



Appendix 3D- Archaeological Testing Report

Licence No: 24E0385

Ballydonagh Solar Farm

27/06/2024



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BALLYDONAGH SOLAR FARM

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INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1. Neo Environmental Ltd was appointed by Renewable Energy Systems (RES) Ltd to undertake a program of testing for a proposed solar development (c. 81.9ha) (the “Proposed Development”) within the townlands of Ballydonagh, Cloonineen, Skecoor, Kiltormer East and Graveshill, Co. Galway (the “Application Site”).

Development Description

- 1.2. The proposed solar farm will consist of the construction of PV panels mounted on metal frames, new access tracks, underground cabling, inverter substations, watercourse crossings, perimeter fencing with CCTV cameras and access gates, a substation, temporary construction compounds and all ancillary grid infrastructure and associated works (Appendix 1A: Figure 1).

Site Description

- 1.3. The Application Site is located in a rural setting, approximately 9.5km south of Ballinasloe, 33km east of Athenry and 21km northeast of Loughrea (Appendix 1A: Figure 2). The area of the proposed Development lies at an elevation of approximately 71 – 96m AOD and covers a total area of c. 81.9 hectares. It is centred at approximate Irish Grid Reference (ITM) X 583549 Y 720440 and is located c. 7km northeast of the N65 and 8.4km south of the M6.
- 1.4. Comprising of 26 agricultural fields (31 were surveyed in total, however fields 1, 5, 9, 10 and 11 have since been removed from the proposed development boundary), the site is currently being used for pastoral farming. The fields are bound by a mixture of trees, hedgerows and post-and-wire fencing.
- 1.5. Access to both parcels of land is gained from existing access points off the L4301 which dissects the site.
- 1.6. This report has been compiled based on the requirements and recommendations contained within the Department documents Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage and Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation¹, as well as through guidelines from IAI.
- 1.7. The aims and objectives of the archaeological test trenching works are to:
 - Determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological deposits and artefacts which

¹ <https://www.archaeology.ie/sites/default/files/media/publications/excavation-policy-and-guidelines.pdf> last visited 02/07/2024

may be present following anomalies identified during geophysical survey;
and

- To inform an appropriate mitigation strategy should archaeological remains of significance be identified. This Method Statement may be amended and updated as needed in the event of significant archaeology being encountered, construction methodology being altered, or considerable post-excavation analysis being required.

1.8. The fieldwork and report will be completed in compliance with guidelines set out in the Institute for *Archaeologists of Ireland (IAI) Code of Professional Conduct* and *Code of Conduct for Archaeological Monitoring* (2006)².

Pre-Works Communication

1.9. All staff and relevant contractors were fully briefed and aware of the archaeological work required under the specification and Method Statement and understood the aims and methodologies of the project.

1.10. All working methods, program and health and safety issues were agreed with the Site Manager and contractor(s) in advance of any site work.

² <https://www.iai.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/IAI-Code-of-Conduct-for-Archaeological-Monitoring.pdf> last visited 02/07/2024

PLANNING BACKGROUND

1.11. A planning Application was submitted to Galway County Council for the development outlined in the Project Description (Figure 1). An RFI was received on 27th Oct 2023 (Ref: 23/61049) with the Applicant required to submit an updated Archaeological Impact Assessment to include the following:

- The developer is required to engage the services of a suitably qualified Archaeologist to carry out an updated Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA), which shall include a programme of Archaeological Test Excavation, to respond to this request for Further Information. No sub-surface work shall be undertaken in the absence of the Archaeologist without his/her express consent.
- The Archaeologist shall interrogate the information gathered to date, inspect the proposed development site (PDS), detail the historical and archaeological background of the site (consulting appropriate documentary sources), and review all cartographic sources and aerial photographs for the area.
- The Archaeological Test Excavation must be carried out under licence from the Department and in accordance with an approved method statement; note a period of 4-5 weeks should be allowed to facilitate processing and approval of the licence application and method statement.
- Archaeological Test Excavation shall be informed and supplemented by licensed archaeological metal detection survey.
- Test trenches shall be excavated at locations chosen by the Archaeologist, having consulted the site drawings and the results of the geophysical survey (22R0338). Excavation is to take place to the uppermost archaeological horizons only, where they survive. Where archaeological material is shown to be present, the Archaeologist shall suspend works in the area of archaeological interest pending a decision of the Planning Authority, in consultation with the Department, regarding appropriate mitigation. Please note that all features/archaeological surfaces within the test trenches are to be hand-cleaned and clearly visible for photographic purposes.

