



Monitoring Report No. 52a

**Glenshesk Road
Doonans
Co. Antrim**

AE/06/57

Kara Ward

Site Specific Information

Site Address: 60m west of 162a Glenshesk Road

Townland: Doonans

SMR No.: near ANT:013:067 (site of barrow?)

State Care *Scheduled* *Other* ✓

Grid Ref: D 0833 3342

County: Antrim

Excavation License No: AE/06/57

Planning Ref / No.: E/2004/0555/O

Date of Monitoring: 3rd April 2006

Archaeologist Present: Kara Ward

Brief Summary:

Three test trenches were excavated to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed development on any hidden archaeological remains. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered in any of the trenches.

Type of monitoring:

Excavation of three test trenches by mechanical excavator equipped with a grading bucket under archaeological supervision

Size of area opened: Three trenches; Trenches A and B measuring approximately 20m by 2m each and Trench C measuring approximately 25m by 2m.

Current Land Use: Pasture

Intended Land Use: Residential

Account of the monitoring

The proposed development site is located approximately 100m south of a possible barrow site identified by aerial photography (ANT 013:067) (Fig. 1 and 2). The possible barrow and the proposed development site are separated by the Well Water River and both are located in the townland of Doonans. The possible barrow was identified as an apparently upstanding circular feature c.6m in diameter by aerial photography but a site visit found no visible remains.

An archaeological evaluation was requested by EHS: Protecting Historic Monuments Casework Officer, Andrew Gault, to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on any hidden archaeological remains. Monitoring of test trench excavation took place on 3rd April 2006. Three test trenches were excavated (Fig. 3) within the development site boundary. Trenches A and B measured approximately 20m by 2m and Trench C measured approximately 25m by 2m. The stratigraphy of the test trenches is described below:

Trench A had a topsoil (C101) with a depth of approximately 0.26m. The topsoil was a uniform mid-grey brown silty clay with small stone and grit inclusions. Underlying C101 was the subsoil (C102) consisting of a mottled yellow, brown and grey silty sand with frequent stone inclusions (Plates 1 and 2).

In Trench B the topsoil (C101) had an average depth of 0.28m. The topsoil in Trench B was a mid-grey brown silty clay with small stone and grit inclusions. The subsoil (C102) was located directly beneath the topsoil (C101), it was a mottled yellow, brown and grey silty sand with frequent stone inclusions (Plates 3 and 4).

The topsoil (C101) in Trench C had a depth of approximately 0.27m. The topsoil in Trench C was a mid-grey brown silty clay with small stone and grit inclusions. Underlying this was the subsoil (C102), a mottled yellow, brown and grey silty sand with frequent stone inclusions (Plates 5 and 6).

No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were apparent in any of the trenches.

Archive:

