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MetroLink – Griffith Park Station, St Mobhi Road, Dublin 9

Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANCY
SERVICES UNIT



Prepared for Jacobs IDOM JV by Donald Murphy

Licence No.: 19E0738

5th March 2020

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PROJECT DETAILS

Project Details	Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations, MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9
Site Name	Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9
Licence Number	19E0738
Townland	Bankfarm
Parish	Glasnevin
County	Dublin
ITM	715437, 737313
RMP	None
RPS	7746
Consultant	Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit, Unit 21 Boyne Business Park, Greenhills, Drogheda, Co. Louth
Client	Jacobs IDOM JV on behalf of Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Project Archaeologist	Emer Dennehy, TII
Project Manager	Donald Murphy
Excavation Director	Donald Murphy
Site Type	Burial Site and Probable Enclosure
Report by	Donald Murphy
Report Status	Draft
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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This report details the results of Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations at MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9 (ITM 715437, 737313; Figures 1–2). The site is located within the grounds of the Home Farm Football Club, in the townland of Bankfarm, civil parish of Glasnevin and barony of Coolock, Dublin. The work was carried out for Jacobs/IDOM JV on behalf of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

There are no sites listed within the Record of Monuments and Places within the assessment area but the site is within the curtilage of a Protected Structure (RPS 7746; DCC 2016); Whitehall College (Coláiste Caomhain), formerly Marlborough Hall built in 1908 and designed by James Franklin Fuller. The site is located 300m south-east of the ecclesiastical complex of St Mobhi (RMP DU018-005008-) and 147m east of an Anglo-Norman motte (RMP DU018-005009-). In addition, in June 2008, human remains and animal bones were recovered from the site at Home Farm Football Club, in the vicinity of the southern goal posts/fence line and the northern changing facilities (NMI file IA/182/2008).

This programme of Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations was carried out on foot of a gap analysis by TII, which identified four locations along the MetroLink Preferred Route corridor (Licence Areas 1-4) which had not been subject to previous archaeological investigative works. The assessment site described in this report is located at Home Farm Football Club and falls within Licence Area 3. It was sub-divided into two areas – Licence Area 3A located to the south of the football pitch, and Licence Area 3B, on the main pitch.

Prior to this archaeological assessment a geophysical (magnetometer and ground penetrating radar [GPR] survey were undertaken at Licence Area 3 as a component of advance MetroLink Works (Licence 18R0196; Gimson & Garner 2019). The Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations strategy was designed to assess the archaeological nature of high potential anomalies detected during these earlier surveys; while maintaining the integrity of the sports facilities. The results of the Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations will inform the MetroLink Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

The Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations was undertaken by Donald Murphy of ACSU under licence 19E0738 between the 2nd and 10th December 2019. A total of 24 test trenches (Test Trench 1-24) were excavated across the footprint of the site using a 3 tonne tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide bucket. In total 131m of linear trenches were excavated; this incorporated Test Trenches 16-24 which were excavated in the vicinity of the southern goal posts/fence line, where human remains were found in 2008 (NMI file IA/182/2008; Eamon Mahon pers comm). The purpose of the latter was to determine the presence or absence of additional human remains related to this find. No human remains were identified in any of the excavated test trenches suggesting perhaps that the previously discovered remains were an isolated find. The test excavations did however confirm the presence of a number of slightly curving ditches/linear features (C10, C12, C17, C26, C35 and C41), most of which were consistent with anomalies identified in the geophysical survey. Most of the ditches contained animal bone within the fill but produced no dateable finds. Samples taken from a number of the fills have produced sufficient charcoal for radiocarbon dating however. The ditch C10 along the south end of the site did contain quantities of barbed wire and is on the same alignment as a field boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey 6 inch map of 1844. This ditch also runs along the top of the cutting for the original entrance laneway to Whitehall College as shown on the OS 25 inch map of 1911. The remaining ditches are of unknown date. Ditch C17 in the south-east corner of the site appears to curve more significantly than the others on the geophysical survey and may represent part of a potential circular enclosure of approximately 30m diameter. The remaining ditches identified in the test trenches and the geophysical survey do not appear to form any definitive pattern and future more extensive investigation will be required to determine their full extent and significance. Four small pits or spreads (C28, C30, C32, C34) of unknown date were also identified clustered together in Test Trench 12. A square shaped fragment of iron and some metallurgical waste fragments were recovered from the fill of pit/spread C32 but appears relatively modern in date.

A number of environmental samples from the various ditch fills produced charcoal and it is recommended that some of these be radiocarbon dated in order to more fully understand the nature and dating of the features exposed. As the proposed MetroLink project requires significant ground reduction works at this location, to a depth of up to 30m, all identified features will be directly impacted. Full preservation by record (i.e. archaeological excavation) in advance of construction works commencing will therefore be required in order to mitigate this permanent impact. The particulars of this mitigation measure will, in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeology, be set out in a Cultural Heritage Strategy to be agreed between the office of the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht and TII.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report has been prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit for Jacobs IDOM JV on behalf of Transport Infrastructure Ireland . The excavation was carried out under Licence from the Minister of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland (NMI).

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report details the results of Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations at MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9 (ITM 715437, 737313; Figures 1–2). The site is located within the grounds of the Home Farm Football Club, St Mobhi Road, in the townland of Bankfarm, civil parish of Glasnevin and barony of Coolock, Co. Dublin. The work was carried out for Jacobs/IDOM JV on behalf of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

There are no sites listed within the Record of Monuments and Places within the assessment area but the site is within the curtilage of Whitehall College (Coláiste Caomhain) a Protected Structure (RPS 7746; DCC 2016). The site is located 300m south-east of the ecclesiastical complex of St Mobhi (RMP DU018-005008-) and 147m east of an Anglo-Norman motte (RMP DU018-005009-). In addition, in June 2008, human remains and animal bones were recovered from the site at Home Farm Football Club, in the vicinity of the southern goal posts/fence line and the northern changing facilities (NMI file IA/182/2008). These are now in the National Museum of Ireland.

This programme of advance test excavations was carried out on foot of a gap analysis by TII, which identified four locations along the MetroLink Preferred Route corridor (Licence Areas 1-4) which had not been subject to previous archaeological investigative works. The assessment site described in this report is located at Home Farm Football Club and falls within Licence Area 3. It was sub-divided into two areas – Licence Area 3A located to the south of the football pitch, and Licence Area 3B, on the main pitch. Donald Murphy of ACSU undertook the test excavations under licence 19E0738 between the 2nd and 10th December 2019.

1.1 Scheme Description

MetroLink will be a high-capacity, high-frequency rail line running from Swords to Charlemont, linking Dublin Airport, Irish Rail, DART, Dublin Bus and Luas services, creating fully integrated public transport in the Greater Dublin Area. As well as linking major transport hubs, MetroLink will connect key destinations including Swords, Ballymun, the Mater Hospital, the Rotunda, Dublin City University and Trinity College. In addition to the rail line and associated stations, the project also provides for a depot site at Dardistown to stable the MetroLink rolling stock and a Park and Ride facility at Estuary. It is intended that the construction of MetroLink will commence construction in 2021 and will be open for passenger services by 2027.

1.2 Planning background

The site of Home Farm Football Club has been identified as the location of a MetroLink Station to be called Griffith Park Station. The works at this location will entail complete excavation of the site to a maximum depth of 30 m to accommodate construction of the station platforms, access routes and associated infrastructure. Upon completion of the construction works, a new football pitch and club facilities will be constructed over the station box.

TII are managing the proposed project on behalf of the National Transport Authority (NTA). An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will be prepared for the project by the project team led by Jacobs IDOM JV and the outputs of this survey will be an input to the EIA process. The EIAR will be submitted as part of a Railway Order application for the project to An Bord Pleanála.

The project is covered by the Code of Practice for Archaeology agreed between the Minister for Arts, heritage Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (now Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 'MCHG') and TII (2017) and Emer Dennehy is the nominated Project Archaeologist.

1.3 Topography, soils, geology & hydrology

The site is located in the townland of Bankfarm, directly east of Saint Mobhi Road, south of Home Farm Road, west of Whitehall College and north of the River Tolka (ITM 715437, 737313; Figure 1, 2). The site is c. 7.2 km west of the Irish Sea coast and c. 3.8km from Dublin Harbour. The site has an elevation of c. 16-20m OD. The underlying geology consists of dark limestone and shale, this formation comprises dark-grey to black, fine-grained, occasionally cherty, micritic limestones that weather paler, usually to pale grey. There are rare dark coarser grained calcarenitic limestones, sometimes graded, and interbedded dark-grey calcar. The underlying limestone is covered by peaty poorly drained mineral soil, with alluvial marl and mineral poorly drained soils along the southern and south-eastern boundary (Geological Survey of Ireland).

The site currently comprises a playing pitch for Home Farm Football Club. The pitch is enclosed by metal railings, with changing rooms and clubhouse facilities to the north, and a small area of grass with mature trees to the south where it borders the access laneway to the college.

1.4 Historical background

The site lies on the north bank of the River Tolka, which during the early medieval period formed the boundary between the kingdoms of Brega to the north and Laigin to the south (Stout & Stout 1992, 19). On the northern side, two Roman coins (NMI 2009:419) were previously found to the east of Bankfarm, in two separate locations in the area of St Patrick's College, Drumcondra. While in 1937 a coin hoard containing two Anglo-Saxon, five or six Viking and two Kufic coins (dirhams) was found at Claremont, Glasnevin, 1.2km west of the present site (Hall 1973-4, 73). The date of this hoard suggests it may relate to the expulsion of the Hiberno-Norse dynasty from York in AD 927.

On the northern side of the River Tolka there was also the major ecclesiastical site of St Mobhi (RMP DU018-005001-), which is thought to date to the sixth century AD and perhaps associated with an ecclesiastical enclosure some 200 m in diameter (RMP DU018-005008-). SS Comghall of Bangor and Columcille of Derry and Iona were reputedly disciples of St Mobhi. It is likely that the present Church of Ireland on Church Avenue was built on the site of this earlier ecclesiastical site and indeed during the 13th century this area was part of the homefarm for the Priory of the Holy Trinity, Christchurch (Ball 1920, 124-47). This church has an associated graveyard but burials uncovered outside of the graveyard over the years may also be related to St Mobhi's ecclesiastical site. In 1941, two skeletons were discovered to the west (RMP DU018-005004-), in 1951, further burials were also discovered to the southeast (RMP DU018-005005-), and in 1956, a number of skeletons were uncovered to the northeast of the church along with some animal bone and an iron knife (RMP DU018-005007-). Further to the southwest, a burial ground of approximately 8-10 graves orientated east-west, were uncovered in July 1914, on the grounds of Marlborough Hall (RMP DU018-005006-), now part of Whitehall College (Cahill & Sikora 2011, 453). Some of the graves were reported to be lined with limestone slabs, one contained a worked bone object; these burials are also most likely associated with the ecclesiastical site of St Mobhi. Prior to this, in 1895, a single burial had also been uncovered in this area, reported as 'human remains and possible weaponry' (RMP DU018-005010-). It is possible that the human remains uncovered at Home Farm in 2008 (NMI file IA/182/2008) may also relate to this early medieval ecclesiastical complex.

A holy well (RMP DU018-011----) located to the southeast of Home Farm may also form part of this religious landscape. Holy wells are, however, known to have been a Christian adaptation of the pre-Christian tradition of sacred springs and this particular well was reputed to have cured sore eyes and toothache (Ó Danachair 1958, 233). This is one of several holy wells found between Drumcondra and Finglas and is locally associated with St Catherine, suggesting a veneration that may extend as far back as the 13th century.

Evidence for late 12th and early 13th century occupation of the area is also provided by the presence of a motte (RMP DU018-005009-), located in a prominent position at the end of a ridge just north of the River Tolka and 148m west of Home Farm. It consists of a flat-

topped and steeply-sided earthwork, c 4.4 m high and 15 m in diameter, which represents an early form of castle constructed by the Anglo-Normans. It is possible that a manorial settlement developed around this castle, comprising farmlands that would have supported the feudal system. Notably, the Anglo-Normans generally colonised the best agricultural land and pre-existing settlement patterns, suggesting that this area may yet yield evidence for early medieval settlement and subsistence practices.

The post-medieval settlement of the region is also attested at Glasnevin (RMP DU018-005011-), detailed in records from the 17th century. The 1664 Hearth Money Rolls 'for county Dublin list 10 houses with hearths in Glasnevin. In 1667, the householders increased to 23 and three houses were rated for two hearths and an oven and three for two hearths each. The farms associated with these houses are shown on a map compiled in the 18th century but based on information recorded in 1640 by Richard Francis' (Archaeological Survey Database). During the 17th and 18th centuries the area would also have contained several estates, such as that around Belvedere House to the southeast (RMP DU018-012001-) and Carlingford House, Delville House and Glasnevin House to the northwest. Delville House was built in 1729 on the site of a house called the Glen (RMP DU018-005003-). Other known sites in the vicinity include an earthwork (RMP DU018-004----) overlooking the River Tolka, represented by an enclosure, some 20 m in diameter. This area is also within the heavily landscaped Glasnevin Demesne, which later became part of a homefarm attached to the Holy Faith Convent. Archaeological investigations in this area in 2010 (Myles, 2010) did not reveal anything of archaeological significance and it is therefore possible that the earthwork relates to a surface garden feature, such as a circular flower bed or tree ring. As the townland name, Bankfarm, would suggest, this area remained agricultural land for some time, with the site of Home Farm depicted as agricultural land on Rocque's map of 1757 (Figure 4), the first edition 6-inch map of 1843 (Figure 5), Griffiths Valuation (1847–64) and the third edition 25-inch map of 1906–09 (Figure 6), although by this time the adjacent college had been built.

1.5 Recorded Monuments and Place and Topographic Files

There are no monuments listed within the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) within the testing area. A number of recorded monuments are located in the surrounding area and these have been discussed above (Figure 2). Human remains were discovered on the site in 2008 (NMI file IA/182/2008). The NMI file gives the co-ordinates (NGR) as 315521, 237341 which places the find spot along the front (south) wall of the Homefarm dressing rooms along the north end of the site. The description states that the remains were 'Found in the foundations of changing room and in spoil from fence posts' and they consisted of a 'Collection of human bone, fragmented skull, mandible, vertebrae, ribs, shoulders and upper arm. Small number of associated animal bones'. This would suggest that they were found at the north end of the site. Local information however from club staff suggests that the remains were found at the south end of the pitch while posts were being put in for the spectator fence which surrounds the pitch.

1.6 Protected Structures

The site is within the curtilage of Whitehall College (Coláiste Caomhain), a Protected Structure formerly known as Marlborough Hall designed by James Franklin Fuller and built in 1908 as a teacher training college (RPS 7746; DCC 2016). The college is accessed from St Mobhi Road via an ornate cast iron vehicular entrance gate, with an associated pedestrian gate to south; the access lane is in within an embanked cutting due to the topography of the Tolka River Valley. The current entrance gates do not mark the original entrance to Whitehall College. This initially stood some 206m to the west on Glasnevin Hill (formerly Vincent Terrace). The college grounds were substantially reduced through the construction of St Mobhi Road in the 1920s, with cartographic analysis also indicating that the surviving remnants of the access lane were subsequently repositioned to the south. Part of the college's original access laneway now forms the route of St Mobhi Drive.

1.7 Previous Archaeological Investigations

A number of archaeological investigations have been carried out in the area around the Home Farm Football Club (Figure 2). The details of these investigations, derived from the summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland (www.excavations.ie) are outlined in Table 1. They demonstrate the overall archaeological potential of the site under study and its surrounding townlands.

Table 1: Previous archaeological investigations in the environs of MetroLink Licence Area 3

Site	Licence No.	RMP No.	Director(s)	Investigation type	Site type
Bon Secours Hospital	90E0015 & E000923	-	Mary McMahon	Archaeological testing and excavation.	No archaeological significance.
60 & 62 Glasnevin Hill	96E0055	-	Rosanne Meenan	Archaeological testing.	No archaeological significance.
Bon Secours Hospital	96E0343	-	Judith Carroll	Archaeological excavation.	Post-medieval deposits/features.
Holy Faith Convent, Old Finglas Road	98E0299	-	Richard O'Brien	Archaeological monitoring.	No archaeological significance.
St Patrick's College, Drumcondra	02E0731	-	Stuart Halliday	Archaeological testing.	No archaeological significance.
Bon Secours Hospital	02E1487	-	Mary McMahon	Archaeological monitoring.	Post-medieval deposits/features.
St Patrick's College, Drumcondra	04E0638	-	Eoghan Kieran	Archaeological testing.	No archaeological significance.
49/51 Mobhi Road	05E1179	-	Ciara McCarthy	Archaeological testing.	No archaeological significance.
Bon Secours Hospital	05E1320	-	Ellen O Carroll	Archaeological testing and monitoring.	Post-medieval deposits/features.
54 Glasnevin Hill	07E0604	-	Teresa Bolger	Archaeological monitoring.	No archaeological significance.
Holy Faith Convent, Old Finglas Road	10E0344	DU018-004----	Franc Myles	Archaeological testing.	Post-medieval deposits/features.
St Patrick's College, Drumcondra	10E0487	-	Melanie McQuade	Archaeological testing.	No archaeological significance.
Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin	12E0321	-	Claire Walsh	Archaeological monitoring.	No archaeological significance.
Home Farm Football Club	19E0152	-	Thaddeus Breen	Archaeological monitoring.	No archaeological significance.

While monitoring in the Holy Faith Convent grounds did not reveal any archaeological features (Licence 98E0299; O'Brien 1998), two *ex-situ* artefacts were recovered from the topsoil; a fragment of a line-impressed floor tile and a late medieval green-glazed jug handle. The floor tile had a six-foil in circle pattern (Type L38) and it may originally have been connected to the ecclesiastical site of St Mobhi. In the grounds of the Bon Secours Hospital, directly north-west of Home Farm Football Club, post-medieval garden features associated with the previous landscaping around the early 18th-century Delville House were uncovered in 1996 (Licence 96E0343; Carroll 1996), 2002 (Licence 02E1487; McMahon 2002) and 2005 (Licence 05E1320; O Carroll 2005). The gardens of Delville House were reported to contain a miniature temple with a cellar, a grotto and a stream spanned by rustic bridges. Similarly, test excavations in the area

adjacent to an earthwork (RMP DU018-004----) in 2010 (Licence 10E0344; Myles 2010) surmised that this related to the designed landscape of Glasnevin Demesne, which had existed since at least 1756.

1.7.1 Previous Investigations within Licence Area 3

In 2019, two boreholes related to MetroLink geotechnical investigations within Licence Area 3 were archaeologically monitored (Licence 19E0152; Thaddeus Breen pers comm). The southern borehole was positioned south of the goal posts/fence line in Area 3A, while the northern borehole was located east of the changing rooms. The southern borehole stratigraphy consisted of a sod layer, up to 0.20 m thick, overlying a mid- to light-brown soil containing roots and occasional seashell fragments, measuring up to 0.60 m in thickness and an underlying deposit of grey–brown soil that extended to a depth of at least 1.40 m, but did not represent the natural. The northern borehole stratigraphy consisted of a mid-brown soil with roots, up to 0.07 m thick, overlying a soft yellow–brown silty soil, measuring up to 0.58 m in thickness and an underlying deposit of similar yellow–brown silty soil but with more stone inclusions that extended to a depth of at least 1.20 m, again not representing the natural. Some sherds of pottery were also recovered from the upper sod layer in the northern borehole.

In 2018 a Magnetometer (M) survey at a sample resolution of 0.5 m x 0.25 m was undertaken at Home Farm, followed in April 2019 by a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey at a sample resolution of 0.25 m x 0.2s (Gimson & Garner 2019; Licence 18R0196). The Magnetometer survey was carried out using a LEA MAX Förster gradiometer system and the GPR survey used an SIR-3000 GPR with a 400MHz antenna. These surveys indicated the presence of numerous potential archaeological deposits (see Figure 7). The northern end of the pitch was dominated by enclosing ditches, zones of compacted earth or stone, which may be structural in origin, and a number of possible pits or graves. The southern end of the pitch contained a series of arcing and interconnecting ditches. Overall, the geophysical surveys suggested a large outer enclosure ditch containing several ditches, possible pits, graves or post-holes and potential archaeological deposits.

Ditch features representing potential archaeology are represented by M3–7, M8, M10, GPR13, GPR19, GPR22–23, GPR25–26, GPR28–30, GPR35, GPR40, GPR42 and GPR46 and these range in length from 2.4m to 99.0m, some of which may relate to drainage or plough furrows, while the low amplitude of others suggests they may contain clay-rich soils. Notably, M6 may represent a small circular structure or ring-ditch with an opening to the south while just north-east of this is GPR30, two sub-circular features of a similar size that appear to be conjoined. Potential pits, graves or post-holes were also evident throughout the survey area, represented by M1, GPR12, GPR17–18, GPR24, GPR31, GPR33–34, GPR36, GPR38, GPR41, GPR43 and GPR45. These range in diameter from 0.5m to 4.0m. The remaining anomalies comprised areas of enhanced soil, possibly associated with burnt material (M7 and M9), compacted earth or stone features (GPR11, GPR14–15, GPR20, GPR32, GPR44 and GPR47–48) and a series of linear features in a sub-rectangular pattern that may be structural in origin (GPR49).