1.12. This test trenching report is supported by the following Figures and Technical Appendices (Nb the Geophysical Report is submitted as part of the Updated AAHIA (Appendix 2A):

Appendix 1A: Figures

Figure 1 – Development Layout

Figure 2 – Site Location Map

Figure 3 – Field Numbers

Figure 4– Trench Locations Geophysical Survey Overlay

Figure 5 – Trench Locations Construction Design Overlay

Appendix 1B: Plates

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Baseline Characterisation

1.13. The following section outlines the historical and archaeological background within the extent of the study zones and the local area. This provides a clear depiction of the context and significance of the heritage assets that could potentially be impacted by the Proposed Development. The report outlines an assessment of the direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Development and proposed mitigation measures. The potential for disturbing any remains within the footprint of the Proposed Development has been assessed and recommendations produced for any further investigative work. 'NA' Refers to internal designation 'Neo Asset' to abbreviated asset numbers, their full number and NA number are contained within Table 1.

Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assets

1.14. The full list of assets identified within their respective study zones is presented within Table 1. A total of 8 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), 9 Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes (HGDLs) and 1 National Monuments in State Care (NMSC), (NA01) were identified within a 5km study zone, while 130 sites within the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), (4 Redundant Records) were identified within the 2km study zone. However, no ACAs or World Heritage Sites were identified within their respective study zones.

1.15. The assets identified within the study zones were considered along with the results of previous archaeological work, the site visit and map regression analysis, in order to assess the archaeological potential within the Application Site. These results informed part of the direct impacts assessment.

Table 1 – Assets within 2km & 5km

Neo Ref.	Database No.	Name	Distance (km)
National Monuments in State Care (to 5km)			
NA01	512	Clontuskert Abbey	5km
Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes (to 5km)			
NA02	GA-47-M-812208	Eyreville	1.6km
NA03	GA-47-M-837218	Gortnamona	1km
NA04	GA-47-M-848223	Somerset House	2km
NA05	GA-47-M-866203	Belview	2.4km
NA06	GA-53-M-841188	Newpark	1.6km

NA07	GA-53-M-843177	Raheen, Kilquain	2.7km
NA08	GA-53-M-848191	Huntly	2.4km
NA09	GA-53-M-855148	Quainsborough Lodge	5km
NA10	GA-53-M-879199	Ballymore Castle	3.1km
Historic Buildings within the NIAH/RPS (to 2km)			
NA11	30409908	Windmill	1.6km
NA12	30409909	Saint Patrick's Church	1.3km
NA13	30409910	Saint Thomas' Church of Ireland Kiltormer	1.4km
NA14	30409912	Gortnamona House	1.9km
NA15	30409913	Gortnamona House (outbuilding)	0.9km
NA16	30410017	Volunteer Arch - Gates/Railings/Walls	1km
NA17	30410701	Skycur House	1km
NA18	30410702	Raheen House	1.8km
Sites within the Record of Monuments and Places (to 2km)			
NA19	GA099-011----	Ringfort - rath	1.7km
NA20	GA099-022----	Ringfort - rath	0.1km
NA21	GA099-022001-	Ringfort - rath	0.1km
NA22	GA099-022002-	Ringfort - rath	0.1km
NA23	GA099-023----	Enclosure	0.1km
NA24	GA099-024----	Quarry	0.1km
NA25	GA099-025----	Monumental structure	0.1km
NA26	GA099-026----	Ringfort - rath	1.4km
NA27	GA099-027----	Ringfort - rath	1.4km
NA28	GA099-028----	Enclosure	1.6km
NA29	GA099-029----	House - 18th/19th century	1.4km
NA30	GA099-042----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.1km
NA31	GA099-048----	Ringfort - rath	2km
NA32	GA099-061----	Enclosure	0km
NA33	GA099-062----	House - 18th/19th century	0.7km
NA34	GA099-063----	House - 18th/19th century	0.6km
NA35	GA099-069----	Enclosure	1.9km
NA36	GA099-085----	Ringfort - rath	1.8km
NA37	GA099-086----	Ringfort - rath	1.8km

