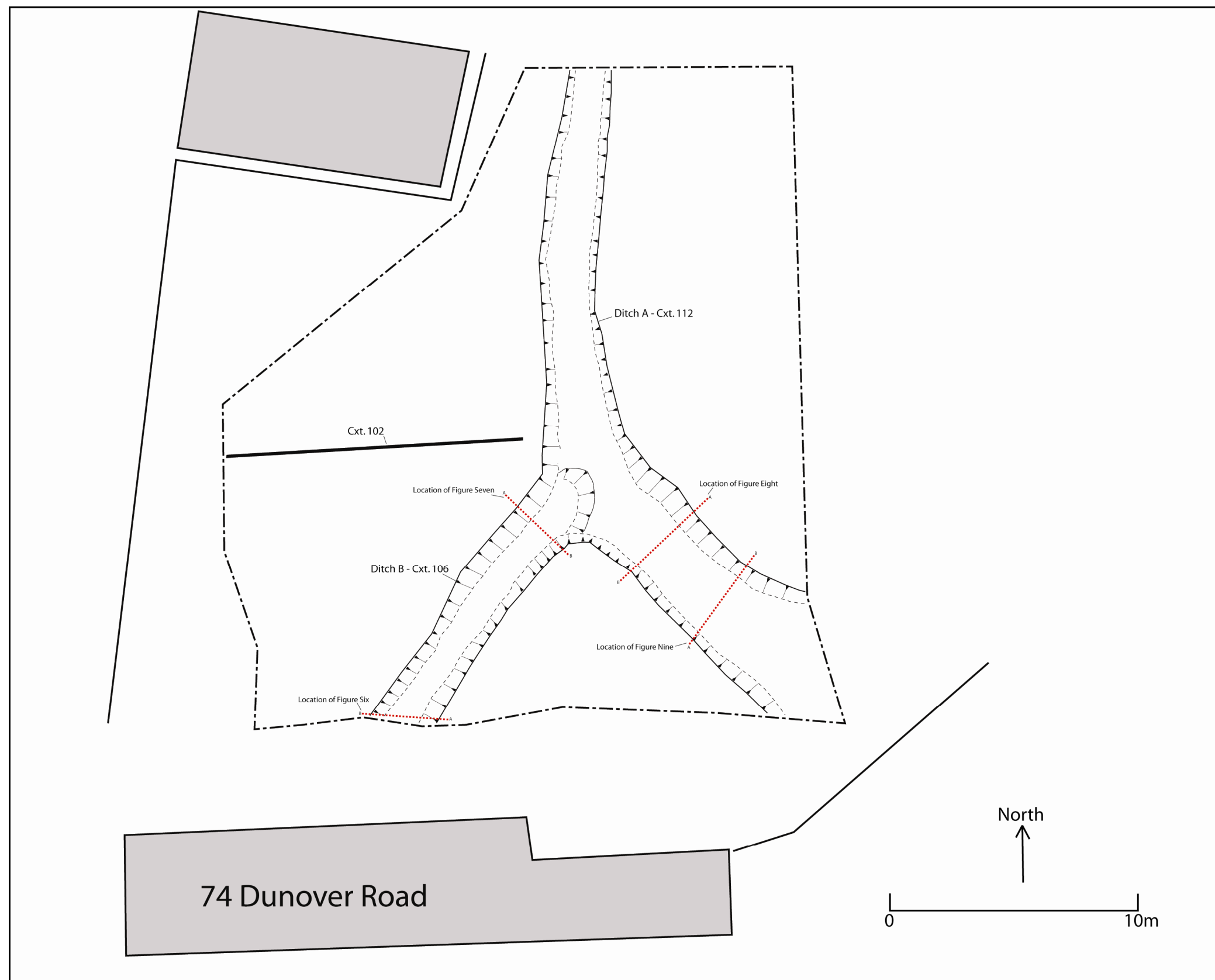


Figure Five: Post-excavation plan of archaeological features.

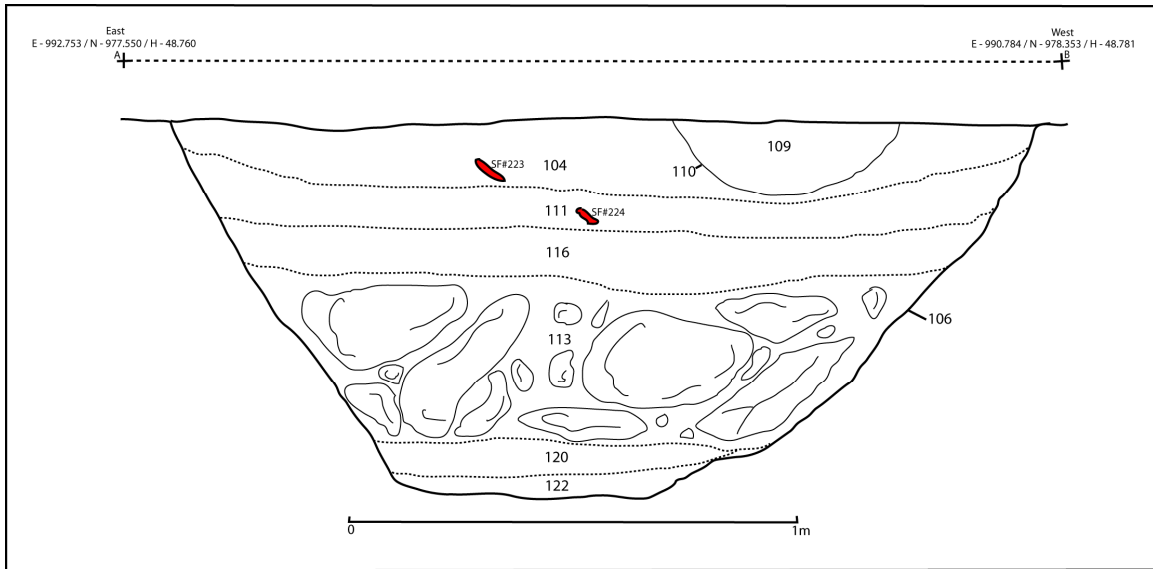


Figure Six: North facing section through ditch cut Context No. 106.