2. ADVANCE TARGETED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST EXCAVATIONS

2.1 Aims & Objectives

Sixteen test trenches (Test Trenches 1-16) were originally proposed for excavation across Areas 3A and 3B targeting potential features identified by the geophysical survey (M & GPR; Gimson & Garner 2019) (Figure 7). An additional eight smaller test trenches (Test Trenches 17-24) were excavated in Area 3A in an east west arrangement along the fence-line, where local knowledge suggests that human remains were found in 2008 (NMI file IA/182/2008). The aim of the targeted test excavations was to determine the archaeological nature (if any) of the geophysical anomalies and, if possible to locate the remainder of the human remains burial previously identified.

The site is currently in use as a football pitch and therefore the test excavation strategy was designed to assess the archaeological nature of high potential geophysical while maintaining the integrity of the sports facilities. The test trenches were carefully excavated in spits under strict archaeological supervision and reinstated by a specialist contractor (O'Carroll Sportsturf Drainage).

In Area 3A, Test Trenches 1–8, totalling 42.9 linear meters, targeted a series of anomalies (GPR41, 42, 43 and 45) that appeared to represent pits or graves and a number of linear features (GPR49) forming a sub-rectangular alignment with subdivisions that may have been structural. In addition, Test Trenches 17–24 totalling 20.1m linear metres were excavated to determine if any burials were present along the southern fence line where, according to local knowledge, human remains were found in 2008 (NMI file IA/182/2008).

In Area 3B, Test Trenches 9–16, totalling 68 linear meters, targeted a possible sub-circular ditched feature (M6), a series of arching, interconnecting ditches with radial divisions (M10), two anomalies representing possible pits or burials (GPR12 and GPR24), two adjacent sub-circular possible ditch features (GPR30), and a number of anomalies representing possible pits (GPR36). From the GPR survey the ditched feature, M6, appeared to measure c. 7.0m north–south by 5.4m east–west with possible south-facing entranceway identified. Four anomalies representing possible pits were located along the edge of the feature and another was positioned near the centre. Of the two adjacent sub-circular features (GPR30), the southern one measures 3.9–5.0m in diameter, with a possible gap/entranceway at the southeastern side, and the northern one measures 3.5–4.6m in diameter. The two possible pits or burials (GPR12 and GPR24) measured c. 2.5m north–south by 1.2m east–west and 1.5m north–south by 1.4m east–west respectively.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 Survey, Excavation and Recording

The test excavation was carried out in accordance with the IAI Code of Conduct for Archaeological Excavation (IAI 2006). The excavation included the creation of a written and photographic record of the archaeology on a feature-by-feature basis using pro-forma record sheets; maintaining daily logs of excavations; and recording stratigraphic relationships and the position and depth of archaeology.

The test trenches were 1.8m wide and excavated to the surface of archaeological deposits or the underlying natural subsoil, whichever was encountered first. Natural sub-soil was exposed in all test trenches.

A mechanical excavator with a 1.8m wide ditching bucket was used to assist in the removal of topsoil and any made ground in horizontal levels of not more than 0.10m in thickness. In an effort to reduce the impact on the pitch surface, this was a 3-tonne machine. This work was undertaken under the direct supervision of the excavation director (Donald Murphy), in accordance with all current Health and Safety and regulatory legislation guidelines. Due to the anticipated presence of human remains, once the made ground was removed the test trenches were hand excavated. All exposed archaeological or agricultural features were identified, cleaned back and tested by hand (Section 3). The reinstatement of the pitch took place in tandem with the archaeological works. In total 131 linear metres of test trenches was excavated as instructed by the TII Project Archaeologist.

All features (archaeological or agricultural) revealed were cleaned back and tested by hand using partial excavation and half-sectioning. This work was recorded using detailed written descriptions and drawings on pro-forma field record sheets, giving details where applicable of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds, samples, cross-references to other elements of the record and other relevant contexts. Supporting records in the form of registers or lists of drawings, photographs and samples were also created and the Excavation Director maintained a field diary.

Where features were found they were recorded three dimensionally using a combination of scale drawings and GPS surveying. Comprehensive plans and cross-sectional drawings were produced at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate, and include Ordnance Datum levels. The layout of all test trenches and the locations of any features recorded within them was recorded by competent surveyors using digital survey equipment and results were plotted in ITM. A high-resolution digital camera was also used to record the excavated test trenches and any identified archaeological features.

2.2.2 Finds Retrieval and Sampling Strategies

All finds were registered, bagged and temporarily stored on site, in accordance with the Advice Notes for Excavators (NMI 2010) and the Code of Conduct for the Treatment of Archaeological Objects (IAI 2006). All finds are currently being stored at ACSU head office in Unit 21, Boyne Business Park, Drogheda, Co. Louth and will be deposited with the NMI in due course, accompanied by a completed NMI Excavation Finds Register Database for the site.

Palaeo-environmental samples were collected from appropriate contexts for the purposes of radiocarbon dating and the recovery of non-wood macro plant remains; and the sampling process was implemented in accordance with the TII Palaeo-environmental Sampling Guidelines (McClatchie et al. 2015) and the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland's Environmental Sampling: Guidelines for Archaeologists (IAI 2007). The overall sampling strategy therefore adopted a systematic approach as defined in the TII guidelines, supplemented with judgement-based sampling.

Post-depositional disturbance of deposits has the potential to re-work deposits and their components and to introduce material into the deposit. As part of a rigorous approach to sampling, site staff identified the extent to which a context was stratigraphically secure prior to taking a sample. Contexts that appeared to have their stratigraphic security significantly compromised through post-depositional disturbance were not sampled. The nature and degree of disturbance and the type of material that samples are designed to retrieve are the key considerations in determining whether a deposit is sufficiently stratigraphically secure to allow sampling. For example, larger items such as pieces of preserved wood are generally less prone to post-depositional movement than smaller items such as waterlogged or charred plant seeds.

2.2.3 Conditions

Weather throughout the test excavation phase was good with some overcast but dry conditions. In the latter two days, heavy rain led to ground water restricting the excavation of lower ditch fills, C17 in Test Trench 10 and C35 in Test Trench 14, both in Area 3B.

2.2.4 Constraints on Methods

All appropriate methods were used to mitigate against any potential impacts in advance of any ground excavation and all groundworks were undertaken in compliance with all relevant Construction Health and Safety Regulations. Identified constraints on the archaeological test excavations were as follows:

- (a) Football pitch: This site is an active football pitch and therefore the impact of the archaeological test excavations on the playing surface had to be minimised. In order to achieve this, the number, length and width of the test trenches was restricted.
- (b) Water pipes: All test trenches in Area 3A were positioned in order to avoid impacting the sub-surface water pipe that traverses the site from northwest to southeast (Figure 7).
- (c) Depth of made ground: According to two boreholes excavated in 2019, the depth of made ground exceeds 1.4m. This combined with the test trench width, restricted to 1.8m, had the potential to limit the opportunity to expose archaeological deposits and/or the natural subsoil. A maximum depth of 1.5m could be safely achieved in a 1.8m wide test trench, after which the test trench would have to be stepped. This potential constraint was not an issue as the maximum depth to natural ground reached during the test excavations was 1.5m.
- (d) Pitch drainage: Land drains related to the pitch also had the potential to be encountered during groundworks. No disturbance was caused to these features in order to maintain the integrity of the pitch.
- (e) In the course of the test excavations the water level hindered excavation in two ditch sections - C17 in Test Trench 10 (Figure 16) and C35 in Test Trench 14 (Area 3B; Figure 18).

2.3 Specialist Contributions and / or Consultations

2.3.1 Artefacts

The artefacts recovered during the test excavations (Section 4, Table 5) consisted of three body sherds of white ceramic ware and some barbed wire from a modern ditch (C6/C10; Test Trenches 2-3, Area 3a), a sherd of black glazed earthenware and small fragment of bottle glass from the made up ground beneath the pitch (C4; Test Trench 12, Area 3b) and a fragment of square shaped iron (likely modern) from a possible pit/spread (C32; Test Trench 12, Area 3b). It is not proposed to carry out any further specialist analysis on the artefacts.

2.3.2 Faunal remains

Four separate samples of animal bone were recovered from the sections excavated through ditch fills (Section 5, Table 6). These remains have been examined by faunal remains expert Arlene Coogan (refer to Appendix 4).

2.3.3 Human remains

Due to the potential for the discovery of human remains on site Dr Denise Keating was engaged as part of the project team to attend on site in the event that burials were exposed. Osteo-archaeologist Glenn Gibney was also part of the on-site team but no human remains were exposed.

2.3.4 Palaeo-environmental remains

Five separate bulk soil samples were taken from ditch fills (see Section 5, Table 6). All soil samples were processed by flotation and four of the samples produced sufficient quantities of charcoal from which radiocarbon dates can be obtained. No non-wood plant macro remains were recovered. Suitable charcoal (short-lived species) for dating will be selected by Dr Lorna O Donnell in advance of the Radiocarbon dating application.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION RESULTS

The targeted test excavations confirmed the presence of a number of archaeological ditches/linear features (C10, C12, C26, C35 and C41) including a possible enclosure ditch (C17). Four small spreads or pits (C28, C30, C32, C34) of unknown date were also identified and one (C32) produced a square shaped fragment of iron and metallurgical waste fragments that appear to be relatively modern in date. A number of the ditch fills were sampled and produced datable material in the form of charcoal. Radiocarbon dating of a number of these samples is recommended to determine the dating of these features and to further inform any subsequent excavation phase (see Section 7).

3.1 Area 3A

A detailed description of the Area 3A test trenches is provided in Sections 3.1.1 – 3.1.9; a summary of the results is provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Licence Area 3A Test Excavation Results, Test Trenches 1-8 and 17-24

Test Trench Number	Length (m)	Width (m)	Targeting anomaly /vicinity	Contexts recorded	Archaeology exposed	Description
1	4.8	1.8	GPR41	C1, C2, C4	No	East-west test trench near the southern end of pitch (Figure 7,8,14, Plate 1).
2	4	1.8	GPR 41	C1, C2, C4, C6, C7	No	North-south test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7-10, Plates 2-3). Linear C6 same as C10, possibly representing the line of an old field boundary visible on the first edition 6 inch OS Map (Figure 5) or the top of the cutting for the original access road to Marlborough Hall depicted on the 25 inch OS Map (Figure 21).
3	6	1.8	GPR43	C1, C2, C8, C9, C10, C11, C49	No	Northeast-southwest test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7-10, 14, Plates 4-5). Linear C10 same as C6, representing the line of an old field boundary visible on the first edition 6 inch OS Map (Figure 5) or the top of the cutting for the original access road to Marlborough Hall depicted on the 25 inch OS Map (Figure 21). C49 represented a concrete base for securing the goal net.
4	5	1.8	GPR43	C1, C2, C3, C4	No	North-south test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7-9, 15, Plate 6).
5	4	1.8	GPR45	C1, C2, C3, C4	No	North-south test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7-9, 15, Plate 7).
6	5.6	1.8	GPR41	C1, C2, C3, C4	No	North-south test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 15, Plate 8)
7	4	1.8	GPR 45	C1, C2, C3, C4, C50	No	North-south test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 15, Plate 9). Linear C50 represented modern water pipe.
8	9.5	1.8	GPR 41, 49	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5	No	North-northwest-east-southeast test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 16, Plates 10-12). C5 represented a service/water pipe and could account for anomaly GPR41.
17	3	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2	No	North-south test trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 41)
18	2	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2	No	North-south trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 34)
19	2	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2	No	North-south test trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 35)
20	2	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2	No	North-south test trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 36)
21	2.5	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2	No	North-south test trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 37)
22	2.2	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2	No	North-south test trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 38)
23	3.4	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2	No	North-south test trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 39)
24	3	1.8	NMI IA/182/2008	C1, C2, C47	No	North-south test trench excavated along fence-line at south end of pitch (Figures 7,8, 19, Plate 40). The linear feature C47 represents a water pipe associated with the pitch irrigation system.

3.1.1 Test Trench 1

Test Trench 1 (Figures 7, 8, 9 & 14; Plate 1) measured 4.5m in length and 1.8m in width. It was excavated east-west near the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 41 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil (C1) measured 0.28m in depth and exposed 0.52m of imported material (C4) below. This material appears to have been used to level the ground for the football pitch. The grey/brown gravelly natural subsoil (C2) was exposed at a depth of 0.8m. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered. There was nothing evident in the test trench that would account for the anomaly GPR 41.

3.1.2 Test Trench 2

Test Trench 2 (Figures 7-10, 14; Plates 2-3) measured 4m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-south at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 41 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.2m in depth and lay above 0.4m of imported material (C4). The natural grey/brown subsoil (C2) was exposed at a depth of 0.6m. The inner edge of a ditch (C6) was exposed along the southern end of the test trench and was cut into the natural subsoil (C2). It measured 0.4m in depth and 1m in width where recorded within the trench but continued beyond the southern edge.

Only the northern edge of the cut for C6 was exposed; the sides were steep with a flat base. Its sole and primary fill (C7) was found to contain 3 body sherds of white glazed ceramic of 19th/20th century date (19E0738:7:1-3). This ditch was also exposed within Test Trench 3 further to the east and recorded as C10 where it was found to contain barbed wire within its fill. The ditch represented by C10 and C6 possibly represents the line of an old field boundary visible on the first edition 6 inch OS Map (Figure 5) or the top of the cutting for the original access road to Marlborough Hall depicted on the 25 inch OS Map (Figure 21). It is possible that the modern ditch filled with barbed wire accounts for anomaly GPR 41.

3.1.3 Test Trench 3

Test Trench 3 (Figures 7-9, 14; Plates 4-5) measured 6m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated northeast-southwest at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 43 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.1-0.15m in depth and lay above 0.2-0.6m of made ground (C8, C9). The natural grey/brown subsoil (C2) was exposed at a depth of c.0.38m. Following removal of the sod and topsoil (C1) a modern cut (C49) was identified at a depth of c. 0.15m; it represented a concrete base for securing the goal net and it measured c. 0.95 m wide and c. 0.55m deep. It was cut into C8, and truncated the made ground C9, and the northern edge of ditch C10 and its fill C11. It was filled by concrete and redeposited topsoil (C1).

The ditch (C10) aligned roughly west-northwest-east-southeast was exposed running across the test trench. It measured 0.4m in depth and continued beyond the eastern and western test trench edges. It was exposed following the removal of C8 and C9. The cut of the ditch C10 was irregular with gradual sides and a concave base. It was cut into the natural subsoil C2 and filled with a brown clay (C11) which measured c. 0.4m in depth and was found to contain barbed wire (19E0738:11:1) confirming its relatively modern origin. This ditch was also exposed in Test Trench 2 as C6 and represents the line of an old field boundary visible on the first edition 6 inch OS Map (Figure 5) or the top of the cutting for the original access road to Marlborough Hall depicted on the 25 inch OS Map (Figure 21). No archaeological features were exposed within the test trench and no finds were recovered other than the barbed wire. The modern ditch probably accounts for the linear anomaly previously detected for anomaly GPR 43.

3.1.4 Test Trench 4

Test Trench 4 (Figures 7-9, 15; Plate 6) measured 5m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-south at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 43 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.2m in depth and lay above 0.8m of imported material (C4). Following removal of C4, buried sod C3 was exposed measuring 0.05m in depth.

The buried sod (C3) overlay the natural grey/brown subsoil (C2), exposed at a depth of 1.05m. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered. There was nothing evident in the test trench that would account for anomaly GPR 43. The change in the level of the natural boulder clay between Test Trenches 3 and 4 is indicative of the slope that originally existed here prior to the construction of the football pitch. This sloping ground continued south to the River Tolka.

3.1.5 Test Trench 5

Test Trench 5 (Figures 7-9, 15; Plate 7) measured 4m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-south at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 45 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.2m in depth and lay above 0.7-0.8m of imported material (C4). Following removal of C4, a buried sod C3 was exposed measuring 0.1-0.2m in depth. C3 overlay the natural grey/brown subsoil (C2) exposed at a depth of c. 1.15m. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered. There was nothing evident in the test trench that would account for anomaly GPR 45.

3.1.6 Test Trench 6

Test Trench 6 (Figures 7-9, 15; Plate 8) measured 5.6m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-south at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 41 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.25m in depth and lay above 0.8m of imported material (C4). Following removal of C4, the buried sod C3 was exposed measuring 0.2m in depth. C3 directly overlay the natural grey/brown subsoil (C2) exposed at a depth of c. 1.2m. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered. There was nothing evident in the test trench that would account for anomaly GPR 41.

3.1.7 Test Trench 7

Test Trench 7 (Figures 7-9, 15; Plate 9) measured 4m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-south at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 45 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.2m in depth and lay above 0.6m of imported material (C4). Following removal of C4, the original topsoil, a mid brownish grey silty sandy clay/organic material (C3) was exposed measuring 0.1m in depth, and represented buried sod. C3 overlay the natural grey/brown subsoil (C2) exposed at a depth of c.0.90m. Following removal of C4, a modern cut C50 was exposed at a depth of c. 0.8m. It was a linear, running east west, filled by concrete and contained a water pipe measuring c. 0.28m in depth. C50 was cut into C3, the original topsoil/buried sod. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered. The line of the water pipe here could account for the anomaly GPR 45.

3.1.8 Test Trench 8

Test Trench 8 (Figures 7-9, 16; Plates 10-12) measured 9m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated west-northwest-east-southeast at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomalies GPR 41 and GPR49 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.2m in depth and lay above 0.5m of imported material/made up ground (C4). Following the removal of C4, the buried sod C3 was exposed measuring 0.1-0.2m in depth. C3 overlay the natural grey/brown subsoil (C2) exposed at a depth of 0.80-0.90m. A north-south aligned linear C5 was exposed along the western end of the trench and was cut into the imported material/made up ground (C4). It continued beyond the edge of the test trench on both sides. The cut was 0.6m wide and more than 0.8m deep, its fill contained a metal pipe, possibly water. The base of the cut (C5) was not reached and the sides were vertical. This linear feature (C5) represents a service/water pipe and could account for the anomaly GPR 41. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered.

3.1.9 Test Trenches 17-24

Test Trenches 17-24 (Figures 7-9, 19; Plates 34-41) measured 2m to 3.5m in length and 1.8m in width and were excavated north-south in an east-west arrangement along the fence line at the southern end of the pitch, where local knowledge suggests that human remains were found in 2008 (NMI file IA/182/2008). The sod and topsoil here (C1) measured 0.4m in depth and lay above the natural grey/brown subsoil (C2) exposed at a depth of c.0.4m. No archaeological features were exposed in any of the eight trenches and no evidence for grave cuts was detected. The only feature of note was a modern water pipe (C47) which was exposed running north-south through Test Trench 24 (Plate 40) at a depth of 0.40m and was part of the irrigation system for the football pitch.

3.2 Area 3B

In Licence Area 3B, a total of 68 linear metres were excavated (Table 3). Trenches 9-16 targeted a series of anomalies (GPR12, GPR24, GPR30, GPR36, M6 & M10) detected during the previous geophysical surveys. A detailed description of these test trenches is provided in Sections 3.2.1 – 3.1.9; a summary of the results is provided in Table 3.

Table 3: Licence Area 3B Test Excavation Results, Test Trenches 9-16

Test Trench Number	Length (m)	Width (m)	Targeting anomaly	Contexts recorded	Archaeology exposed	Description
9	6	1.8	GPR 36 & M10	C1, C2, C3, C12, C13, C14, C15, C16	Yes	Northwest-southeast test trench near the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 9, 11, 17, Plates 13, 14, 15). C12 represents anomalies GPR 36 & M10 and is a narrow curvilinear. It produced charcoal suitable for RadioCarbon analysis.
10	8.5	1.8	M10	C1, C2, C17, C19, C20, C21, C22, C23	Yes	North-south test trench at the southern end of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 9, 11, 16, Plates 16, 17, 18). C17 is a curving ditch that might represent an enclosure and accounts for the anomaly labelled as M10.
11	8	1.8	M10	C1, C2, C4, C24, C26, C27	Yes	West northwest-east southeast test trench in the southern part of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 9, 12, 17, Plates 19, 20). Possible linear C26 coincides with and could account for the anomaly labelled as M10.
12	9.5	1.8	M10	C1, C2, C4, C24, C28, C29, C30, C31, C32, C33, C34, C48,	Yes	North northwest-south southeast test trench in the southern part of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 9, 12, 17, Plates 21- 24). C28, C30, C32 and C34 represent possible small pits or thin spreads, likely of an industrial nature as fragments of iron and metallurgical waste were retrieved from a fill of pit C32. They appear to be post-medieval or modern in date.
13	12.5	1.8	M6	C1, C2, C24	No	North northwest-south southeast test trench at the centre of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 9, 18, Plate 25). No features exposed.
14	15.5	1.8	GPR30	C1, C2, C4, C35, C36, C37, C38, C39, C40, C41, C42, C3, C44, C45, C46	Yes	North-south test trench in the centre of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 9, 13, 18, Plates 26-31). Curvilinear ditches C35 and C41 partly coincide with and may account for the anomaly labelled as GPR30.