Finds: n/a

Photographs: 6 digital images, held by CAF

Plans / Drawings: n/a

Signed: _____ Date: _____

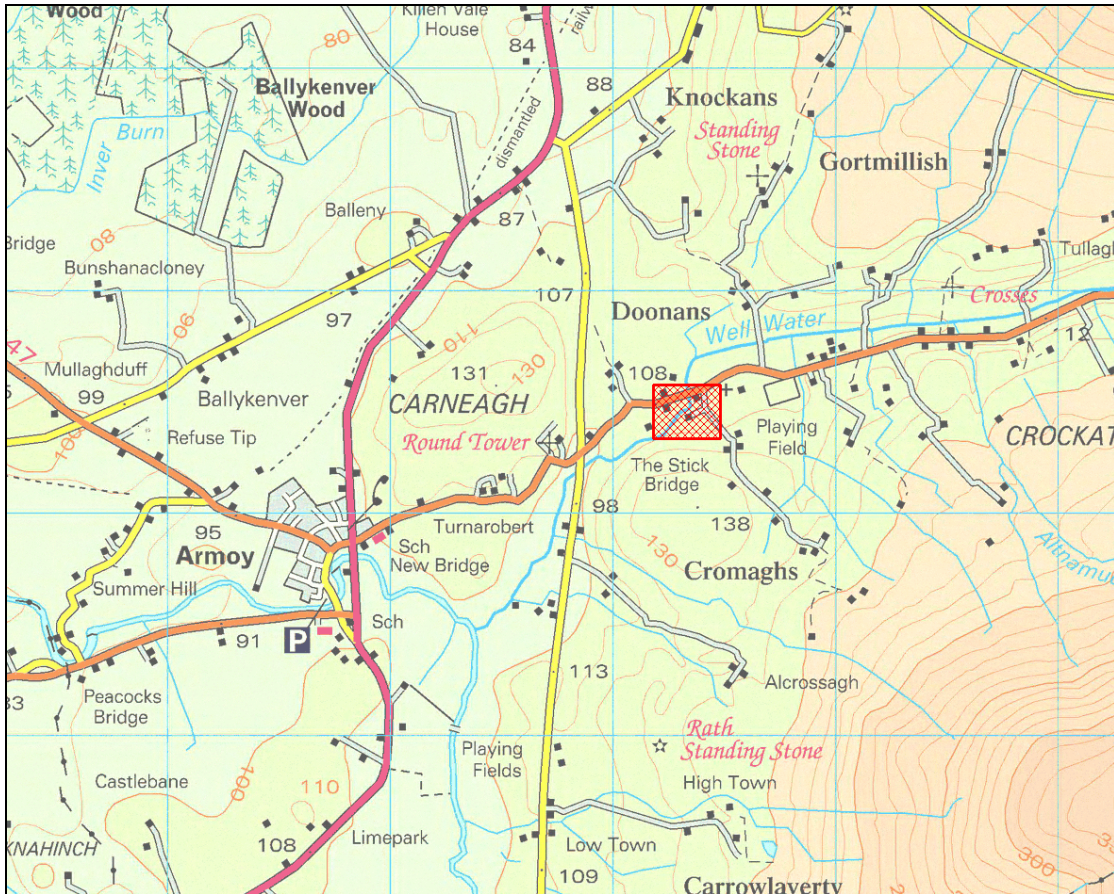


Fig. 1: 1:50,000 Map showing location of site (outlined in red).

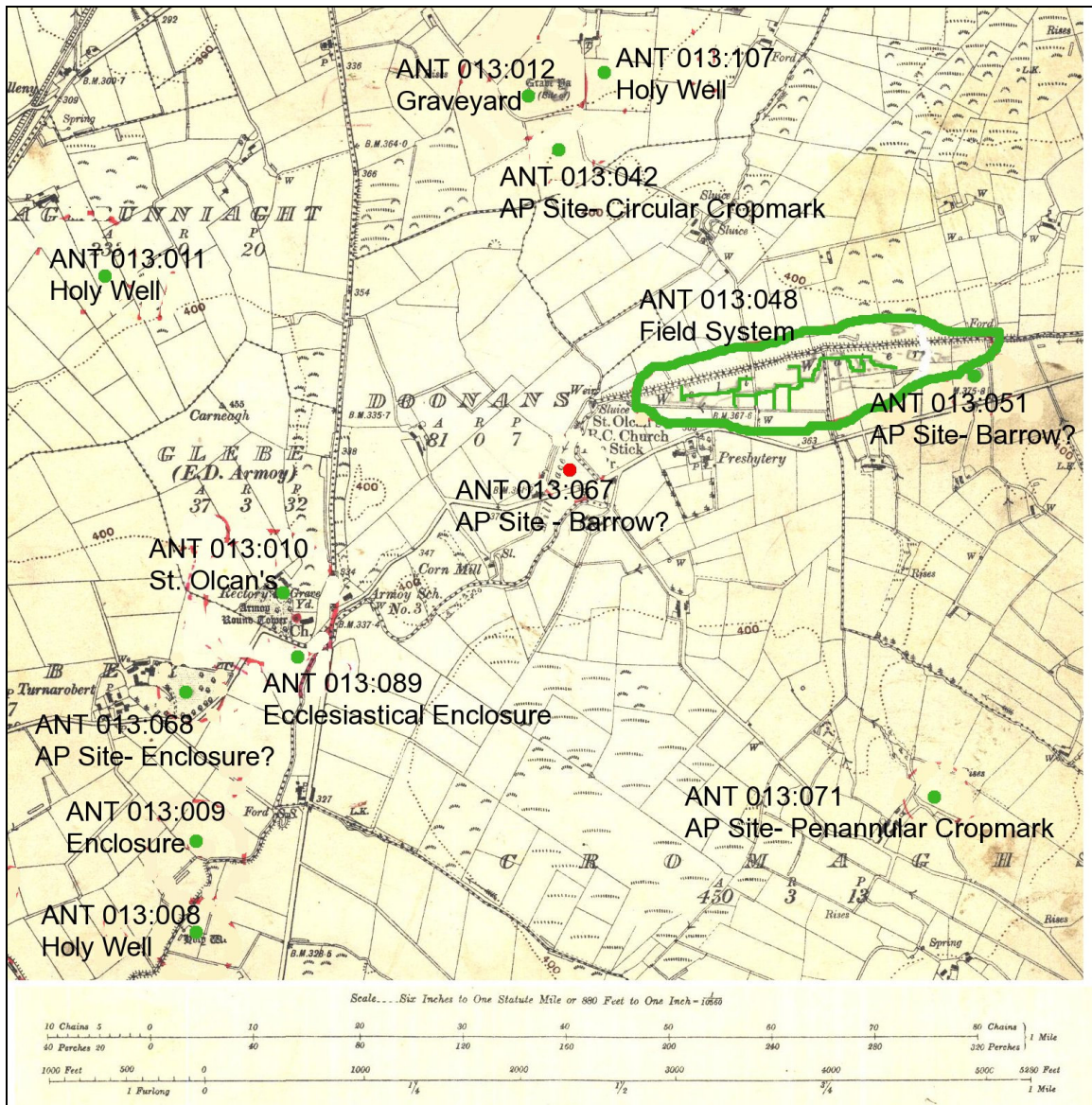


Fig. 2: Location of site (red dot) and archaeological monuments in the immediate vicinity (green circles).