NA38	GA099-087----	Ringfort - rath	1.8km
NA39	GA099-088----	Kiln	1.8km
NA40	GA099-089----	Mill - corn	1.8km
NA41	GA099-100----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.8km
NA42	GA099-101----	Kiln - lime	1.4km
NA43	GA099-102----	Ringfort - rath	1.1km
NA44	GA099-103----	Ringfort - rath	1km
NA45	GA099-104----	Ringfort - rath	1km
NA46	GA099-105----	House - 18th/19th century	1km
NA47	GA099-109001-	Castle - unclassified	1km
NA48	GA099-109002-	Enclosure	1km
NA49	GA099-110----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1km
NA50	GA099-122----	Enclosure	0.8km
NA51	GA099-123----	Ritual site - holy well	1km
NA52	GA099-124----	Ringfort - rath	0.1km
NA53	GA099-126----	Quarry	1km
NA54	GA099-127----	Graveyard	1km
NA55	GA099-127001-	Cross	1km
NA56	GA099-128----	Church	1km
NA57	GA099-142----	Ringfort - rath	1.8km
NA58	GA099-143----	Ringfort - rath	2km
NA59	GA099-144----	Ringfort - rath	2km
NA60	GA099-146----	Enclosure	2km
NA61	GA099-152----	Quarry	2km
NA62	GA099-154----	Quarry	1.6km
NA63	GA099-155----	Windmill	1.6km
NA64	GA099-156----	Ringfort - rath	1.6km
NA65	GA099-157----	Ringfort - rath	1.9km
NA66	GA099-159----	Country house	1.9km
NA67	GA099-160001-	Church	1.4km
NA68	GA099-160002-	Graveyard	1.4km
NA69	GA099-161----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.5km
NA70	GA099-162----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.5km
NA71	GA099-163----	Designed landscape feature	1.5km
NA72	GA099-164----	Designed landscape feature	1.5km

NA73	GA099-165----	Designed landscape feature	1.5km
NA74	GA099-169----	Ringfort - rath	1.8km
NA75	GA099-170----	Ringfort - rath	1.8km
NA76	GA099-171----	Quarry	1.7km
NA77	GA099-172----	Ringfort - unclassified	0.9km
NA78	GA099-173----	Children's burial ground	0.9km
NA79	GA099-174001-	Ringfort - unclassified	0.1km
NA80	GA099-174002-	Field system	0.1km
NA81	GA099-177----	Enclosure	1.7km
NA82	GA099-178----	Ringfort - rath	1.7km
NA83	GA099-178001-	House - indeterminate date	1.7km
NA84	GA099-179----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.7km
NA85	GA099-180----	Enclosure	0.1km
NA86	GA099-181----	House - indeterminate date	1.6km
NA87	GA099-200----	Earthwork	1.6km
NA88	GA100-007----	Redundant record	1km
NA89	GA100-027----	Quarry	1.8km
NA90	GA100-028----	Ringfort - rath	1.8km
NA91	GA100-029----	Ringfort - rath	2km
NA92	GA100-033----	Enclosure	2km
NA93	GA100-034----	Designed landscape feature	1.6km
NA94	GA100-035----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.3km
NA95	GA100-036----	Quarry	1.7km
NA96	GA100-037----	Enclosure	1.6km
NA97	GA100-037001-	Structure	1.6km
NA98	GA100-037002-	Structure	1.6km
NA99	GA100-037003-	Structure	1.6km
NA100	GA100-038----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.8km
NA101	GA100-043----	Earthwork	1.8km
NA102	GA100-044----	House - 18th/19th century	1.9km
NA103	GA100-045----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1km
NA104	GA100-046----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.1km
NA105	GA100-047----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.6km

NA106	GA100-048----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.8km
NA107	GA100-049----	Designed landscape feature	1.8km
NA108	GA100-050----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1.8km
NA109	GA100-051----	Cenotaph	1km
NA110	GA100-052----	Designed landscape - tree-ring	1km
NA111	GA100-053----	Settlement cluster	1.9km
NA112	GA100-054----	House - 18th/19th century	1.7km
NA113	GA100-083----	House - 18th/19th century	1.2km
NA114	GA100-097----	Ringfort - rath	0.5km
NA115	GA100-098----	Redundant record	1.5km
NA116	GA100-099----	Ringfort - rath	1.4km
NA117	GA100-100----	Children's burial ground	0.7km
NA118	GA100-149----	Ringfort - rath	0.5km
NA119	GA100-150----	Quarry	0.7km
NA120	GA100-151----	Ringfort - unclassified	2km
NA121	GA100-152----	Ringfort - rath	2km
NA122	GA100-152001-	Children's burial ground	2km
NA123	GA100-153----	Designed landscape feature	1.6km
NA124	GA100-154----	Barrow - stepped barrow	1.2km
NA125	GA100-155----	Country house	1.7km
NA126	GA107-029----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.9km
NA127	GA107-029001-	Souterrain	1.9km
NA128	GA107-073----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.3km
NA129	GA107-136----	Redundant record	1.5km
NA130	GA107-137----	Redundant record	1.4km
NA131	GA107-159----	Quarry	1.8km
NA132	GA107-160----	Quarry	1.9km
NA133	GA107-174----	Enclosure	0.3km
NA134	GA107-175----	Quarry	0.4km
NA135	GA107-176001-	Chapel	0.4km
NA136	GA107-176002-	Altar	0.4km
NA137	GA107-177----	Quarry	1km
NA138	GA107-178----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.1km
NA139	GA107-179----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.1km
NA140	GA107-180----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.2km