Test Trench Number	Length (m)	Width (m)	Targeting anomaly	Contexts recorded	Archaeology exposed	Description
15	4	1.8	GPR 12	C1, C2	No	East-west test trench at the northern end of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 18, Plate 32).
16	4	1.8	GPR 24	C1, C2	No	East-west test trench at the northern end of the pitch (Figures 7, 8, 18, Plate 33).

3.2.1 Test Trench 9

Test Trench 9 (Figures 7, 8, 9, 11, 17; Plates 13-15) measured 6m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated northwest-southeast at the southern end of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR 36 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil (C1) here consisted of pitch sod and sandy material and measured 0.3m in depth and lay above natural subsoil (C2) that was exposed at a depth of 0.30m. A ditch feature (C12) aligned northeast-southwest was uncovered following the removal of the sod and topsoil (C1). It measured c. 1.8m in width (northwest-southeast) and c. 0.6 m in depth. It contained four fills C16, C15, C14 and C13.

The cut C12 was concave with a round base and gently sloping sides. It was cut into the natural subsoil C2. The primary fill C16 consisted of a grey sandy stony material with some rare charcoal inclusions. It was c. 0.09m thick and sealed by C15 which represented the secondary fill. C15 consisted of silty clay, mid orange brown in colour with occasional charcoal inclusions. C15 was c. 0.23 m in thickness and sealed by C14, a mid dark brown silty clay with charcoal, and some burnt bone inclusions. Two samples were collected from this fill; a burnt bone sample (Sample no 2) and a bulk soil sample (Sample no 4). Analysis of the burnt bone (Sample 2) found that it consisted of 4 fragments of burnt animal long bone, impossible to establish to species. C14 was c. 0.25m in thickness and was sealed by the topmost layer C13 that consisted of a mid-orange brown silty clay with frequent animal bone and charcoal inclusions and was 0.18m in thickness. Animal bone recovered from the fill C13 was sampled (Sample 1) and included 22 bones in total. A mixture of cattle and pig bones were present including scapulae fragments, teeth, ribs and metacarpals. No artefacts were recovered from the ditch which could aid in dating the feature but sufficient charcoal was recovered which could provide a radiocarbon date.

The ditch C12 almost certainly represents anomaly GPR 36 and M10 detected in the earlier surveys and represents a narrow curvilinear as noted on the geophysical survey extending north-eastwards (Figure 20).

3.2.2 Test Trench 10

Test Trench 10 (Figures 7, 8, 9, 11, 16; Plates 16-18) measured 8.5m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-south at the southern edge of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly M10 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil (C1) here consisted of pitch sod and sandy topsoil and measured 0.3m in depth and lay above C22 consisting of an orange brown mottled deposit, representing the remnants of a natural boulder clay that only survived in patches above the natural stony subsoil C2 that was exposed at a depth of c.0.3m.

A section of a ditch (C17) running roughly south-southwest-north northeast was uncovered following removal of the sod and topsoil (C1). It measured c. 3.3m in width at the top (north-south) with a potential depth of c. 1.4m though constant inundation of water hindered further excavation. It contained four fills C23, C21, C20 and C19. The break of slope at the top was sharp with sides sloping gently and gradually along the northern edge and more pronounced along the south. It was cut into the boulder clay C22 and natural stony subsoil C2 below. The primary fill C23 consisted of a mid orange brown silty clay. It was located on the north slope of the ditch, and a lack of inclusions suggests it might represent material that silted up within the ditch. C23 was c. 0.24m deep but its bottom was not reached due to the water level. C23 was sealed by C21 which consisted of a very mottled silty sandy clay, mid grey brown in colour with occasional charcoal, oxidised clay, frequent animal bone, and shell inclusions. C21 measured c. 0.75m in depth where exposed though

again was not fully exposed due to the water which continually filled the base of the ditch. Two samples were collected from this fill: a bulk soil sample (Sample No 5) and an animal bone sample (Sample no 6). The animal bone contained 12 bones in total. All were cattle bones and included horncores, vertebrae, ribs and a tooth. C21 was sealed by C20, a grey/brown silty clay with frequent charcoal and occasional shell inclusions and measured c. 0.16m in depth. C20 was in turn sealed by C19 the uppermost fill of the ditch. It consisted of a grey silty clay with frequent oxidised clay and occasional shell inclusions and measured c. 0.18m in depth. An animal bone sample (Sample 7) was collected from the top fill of ditch and included a mixture of cattle and sheep/goat bones including teeth and ribs.

This curving ditch C17 coincides with the anomaly labelled as M10 on the geophysical survey which appears to curve eastwards and southwards and may represent part of a circular or sub-circular enclosure in the south-east corner of the pitch. The charcoal sample recovered from the fill of the ditch here could be used to obtain a radiocarbon date for the feature which would be crucial to further an interpretation of this site.

3.2.3 Test Trench 11

Test Trench 11 (Figures 7, 8, 9, 12, 17; Plates 19-20) measured 8m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated west-northwest-east southeast just south of the centre of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly M10 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil here consisted of pitch sod and sandy clay (C1) and measured 0.3m in depth and exposed 0.3-0.4m of imported material (C4) below. C4 sealed C24 which consisted of soft orange silty clay and represented the remnants of a natural boulder clay, surviving only in patches, measuring c. 0.18m in depth. The natural subsoil C2 was exposed at a minimum depth of c.0.5m at the west end of the trench and 0.75m further east where the imported material (C4) had been used to build up ground level.

The remains of a possible shallow linear C26 running northwest-southeast across the trench and continuing outside of the excavation area was exposed following removal of C4. It appears that the imported material (C4) truncated the eastern part of the ditch C26 and its top fill C27. The original width of C26 is unknown due to the truncation, however it appears that the ditch was quite shallow, of no more than 0.3m in depth. It was cut into the remnants of the natural boulder clay (C24). The surviving western part of the ditch contained two fills, the primary fill C25 and a secondary fill C27. The primary fill (C25) of the ditch measured 0.18m in thickness and consisted of a grey silty clay with frequent shell inclusions. The secondary fill of the ditch (C27) was 0.12m in depth and consisted of a dark grey silty clay, with frequent charcoal and shell inclusions. A bulk soil sample (Sample No 8) taken from C27 produced sufficient charcoal suitable for radiocarbon dating. The linear probably accounts for the anomaly M10 (Figure 20). No other archaeological features were exposed in the test trench and no finds were recovered.

3.2.4 Test Trench 12

Test Trench 12 (Figures 7, 8, 9, 12, 17; Plates 21-24) measured 9.5m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-northwest-south-southeast in the central part of pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly M10 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil (C1) here consisted of pitch sod and sandy topsoil and measured 0.1-0.2 m in depth and exposed 0.4m of the imported material (C4) below. C4 in turn sealed the boulder clay C24 which again survived only in patches, measuring c. 0.18m in maximum depth. The natural subsoil C2 was exposed at a minimum depth of c.0.52m.

Four very small pits or shallow spreads (C28, C30, C32 and C34) were exposed following the removal of C4 at a depth of c. 0.46m. These were concentrated in the southern part of the trench and cut into or lay directly above the natural subsoil (C2). These were exposed in plan but not excavated as any testing would effectively involve their full excavation owing to their limited size. C28 was oval in shape and measured c. 0.48m in diameter. It was filled by C29 represented by a dark brown black mottled silty clay with very frequent

charcoal inclusions. Pits C30, C32 and C34 extended outside of the test trench to the east. C30 was the largest and measured c. 1.45m long (north-east) and filled by C31 that consisted of a silty sandy clay, grey/brown in colour. To the south of the pit C30, sub-circular pit/spread C32 was identified. It measured c. 0.35m (north-south) and was filled by C33, a mottled, dark brown black silty clay with very frequent charcoal and some metallurgical waste inclusions. It was also found to contain a square shaped iron fragment (19E0738:33:1) that appears post-medieval or early modern in date. A sample of the metallurgical waste was also taken from C33 (Sample no 9) and again appears post-medieval in nature.

The southernmost pit/spread was recorded as C34. It was oval in shape and filled by C48 represented by a mottled silty clay, dark brown black in colour with frequent charcoal inclusions. It measured c. 0.5m (north-south). The fills of these features were similar in nature, suggesting they may have a similar function. The metallurgical waste fragments found within one of these suggests an industrial activity/dump. The metallurgical waste fragments and the iron are likely to account for the anomaly M10.

3.2.5 Test Trench 13

Test Trench 13 (Figures 7, 8, 9, 18; Plate 25) measured 12.5m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-northwest-south-southeast at the centre of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly M6 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil (C1) here consisted of pitch sod and sandy clay and measured 0.1m in depth and exposed 0.4m of the imported material (C4) below. Following removal of C4, at a depth of c. 0.5m, the natural boulder clay (C24) was exposed. It consisted of a soft orange silty clay that survived only in patches and sealed C2 the natural subsoil below that was exposed at a depth of 0.85m. A small section at the south end of the test trench was excavated through the natural deposits to ensure that C24 did not represent redeposited material.

No archaeological features were exposed in the test trench and no finds were recovered; there was nothing evident that would account for the anomaly M6.

3.2.6 Test Trench 14

Test Trench 14 (Figures 7, 8, 9, 13, 18; Plates 26-31) measured 15.5m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated north-south at the centre of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR30 detected in the earlier survey. The sod and topsoil (C1) here consisted of pitch sod and sandy clay and measured 0.15m in depth and exposed 0.15m of the imported material (C4) below. Following removal of C4, at a depth of c. 0.32m, the natural boulder clay, C24 was exposed that again survived only in patches and sealed C2 the natural subsoil below, that was exposed at a depth of c.0.44m.

Two east-west aligned ditches were exposed beneath C4 at the location of the anomaly GPR 30. The ditches did not appear to match the anomaly however in terms of form or scale and were far more significant features than the geophysical survey would suggest. Ditch C35 was located in the northern part of the test trench; ditch C41 was located to the south of it, with only the northern half sectioned. Both were cut through the boulder clay C24.

The ditch C35 was 3.3m wide (north-south) and c.1.20m deep although the rising water level restricted excavation. The break of slope at the top of the ditch was sharp with the side sloping gently and more gradually from there. The primary fill of ditch C35 was represented by C40, and consisted of sandy clay, yellow in colour and c. 0.28m deep. It was sealed by C39, the secondary fill that consisted of mid brown grey material with moderate shell and metallurgical waste inclusions, c. 0.3m deep. A sample of the metallurgical waste (Sample no 10) was retrieved from C39 and appears to represent small amounts of smithing waste. C39 was sealed by C38 along the south side of the ditch and C42 elsewhere. C38 was a mid brown silty clay, that was c. 0.45m deep and possibly represented slippage material along the south side of the ditch. C42 was a mid grey brown stony silty clay with moderate shell inclusions that was c. 0.38m in depth.

C42 was partially sealed by C37 that was c. 0.25m deep and may represent the fill of a shallow re-cutting of the upper levels of the ditch. It consisted of a silty sandy clay, light grey in colour. The uppermost fill of the ditch was represented by C36, a mid grey silty clay with occasional shell inclusions measuring c. 0.17m in depth.

The second ditch C41 was exposed 1.5m south of C35 and was 7.45m wide (north-south) although this measurement was exaggerated due to the ditch curving southwards (it is more likely it is c.2.5m wide as shown on Figure 18). It was c. 0.6m deep and filled by C46, C45, C44, C43. The northern edge of the cut of the ditch was exposed to the base with only the top of the southern edge noted. The northern edge sloped gently and gradually to a step and below the step was much steeper. The primary fill of the ditch was represented by C46, and consisted of silty sandy clay, grey in colour and with occasional shell inclusions, c. 0.24m deep. It was sealed by C45, a secondary fill that consisted of yellow silty clay with shell inclusions, c. 0.28m deep and representing possible slippage. A bulk soil sample (Sample no 11) retrieved from C45 failed to produce any datable material. Sealing it was C44 a grey silty clay with shell inclusions, that was c. 0.47m deep. The uppermost fill of the ditch was represented by C43, c. 0.19m deep and consisting of a light grey brown silty clay with frequent shell inclusions.

Ditch C41 appears in plan to turn southwards along the eastern edge of the test trench. This line is very close to or on the field boundary shown running north to south on the 25 inch OS map (Figure 21) and could explain the elongated southern portion of this feature. The northern ditch C35 may be visible continuing east and west on the geophysical survey (Figure 20) but there is no corresponding anomaly for the southern ditch (C41). No dating evidence was recovered from either ditch and the soil samples taken failed to produce any charcoal that would provide a radiocarbon date. In the absence of further investigation the full extent and significance of either ditch cannot be accurately determined.

3.2.7 Test Trench 15

Test Trench 15 (Figures 7, 8, 18; Plate 32) measured 4m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated roughly east-west within the northern part of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR12 detected in the earlier survey which was suspected as representing a possible burial/grave cut. C1 here consisted of pitch sod and sandy topsoil and measured 0.52m in depth and exposed the natural subsoil (C2) below. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered. There was nothing evident in the test trench that would account for the anomaly GPR12.

3.2.8 Test Trench 16

Test Trench 16 (Figures 7,8, 18; Plate 33) measured 4m in length and 1.8m in width and was excavated roughly east-west within the northernmost part of the pitch. It was excavated to target anomaly GPR24 detected in the earlier survey which was suspected as representing a possible burial/grave cut. The sod and topsoil (C1) here consisted of pitch sod and sandy topsoil and measured 0.54m in depth and exposed the natural subsoil (C2) below. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered. There was nothing evident in the test trench that would account for the anomaly GPR24.

4. ARTEFACT CATALOGUE

Table 4: List of finds

Find No.	Description	Dimensions	Fabric	Condition	Relevant Information
19E0738:33:1	Iron fragment – square shaped, found in pit C32	75mm by 60mm	Iron	Good	Possibly early-modern
19E0738:4:1	Rim sherd, black glazed earthenware	30mm by 22mm	Ceramic	Good	19/20th century
19E0738:4:2	Green glass sherd	23mm by 18mm	Glass	Good	19/20th century
19E0738:7:1	Sherd of white glazed ceramic	25mm by 23mm	Ceramic	Good	19/20th century
19E0738:7:2	Sherd of white glazed ceramic	32mm by 15mm	Ceramic	Good	19/20th century
19E0738:7:3	Sherd of white glazed ceramic	29mm by 23mm	Ceramic	Good	19/20th century
19E0738:11:1	Fragment of rolled up barbed wire	Over 7m in overall length	Steel wire	Good	20 th century

5. ENVIRONMENTAL REGISTER

Table 5: List of samples

Sample No.	Context No.	Description	Type	Vol (lt)	Processing	Result
1	C13	Collected from upper fill of linear C12.	Animal bone	N/A	Visual Assessment by Faunal Remains Specialist	22 bones in total, mixture of cattle and pig. Includes scapulae fragments, teeth, ribs, metacarpals.
2	C14	Collected from fill of linear C12	Burnt bone	N/A	Visual Assessment by Faunal Remains Specialist	4 fragments of burnt animal long bone.
3	C18	Collected from fill (C18) of ditch C17	Soil and charcoal sample	2	Processed by flotation	7g charcoal recovered. RadioCarbon suitable
4	C14	Collected from fill of linear C12	Soil and charcoal sample	2	Processed by flotation	48g charcoal recovered. RadioCarbon suitable
5	C21	Collected from ditch C17	Charcoal sample	2	Processed by flotation	74g charcoal recovered. RadioCarbon suitable
6	C21	Collected from ditch C17	Animal bone	2	Visual Assessment by Faunal Remains Specialist	12 bones in total, all cattle bones. Includes horncores, vertebrae, ribs, tooth.
7	C19	Collected from upper fill of ditch C17	Animal bone	2	Visual Assessment by Faunal Remains Specialist	6 bones in total, mixture of cattle and sheep/goat. Includes teeth and ribs.
8	C27	Collected from poss. Linear C26	Soil and charcoal sample	2	Processed by flotation	26g charcoal recovered. RadioCarbon suitable
9	C33	Collected from pit C32	Metallurgical Waste		None	4 small fragments Appears modern in nature
10	C39	Collected from ditch C35.	Metallurgical Waste		None	Two small fragments of probable smithing slag
11	C45	Collected from ditch C41.	Soil sample	2	Processed by flotation	Not suitable for RadioCarbon.

6. DISCUSSION

This programme of Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations was carried out to try and fulfil a number of objectives and inform the MetroLink EIAR. The first was to determine the potential for the site to contain burials given the discovery of human remains there in 2008 (NMI file IA/182/2008). The second was to determine the nature and significance of a number of anomalies identified during an earlier programme of geophysical investigation which included a magnetometer and ground penetrating radar survey (Gimson & Garner 2019). The anomalies identified in that survey included possible grave cuts, linear and curving ditch type anomalies and a number of magnetically weak potential enclosures. Given the discovery of the human remains in 2008, a significant amount of the test trenches targeted the potential grave cuts. Twenty-four test trenches were excavated in total with a combined length of 131m. Sixteen of these specifically targeted the various anomalies identified in the geophysical surveys and eight smaller trenches targeted the potential find spot of the human remains.

Unfortunately there is a level of confusion around the exact find spot of the burial in 2008. According to the NMI file the remains were found 'in the foundations of the changing room and in spoil from the fence posts'. The changing room is located along the north end of the site and this area was not available for investigation. According to local club staff who were present at the time, the remains were found at the south end of the playing pitch during the excavation of one of the support posts for a perimeter pitch fence. This area was available for testing and given that the remains consisted of parts of the skull and upper torso, it suggests that they were from an in-situ burial. As a result of this the eight small test trenches excavated in this area (Test Trenches 17-24) were positioned along the east side of each fence post in order to ascertain whether any further remains were present. No evidence for human remains were recovered; natural subsoil was exposed in all trenches at depths varying between 0.30m and 0.50m.

No evidence for human remains was recovered in the other sixteen test trenches excavated (Test Trenches 1-16). This strongly suggests that the human remains that were discovered in 2008 could be from an isolated burial. Other burial sites have been found in the hinterland including a group of 8-10 graves at the Meteorological office on the site of Marlborough House (Cahill & Sikora 2011, 453; RMP DU018-005006) which is just under 300m west of the present site. These were slab lined graves of probable early medieval date. Burials were also found on the site of the Bon Secours Hospital in 1951 (RMP DU018-005005-) but these are likely to relate to the ecclesiastical site of St Mobhi. Two burials were discovered nearby when a footpath was being constructed in Church Lane in 1941 (RMP DU018-005004-) and these are also likely to be associated with St Mobhi's. Thus the human remains could be part a small group of burials and similar to those found in the surrounding landscape. It must be borne in mind that, due to the current site use, the test excavations carried out was very limited and there remains the potential for burials to be exposed in other parts of the site which could not be assessed.

The remaining test trenches targeted the linear and curving ditch type geophysical anomalies. The test trenches confirmed the presence of a number of ditches (C6/C10, C12, C17, C35 & C41), a possible linear (C26) and possible small pits or spreads (C28, C30, C32 & C34) most of which were consistent with the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey. The ditch C6/C10 was identified at the south end of the pitch and contained quantities of barbed wire within its fill. It is on the same alignment as a field boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey 6 inch map of 1844 (Figure 5) and also at the very top of the embankment cutting for the original access lane in to Whitehall College shown on the 25 inch map of 1911 (Figure 21). The test trenches excavated to the south of this ditch (Test Trenches 4-8) all confirmed the presence of over 1m of made ground indicating that the ground sloped here originally and was in-filled in recent years in order to level the ground for the construction of the playing pitch. The original sod and topsoil was identified in most section faces in these trenches at depths of up to 1.40m below present ground level. This is consistent with those trenches being located within the original cutting for the access lane to Whitehall College as shown on the 25 inch map (Figure 21) which was later re-located further south after the construction of St Mobhi Road.

Most of the remaining ditches contained animal bone within the fill but produced no dateable finds. Samples taken from a number of the fills have produced sufficient charcoal for radiocarbon dating and this will assist in a better understanding of the dating of the site once completed. Ditch C17 was located in the south-eastern part of the site and appears on the geophysical survey to curve to the south where it joined with the ditch C12 and eastwards towards the eastern edge of the survey area. Ditch C17 has the potential to represent the northern portion of a circular or sub-circular enclosure that extends to the south just on the break of the sloping ground (Figure 20). The ditch C12 appears on the geophysical survey to merge with the western edge of this possible enclosure and it also continues to arc north-eastwards as if forming a potential annex.

The ditches C35 and C41 further north are both aligned roughly east-west and may be related as there is only 1.5m between them. The north ditch C35 appears to be represented on the geophysical survey by an anomaly running west-southwest to east-northeast and along with C41 may represent part of a more sub-rectangular enclosing element but it is difficult to definitively interpret due to the confined nature of this phase of the test excavations. Unfortunately the samples taken from the ditches here did not produce any datable material and the double ditches here could just as easily represent a former field boundary not shown on any of the OS map editions. The fills of these ditches did not produce animal bone but frequent shell inclusions were noted. A small quantity of metallurgical waste was recovered and represents smithing slag. Ditch C41 appears in plan to turn southwards along the eastern edge of the trench. This line is very close to or on the field boundary shown running north to south on the 25 inch OS map (Figure 21) and could explain the elongated southern portion of this feature. On present evidence C35 and C41 do not appear to form any definitive pattern and further invasive archaeological investigations would be required to determine their full extent and significance.