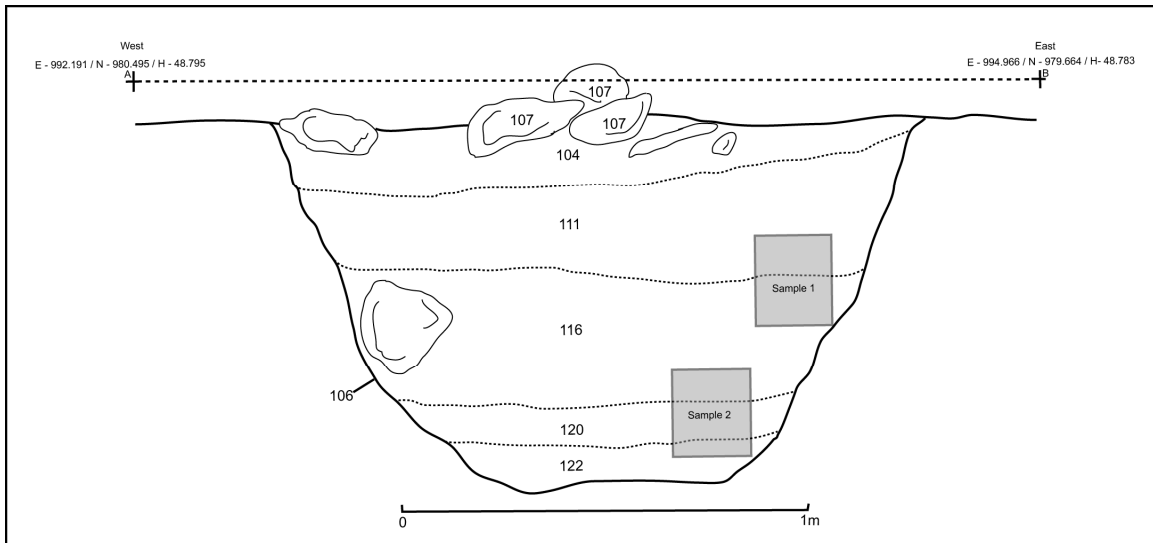


Figure Seven: South facing section through ditch cut Context No. 106. Grey shaded areas represent where Palynological samples were taken. Section 4 of this report details the results of this analysis.

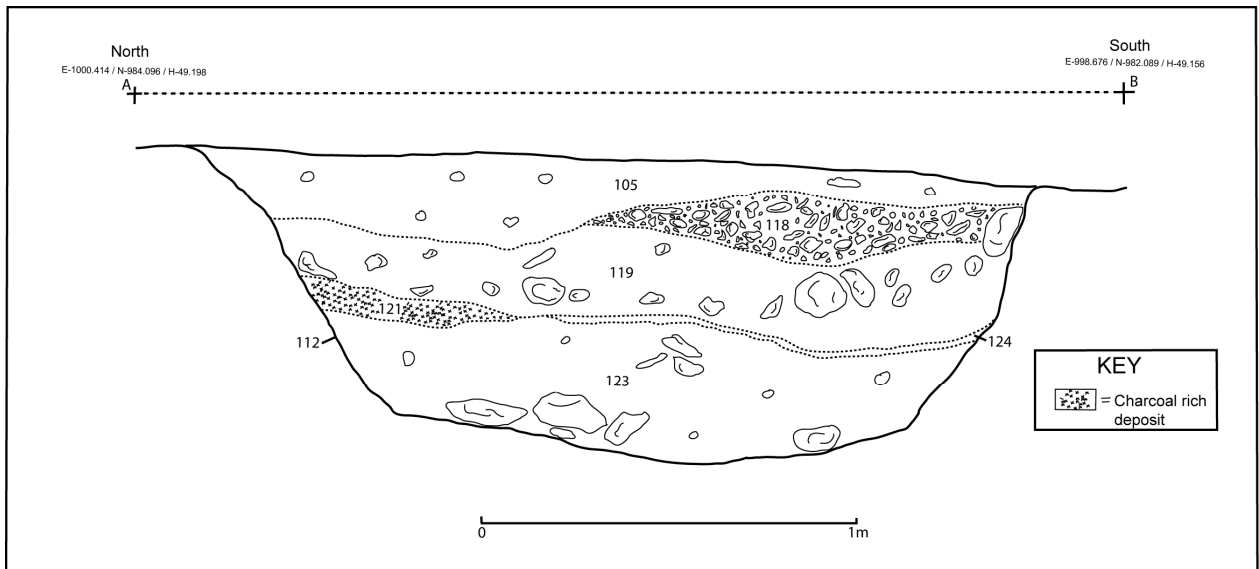


Figure Eight: West facing section through ditch cut Context No. 112.

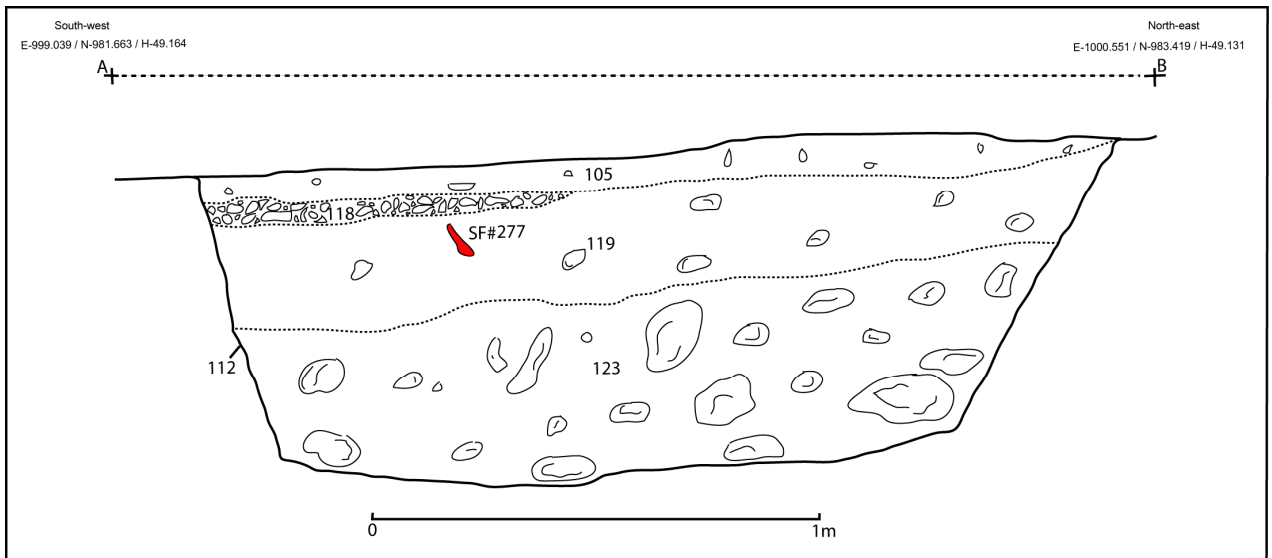


Figure Nine: East facing section through ditch cut Context No. 112.

4 Palynological Analysis of two monolith samples taken from Ditch Context No. 106 (provided by Lisa Coyle, PhD student QUB)

4.1 *Introduction*

4.1.1 During an excavation at Tullykevin Co. Down an opening of a ditch (Context No. 106) led to the request for palynological analysis. Two monolith tins both 20cm in length were used to extract the samples from the base of ditch at depths 60-80cm (Monolith 1) and 80-100cm (Monolith 2). Due to the nature of the deposits sampled (Context No. 116, 120 and 122) it was apparent the standard procedures for pollen analysis such as deflocculation and acetolysis would not be sufficient (Faegri and Iversen 1989).