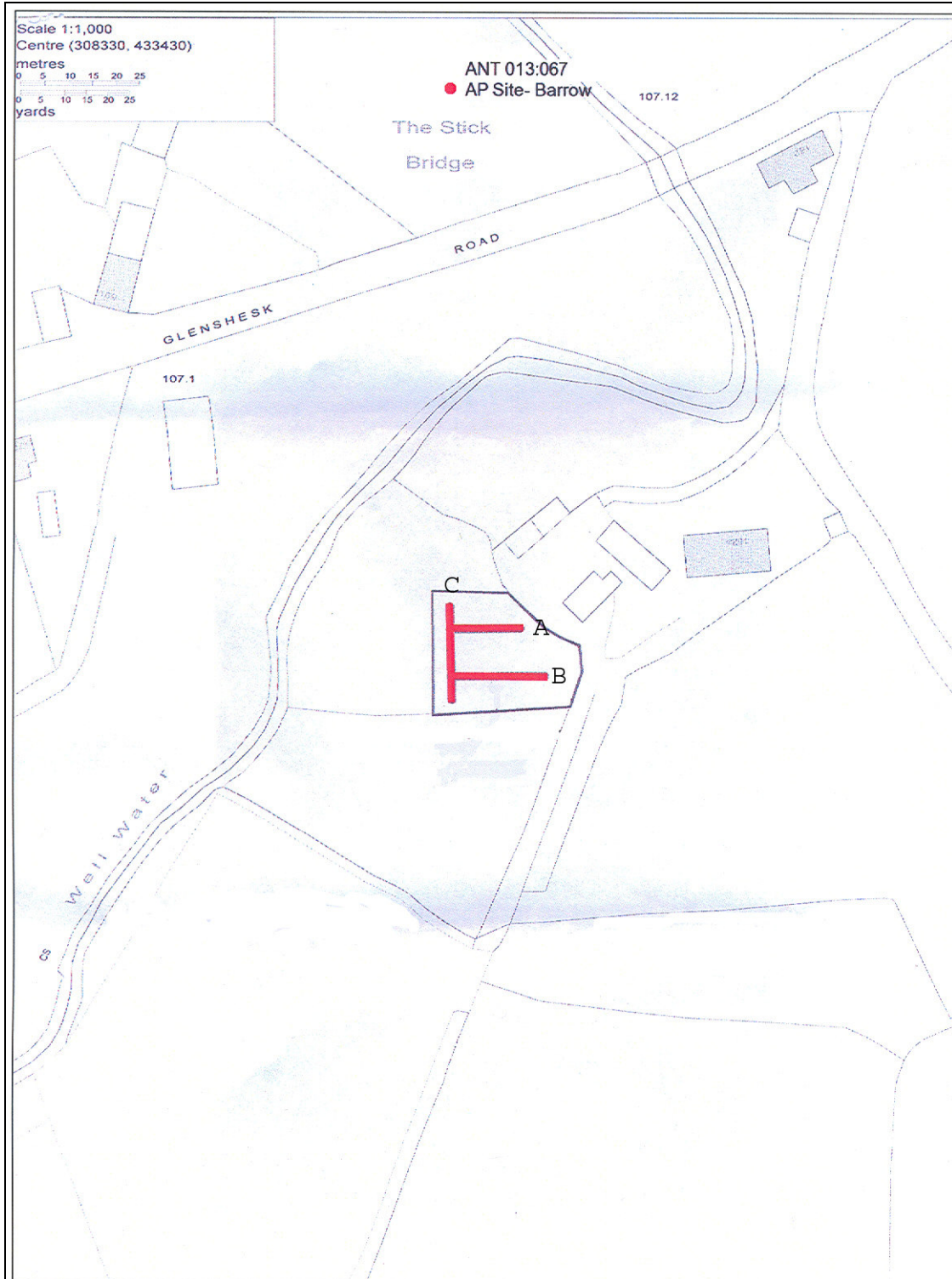


Fig. 3: Location of test trenches (red lines) and AP Site (red circle)



Plate 1: View of Trench A from east, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102). The dark patch in the centre of the trench is due to a shadow across the trench and some remnants of topsoil.



Plate 2: View of north-facing section in Trench A, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).



Plate 3: View of Trench B from south, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102)



Plate 4: View of west-facing section in Trench B, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).



Plate 5: View of Trench C from east, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).



Plate 6: View of north-facing section in Trench C, after excavation to surface of subsoil (C102).