A possible linear (C26) was also identified running approximately north-south in Test Trench 12. It had been significantly truncated by the imported material C4 and was very shallow (c.0.30m).

Four small pits or spreads (C28, C30, C32, C34) of unknown date were also identified clustered together in Test Trench 12. They appeared quite thin and were not excavated. A square shaped fragment of iron and some metallurgical waste fragments were recovered from the fill of C32 but appears relatively modern in date. They could be associated with the development of the grounds around Whitehall College.

As outlined in Section 7.5 a number of environmental samples from the various ditch fills produced charcoal. In line with the Method Statement for these works, it is proposed that a minimum of two RadioCarbon dates should be obtained for this site in order to more fully understand the nature and dating of the features exposed.

7. POST-EXCAVATION PROPOSAL

7.1 Artefacts

The artefacts recovered during the test excavations are all of 19th/20th century date and no further specialist analysis is proposed. They are not deemed to be of any significance and following photography for recording purposes, it is recommended that they be discarded.

7.2 Faunal remains

The faunal remains recovered during the test excavations were analysed by Faunal Remains Specialist Arlene Coogan (see Appendix 4 below). The remains are not deemed to be of significance, no further work is proposed and retention has not been recommended.

7.3 Human remains

No human bone was recovered during the programme of test trenching on site.

7.4 Palaeo-environmental remains

Four of the environmental samples produced sufficient quantities of charcoal from which radiocarbon dates could be obtained. Subject to the RadioCarbon dating proposal in Section 8 being approved below, charcoal suitable for dating (i.e. charcoal from short-lived species) will be identified by Palaeo-environmental specialist Dr Lorna O Donnell and submitted to the RadioCarbon laboratory. Full charcoal analysis at this testing stage of the project is likely to contribute very little and is not required.

7.5 RadioCarbon Dating Proposal

Sufficient charcoal was recovered from four of the soil samples processed, but two samples (Samples 3 & 5) are from the same feature (C17). Sample 5 is regarded as a more secure context with plenty of suitable charcoal. Sample 4 was from the fill of linear C12. It was recommended to the TII Project Archaeologist that, as a minimum, radiocarbon dates should be obtained from C12 (S4) and C17 (S5) with C26 (S8) being an optional third date (Table 6).

Table 6: RadioCarbon Dating Proposal

Sample No.	Context No.	Sample type	Description	Weight (g)	Reason for Dating
4	C14	Charcoal	Collected from fill of linear C12	48g	Best available sample to date linear C12
5	C21	Charcoal	Collected from ditch C17	74g	Best available sample to date possible enclosure C17
8	C27	Charcoal	Collected from poss. Linear C26	26g	Best available sample to date possible linear C26

8. SIGNIFICANCE OF FINDINGS

The following tables provides a summary of the significance of the archaeological features identified at MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9. These are based on the criteria detailed in the *Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes* (NRA 2005).

Significance: Local

Table 7: Significance of findings

Existing Status	Condition/ Preservation	Documentation/ Historic Significance	Group Value	Rarity	Visibility	Fragility	Amenity Value
None	Truncated remains of features cut into the natural subsoil	None	None	Common	None	High	None

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

The construction of the proposed Griffith Park Station for MetroLink, will entail the excavation and construction of a diaphragm wall and station box and all associated access roads and compounds in addition to all final reinstatement and landscaping works. This will entail bulk excavation works, which will result in a direct permanent impact on all sub-surface archaeological remains which are either known to exist or may potentially exist at this location.

Full preservation by record (i.e. archaeological excavation) in advance of construction works commencing will therefore be required in order to mitigate this permanent impact. The particulars of this mitigation measure will, in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeology, be set out in a Cultural Heritage Strategy to be agreed between the office of the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht and TII. The proposed mitigation measures will also be addressed in the Cultural Heritage (Archaeology) Chapter of the MetroLink EIAR.

The requirement for preservation by record extends to all lands which may be acquired (both temporary and permanent) and impacted at this location in order to facilitate the successful installation of MetroLink.

9.1 Further Work

On foot of discussions, the TII Project Archaeologist has approved the procurement of two AMS RadioCarbon dates from the results of the test excavations - from ditches C12 (S4) and C17 (S5). In addition, TII in agreement with the NMI, will also procure an AMS date of the human remains on file in the NMI Archives (NMI file IA/182/2008). It is hoped that this will allow a determination as to whether the human remains interred here are contemporary with the archaeological material identified during the Advance Targeted Test Excavations. The results of the RadioCarbon dates will be submitted to the relevant authorities upon receipt as a supplementary appendix to this report.

10. INVENTORY OF FEATURES

Context	Type	Description	Measurements	Associated Cut / Fill	Finds	Samples	Drawings	Plates
C1	Topsoil	Brown sandy topsoil under grass sod	0.1-0.4 in depth	-			Figs 13-18	-
C2	Natural	Natural subsoil		-			Figs 13-18	-
C3	Buried Topsoil	Original topsoil, mid brown grey silty sandy clay, organic material representing buried sod	0.05-0.2 in depth	-			Figs 13-18	Plates 6-11
C4	Made ground	Reclamation/levelling deposit. Over C3. Material is associated with levelling prior to pitch construction.	0.15- 0.8 in depth	-	Glass Black glazed earthenware		Figs 13-18	All
C5	Cut	Cut of N-S aligned linear, service. Cut into C4. Iron water pipe present. Within Trench 8.	0.8 in depth	-			Figures 8 & 16	Plate 12
C6	Cut	Cut in the E-W aligned linear. Filled by C7. Cut into C2. Modern ceramic and animal bone inclusions. Within Trench 2 (E-W aligned) same as C10.	0.4 in depth	C7, C10			Figures 10 & 14	Plates 3-4
C7	Deposit	Fill of linear C6. Over C6. Within Trench 2. 3 Sherds of white glazed ceramic 19/20th century pottery were found within this deposit.	0.4 in depth	C6	3 sherds of white ceramic		Figures 10 & 14	Plates 3-4
C8	Made ground	Reclamation deposit/made up ground. Over C9. Within Trench 3	0.2 in depth	-			Figure 14	Plates 4-5
C9	Made ground	Lower reclamation deposit, Over C2. Within Trench 3	0.2-0.6 in depth	-			Figure 14	Plates 4-5

Context	Type	Description	Measurements	Associated Cut / Fill	Finds	Samples	Drawings	Plates
C10	Cut	Cut of E-W aligned linear. Filled by C11. Cut into C2. Same as C6.	0.4 in depth	C11, C6			Figures 10 & 14	Plate 5
C11	Deposit	Fill of linear C10. Over C10. Containing barbed wire	0.4 in depth	C10	Barbed Wire		Figure 14	Plate 5
C12	Cut	Cut of NE-SW aligned linear. Filled by C16. C15, C14 and C13. Cut into C2.	0.6 in depth	C13, C14, C15. C16			Figures 11 & 17	Plates 13-15
C13	Deposit	Upper fill of linear C12. Over C14. Mid orange brown silty clay with frequent animal bone and charcoal inclusions	0.18 in depth	C12		S1. Animal Bone	Figure 17	Plate 14
C14	Deposit	Fill of linear C12. Over C15. Mid dark brown silty clay with frequent charcoal, occasional animal and burnt bone.	0.25 in depth	C12		S2. Burnt Bone S4. Charcoal	Figure 17	Plate 14
C15	Deposit	Secondary fill of linear C12, Over C16. Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions.	0.23 in depth	C12			Figure 17	Plate 14
C16	Deposit	Basal fill of linear C12. Grey sandy stoney fill.	0.09 in depth	C12			Figure 17	Plate 14
C17	Cut	Cut of E-W aligned linear/ditch. Filled by C23, C21, C20, C19. Cut into C22. May represent ditch of possible enclosure. Within Trench 10	1.4 in depth	C18, C19, C20, C21, C23			Figures 11 & 16	Plates 16-18
C18	Deposit	Charcoal deposit on southern side of ditch C17 (sampled) Same as C20.	0.16 in depth	C17		S3. Charcoal	Figure 16	Plates 16-18
C19	Deposit	Upper fill in ditch C17. Over C20. Grey silty clay with frequent oxidised clay and occasional shell inclusions.	0.18 in depth	C17		S7. Animal Bone	Figure 16	Plates 16-18

Context	Type	Description	Measurements	Associated Cut / Fill	Finds	Samples	Drawings	Plates
C20	Deposit	Fill of ditch C17. Over C21. Grey/brown silty clay with frequent charcoal and occasional shell inclusions. Same as 18.	0.16 in depth	C17			Figure 16	Plates 16-18
C21	Deposit	Fill of ditch C17. Over C23. Mid grey brown, very mottled, silty sandy gravelly clay with occasional charcoal, oxidised clay, frequent animal bone, and shell inclusions. Below C20	0.75 in depth	C17		S5. Charcoal S6. Animal Bone	Figure 16	Plates 16-18
C22	Natural	Orange brown mottled deposit, representing the remnants of an upper natural boulder clay, only survived in patches. C17 cut into it. Over C2. Same as C24. Trench 10	0.15-0.2 in depth	-			Figure 16	-
C23	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch C17. Mid orange brown silty clay located on north side of ditch C17	0.24 in depth	C17			Figure 16	Plates 16-18
C24	Natural	Soft orange silty clay representing remnants of upper natural boulder clay, surviving only in patches. Over C2. C41 cut into it. Same as C22. Within Trench 11 and 12	0.18 in depth	-			Figure 17	-
C25	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch C26. Light grey silty clay deposit with frequent shell inclusions, located on west side of ditch C26. Within Trench 11	0.18 in depth	C26			Figure 17	Plate 20
C26	Cut	Cut of possible ditch. Filled by C25, C27. Cut into C24. Truncated by imported/reclamation material C4. Within Trench 11	0.3 in depth	C25. C27			Figures 12 & 17	Plate 20

Context	Type	Description	Measurements	Associated Cut / Fill	Finds	Samples	Drawings	Plates
C27	Deposit	Secondary and top fill of ditch C26. Dark grey silty clay, with frequent charcoal and shell inclusions, located within west side of C26.	0.12 in depth	C26		S8. Charcoal	Figure 17	Plate 20
C28	Cut	Cut of small sub circular pit/spread. Filled by C29. Cut into C2. Representing possible industrial activity. Within Trench 12.	-	C29			Figure 12	Plates 21-4
C29	Deposit	Primary fill of C28, dark brown black mottled silty clay with very frequent charcoal inclusions. Representing possible industrial activity.	-	C28			Figure 12	Plates 21-4
C30	Cut	Cut of small sub oval pit/spread. Filled by C31. Cut into C2. Located east of pit C28	-	C31			Figures 12 & 17	Plates 21-4
C31	Deposit	Primary fill of C30. Mid grey brown silty sandy clay	-	C30			Figure 17	Plates 21-4
C32	Cut	Cut of subcircular pit/spread. Filled by C33. Over C2. Representing possible industrial activity. Located east of C30.	-	C33			Figures 12 & 17	Plates 21-4
C33	Deposit	Primary fill of C32, same as C29. Representing fill of possible industrial activity. Iron fragment and slag found within.	-	C32	Iron fragment	S9. Metallurgical Waste	Figure 17	Plates 21-4
C34	Cut	Cut of sub circular pit/spread. Filled by C48. Partially exposed, running outside of limit of excavation. Located in the eastern section of Trench 12.	-	C48			Figures 12 & 17	Plates 21-4

Context	Type	Description	Measurements	Associated Cut / Fill	Finds	Samples	Drawings	Plates
C35	Cut	Cut of E-W aligned ditch. Filled by C40, C39, C38, C42, C37, C36. Cut into C24. Section within N part of Trench 14.	0.95 in depth	C40, C39, C38, C42, C37, C36			Figures 13 & 18	Plate 27
C36	Deposit	Upper most fill of ditch C35. Over C37. Sealed by C4. Mid grey silty clay with occasional charcoal and shell inclusions.	0.17 in depth	C35			Figure 18	Plate 27
C37	Deposit	Fill of ditch C35, over C42. Light grey silty sandy clay with moderate animal bone inclusions.	0.25 in depth	C35			Figure 18	Plate 27
C38	Deposit	Fill of ditch C35, over C39. Mid brown silty clay, slippage material on south side of ditch C35.	0.45 in depth	C35			Figure 18	Plate 27
C39	Deposit	Fill of ditch C35, over C40, mid brown grey deposit, moderate shell and charcoal inclusions.	0.3 in depth	C35		S10. Metallurgical Waste	Figure 18	Plate 27
C40	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch C35, sealed by C39. Yellow grey sandy clay.	0.28 in depth	C35			Figure 18	Plate 27
C41	Cut	Cut of E-W aligned ditch, partially exposed. Cut into C24. Filled by C46, C45, C44, C43. Located directly south of ditch C35.	0.6 in depth	C46, C45, C44, C43			Figures 13 & 18	Plates 28-31
C42	Deposit	Fill of ditch C35, over C38. Mid grey brown stony silty clay with moderate shell inclusions.	0.38 in depth	C35			Figure 18	Plate 27
C43	Deposit	Upper most fill of ditch C41. Over C44. Sealed by C4. Light grey brown silty clay with frequent shell inclusions.	0.19 in depth	C41			Figure 18	Plates 28-31

Context	Type	Description	Measurements	Associated Cut / Fill	Finds	Samples	Drawings	Plates
C44	Deposit	Fill of ditch C41. Over C45. Grey silty clay with charcoal and shell inclusions.	0.47 in depth	C41			Figure 18	Plates 28-31
C45	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch C41. Over C46. Yellow silty clay, possible slippage, with shell inclusions	0.28 in depth	C41		S11. No results	Figure 18	Plates 28-31
C46	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch C41, sealed by C45. Grey silty sandy clay with occasional shell inclusions.	0.24 in depth	C41			Figure 18	Plates 28-31
C47	Cut	Cut of a linear running north-south in Trench 24. Representing water pipe cut with pipe still within its fill. Cut into C2. Filled by redeposited C1	0.8 in depth	-			Figures 8, 9	Plate 40
C48	Deposit	Primary fill of C34, dark brown black mottled silty clay with very frequent charcoal inclusions. Representing possible industrial activity.	-	C34			Figure 17	Plates 21-4
C49	Cut	Cut for the concrete base for goal nets tie down. Filled by concrete and C1.	0.55 in depth	-			Figure 14	Plate 4
C50	Cut	Cut for waterpipe running east-west. Cut into C3, sealed by C4. Filled by concrete.	0.28 in depth	-			Figure 15	Plate 9

Table 8: Inventory of features

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12. EXCAVATIONS BULLETIN

Dublin

MetroLink Area 3 – Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm

19E0738

ITM 715437, 737313

Ditches

A programme of Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations was carried out at MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9 in December 2019. The site is located within the grounds of the Home Farm Football Club, in the townland of Bankfarm and is within the curtilage of Whitehall College (now Coláiste Caomhain; RPS 7746). The work was carried out on behalf of Transport Infrastructure Ireland as part of the MetroLink programme of archaeological investigations, the results of which informed the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the preferred route.

The site did not contain any monuments listed within the Record of Monuments and Places but in June 2008, human remains were recovered from the site during construction works for dressing rooms and a perimeter fence around the pitch (NMI file IA/182/2008). The remains included a fragmented skull and parts of the upper torso of a single individual suggesting the presence of an *in situ* burial. The site is located less than 300m south-east of the ecclesiastical complex of St Mobhi (RMP DU018-005008-) and 147m east of an Anglo-Norman motte (RMP DU018-005009-). Prior to the archaeological testing a geophysical and ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey was undertaken by Earthsound Ltd. (Licence 18R0196; Gimson & Garner 2019) which indicated a number of anomalies suggestive of possible grave cuts and linear and curving ditch features. The test excavation strategy was designed to target these anomalies to determine if they represented archaeological features.

The site was assessed by Donald Murphy between the 2nd and 10th December 2019. A total of 24 test trenches were excavated across the footprint of the site using a 3 tonne tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide bucket. A total of 131m of linear trench were excavated. In addition to the targeted testing of the geophysical anomalies, extra test trenches were excavated in the vicinity of the southern goal posts/fence line, where the human remains were found in 2008. No human remains were identified in any of the excavated test trenches suggesting perhaps that the previously discovered remains were an isolated find. The test excavations did however confirm the presence of a number of slightly curving ditches/linear features (C10, C12, C17, C26, C35 and C41), most of which were consistent with anomalies identified in the geophysical survey. Most of the ditches contained animal bone within the fill but produced no dateable finds. Samples taken from a number of the fills have produced sufficient charcoal for radiocarbon dating however. The ditch C10 along the south end of the site did contain quantities of barbed wire and is on the same alignment as a field boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey 6 inch map of 1844. This ditch also runs along the top of the cutting for the original entrance laneway to Whitehall College as shown on the OS 25 inch map of 1911. The remaining ditches are of unknown date. Ditch C17 in the south-east corner of the site appears to curve more significantly than the others on the geophysical survey and may represent part of a potential circular enclosure of approximately 30m diameter. The remaining ditches identified in the testing and the geophysical survey do not appear to form any definitive pattern. Four small pits or spreads (C28, C30, C32, C34) of unknown date were also identified clustered together in Test Trench 12. A square shaped fragment of iron and some metallurgical waste fragments were recovered from the fill of C32 but appears relatively modern in date.

A number of environmental samples from the various ditch fills produced charcoal; two samples will be submitted for RadioCarbon dating. In agreement with the National Museum of Ireland a RadioCarbon date will also be obtained for the human remains recovered in 2008.

Donald Murphy, Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit Ltd., 21 Boyne Business Park, Greenhills, Drogheda, Co. Louth

References:

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13. APPENDICES

13.1 Appendix 1: List of Plans and Sections

Plan No.	Type	Details	Features	Scale	Date
1	Plan	Digital survey plan of all features and trenches	All	1:20	Dec 19
2	Sections	1:10 Section drawings of all trenches and excavated sections through features	C6, C10, C12, C17, C26, C30, C32, C34, C35, C41	1:10	Dec 19

Table 9: List of plans and sections

13.2 Appendix 2: List of Photographs

Photo No.	Context No.	Description	Date Taken
101-102	-	Test Trench 1 facing Northeast	03/12/2019
103	-	Test Trench 1 facing East	03/12/2019
104	-	Test Trench 1 facing Northeast	03/12/2019
105-109	-	Re-instated test trench	03/12/2019
201	-	Test Trench 2 facing East	03/12/2019
202	-	Test Trench 2 facing Northeast	03/12/2019
203	-	Test Trench 2 facing North	03/12/2019
204	-	Test Trench 2 facing East showing section	03/12/2019
205	C6/C10	Portion of ditch C6/C10 in west section facing west	03/12/2019
206-210	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
301-303	C10	Modern ditch C10 facing West	04/12/2019
304	-	Test Trench 3 facing Northwest	04/12/2019
305-306	-	Test Trench 3 facing Northwest	04/12/2019
307-311	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
401-402	-	Test Trench 4 facing East	03/12/2019
403-404	-	Test Trench 4 facing Northeast	03/12/2019
405-407	-	Test Trench 4 eastern baulk facing East	03/12/2019
408-411	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
501-502	-	Test Trench 5 facing Northeast	02/12/2019
503	-	Test Trench 5 baulk facing East	02/12/2019
504-507	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
601-603	-	Test Trench 6 facing East	02/12/2019
604	-	Test Trench 6 facing Northeast	02/12/2019
605-608	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
701-702	-	Test Trench 7 facing Southeast	03/12/2019
703	-	Test Trench 7 facing East	03/12/2019
704-707	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
801-802	-	Test Trench 8 facing Northwest	02/12/2019

Photo No.	Context No.	Description	Date Taken
803-804	-	Test Trench 8 baulk facing North	02/12/2019
805	-	Test Trench 8 baulk facing West	02/12/2019
806	-	Water pipe/service at west end of Test Trench 8 facing South	02/12/2019
807-810	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
901-902	-	Test Trench 9 looking Southeast	04/12/2019
903	C12	C12 looking Southeast	04/12/2019
904-905	C12	C12 looking Southwest	04/12/2019
906-907	C12	C12 looking Southeast	04/12/2019
908-911	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
1001-1002	-	Test Trench 10 looking North	04/12/2019
1003	-	Test Trench 10 looking South	04/12/2019
1004-1008	C17	Ditch C17 pre-excavation looking West	04/12/2019
1009-1011	C17	Ditch C17 pre-excavation looking North	04/12/2019
1012-1014	C17	Ditch C17 section looking West	05/12/2019
1015-1016	C17	Ditch C17 section looking South	05/12/2019
1017-1018	C17	Ditch C17 section looking West	05/12/2019
1019-1022	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
1101-1104	-	Test Trench 11 looking West	05/12/2019
1105-1106	C26	C26 looking North	05/12/2019
1107	C26	Test Trench 11 and C26 looking North	05/12/2019
1108-1011	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
1201-1204	-	Test Trench 12 looking NNW	05/12/2019
1205	C32, C34	C32, C34 looking SSE	05/12/2019
1206-1207	C30	C30 looking East	05/12/2019
1208	C28	Charcoal spread/pit C28 facing East	05/12/2019
1209-1210	C28, C30, C32, C24	C28, C30, C32, C24 facing East	05/12/2019
1211	C24, C28, C30, C32, C34	Spread C24 and pits C28, C30, C32, C34 facing Southeast	05/12/2019