4.2 *Methodology*

4.2.1 A swirl method devised by Hunt (*pers. comm.*) was used to attempt to extract pollen grains from the samples. Initial samples were extracted from the deepest monolith 80-100cm (Monolith 2) at 5cm intervals. The samples were mixed with Hydrochloric acid and let to settle before sieving on a 6 μ mesh, then mixed with Tetra Sodium Pyrophosphate and boiled for 15minutes. They were again sieved on a 6 μ mesh and placed onto a hot plate for 10minutes before again being sieved through a 120 μ mesh and caught in a 6 μ mesh. The samples were then covered with water and mixed with of Tetra Sodium Pyrophosphate again and placed on a hot plate. Samples were given a further rinse through a 120 μ mesh and caught in a 6 μ mesh. After this final sieving the samples are ready to swirl, this entails using a large flat bowled pan dish and swirling the samples to separate heavier particles. After swirling the samples were rinsed with aqueous safranin and were ready to mount onto slides.

4.3 *Results*

4.3.1 Out of all five samples only one pollen grain was found, very badly degraded and believed to be a Polypodium (fern) spore. No other organic material was found in the samples.

5 Discussion

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The excavation at Tullykevin was successful in that the archaeological features were excavated and recorded prior to their destruction by the development of the replacement dwelling. Two ditches were encountered during the excavation of the development area. A substantial assemblage of 'pie-crust' decorated souterrain ware pottery (1800 sherds), a small amount of burnt animal bone and a small amount of slag was recovered from the fills of the ditches.

5.2 Phasing of activity at Tullykevin

5.2.1 Despite the heavy truncation of the site, it is possible to define the activity at Tullykevin into chronologically distinct phases. The earliest discernible phase (Phase 1) would be the construction of the rath (DOW 012:005). Recent research would put the construction of Raised raths from the mid-eighth century through to approximately 1000 AD (Kerr 2007, 99), although dates obtained from excavations carried at Ballingarry Down, Co. Limerick gave a date in the mid-seventh century AD. Dendrochronology dates the transformation of the rath at Deer Park Farms to a raised rath around 775 AD (Thom Kerr *pers. comm.*). It is postulated that the ditches encountered during the investigation were excavated after the construction of the rath, possibly between the ninth-thirteenth centuries. The function of these ditches is presently unclear, and it is hoped that post-excavation work might shed light on this aspect of the archaeology. The ditches were deliberately filled in (Phase 2) rather than being allowed to silt up naturally. The presence of a relatively thick homogenous clay layer (Context No. 119) in both features testifies to this. It is interesting to note that although pottery was recovered from all ditch deposits, the vast majority was recovered from this layer (Context No. 119; Figure Ten). It is not clear whether a bank was present along with the ditches, largely due to the substantial degree of truncation of the site. Also, despite careful cleaning of the area around the ditches, no internal features (for example a palisade trench) were observed.

5.2.2 The lack of pottery sherds of a definite medieval origin (e.g. green-glazed wares and locally produced everted-rim ware) would suggest that this area of the site was abandoned after the filling of the ditches (Phase 2), possibly as late as the thirteenth century. Activity in the development area is not then archaeologically discernable until the construction of the farmhouse (74 Dunover Road) and its associated outbuildings (Phase

3). It was during this phase that a substantial degree of truncation occurred on the site. It is possible that this truncation removed any evidence of activity from between phases 2 and 3.

5.3 *Interpretation of the archaeological features*

5.3.1 Despite the development site not extending to the area of the rath itself, an extrapolation of the Ditch A (Context No. 112) to the north would make it appear to merge with the rath ditch to the north of the current entrance. In effect, the two ditch features (Context Nos. 106 and 112) enclose two distinct areas to the south-west of the rath. There is no surface indication of the features running into the fields to the south of the development site, although given the substantial truncation of the site, such features could only be identified through geophysical survey or further excavation.

5.3.2 It is postulated that the ditch features that provided the focus for this excavation represent an external annexe associated with the rath. Although these are not common occurrences, some similar sites exist, particularly associated with major rath sites. Despite careful cleaning of the enclosed areas, no other features of archaeological significance were encountered. It is assumed that the substantial truncation of the site associated with the use of the area as a farm yard in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries has destroyed any evidence of the function of the ditches. It is hoped that a programme of post-excavation work will shed light on the function of these features (Section 6 of this report and accompanying Costed Assessment).

5.4 *Artefact dating*

5.4.1 Over 1800 sherds of coarse pottery (of the 'souterrain-ware' tradition) were recovered during the excavations. The assemblage was mixed, with fragments of plain undecorated souterrain ware rim-forms underrepresented against decorated types. The vast majority of the decorated sherds exhibit a 'pie-crust' cordon approximately 2-3cm below the rim of the vessels, with only one instance of an undecorated horizontal applied cordon being recovered from the basal fill of Ditch A (Context No. 112).

5.4.2 The dating of souterrain ware on stylistic grounds is difficult. As this was a locally produced ware, regional varieties in decoration are common place. For instance, excavations at Terryhoogan in Co. Armagh produced souterrain ware sherds that exhibited vertical applied cordons, skeuomorphs of buckets and sherds that exhibited

- wicker impressed decoration, possibly to emanate a wicker basket (McSparron 2007, 127).
- 5.4.3 It is generally accepted that the plain vessels are earlier with the decorated varieties appearing later in the Early Christian period (Edwards 1996, 75). McSparron (2007, 128) goes further to subdivide the regions where souterrain ware is commonly found. He approaches with the view that a Northern region (encompassing North Antrim and Derry) and a Southern region (encompassing Down, Armagh and South Antrim), existed and are separated by when the decorated forms appear in the archaeological record. It would appear that the decorated forms started to appear in the southern region between the eighth and tenth centuries, with the northern region sites producing similar decorated pottery a little later. It appears from excavations at Drumadoon Co. Antrim (McSparron & Williams *forthcoming*) and Tullylish Co. Down (Ivens 1987, 93) that the decorated cordon souterrain ware, like the examples recovered from Tullykevin, do not appear until the mid thirteenth century (McSparron 2007, 129)
- 5.5 *Distribution of pottery within the ditch fills*
- 5.5.1 Pottery sherds were recovered from all the ditch fills excavated at Tullykevin. The distribution of the quantity of pot sherds according to context shows that the majority of the pottery was recovered from Context No. 119 (761 sherds). However, this may not be surprising given that this context was the most extensive one encountered during the excavation, being present in both ditches (Context Nos. 106 and 112).
- 5.5.2 It is hoped that further specialist study of the pottery assemblage will shed light on the chronological and morphological framework of the activity carried out in the area during the Early Christian period (see Section 6 of this report as well as the accompanying Costed Assessment).