NA141	GA107-181001-	Enclosure	1.3km
NA142	GA107-181002-	Chapel	1.3km
NA143	GA107-182----	Quarry	0.5km
NA144	GA107-183----	Enclosure	0.5km
NA145	GA107-185----	Redundant record	1km
NA146	GA107-187----	Quarry	1.5km
NA147	GA107-188----	Quarry	1.8km
NA148	GA108-106----	Ringfort - unclassified	1.3km

Placenames Assessment

- 1.16. The Application Site is spread across a total of five townlands: Ballydonagh, Cloonineen, Skecoor, Kiltormer East and Graveshill. The names of these townlands were analysed for their origins and meanings in case they refer to historical features within their boundaries that are not recorded by other means. This was done by consulting the Placenames Database of Ireland, which collates various historical sources regarding the names of townlands, in particular the Ordnance Survey Parish Namebooks.
- 1.17. The name of the townland Ballydonagh or Bhaile Mhic Dhonncha is first described in 1585 as 'Balledonogh'. The name is derived from the Irish term 'Bhaile' meaning townland or homestead and Donncha, which is the Gaelic version of the name Duncan.
- 1.18. 'Cloonineen' or 'Chluain na nIníon' is first seen in 1407 as 'Cluain an Ingean', Cluain means meadow, but the origin of Ingean is more complex. The name had several incarnations, with the present-day version in 1837. Iníon however is also complex as the direct translation is related to 'daughter'. A possible translation is 'Meadow of Daughters', however this cannot be confirmed.
- 1.19. Skecoor or 'Sceach Chuar' was first described in 1585 as 'Skewgh coore'. The exact origin is uncertain, but Sceach means hawthorn and Chuar could mean circle. Therefore, the name possibly means Circle of Hawthorn, but this cannot be confirmed.
- 1.20. Kiltormer East or 'Chill Tormóir Thoir was first described in 1302 as 'Kiltormore' and is described in Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland. The name derives from 'Cill' meaning church and 'Tormóir' meaning big bush.
- 1.21. Graveshill or 'Chnoc na hUaighe' is an exact translation, first described in 1738. The graveyard may relate to GA100-100---- (NA117) which is a children's burial ground located on hummock or knoll within the townland.

Map Regression Analysis

- 1.22. The 6" historic OSI map of the site dates from 1829 – 1841, while the 25" historic OSI map dates from 1897 – 1913. These maps show the progression of land use and field boundaries in the area and can highlight potential areas of archaeological interest that may have been lost in the subsequent years.
- 1.23. The 6" map shows that the land on the northern end of the Application Site was predominantly agricultural land, much as it is today. The historic demesne of Ballydonagh House is depicted to the northeast and a nursery and police barracks to the south. Several townland boundaries are depicted between Ballydonagh, Lissaoharson, Kiltormer and Gortnalug.
- 1.24. The southern end of the Application Site depicts NA32, within the boundary of Chesterfield Demesne, the buildings of which are to the east. The remaining lands to the south are agricultural lands. The townland boundary between Ballydonagh and Cloonineen is to the north.
- 1.25. An unnamed road running northwest to southeast towards the village of Kiltormer is present, which bisects the northern and southern sides of the Application Site.
- 1.26. The 25" map shows few changes from the 6" map to the 25" map. Ballydonagh and Chesterfield Houses are still depicted as is NA32. The nursery is no longer present, but the quarry is. The police barracks is now shown as 'ruins'.

Aerial Photography

- 1.27. Since the depiction of the Application Site on OSI historic mapping, a number of internal field boundaries have been removed in order to increase their size and make them more regular in shape, in order to facilitate their agricultural usage. There has been a small number of agricultural buildings constructed within Fields 17 and 18 in the northern section of the site. No unknown archaeological features or cropmarks of archaeological potential have been identified from a review of modern aerial photography on Google Earth, Bing Maps, World Imagery Wayback and ArcGIS Pro global mapping.
- 1.28. No historical aerial images of land within the Application Site were identified within the consulted sources, including the National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP), Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photography (CUCAP) and Britain from Above databases.