Photo No.	Context No.	Description	Date Taken
1212-1213	C24, C28, C30, C32, C34	Spread C24 and pits C28, C30, C32, C34 facing Southeast	05/12/2019
1214-1217	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
1301	-	Test excavation to confirm natural not a feature looking East	05/12/2019
1302-1307	-	Test Trench 13 looking East	05/12/2019
1308-1310	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
1401-1407	-	Test Trench 14 looking South	06/12/2019
1408-1410	C35	Section through ditch C35 facing East	06/12/2019
1411-1412	C41	C41 along eastern baulk facing East	06/12/2019
1413	C41	C41 looking North	06/12/2019
1414	C41	Section (part) through C41 facing East	06/12/2019
1415	C41	Section (part) through C41 facing Southeast	06/12/2019
1416-1417	C41	Section (part) through C41 facing East	06/12/2019
1418	C41	Section (part) through C41 facing Southeast	06/12/2019
1419-1422	C41	Section (part) through C41 facing East	06/12/2019
1423-1425	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
1501	-	Before excavation looking West	06/12/2019
1502-1503	-	Test Trench 15 looking West	06/12/2019
1504-1505	-	Test Trench 15 looking South	06/12/2019
1506-1508	-	Re-instated test trench	06/12/2019
1601-1602	-	Test Trench 16 facing West	06/12/2019
1603-1604	-	Trench 16 facing South	06/12/2019
1605-1608	-	Re-instated test trench	09/12/2019
1701	-	Test Trench 17 facing north	10/12/2019
1702	-	Test Trench 17 facing north-east	10/12/2019
1801	-	Test Trench 18 facing SE	10/12/2019
1901	-	Test Trench 19 facing SE	10/12/2019
2001	-	Test Trench 20 facing SE	10/12/2019

Photo No.	Context No.	Description	Date Taken
2101		Test Trench 21 facing SE	10/12/2019
2201		Test Trench 22 facing SE	10/12/2019
2301		Test Trench 23 facing SW	10/12/2019
2401		Test Trench 24 facing SE with modern cut visible for water-pipe	10/12/2019
2501-05		Re-instated test trenches	10/12/2019

Table 10: List of photographs

13.3 Appendix 3: Metadata to facilitate upload to TII Digital Heritage Collections

Registration Number	19E0738
Site Name	MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bank Farm, Dublin
Townland URL	https://www.logainm.ie/en/57116
County	Dublin
Type of Report	Archaeological Test Excavation Report
Scheme Name	MetroLink
Client	Jacobs IDOM JV
Executive Summary	<p>A programme of Advance Targeted Archaeological Test Excavations was carried out at MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9 in December 2019. The site is located within the grounds of the Home Farm Football Club, in the townland of Bankfarm and is within the curtilage of Whitehall College (now Coláiste Caomhain; RPS 7746). The work was carried out on behalf of Transport Infrastructure Ireland as part of the MetroLink programme of archaeological investigations, the results of which informed the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the preferred route.</p> <p>The site did not contain any monuments listed within the Record of Monuments and Places but in June 2008, human remains were recovered from the site during construction works for dressing rooms and a perimeter fence around the pitch (NMI file IA/182/2008). The remains included a fragmented skull and parts of the upper torso of a single individual suggesting the presence of an <i>in situ</i> burial. The site is located less than 300m south-east of the ecclesiastical complex of St Mobhi (RMP DU018-005008-) and 147m east of an Anglo-Norman motte (RMP DU018-005009-). Prior to the archaeological testing a geophysical and ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey was undertaken by Earthsound Ltd. (Licence 18R0196; Gimson & Garner 2019) which indicated a number of anomalies suggestive of possible grave cuts and linear and curving ditch features. The test excavation strategy was designed to target these anomalies to determine if they represented archaeological features.</p> <p>The site was assessed by Donald Murphy between the 2nd and 10th December 2019. A total of 24 test trenches were excavated across the footprint of the site using a 3 tonne tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide bucket. A total of 131m of linear trench were excavated. In addition to the targeted testing of the geophysical anomalies, extra test trenches were excavated in the vicinity of the southern goal posts/fence line, where the human remains were found in 2008. No human remains were identified in any of the excavated test trenches suggesting perhaps that the previously discovered remains were an isolated find. The test excavations did however confirm the presence of a number of slightly curving ditches/linear features (C10, C12, C17, C26, C35 and C41), most of which were consistent with anomalies identified in the geophysical survey. Most of the ditches contained animal bone within the fill but produced no dateable finds. Samples taken from a number of the fills have produced sufficient charcoal for radiocarbon dating however. The ditch C10 along the south end of the site did contain quantities of barbed wire and is on the same alignment as a field boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey 6 inch map of</p>

	<p>1844. This ditch also runs along the top of the cutting for the original entrance laneway to Whitehall College as shown on the OS 25 inch map of 1911. The remaining ditches are of unknown date. Ditch C17 in the south-east corner of the site appears to curve more significantly than the others on the geophysical survey and may represent part of a potential circular enclosure of approximately 30m diameter. The remaining ditches identified in the testing and the geophysical survey do not appear to form any definitive pattern. Four small pits or spreads (C28, C30, C32, C34) of unknown date were also identified clustered together in Test Trench 12. A square shaped fragment of iron and some metallurgical waste fragments were recovered from the fill of C32 but appears relatively modern in date.</p> <p>A number of environmental samples from the various ditch fills produced charcoal; two samples will be submitted for RadioCarbon dating. In agreement with the National Museum of Ireland a RadioCarbon date will also be obtained for the human remains recovered in 2008.</p>
Site Director	Donald Murphy
Archaeological Consultancy	Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit, Unit 21, Boyne Business Park, Greenhill's, Drogheda, Co. Louth
Report Date of Submission (year/month)	2020/03
Period 1	Unknown
ITM (Northing)	715437
ITM (Easting)	737313

Table 11: Report metadata

13.4 Appendix 4: Faunal Remains Examination

The animal bone discussed below was recovered during archaeological test excavations at MetroLink Licence Area 3: Griffith Park Station, Bankfarm, Dublin 9. Four samples of animal bone were recovered from Test Trenches 9 and 10 and analysed by Arlene Coogan MSc.

Sample 1 was collected from the upper fill (C13) of linear [C12] in Test Trench 9.

Twenty-two bones elements were recovered. The remains were identified as a mixture of cattle (*Bos taurus*) and pig (*Sus scrofa domestica*). The identifiable bone elements included scapulae fragments, teeth, ribs and metacarpals.

Sample 2 consisted of burnt bone from secondary deposit (C14) of linear [C12] in Test Trench 9.

Four fragments of burnt animal long bone were recovered. All bones were calcined meaning they were exposed to high temperatures for a long period of time. Burning drastically changes both the appearance and size of a bone. When bones are exposed to heat for a period of time, shrinkage occurs.

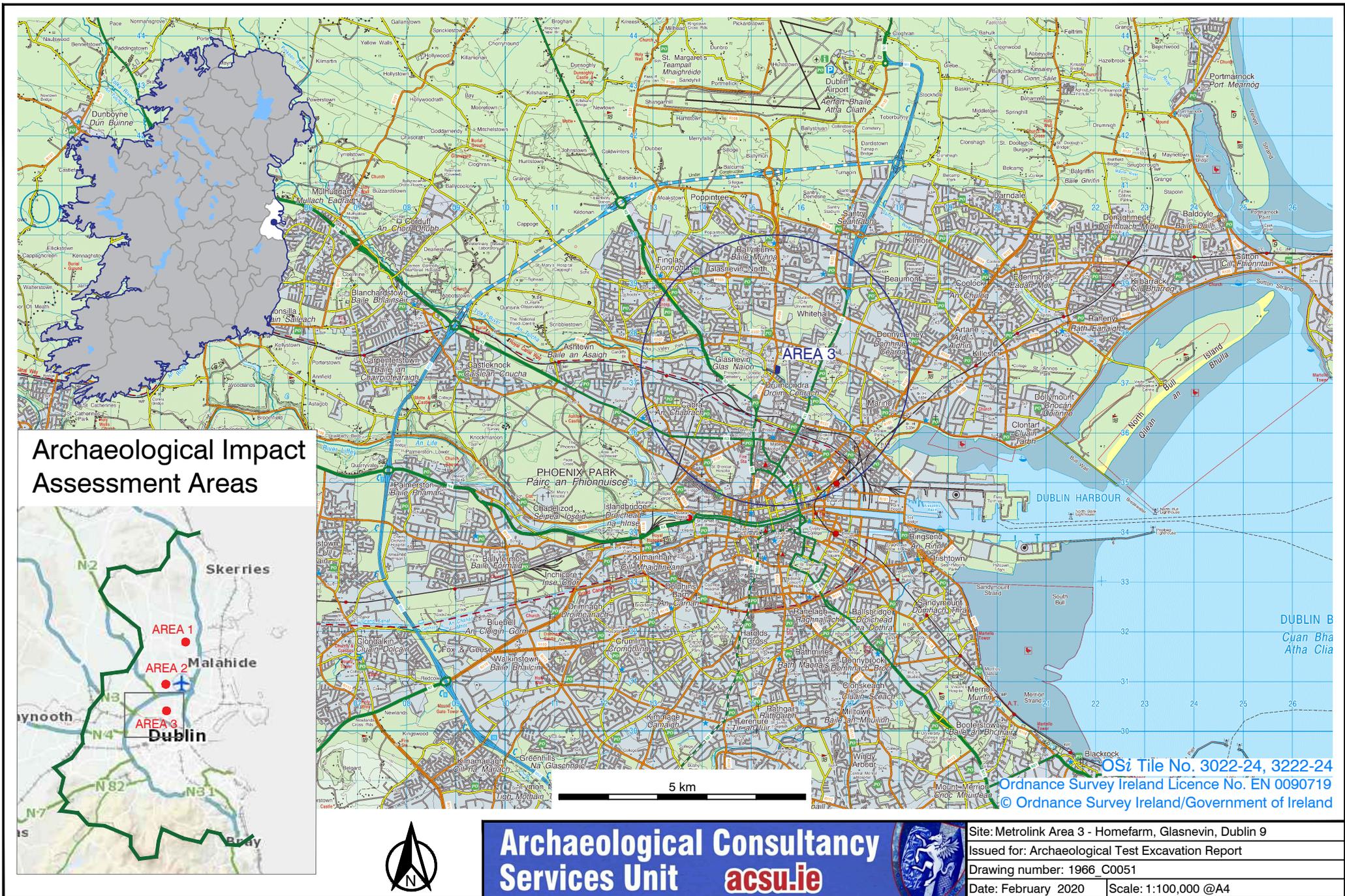
Sample 6 was recovered from fill (C21) of ditch [C17] in Test Trench 10.

Twelve bones were recovered. The species identified was cattle (*Bos taurus*). The identified bones included horncores, vertebrae, ribs and tooth.

Sample 7 was recovered from upper fill (C19) of ditch (C17) in Test Trench 10.

Six bones were recovered, both cattle (*Bos taurus*) and sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) were identified. Identifiable bones included teeth and ribs.

The animal bone recovered was relatively well preserved however no taphonomic or pathological markers were identified. The small amount of remains recovered during test excavations does not provide much information into the human/animal interactions at the site. Retention of the bone is not recommended other than for potential Radiocarbon dating of features, should no alternate material be available.



Archaeological Impact Assessment Areas

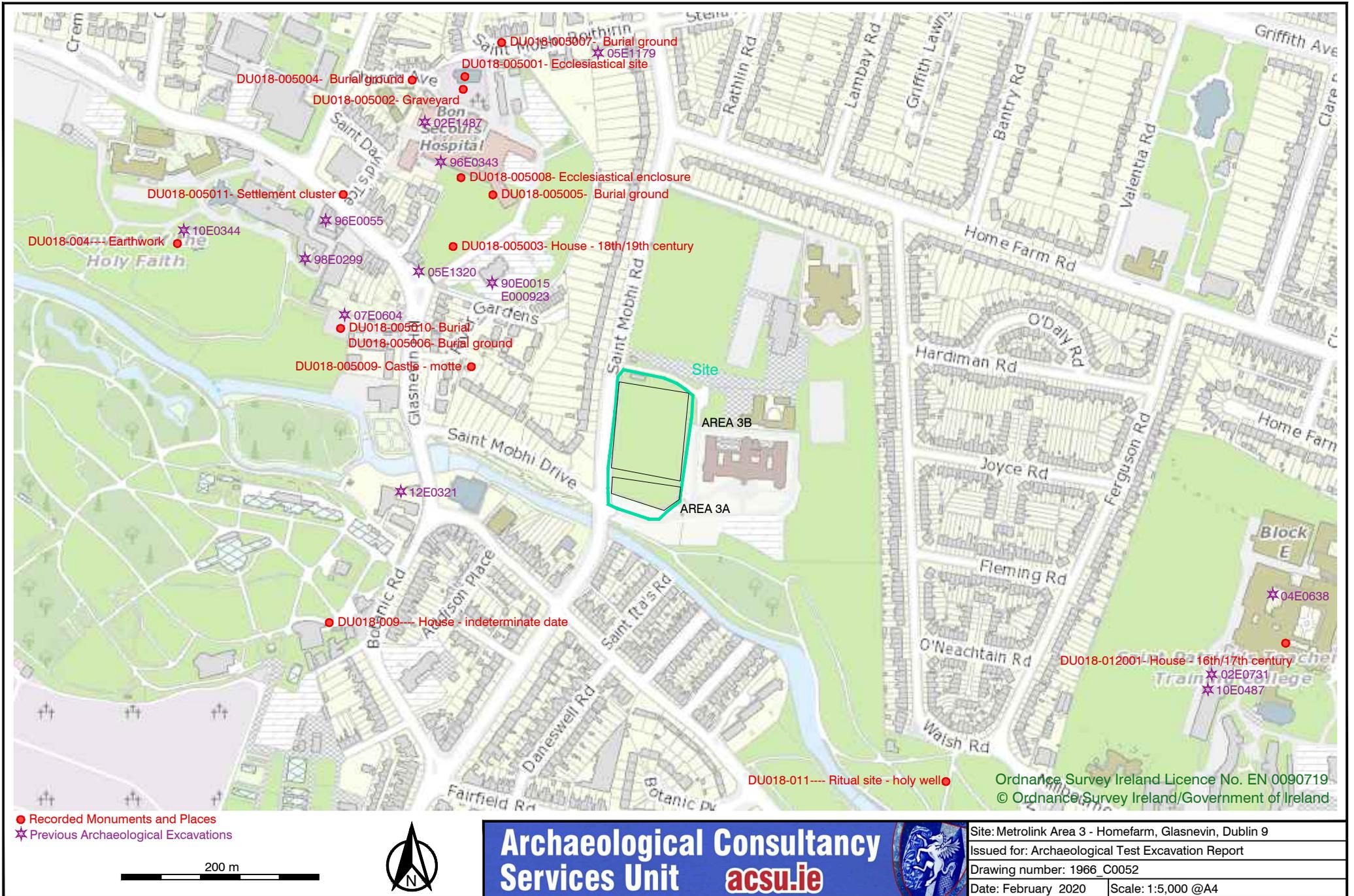
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Figure 1: Area 3 - Site Location Map



● Recorded Monuments and Places
 ☆ Previous Archaeological Excavations

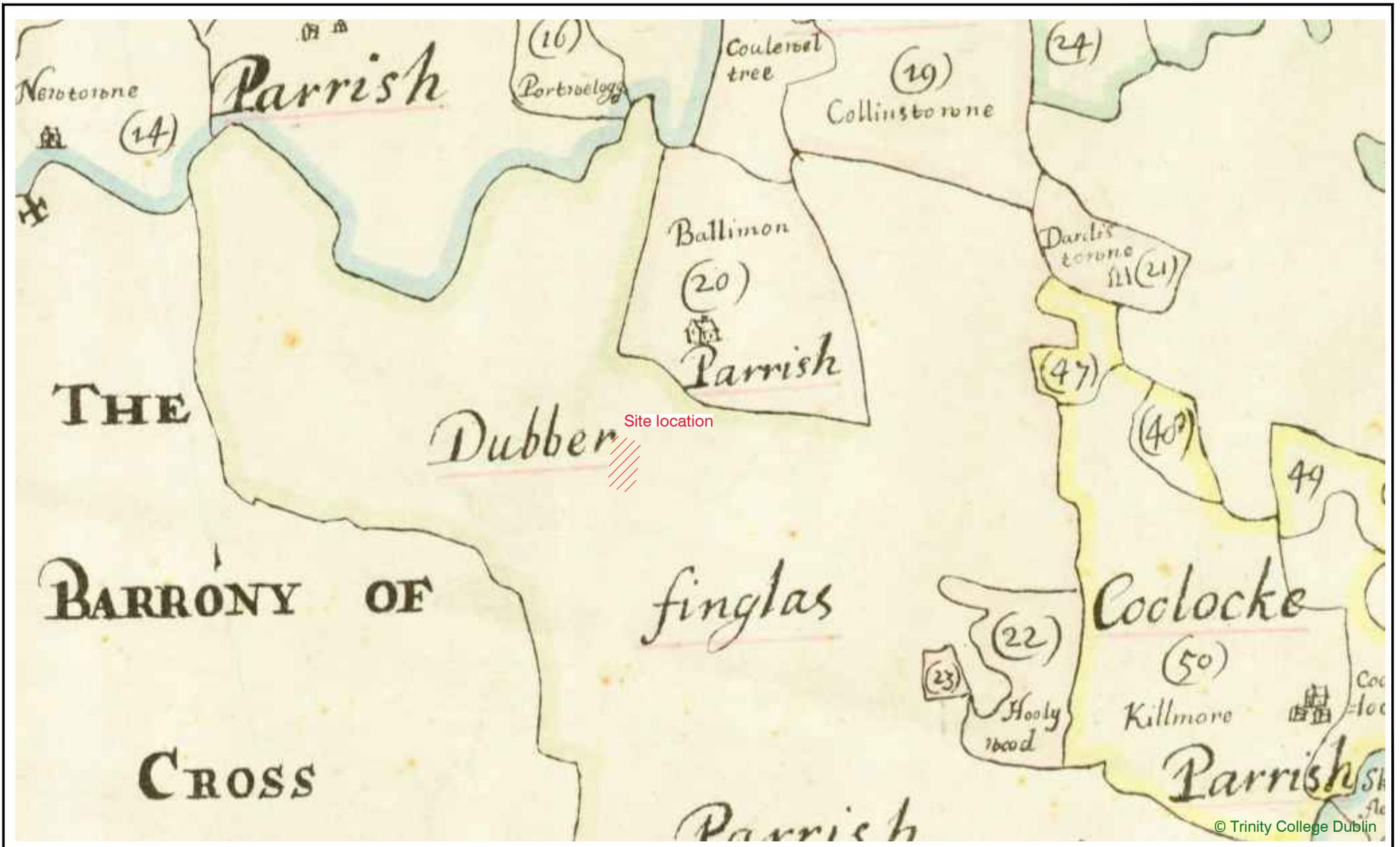


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Figure 2: Area 3 - Site Location Map, illustrating proximity of known previous archaeological excavations and Recorded Monuments and Places



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Figure 3: Extract from Down Survey map of County Dublin, Barony of Coolock (1654-56), showing site location