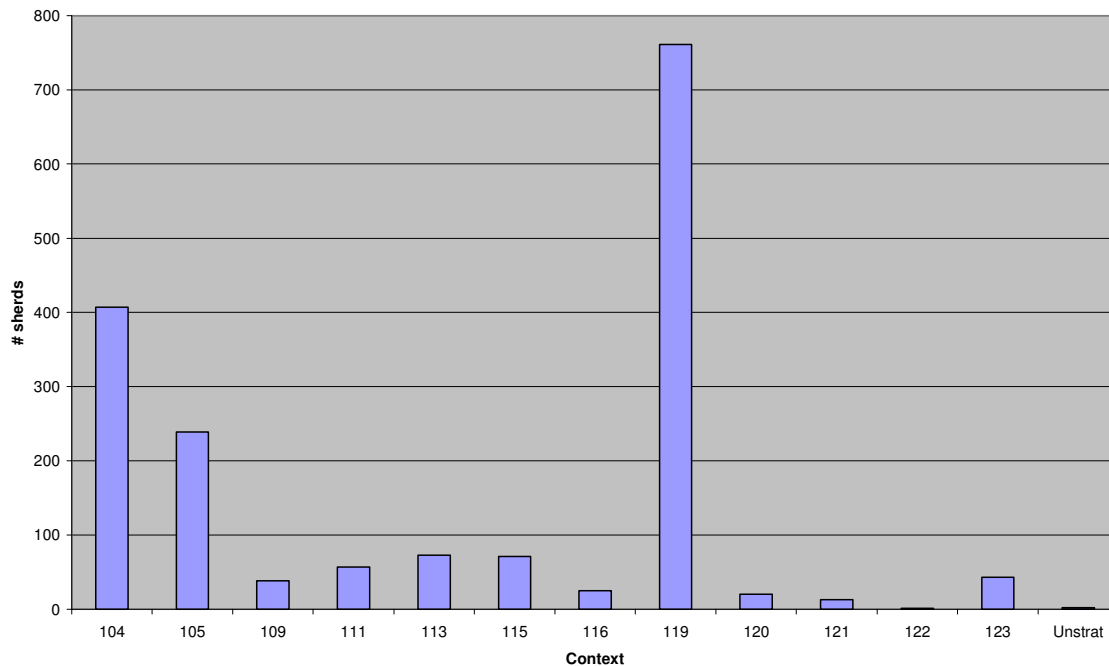


Figure Ten: Distribution of pottery sherds from excavated contexts.

5.6 Comparable sites

5.6.1 Despite raths being the most recorded site type in Ireland, relatively few with external annexes have been identified or excavated. A site was recently excavated by Northern Archaeological Consultancy in advance of development at Brokerstown, Co. Antrim (Colin Dunlop *pers comm.*). A large circular rath was entirely excavated, along with an annexe to the south. The annexe was formed by a large circular ditch encompassing a smaller enclosed area. However, excavation of the annexe ditches at Brokerstown did not produce the quantity of pottery sherds that was encountered at Tullykevin (Colin Dunlop *pers comm.*).

5.6.2 A search of the Northern Ireland Sites and Monuments Register shows similar sites to that encountered in Tullykevin. Despite these been detailed in the table below (Table Two), it is evident that raths with external annexes are under-represented in the archaeological record. This may be due to, like in Tullykevin, truncation of the area outside of raths up to modern times masking external features. Further examples will most likely be found with continued fieldwork outside of raths.

County	SMR #	Townland	Description
Antrim	023:002	Ballynaloob	Raised rath with external annexe
Antrim	029:004	Doonan	Possible raised rath and external annexe
Antrim	052:001	Calhome	Raised rath with annex to the west
Antrim	059:049	Ballymoneymore	Bivallate rath and adjoining enclosure
Derry	005:014	Tamlaght	'D' shaped enclosure with circular annex (may not be Early Christian)
Derry	026:037	Magheramore	'Bonny Fort'. Possible annexe to the north- west (may not be Early Christian)
Down	025:001	Lisbane	Rectangular enclosure with annexe to the north (may not be Early Christian)
Down	025:009	Ardkeen	Rath with possible annexe which has been incorporated into a modern field boundary
Fermanagh	210:101	Treel	May not be antiquity

Table Two: Possible similar sites as recorded in the Northern Ireland Sites and Monuments Register (NISMR)

5.7 Conclusions

- 5.7.1 Excavations carried out at Tullykevin provided an insight into Early Christian activity in the Ards Peninsula area of County Down. The archaeology was preserved by means of record prior to its destruction by the development. It is envisaged that the implementation of a post-excavation programme of works will provide a contextualised basis for the understanding of the function of the features encountered during the excavation.

6 Recommendations for further work

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The excavation at Tullykevin produced various potential avenues of post-excavation work. Implementation of these is required to bring this project to conclusion through publication. The following recommendations are further detailed in the accompanying Costed Assessment for this report.

6.2 Soil sample processing

6.2.1 Fifteen samples, totalling approximately 60kg of soil, were recovered from the excavations at Tullykevin. It is recommended that these samples are processed in their entirety to assess the level of preservation of charcoal, macro-fossils and small artefactual remains that may have been missed during the excavation, and which can then be forwarded for radiocarbon dating.

6.3 Specialist analysis of the pottery assemblage

6.3.1 Over 1800 sherds of souterrain ware pottery was recovered during the excavations. It is proposed that this assemblage is put forward for specialist analysis. It is proposed that this work is carried out by Cormac McSparron of the CAF.

6.4 Radiocarbon dating programme

6.4.1 Following processing of the soil samples, it is recommended that a number of samples are submitted for radiocarbon dating from the various fills of the two ditches. In particular, it is recommended that single entity dating is sought for samples gathered from Context No. 119. This deposit is present in both the large curvilinear ditch (Context No. 112) as well as the shorter ditch (Context No. 106), and may represent the start of the deliberate backfilling of the features.

6.5 Possible further excavation

6.5.1 Although the development site has been cleared of archaeological remains, there is the potential for further excavation. The current entrance to the rath (DOW 012:005) is located on the south-west side of the monument. It is probable that the current entrance

is a modern feature, to allow access into the rath for the dumping of farm machinery and its use for arable farming. A survey of the monument carried out during the excavation found no other evidence for an entrance elsewhere. A small trench across the present day entrance to the rath should provide an insight into whether this is an original feature.

6.5.2 It would also prove useful to excavate a section of the ditch around the rath. If the ditches encountered during the excavation are extrapolated, they would run into the rath ditch slightly north of the current entrance. Small scale excavation at this point would provide a chronology of the sequences of ditches, as well as providing comparable dating material.

6.6 *Publication*

6.6.1 Following the implementation of the post-excavation programme of works, it is recommended that the results of the excavation are published in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*. It is also recommended that a short note is prepared for the annual *Excavations Bulletin*.