Lidar Data

- 1.29. Lidar data was reviewed in order to identify the potential for hitherto-unknown archaeological features as well as identify the possible extents of known features.
- 1.30. There was no Lidar Data available for the Application Site.

Previous Works

Geophysical Survey

- 1.31. A geophysical survey was carried out between the 25th October and 9th November 2022 under licence (22R0338) from the Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- 1.32. The geophysical survey (Submitted with Appendix 2A) concluded that there were seven areas of 'probable archaeology' within fields 13, 16, 18 and 22 and one area of 'archaeology' within Field 30 which corresponds to NA32.
- 1.33. Four anomalies were recorded within Field 13, consisting of irregular shapes of unknown origin. However, the 6" OSI map shows a circular grove of trees that corresponds to these anomalies.
- 1.34. The 'possible archaeology' within Field 16, consists of two semi sub circular features of unknown origin. These features may be due to modern agricultural activities and may not be archaeological in origin. Analysis to the 6" OSI map (1829 – 1841) shows areas of trees which may be the origin of these anomalies. However, it must be noted that NA20 – 22 lie directly to the north.
- 1.35. One anomaly is recorded in Field 18, within the southeast. The origin is unknown; however it should be noted that this field is depicted on the 6" OSI as having a grove of trees as well as remnants of field boundaries which may account for these anomalies.
- 1.36. Field 22 shows three anomalies to the south and western sides. The 6" OSI map shows some vegetation within the field which may explain the features to the south. However, the anomalies which appear to be a structure are not visible on any historic maps. The 25" OSI depicts a line of trees in an 'L' shape roughly orientated northeast to southwest, which could correspond to a partial portion of the anomalies, however the origin is still unknown.
- 1.37. The remaining fields within the survey didn't reveal any unknown archaeological features, some historic boundaries were encountered and extensive drainage.

METHODOLOGY

- 1.38. In order to mitigate the potential impact that the construction activities may have had on the buried archaeological resource, which are based on the size of the development (81.9ha) and its proximity to known heritage assets, Paula Slaughter of Neo Environmental Ltd (on behalf of Renewable Energy Systems (RES) Ltd carried out a program of archaeological testing. Paula Slaughter was the primary archaeologist in charge of the program of archaeological testing.
- 1.39. A total of 36 trenches (See Figures 4 & 5 for Trench Locations and Overlay), ranging from 60 – 100m in length (See Table 3 for Individual Trench Lengths) were excavated across the

Application Site. The trenches targeted all 'possible archaeological features' encountered during the geophysical survey and areas which will be subject to significant ground disturbance during construction works.

Table 2: Ground Disturbance

	AREA	% OF SITE	% OF GROUND DISTURBANCE
APPLICATION SITE	819,240		
GROUND DISTURBANCE	38,527.7	4.70%	
TRENCHES (CONSTRUCTION)	4,590	0.56%	12.52%

- 1.40. The total ground disturbance from the development is 4.70% of the overall Application Site within the Proposed Development boundary. This testing program covers 12.52% of the overall ground disturbance, with 10.02% being areas of heavy ground disturbance from the development and 2.49% targeting geophysical anomalies. It must also be noted that the lands within the Application Site are still used for agricultural purposes.

Table 3: Trench Lengths

TRENCH LENGTH	INDIVIDUAL TRENCH LENGTHS		
	60m	80m	100m
TRENCH NUMBER	8	1	2
	10	5	3
	14	6	4
	18	7	9
	24	13	11
	28	21	12
	29	32	15

	30	35	16
	31	36	17
	33		19
	34		20
			22
			23
			25
			26
			27

- 1.41. All archaeological works were carried out in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Archaeological Monitoring (2006) issued by the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland (IAI) and the Department documents Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage and Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation.
- 1.42. All trenches were excavated using a tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m toothless bucket. Trenches were excavated in 10cm spits with the upcast spoil searched systematically to recover any finds within the spoil.
- 1.43. Upon excavation of trenches a metal detector was employed, under licence, to scan spoil and if archaeological remains are revealed were also be scanned.
- 1.44. By liaising with the contractor and consulting the construction schedule for the development, all relevant site investigations were undertaken by archaeologist Paula Slaughter. The testing commenced and was completed in June 2024.
- 1.45. All machine work was supervised by Paula Slaughter (Licensee) under license.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY TRENCH RESULTS

- 1.46. The below details the geophysical survey trench results, this is supported by (Appendix 1A: Figure 4).