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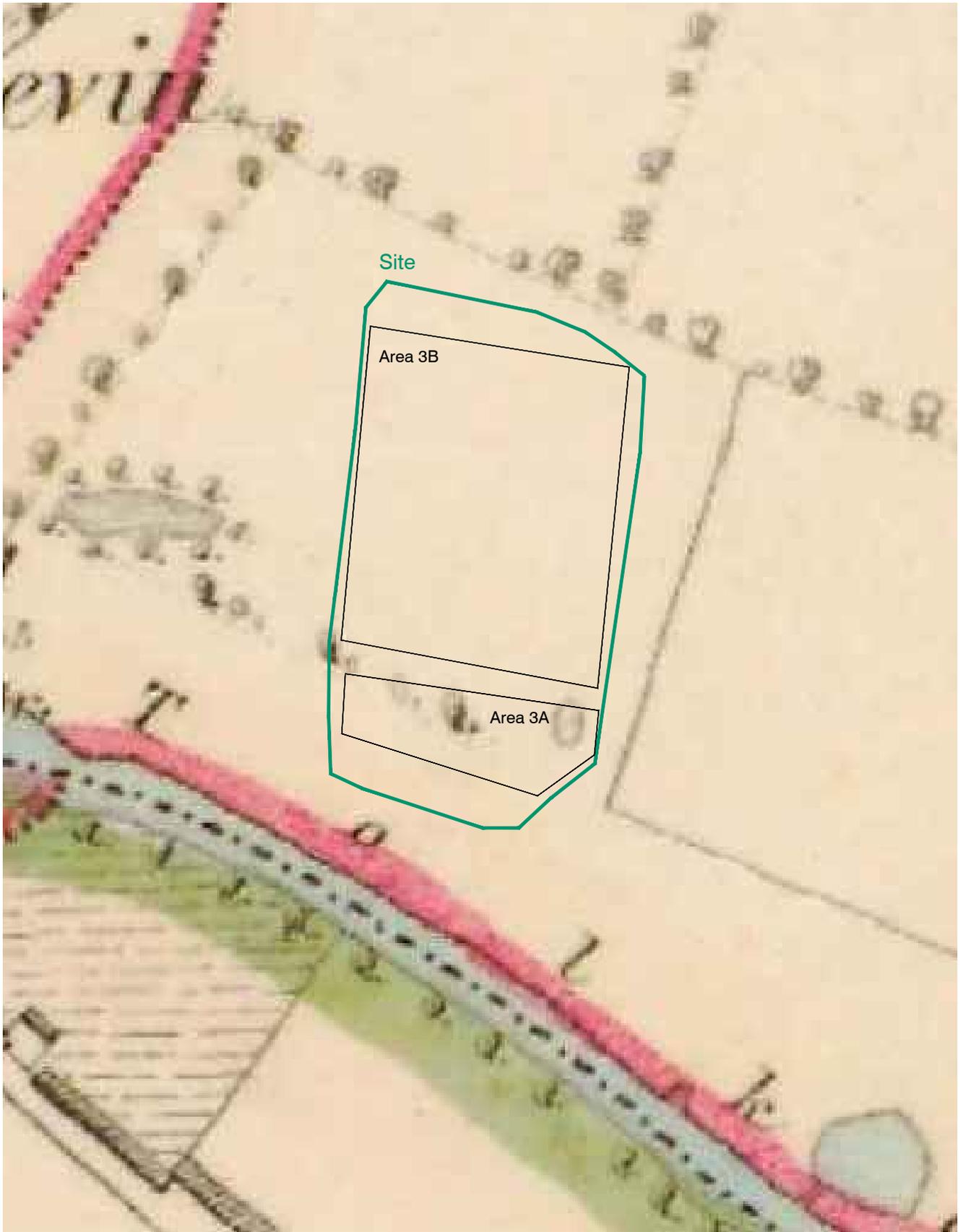
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Figure 4: Extract from Rocque's map of Dublin City - North West sheet (1757), showing approximate site location



OS Sheet No. DN018

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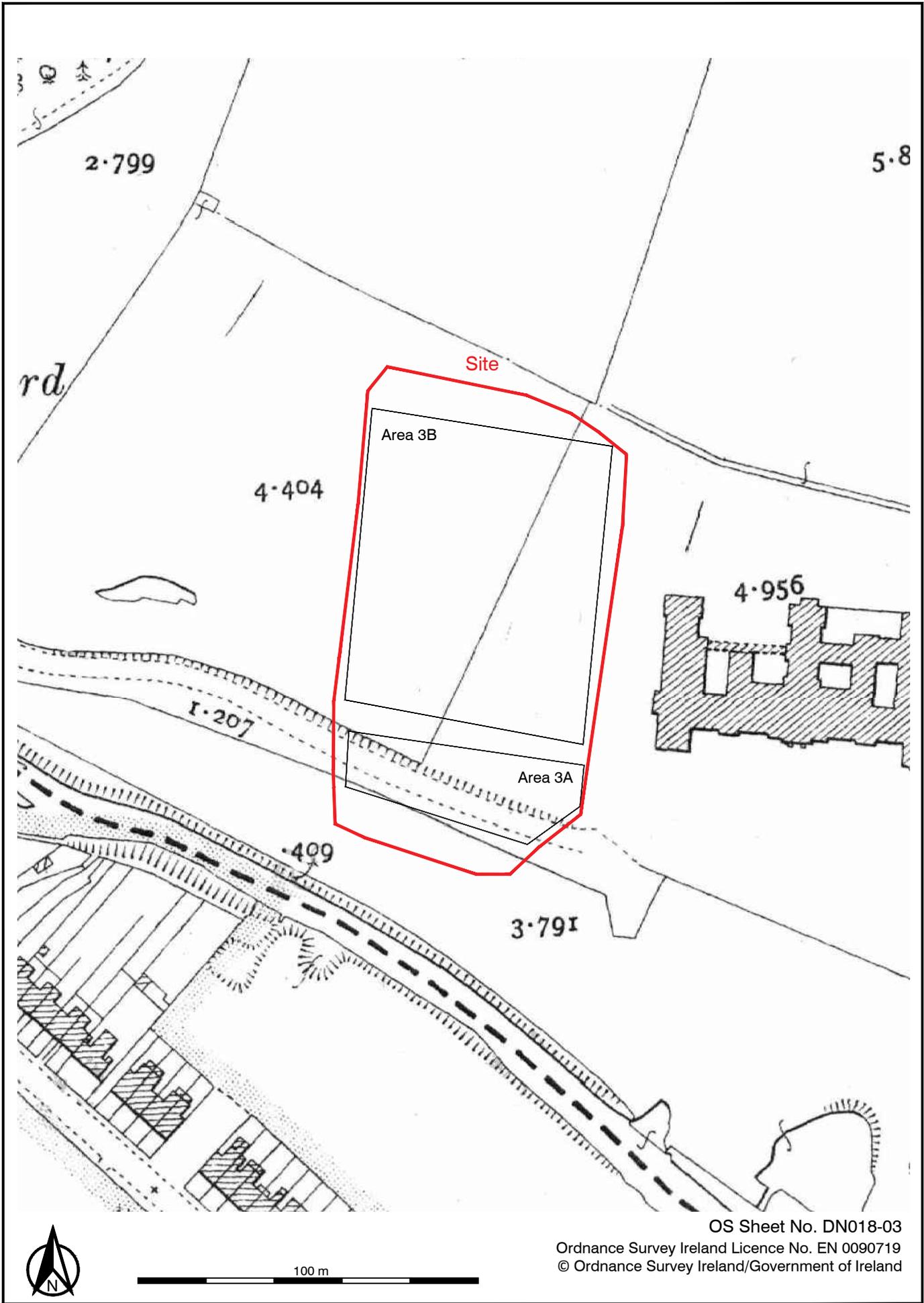
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Figure 5: Extract from 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 6-inch map (surveyed 1836 - published 1844), showing site location



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Figure 6: Extract from 3rd edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 25-inch map (surveyed 1907 - published 1911), showing site location

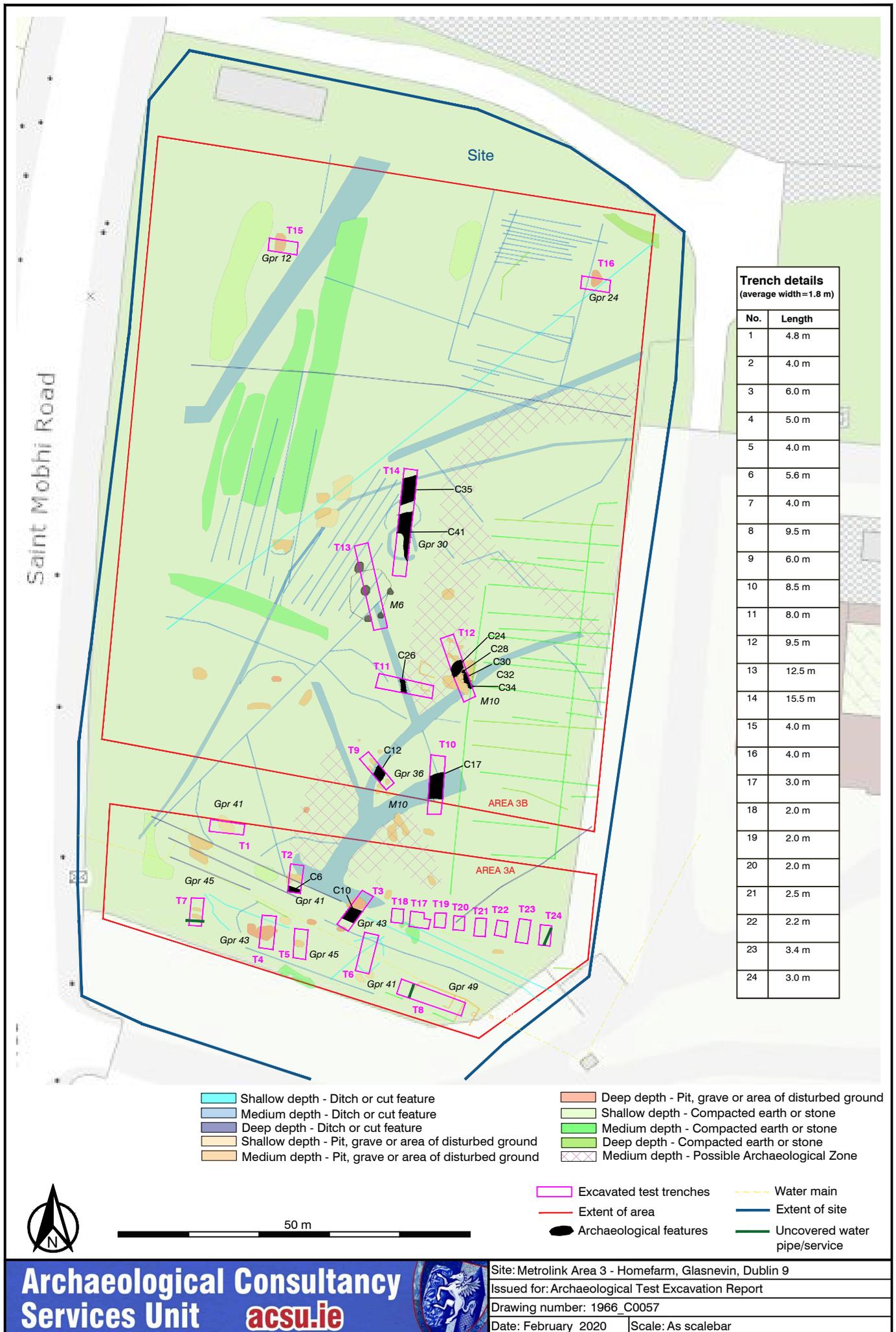
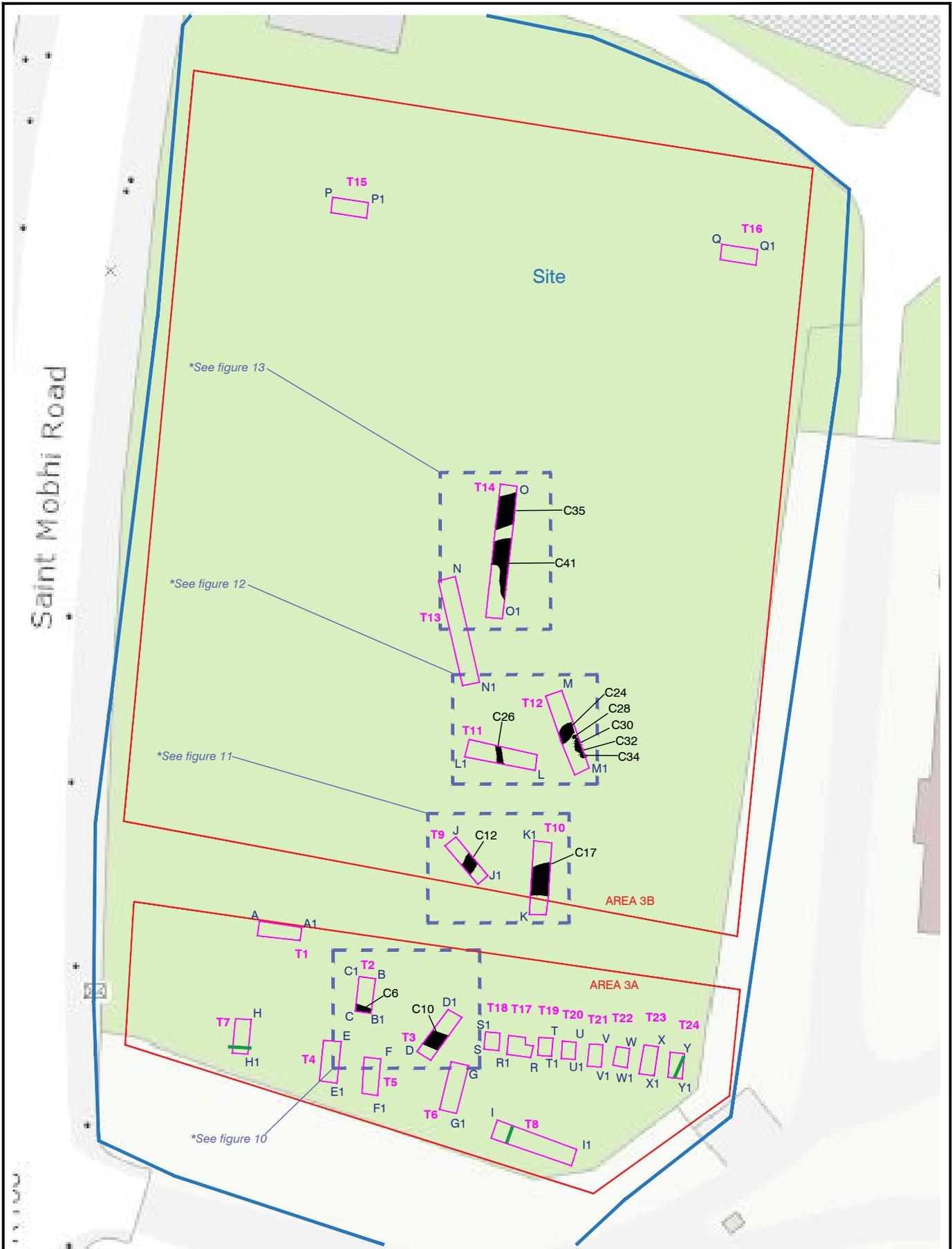


Figure 7: Results of Ground Penetrating Radar and Magnetometer Survey (Gimson & Garner 2019), in relation to the location of Test Trenches (Area 3A and 3B)



20 m

- Excavated test trenches
- Extent of site
- Extent of area
- Archaeological features
- Uncovered water pipe/service

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Figure 8: Plan of Areas 3A and 3B, showing location of excavated Test Trenches and recorded sections

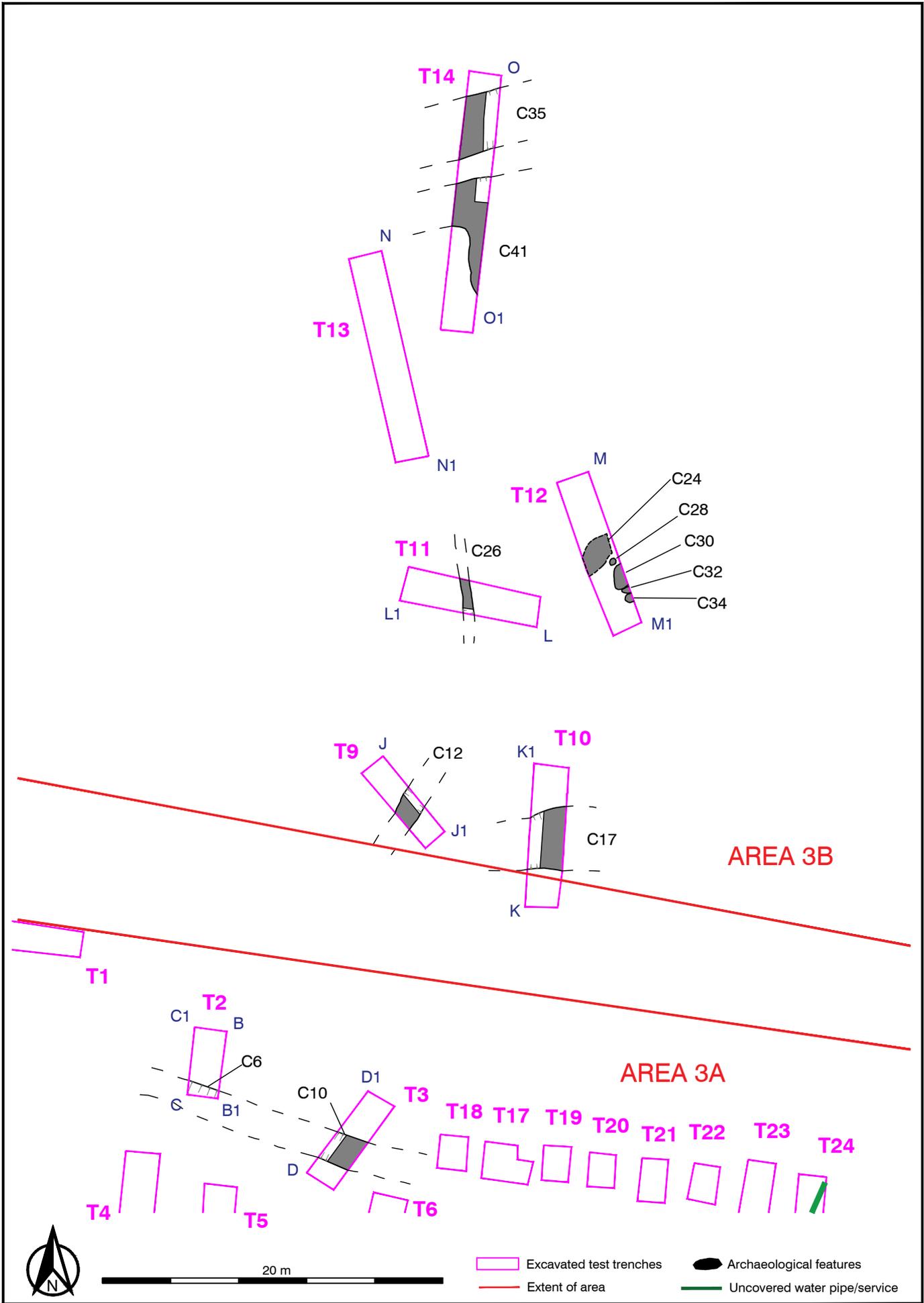


Figure 9: Area 3A and 3B - Detail of Test Trenches containing Archaeological Features