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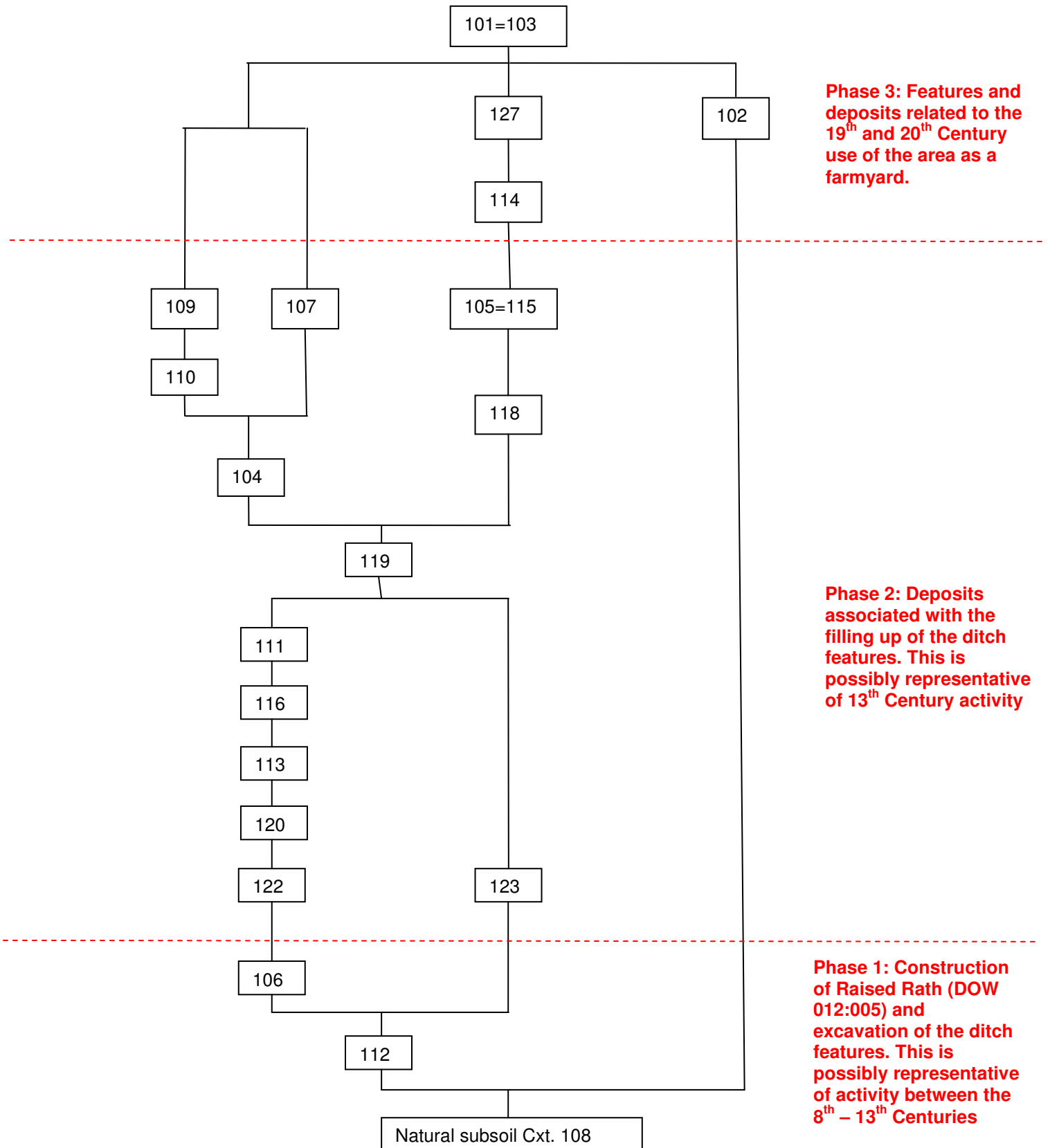
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Appendix One: Context Register

Context No.	Description
101	Topsoil. Mechanically removed as a single stratigraphic unit despite being made up of numerous lenses of modern rubble, redeposited soil etc.
102	Modern field drain
103	Arbitrary number given to finds recovered during the initial clean-up of the excavation area
104	Silty clay upper fill of ditch Cxt. 106
105	Uppermost fill of curvilinear ditch Cxt. 112. Same as Cxt. 115
106	Cut of small linear ditch
107	Stone upper fill of ditch Cxt. 106
108	Natural subsoil
109	Fill of pit Cxt. 110
110	Cut of shallow circular pit excavated into Cxt. 104. Filled by Cxt. 109
111	Charcoal rich clay loam. Fill of ditch Cxt. 106
112	Cut of large curvilinear ditch
113	Fill of Cxt. 106 characterised by large angular stones and boulders.
114	Loamy clay deposit running for 5.25m from northern edge of excavation area within ditch Cxt. 112. Numerous active tree roots suggest that this is a modern hedge line as shown on the 20th century maps.
115	Same as Cxt. 105, shows evidence of disturbance by roots in Cxt. 114
116	Loamy clay fill of ditch Cxt. 106
117	Relict topsoil overlying stones Cxt. 107
118	Redeposited subsoil in ditch Cxt. 112
119	Silty clay fill. Present in both ditches Cxts. 106 and 112
120	Sandy clay fill of ditch Cxt. 106
121	Charcoal rich fill of ditch Cxt. 112
122	Lowermost fill of ditch Cxt. 106
123	Lowermost fill of ditch Cxt. 112
124	Thin isolated lens of iron-pan in ditch Cxt. 112
125	Void – duplicate number given to Cxt. 105
126	Void – duplicate number given to Cxt. 119
127	Base of modern gate-post

Appendix Two: Harris matrix



Appendix Three: Photographic Register

Jpeg	Description
1	Trench One of the original evaluation, looking south-east.
2	Trench One of the original evaluation, looking north.
3	Context Nos. 104 and 106, looking north-east.
4	Context No. 104, Small find # 9.
5	Context No. 104, Small find # 9.
6	Context No. 104, Small find # 9.
7	Mid-excavation shot, looking north-east.
8	Mid-excavation shot, looking north.
9	Mid-excavation shot, looking north-west.
10	Context No. 111, looking north.
11	Context No. 111, looking north.
12	Context No. 127, looking east.
13	Context No. 127, looking north.
14	Context No. 107, looking east.
15	Context No. 107, looking east.
16	Context No. 107, looking north.
17	Context No. 107, looking west.
18	Excavation of Context Nos. 105/115, looking west.
19	Working shot, looking south.
20	Working shot, looking south-east.
21	Personal.
22	Personal.
23	Personal.
24	Personal.
25	Top of Context No. 113, looking north.
26	Context No. 113, looking east.
27	Working shot looking north.
28	Working shot looking north-west.
29	Personal.
30	Working shot.
31	Working shot looking north-east.
32	Small find # 40, Context No. 105
33	Small find # 40, Context No. 105
34	Excavation of Context No. 116, looking north-east.

35 Top of Context No. 120, looking north.
36 Top of Context No. 120, looking north.
37 Top of Context No. 120, looking north.
38 Personal.
39 Top of Context No. 120, looking north.
40 Small find # 136, Context No. 119.
41 Small find # 136, Context No. 119.
42 Small find # 137, Context No. 119.
43 Small find # 137, Context No. 119.
44 Context No. 107, looking north-east.
45 Context No. 107, looking north-east.
46 Context No. 107, looking south.
47 Personal.
48 Drawing # 7, looking east.
49 Drawing # 7, looking east.
50 Drawing # 7, looking east.
51 Drawing # 7, looking east.
52 Drawing # 9, looking south.
53 Drawing # 9, looking south.
54 Drawing # 9, looking south.
55 Drawing # 9, looking south.
56 Working shot, looking north-east.
57 Working shot, looking north-east.
58 Working shot, looking east.
59 Drawing # 11, looking west.
60 Drawing # 11, looking west.
61 Drawing # 11, looking west.
62 Drawing # 11, looking west.
63 Drawing # 11, looking west.
64 Context No. 107, looking north-east.
65 Context No. 107, looking north-east.
66 Working shot.
67 Drawing # 14, looking south.
68 Drawing # 14, looking south.
69 Mid-excavation shot, looking north.
70 Mid-excavation shot, looking north-east.
71 Mid-excavation shot, looking east.