Trench 28 and 29 (Plates 1 & 2)

- 1.47. Trenches 28 and 29 were located in Field 13, which showed 4 anomalies in the geophysical survey. The trenches were excavated in full, and the spoil was metal detected, and nothing recovered.
- 1.48. Trench 28 was filled with loose dark brown peat, with frequent tree root material. The trench was sterile, and the anomalies found during a geophysical survey corresponded to particularly large tree roots. Nothing of archaeological significance was revealed.
- 1.49. Trench 29 was also filled with loose dark brown peat, with frequent tree root material. The trench was sterile, and the anomalies found during a geophysical survey corresponded to particularly large tree roots. Nothing of archaeological significance was revealed. The area was very boggy especially to the southwest where the peat was 0.70m + in depth, which exceeded the construction depth.

Trench 30 (Plate 3)

- 1.50. Trench 30 was located in Field 18 which showed one anomaly in the geophysical survey. The trench was excavated in full and the spoil was metal detected and nothing recovered.
- 1.51. Trench 30 was filled with mid brown sandy clay with small sub angular stones. The trench was sterile and the anomaly found during the geophysical survey corresponded to a geological area of gravel and rock.

Trenches 31 and 32 (Plate 4, 5 & 6)

- 1.52. Trenches 31 and 32 were located in Field 22, which showed 3 anomalies in the geophysical survey. The trenches were excavated in full, and the spoil was metal detected, and nothing recovered.
- 1.53. Trench 31 was filled with mid brown sandy clay with small sub angular stones. The trench contained one NE – SW orientated linear that was extremely shallow and corresponded to a linear shown on the geophysical survey. The linear appeared to be modern and consultation with the landowner revealed that this was where a livestock crush was located and demolished circa 20 years ago and thus, it is considered non-archaeological. Nothing of archaeological significance was revealed.

- 1.54. Trench 32 was also filled with mid brown sandy clay with small sub angular stones. The trench was excavated in two parts due to bushes and vegetation. The trench was sterile, and the anomalies found during a geophysical survey corresponded to areas of gravel and rock.

Trenches 33 and 34 (Plate 7, 8, 9 & 10)

- 1.55. Trenches 33 and 34 were located in Field 29, which showed 3 anomalies in the geophysical survey. The trenches were excavated in full, and the spoil was metal detected, and nothing recovered.
- 1.56. Trench 33 was filled with a compact, mid bluish grey silt clay with frequent small subangular stones.
Remains of a roadway/trackway used for agricultural purposes was found in middle of trench. This trackway is present on the 6" OSI (1829-1841), however the material appears to be more modern in date with modern debris within the fill.
- 1.57. Trench 34 was filled with a compact, mid bluish grey silt clay with frequent small subangular stones.
Remains of a roadway/trackway which extended from Trench 33. This trackway is present on the 6" OSI (1829-1841), however the material appears to be more modern in date with modern debris within the fill.

Trenches 35 and 36 (Plate 11 & 12)

- 1.58. Trenches 35 and 36 were located in Field 31, which showed 2 anomalies in the geophysical survey. The trenches were excavated in full, and the spoil was metal detected, and nothing recovered.
- 1.59. Both trenches were filled with mid to dark bluish grey silt clay with frequent small to medium subangular stones.
- 1.60. Ceramic drains both active and inactive were located within the trench and corresponded to anomalies shown in the geophysical survey.

Ground disturbance trench results

- 1.61. Please see below Ground disturbance trench results please also refer to (Appendix 1A: Figure 5).
- 1.62. All trenches were excavated in full, and metal detected with no archaeological objects recovered. All trenches were sterile with the exception of Trench 23.
- 1.63. Trench 23 contained a small burnt stone spread or pit. 1.2m by 1.4m in size roughly (Plate 13 & 14). Heat shattered stone and some charcoal. A compact, dark greyish brown silt clay. It was located at the NE end of the trench and to the east of NA32.

- 1.64. This spread is located close to NA32, it is recommended that further evaluation takes place prior to construction at the post consent stage.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1A: Figures

- Figure 1 – Development Layout
- Figure 2 – Site Location Map
- Figure 3 – Field Numbers
- Figure 4 - Trench Locations Geophysical Survey Overlay
- Figure 5 – Trench Locations Construction Design Overlay

Appendix 1B: Plates



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