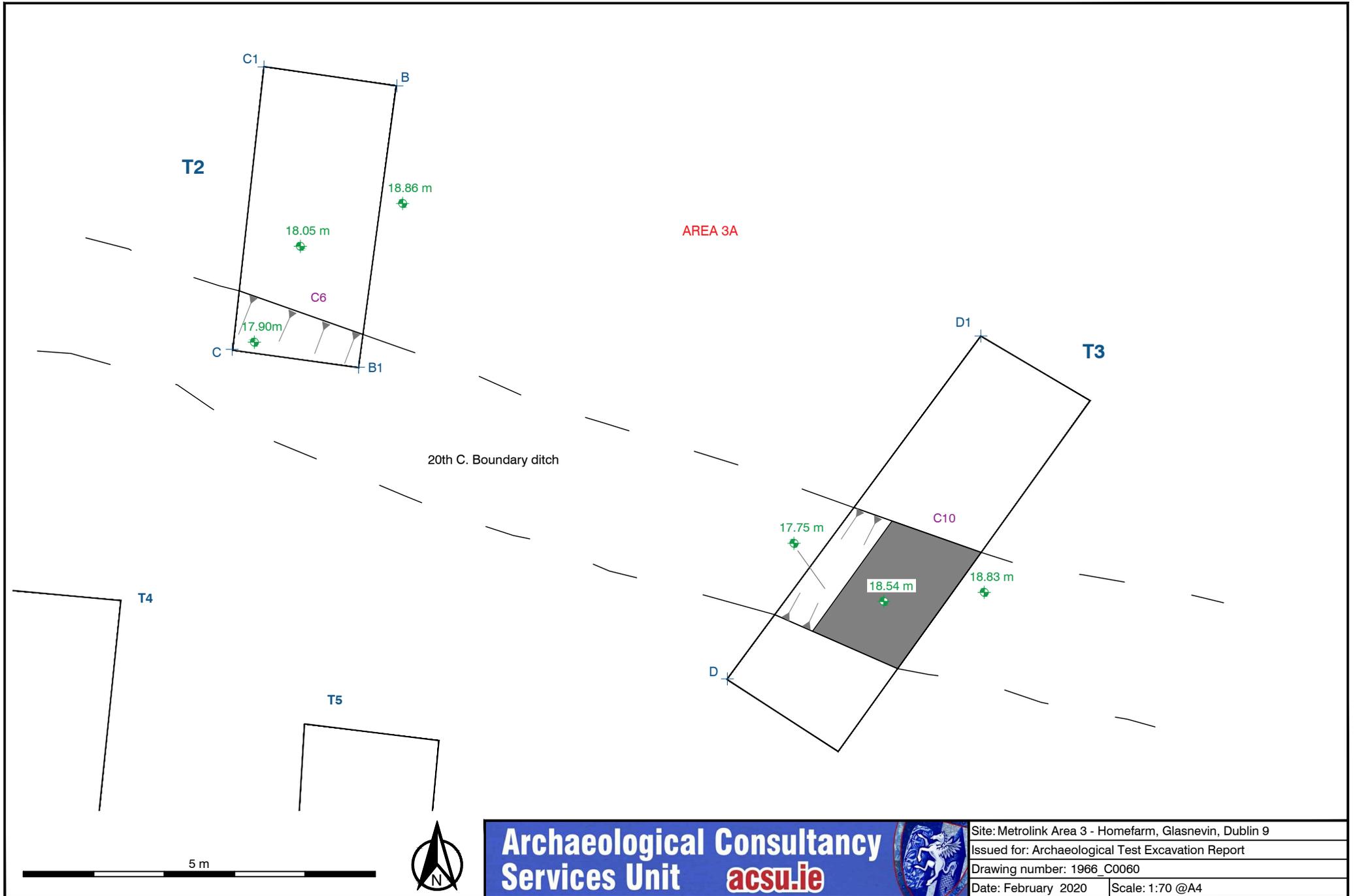


Figure 10: Area 3A - Plan of Test Trench 2 and 3

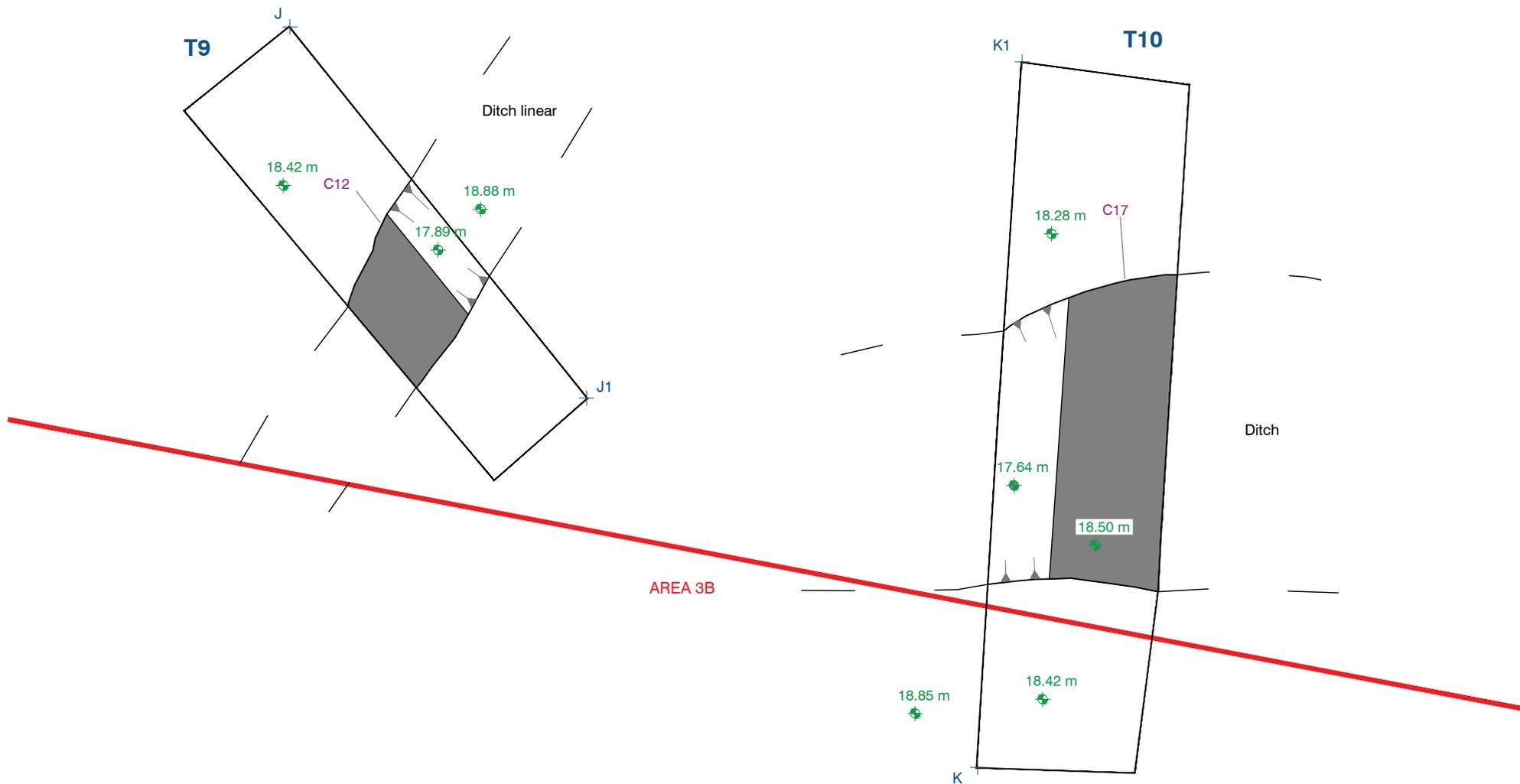


Figure 11: Area 3B – Plan of Test Trench 9 and 10

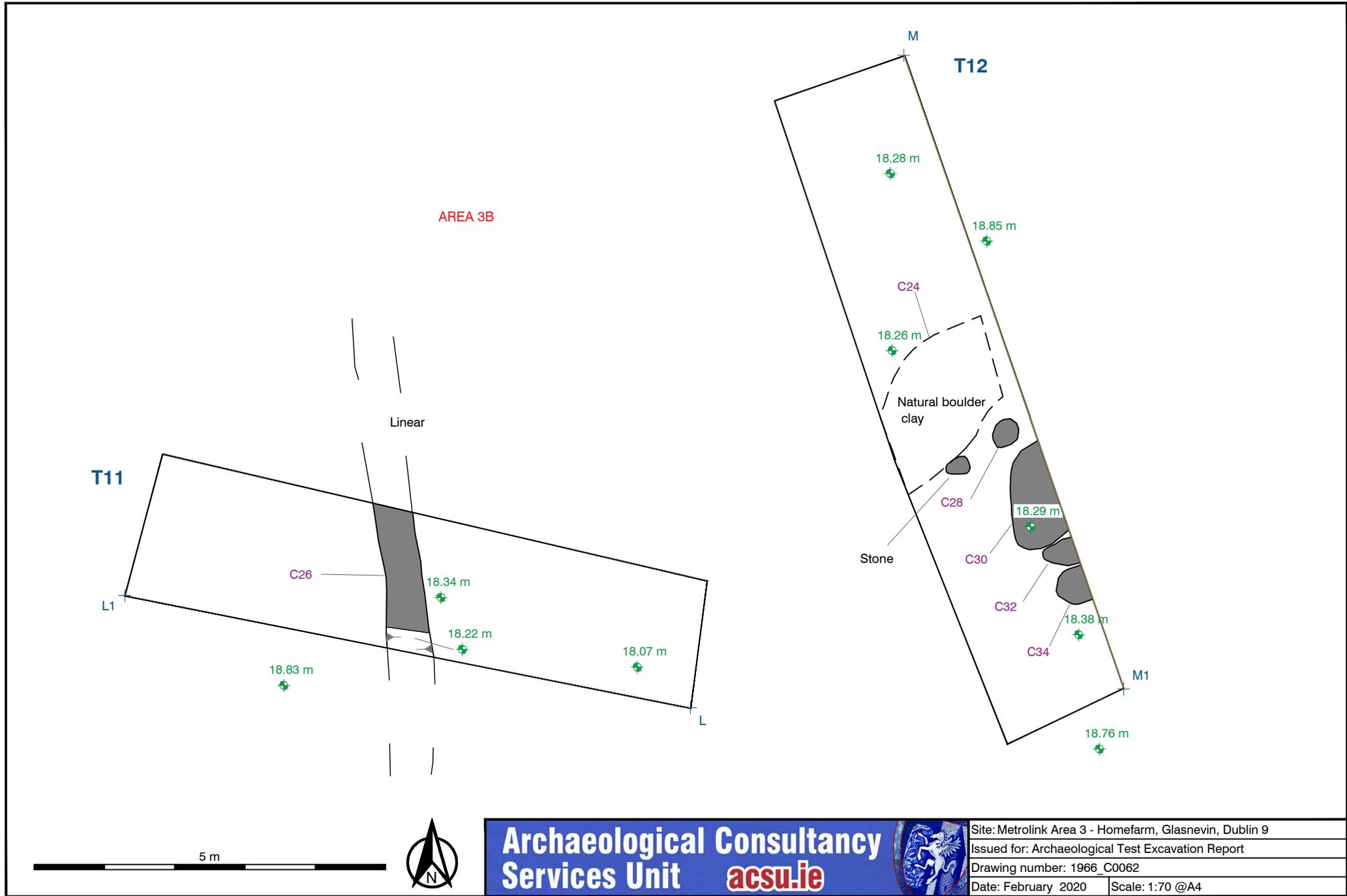


Figure 12: Area 3B - Plan of Test Trench 11 and 12

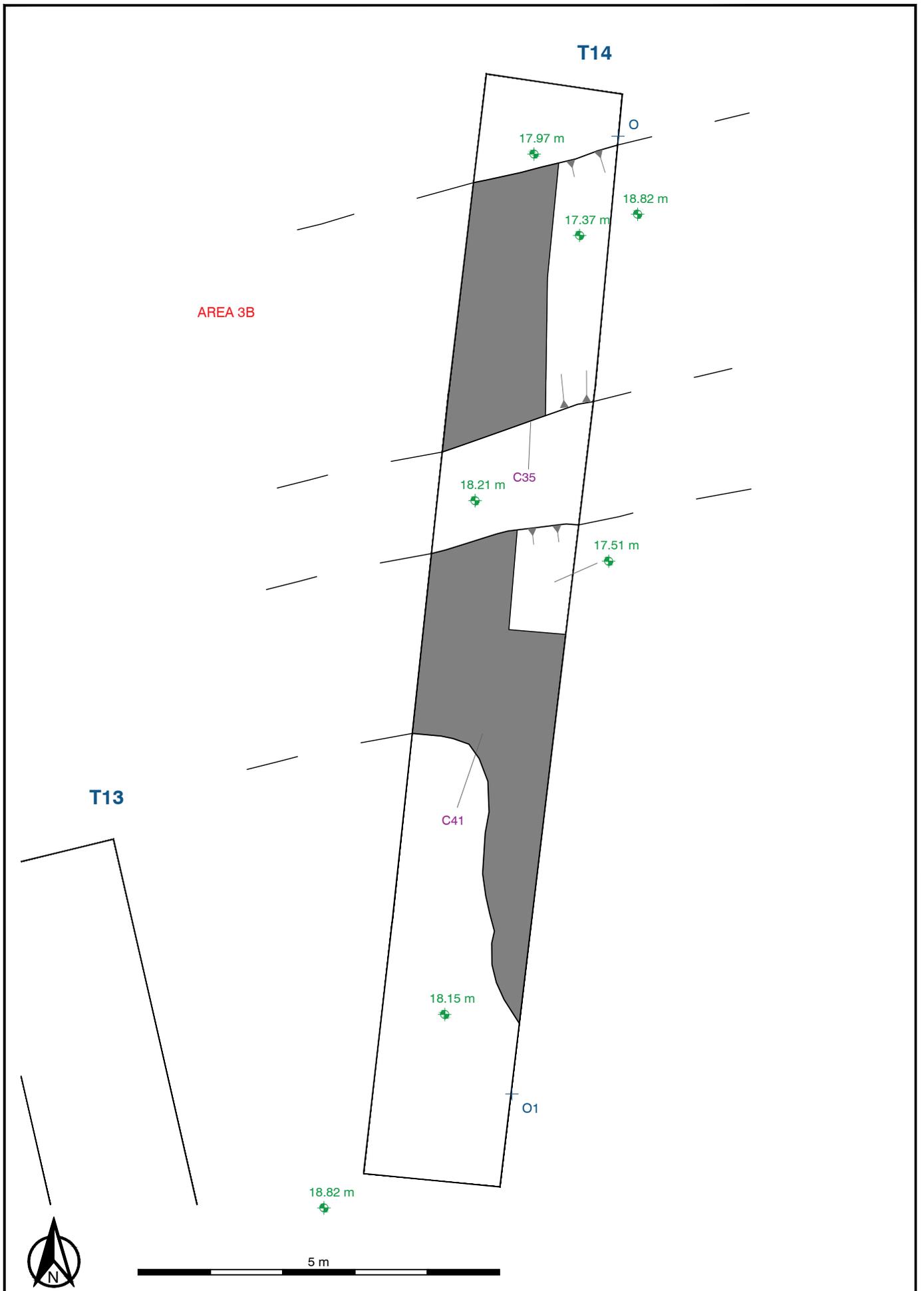
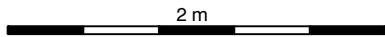
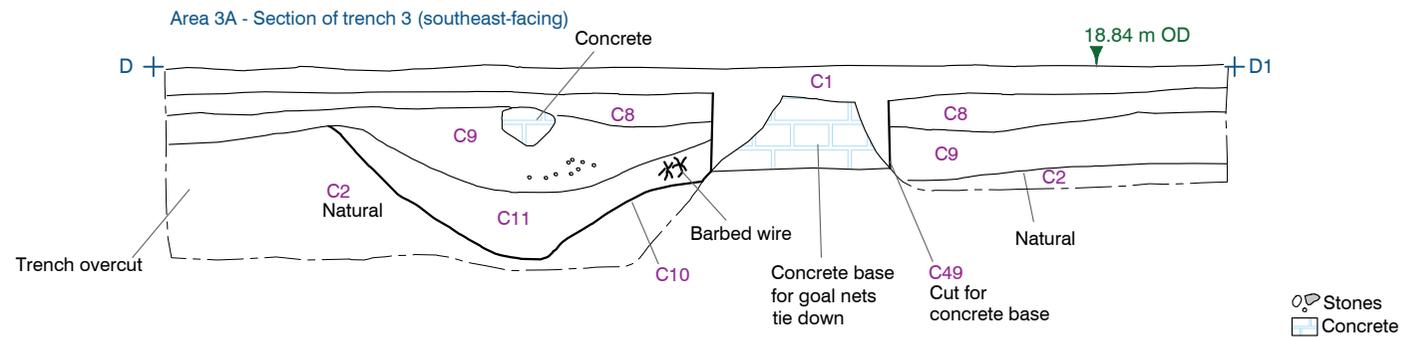
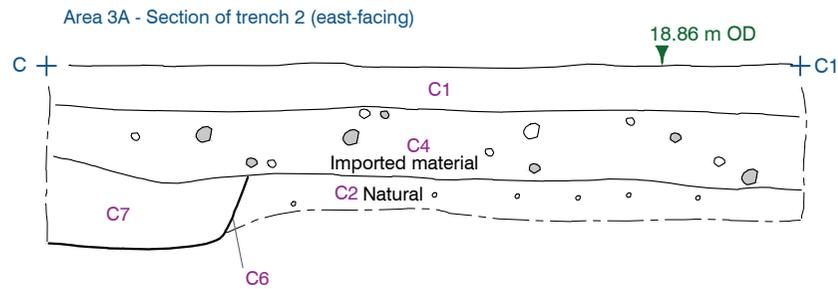
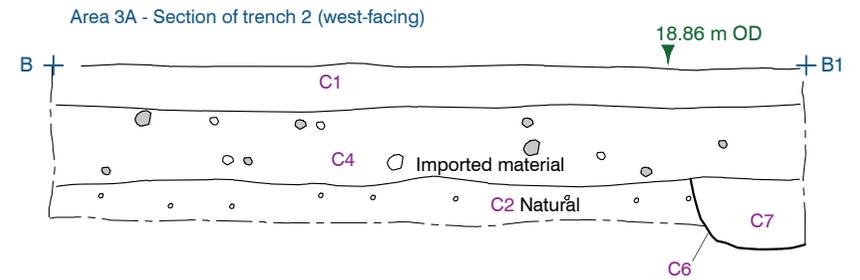
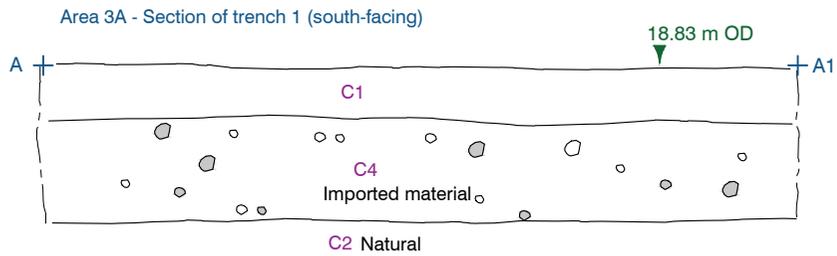


Figure 13: Area 3B - Plan of Test Trench 14



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Figure 14: Area 3A - Sections of Test Trenches 1-3

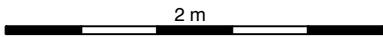
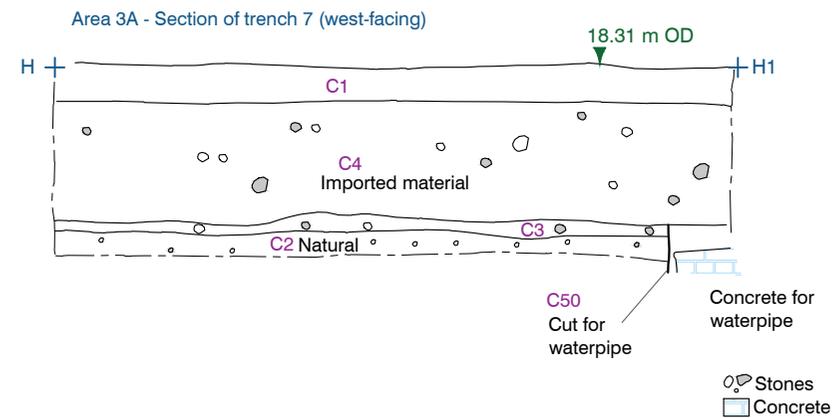
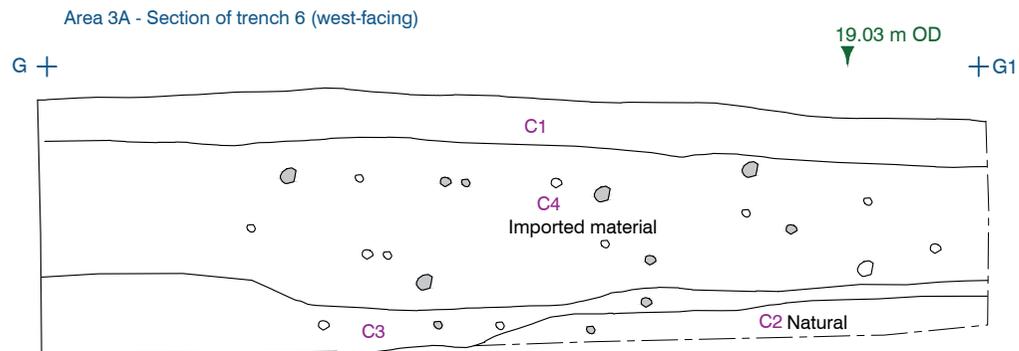
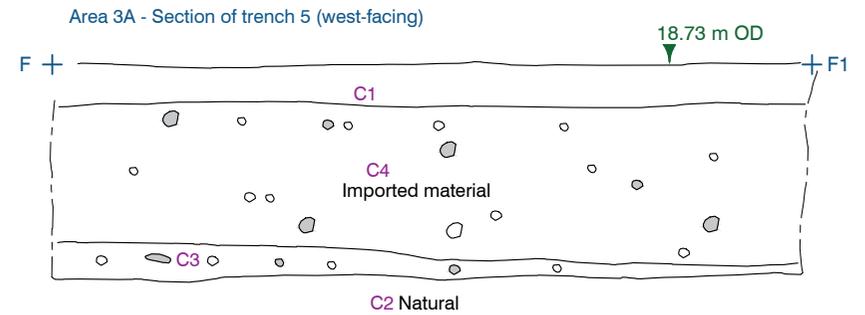
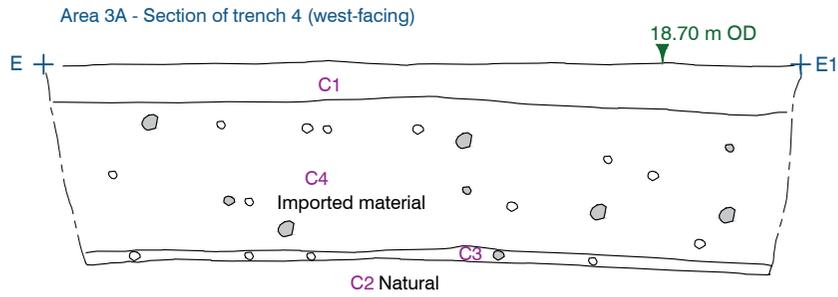
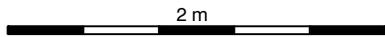
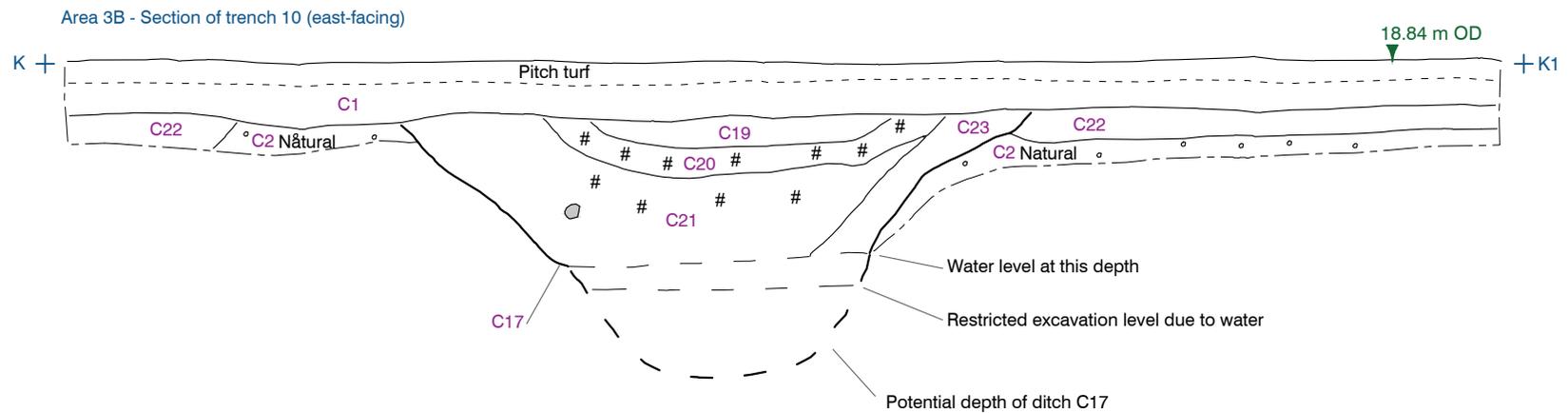
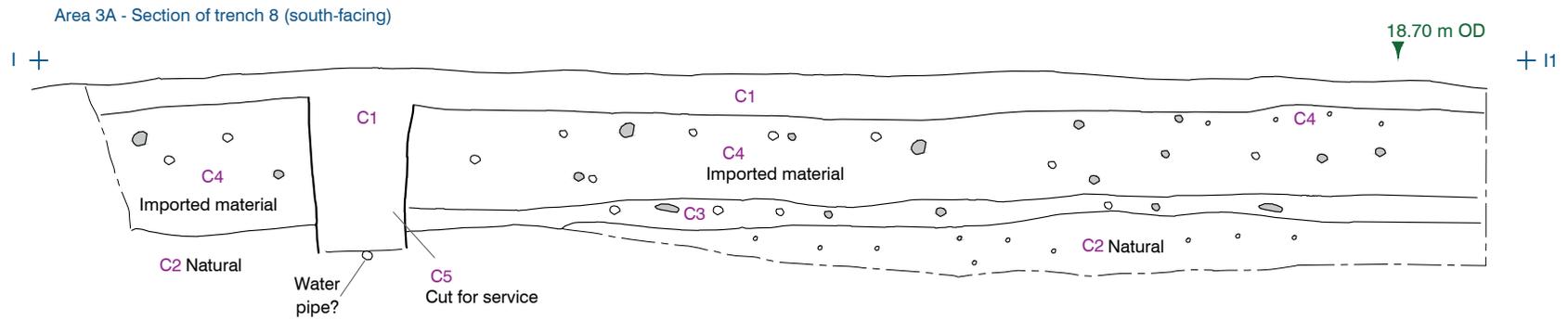