72	Working shot, looking south-west.
73	Working shot, looking south-west.
74	Working shot, looking west.
75	Working shot, looking north-east.
76	Working shot, looking north-east.
77	Pumping out Context No. 106 following flooding, looking north-west.
78	Pumping out Context No. 106 following flooding, looking north-west.
79	Context No. 112 following flooding, looking north.
80	Context No. 112 following flooding, looking north-west.
81	Mid-excavation shot, looking west.
82	Palynological sampling, looking north-west.
83	Palynological sampling, looking north.
84	Palynological sampling, looking north-west.
85	Palynological sampling, looking south.
86	Palynological sampling, looking south-east.
87	Mid-excavation shot, looking north-east.
88	Working shot, looking south-east.
89	Working shot, looking south-east.
90	Working shot, looking south-east.
91	Working shot, looking south-west.
92	Working shot, looking south-west.
93	Working shot, looking south-west.
94	Post-excavation shot, looking north.
95	Post-excavation shot, looking north.
96	Post-excavation shot, looking south-east.
97	Post-excavation shot, looking south.
98	Post-excavation shot, looking north-east.
99	Post-excavation shot, looking north-east.
100	Post-excavation shot, looking south-east.
101	Personal.
102	Personal.
103	Personal.
104	Post-excavation shot, looking south-west.
105	Post-excavation shot, looking south-west.
106	Post-excavation shot, looking south-west.
107	Post-excavation shot, looking south-west.
108	Post-excavation shot, looking south.

- 109 Post-excavation shot, looking south.
- 110 Post-excavation shot, looking south.
- 111 Post-excavation shot, looking north-east.
- 112 Personal.
- 113 Personal
- 114 Post-excavation shot, looking north-east
- 115 Post-excavation shot, looking north-east
- 116 Personal.
- 117 Personal.

Appendix Four: Field drawing register

Drawing No.	Type	Scale	Description
1	Plan	1:20	Overall pre-ex of southern area of site showing Cxt. 106 and southern extremity of Cxt. 112
2	Plan	1:20	Overlay of DRW# 1 showing pit Cxt. 110 following excavation
3	Plan	1:20	Extent of Cxt. 111 (fill of Cut 106) as well as distribution of SF# 42-53
4	Plan	1:20	Detail of stone fill Cxt. 107
5	Plan	1:20	Detail of Cxt. 107 following removal of Cxt. 117
6	Plan	1:20	Detail of Cxt. 106
7	Section	1:10	West facing section through ditch Cxt. 112
8	Section	1:10	North facing section through ditch Cxt. 112
9	Section	1:10	North facing section through ditch Cxt. 106
10	Section	1:10	South facing section through ditch Cxt. 106
11	Section	1:10	South-east facing section through ditch Cxt. 112
12	Section	1:10	South-west facing section through Cxt. 106
13	Section	1:10	South-east facing section through ditch Cxt. 112
14	Section	1:10	North facing section through ditch Cxt. 112
15	Section	1:10	South facing section through ditch Cxt. 106
16	Section	1:10	North facing section through ditch Cxt. 106
17	Section	1:10	North-west facing section at the junction of ditches Cxts. 106 and 112

Appendix Five: Samples register

Sample No.	Context	Description
1	109	Fill of pit cut Context 110
2	104	Grey clay fill of cut Context 106
3	104	From around pot sherd collection (SF# 9)
4	111	Charcoal rich deposit beneath Context No. 104
5	105	Upper fill of cut Context 112, around pot sherds (SF# 55)
6	116	Silty clay beneath Context 111
7	119	Main fill of ditch Context 112. This deposit is also present in the northern part of ditch Context 106.
8	119	From around pot sherds (SF# 137)
9	119	Charcoal lens beneath pot sherds (SF# 137)
10	122	Lowermost deposit of ditch Context 106
11	121	Charcoal rich deposit in ditch Context 112
12	123	Lowermost deposit of ditch Context 112
13	111	Charcoal rich deposit beneath Context No. 104
14	122	Lowermost deposit of ditch Context 106
15	119	Taken from ditch cut Cxt. 106

Appendix Six – Small Finds Register

SF#	Context	Material	Easting	Northing	Height
1	104	Pottery	-	-	-
2	104	Pottery	-	-	-
3	104	Pottery	-	-	-
4	104	Pottery	-	-	-
5	104	Pottery	-	-	-
6	117	Ceramic	-	-	-
7	109	Pottery	-	-	-
8	109	Burnt bone	-	-	-
9	104	Pottery	-	-	-
10	105	Pottery	997.182	987.651	43.148
11	105	Pottery	997.727	987.808	49.190
12	105	Pottery	998.036	988.152	49.193
13	105	Pottery	998.073	987.745	49.171
14	105	Pottery	998.508	987.429	49.194
15	105	Flint	995.643	985.148	48.996
16	105	Pottery	995.618	984.928	48.972
17	105	Shell	995.983	984.885	48.977
18	105	Pottery	996.169	984.760	48.989
19	105	Slag	996.615	985.145	49.081
20	105	Pottery	996.655	985.103	49.079
21	105	Pottery	997.652	984.387	48.969
22	105	Pottery	999.915	984.949	49.056
23	105	Pottery	1002.547	984.223	49.001
24	105	Pottery	1001.148	983.168	48.947
25	105	Pottery	999.763	982.529	48.900
26	105	Pottery	998.662	983.040	48.915
27	105	Pottery	999.242	982.206	48.922
28	105	Pottery	999.143	981.633	48.913
29	105	Pottery	999.369	981.675	48.901
30	105	Pottery	999.449	981.545	48.868
31	105	Pottery	999.537	981.383	48.857
32	105	Pottery	999.683	981.317	48.885
33	105	Pottery	999.866	981.186	48.876

34	105	Pottery	1000.013	981.062	48.867
35	105	Pottery	999.668	981.891	48.917
36	105	Pottery	999.757	981.583	48.871
37	105	Pottery	999.994	981.879	48.909
38	105	Pottery	1001.022	980.593	48.734
39	105	Pottery	1001.004	979.828	48.735
40	105	Pottery	994.850	980.183	48.794
41	104	Bone	992.674	979.411	48.473
42	104	Pottery	-	-	-
43	104	Pottery	-	-	-
44	104	Pottery	-	-	-
45	104	Pottery	-	-	-
46	104	Pottery	-	-	-
47	104	Pottery	-	-	-
48	104	Pottery	-	-	-
49	104	Pottery	-	-	-
50	104	Pottery	-	-	-
51	104	Pottery	-	-	-
52	104	Pottery	-	-	-
53	104	Pottery	-	-	-
54	107	Pottery	-	-	-
55	105	Pottery	999.102	985.068	48.930
56	105	Pottery	999.433	985.314	49.016
57	105	Slag	998.972	984.996	49.014
58	105	Slag	999.320	985.310	48.992
59	105	Slag	999.206	985.144	48.893
60	105	Pottery	999.189	985.341	49.051
61	105	Pottery	998.964	985.165	49.017
62	105	Pottery	997.971	987.118	49.080
63	105	Pottery	997.666	987.156	49.070
64	105	Pottery	997.690	987.020	49.077
65	115	Pottery	997.409	993.255	49.320
66	115	Pottery	997.397	993.488	49.242
67	115	Pottery	997.459	993.653	49.404
68	115	Pottery	997.434	993.814	49.318
69	115	Pottery	997.594	993.845	49.407
70	115	Pottery	997.421	994.036	49.254

71	115	Pottery	997.266	994.237	49.292
72	115	Pottery	997.246	994.565	49.202
73	115	Pottery	997.365	994.879	49.326
74	115	Pottery	997.182	995.291	49.236
75	115	Pottery	997.304	995.403	49.302
76	115	Pottery	997.471	995.576	49.419
77	113	Pottery	-	-	-
78	111	Pottery	992.489	980.072	48.307
79	111	Charcoal	992.744	979.669	48.245
80	111	Pottery	993.028	979.325	48.327
81	111	Flint	992.739	979.473	48.254
82	105	Slag	992.711	980.116	48.164
83	111	Pottery	992.039	979.476	48.230
84	111	Pottery	992.183	979.391	48.212
85	111	Pottery	992.251	979.145	48.236
86	111	Pottery	992.539	978.642	48.257
87	111	Pottery	992.315	978.178	48.360
88	111	Pottery	991.695	978.132	48.352
89	111	Pottery	991.558	978.304	48.355
90	116	Pottery	991.248	978.773	48.514
91	116	Pottery	991.536	978.028	48.270
92	116	Pottery	991.734	978.035	48.205
93	105	Burnt bone	999.448	984.932	48.986
94	105	Pottery	997.986	983.872	48.937
95	105	Pottery	992.108	977.961	48.292
96	105	Slag	998.935	984.809	48.873
97	105	Pottery	998.994	985.275	48.884
98	105	Pottery	998.675	984.872	48.892
99	105	Pottery	999.091	984.975	48.854
100	105	Slag	999.223	984.897	48.838
101	105	Pottery	999.537	984.813	48.905
102	105	Pottery	999.482	985.030	48.877
103	119	Burnt bone	999.181	984.562	48.792
104	116	Pottery	993.253	979.568	48.171
105	116	Pottery	992.853	980.043	48.160
106	105	Flint	1000.171	982.167	48.939
107	105	Flint	1001.116	981.075	48.876

108	105	Pottery	1000.064	981.740	48.909
109	105	Pottery	1000.082	981.519	48.908
110	105	Pottery	1000.176	981.093	48.872
111	105	Pottery	1000.444	981.061	48.867
112	116	Pottery	992.618	980.111	48.170
113	116	Pottery	993.183	979.749	48.107
114	116	Pottery	992.530	979.843	48.121
115	116	Pottery	992.805	979.543	48.100
116	120	Pottery	992.457	979.379	48.119
117	105	Metal	1002.402	981.287	48.914
118	120	Pottery	992.372	979.825	48.189
119	120	Pottery	992.431	979.167	48.120
120	119	Pottery	999.162	984.486	48.799
121	119	Flint	998.914	984.488	48.832
122	119	Pottery	998.703	984.754	48.846
123	119	Pottery	998.517	984.637	48.833
124	120	Pottery	992.179	979.519	48.188
125	120	Pottery	992.134	979.483	48.162
126	119	Pottery	997.795	983.380	48.825
127	119	Pottery	998.385	983.705	48.721
128	119	Pottery	998.408	983.733	48.685
129	119	Pottery	997.984	983.439	48.762
130	119	Pottery	997.739	983.648	48.493
131	119	Pottery	997.653	983.690	48.616
132	119	Pottery	998.446	984.146	48.680
133	119	Pottery	998.344	983.460	48.705
134	119	Pottery	998.052	983.500	48.647
135	119	Slag	999.104	984.496	48.631
136	119	Pottery	999.205	984.410	48.650
137	119	Pottery	999.215	984.812	48.710
138	119	Slag	-	-	-
139	119	Pottery	998.002	983.352	48.616
140	119	Pottery	998.050	983.692	48.694
141	119	Pottery	997.945	983.753	48.669
142	119	Pottery	998.392	983.450	48.693
143	119	Pottery	998.048	983.455	48.668
144	119	Pottery	998.256	983.954	48.752

145	119	Burnt bone	-	-	-
146	119	Pottery	998.340	984.478	48.763
147	119	Pottery	998.960	984.232	48.623
148	121	Pottery	998.985	984.485	48.625
149	121	Pottery	999.275	984.689	48.606
150	119	Pottery	998.175	984.197	48.735
151	119	Pottery	997.895	983.570	48.625
152	121	Pottery	998.542	984.602	48.667
153	119	Pottery	998.380	984.456	48.673
154	119	Pottery	999.005	984.321	48.623
155	119	Pottery	998.564	983.677	48.737
156	105	Pottery	1000.527	983.091	48.943
157	105	Pottery	1000.761	982.797	48.939
158	105	Pottery	1000.880	982.439	48.884
159	105	Pottery	1000.552	981.781	48.886
160	105	Pottery	999.793	981.727	48.875
161	105	Pottery	999.712	981.363	48.780
162	119	Pottery	998.034	984.310	48.719
163	119	Pottery	998.585	983.931	48.605
164	105	Pottery	999.626	981.598	48.795
165	119	Pottery	998.514	984.754	48.626
166	119	Pottery	999.133	984.651	48.563
167	119	Pottery	999.024	984.278	48.624
168	119	Pottery	998.980	984.923	48.611
169	119	Pottery	998.309	984.028	48.579
170	121	Pottery	998.442	983.441	48.333
171	119	Pottery	998.855	983.931	48.542
172	105	Pottery	999.438	981.653	48.759
173	105	Pottery	1000.116	981.308	48.708
174	105	Pottery	1000.708	981.904	48.816
175	105	Pottery	1000.339	981.782	48.802
176	105	Pottery	1000.124	981.920	48.778
177	105	Pottery	999.829	982.035	48.784
178	105	Pottery	1000.426	982.337	48.860
179	105	Pottery	1000.179	982.304	48.852
180	105	Pottery	1000.348	982.547	48.837
181	105	Pottery	1000.133	982.493	48.846

182	120	Pottery	991.715	978.526	48.045
183	120	Pottery	992.189	978.533	48.112
184	120	Pottery	992.314	978.689	48.098
185	120	Pottery	992.423	979.059	48.054
186	120	Pottery	992.350	979.668	48.075
187	122	Worked stone	992.181	979.414	47.991
188	120	Pottery	993.286	979.689	48.017
189	119	Pottery	998.426	983.705	48.252
190	119	Pottery	998.703	984.244	48.290
191	119	Pottery	998.380	984.358	48.305
192	119	Pottery	998.158	983.612	48.268
193	119	Pottery	998.792	984.291	48.291
194	119	Pottery	998.230	984.031	48.287
195	121	Pottery	998.179	983.845	48.284
196	119	Pottery	1000.763	981.887	48.749
197	119	Pottery	1000.480	982.008	48.727
198	119	Pottery	1000.277	982.440	48.607
199	119	Pottery	1000.357	982.673	48.583
200	119	Flint	999.643	981.866	48.686
201	119	Pottery	999.224	983.605	48.367
202	119	Pottery	999.344	984.156	48.778
203	119	Pottery	998.771	983.269	48.604
204	119	Pottery	999.369	983.354	48.665
205	119	Pottery	1000.022	981.421	48.518
206	119	Pottery	999.732	981.780	48.549
207	119	Pottery	992.456	978.657	47.845
208	122	Pottery	998.986	984.063	48.331
209	119	Pottery	999.286	983.664	48.654
210	119	Pottery	998.780	983.427	48.594
211	119	Pottery	998.554	982.896	48.229
212	119	Pottery	998.720	983.408	48.570
213	119	Pottery	998.491	982.714	48.636
214	119	Flint	998.635	983.666	48.500
215	119	Pottery	1000.201	981.496	48.473
216	119	Pottery	999.374	983.427	48.498
217	119	Pottery	999.058	983.284	48.528
218	119	Pottery	998.815	982.778	48.459

219	119	Pottery	999.190	983.179	48.208
220	109	Pottery	992.347	977.596	48.554
221	109	Pottery	992.270	977.611	48.574
222	119	Flint	992.001	977.741	48.570
223	104	Burnt bone	992.170	977.657	48.553
224	111	Pottery	991.946	977.817	48.401
225	113	Pottery	991.725	977.923	48.280
226	119	Pottery	999.838	981.684	48.393
227	119	Quartz	1000.083	981.144	48.433
228	123	Pottery	1000.888	981.938	48.240
229	123	Pottery	1000.359	982.294	48.215
230	123	Pottery	999.912	982.139	48.193
231	123	Pottery	1000.519	981.821	48.182
232	123	Pottery	1000.436	981.439	48.201
233	123	Slag	999.636	981.723	48.282
234	113	Pottery	995.431	983.231	48.499
235	113	Pottery	995.552	983.176	48.500
236	113	Pottery	995.451	982.645	48.451
237	113	Pottery	994.957	982.934	48.520
238	113	Pottery	995.045	983.427	48.464
239	113	Pottery	994.446	982.855	48.503
240	113	Pottery	994.957	983.005	48.501
241	113	Pottery	995.166	982.804	48.499
242	115	Pottery	996.909	989.450	49.079
243	115	Pottery	997.054	989.520	49.087
244	115	Pottery	997.210	989.394	49.061
245	115	Pottery	997.037	989.296	49.060
246	115	Burnt bone	997.259	989.316	49.044
247	115	Metal	997.156	989.202	49.084
248	115	Pottery	996.955	989.184	49.050
249	113	Pottery	994.990	983.455	48.429
250	113	Pottery	995.511	983.279	48.158
251	113	Pottery	995.256	983.210	48.263
252	113	Pottery	995.482	982.952	48.147
253	113	Pottery	995.607	982.855	48.173
254	113	Pottery	995.770	983.129	48.225
255	113	Flint	995.671	984.221	48.858

256	119	Pottery	997.194	984.132	48.735
257	119	Pottery	996.932	984.941	48.721
258	119	Pottery	997.360	984.807	48.704
259	119	Burnt bone	997.624	984.521	48.743
260	119	Pottery	998.207	985.731	48.775
261	119	Pottery	997.995	986.354	48.744
262	119	Pottery	997.685	986.035	48.758
263	119	Pottery	997.414	985.274	48.618
264	119	Pottery	997.113	984.719	48.654
265	119	Quartz	996.579	984.478	48.641
266	119	Pottery	996.881	985.628	48.730
267	119	Pottery	996.929	985.688	48.738
268	119	Pottery	997.364	985.444	48.645
269	119	Pottery	997.138	986.236	48.726
270	119	Pottery	997.870	985.823	48.803
271	119	Flint	997.554	985.438	48.662
272	119	Pottery	996.806	985.169	48.621
273	115	Pottery	997.446	987.423	48.587
274	115	Pottery	997.231	989.364	48.845
275	119	Pottery	1000.018	982.269	48.652
276	123	Pottery	999.979	982.366	48.775
277	119	Pottery	999.667	982.183	48.759
278	119	Pottery	1002.498	978.413	48.619
279	119	Pottery	1003.119	978.800	48.456
280	119	Pottery	1002.948	978.761	48.411
281	119	Pottery	1003.405	979.506	48.306
282	119	Pottery	1003.789	979.410	48.251
283	119	Pottery	1003.751	979.212	48.255
284	123	Pottery	999.974	982.475	48.277
285	119	Pottery	1002.586	978.646	48.247
286	119	Pottery	1003.417	979.538	48.301
287	119	Pottery	1003.353	979.477	48.251
288	119	Pottery	997.758	985.990	48.629
289	119	Flint	998.579	986.093	48.878
290	119	Pottery	995.884	983.268	48.549
291	119	Pottery	997.997	985.246	48.518
292	119	Flint	997.749	985.329	48.398

293	123	Pottery	996.804	984.100	48.195
294	119	Pottery	997.062	984.984	48.384
295	119	Pottery	999.193	985.650	48.486
296	119	Pottery	995.903	983.398	48.541
297	119	Pottery	997.615	986.634	48.542
298	119	Pottery	1003.507	979.579	48.194
299	119	Pottery	1004.004	979.031	48.252
300	119	Pottery	1002.963	978.760	48.245
301	119	Pottery	996.793	990.873	48.825
302	119	Pottery	996.487	991.418	48.886
303	119	Pottery	997.004	991.831	48.916
304	119	Pottery	997.251	984.102	48.541
305	119	Pottery	998.095	985.014	48.589



Plate One: Trench One of the original evaluation carried out in July 2008. Annotated is the ditch feature that prompted the follow up excavation. Looking south-east.



Plate Two: Base of modern gatepost (Context No. 127) that cut the upper fill (Context No. 105) of the curvilinear ditch (Context No. 112). Sherds of souterrain ware pottery were recovered beside and directly below this feature, showing the extent of which the modern farm activity has truncated the archaeological features and deposits.



Plate Three: Palynological sampling of Context Nos. 111,116,120 and 122 for the preservation of pollen particles in the fills of the smaller ditch (Context No. 106). The results of this sampling proved negative (see section 4 of this report).



Plate Four: Near complete souterrain ware vessel (SF# 137) recovered from Context 119. It is proposed that this vessel is put forward for reconstruction.



Plate Five: Mid-excavation shot showing Ditch B (Context No. 106) in the foreground and the curvilinear Ditch A (Context No. 112) in the background. The raised rath (DOW 012:005) can be seen in the background. Looking north-east.



Plate Six: Mid-excavation shot showing north-eastern extremity of Ditch B (Context No. 106) to the lower left of the picture and the curvilinear Ditch A (Context No. 112). Looking north.



Plate Seven: Post-excavation shot taken from the bank of the raised rath (DOW 012:005). Looking south-east. NB: the surface water present on the site is due to sustained heavy rain towards the end of the excavation.