Figure 15: Area 3A - Sections of Test Trenches 4-7



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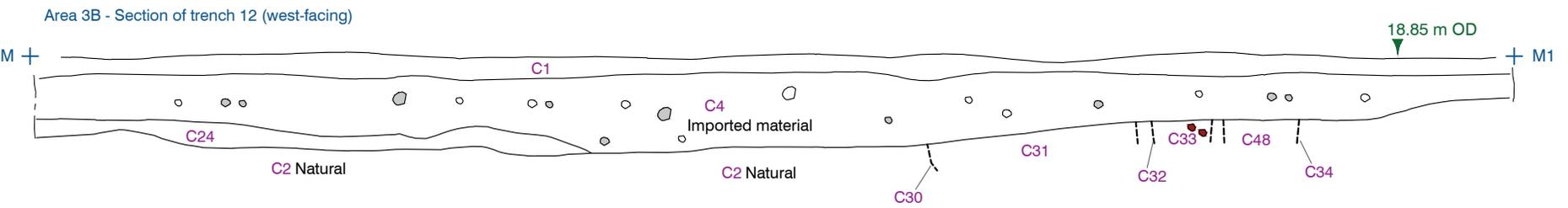
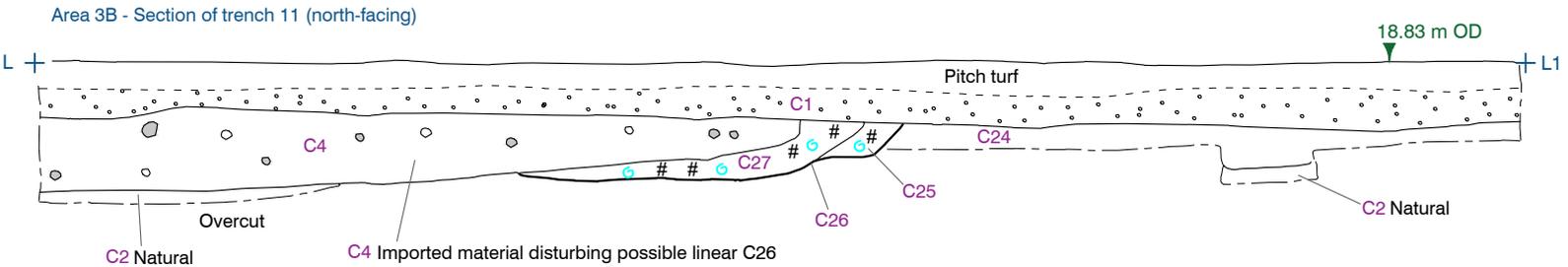
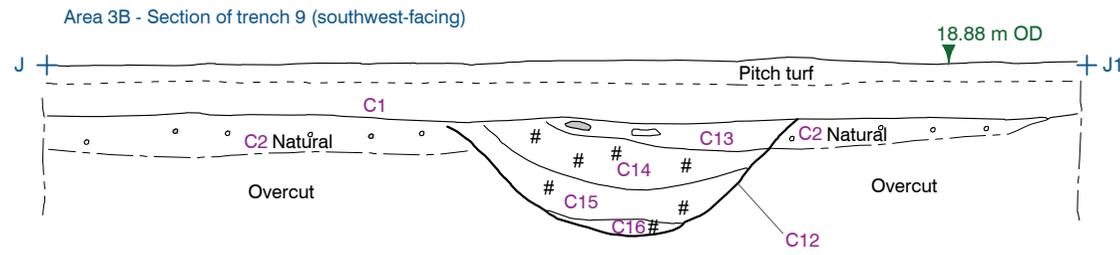
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Date: February 2020

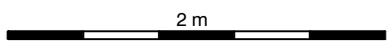
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○ Stones
 # Charcoal

Figure 16: Area 3A - Section of Test Trench 8; and Area 3B - Section of Test Trench 10



- Stones
- # Charcoal
- Shell
- Slag

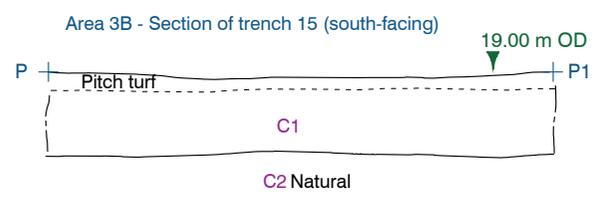
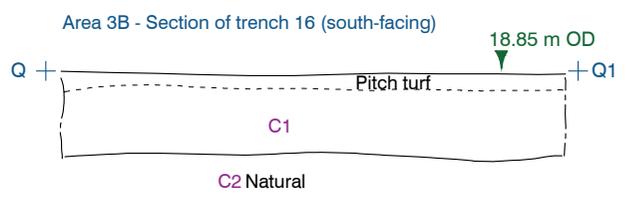
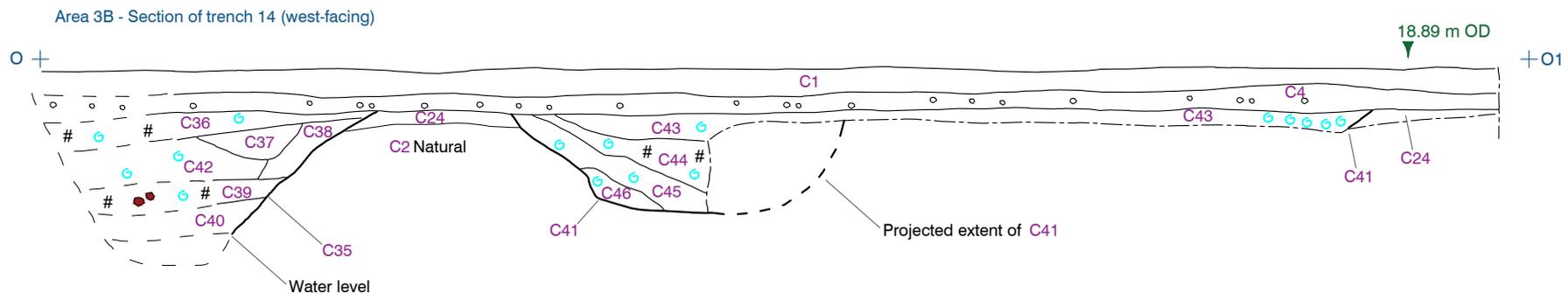
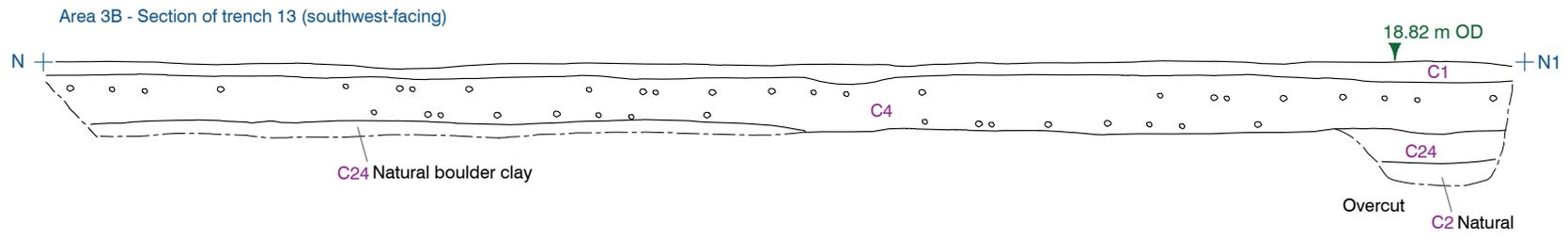


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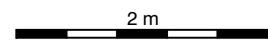


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Figure 17: Area 3B - Sections of Test Trenches 9, 11 and 12



- Stone
- # Charcoal
- Shell
- Slag



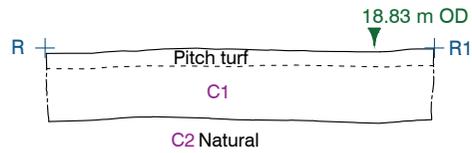
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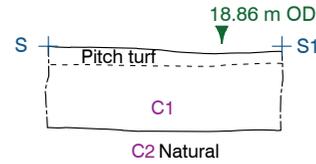
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Drawing number: 1966_C0068	
Date: February 2020	Scale: 1:60 @A4

Figure 18: Area 3B - Sections of Test Trenches 13-16

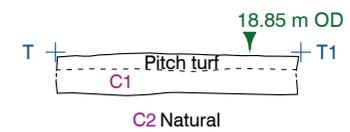
Area 3B - Section of trench 17 (north-facing)



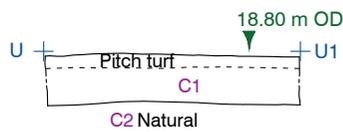
Area 3B - Section of trench 18 (east-facing)



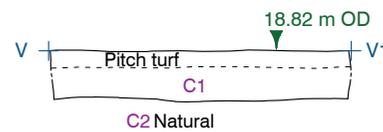
Area 3B - Section of trench 19 (west-facing)



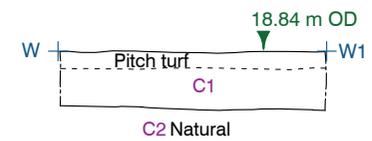
Area 3B - Section of trench 20 (west-facing)



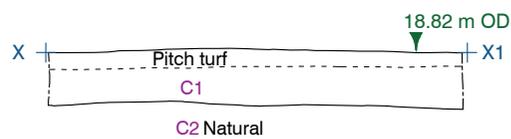
Area 3B - Section of trench 21 (west-facing)



Area 3B - Section of trench 22 (west-facing)



Area 3B - Section of trench 23 (west-facing)



Area 3B - Section of trench 24 (west-facing)

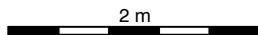
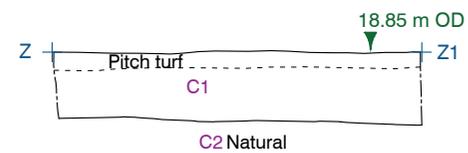


Figure 19: Area 3B - Sections of Test Trenches 17-24

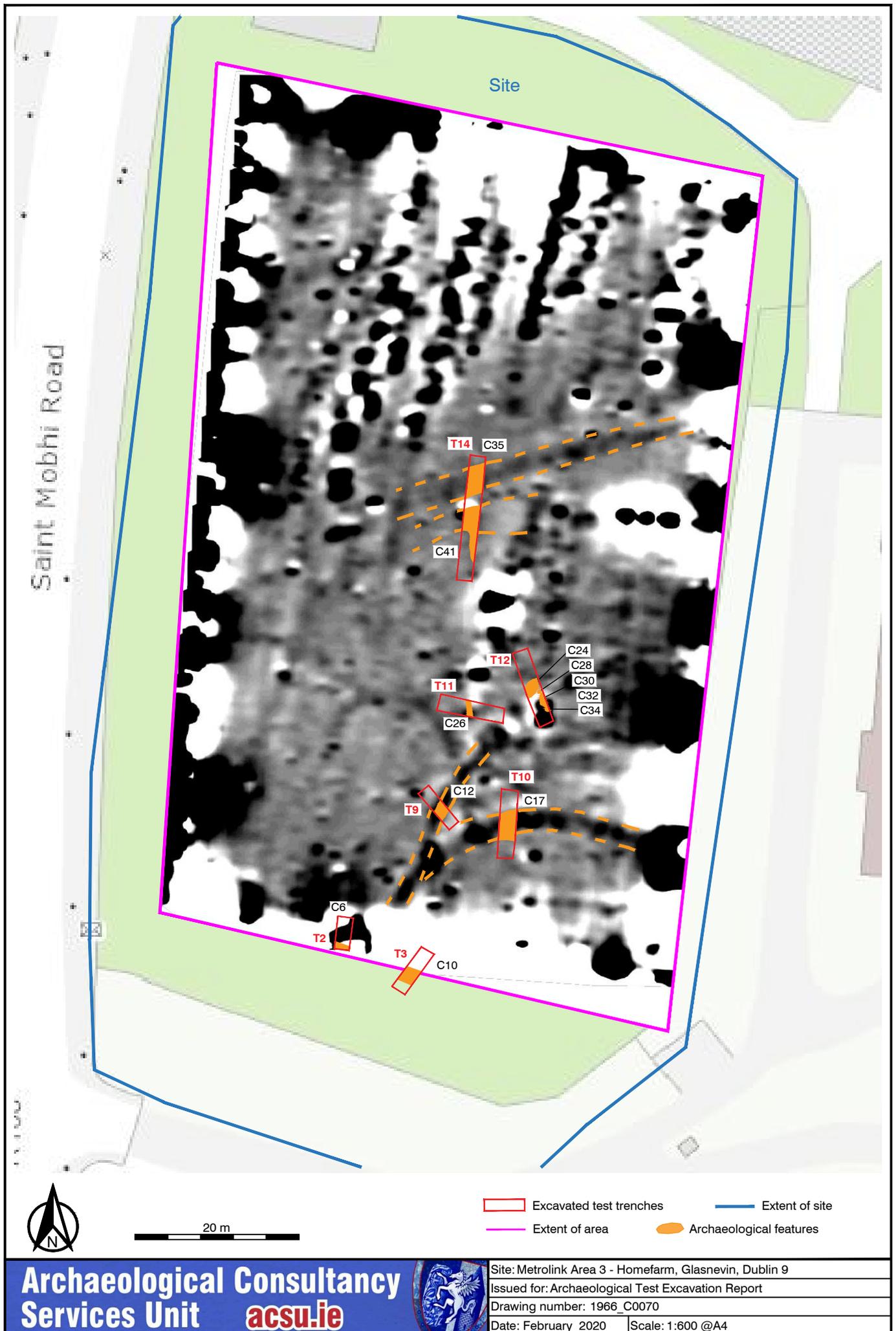


Figure 20: Recorded archaeological features overlain on the magnetometer survey data (grey scale image; Gimson and Garner 2019)

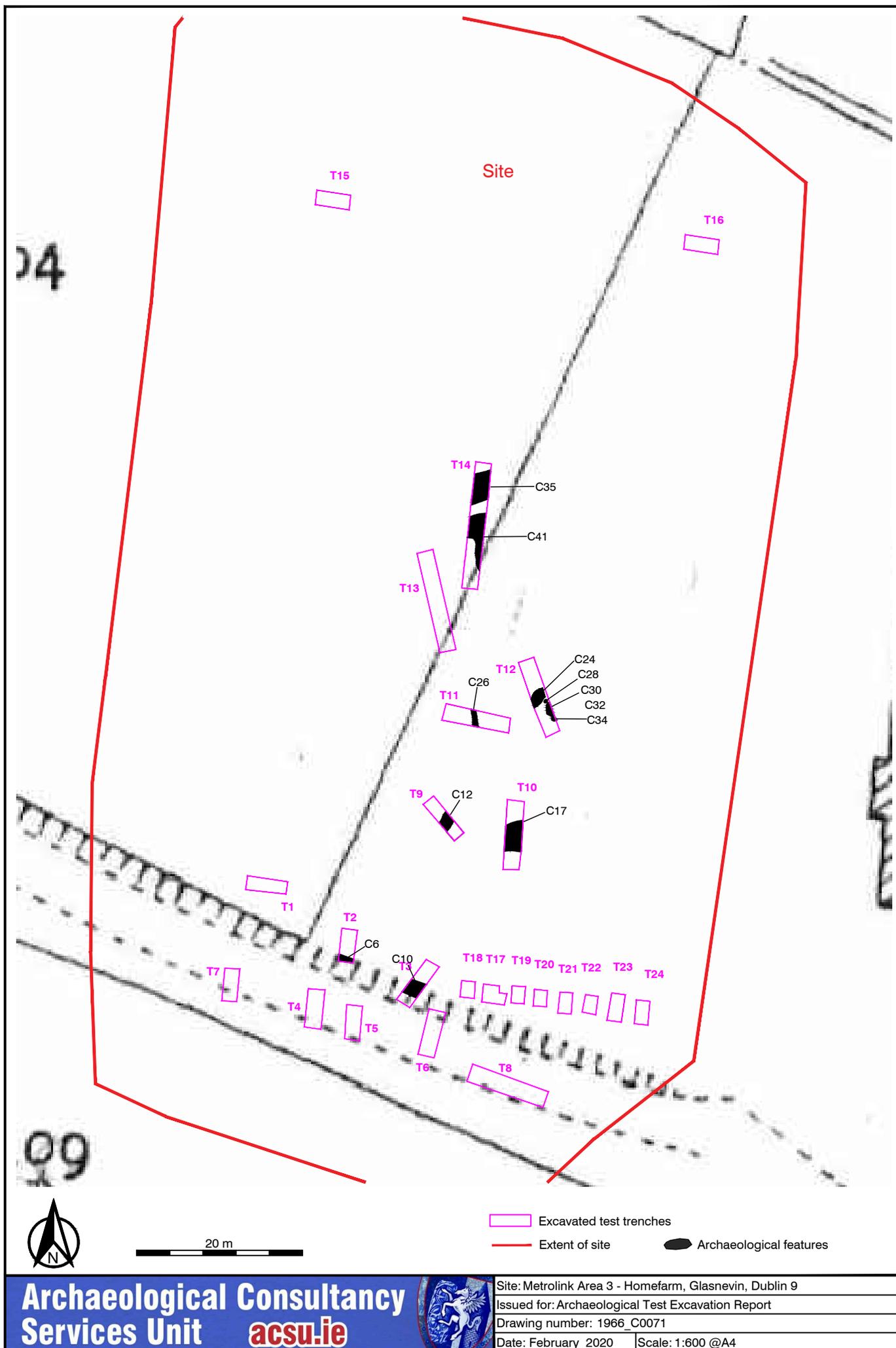


Figure 21: Recorded archaeological features overlain on the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 25-inch map (surveyed 1907 - published 1911)



Plate 1: Area 3A: Test Trench 1 facing north-east

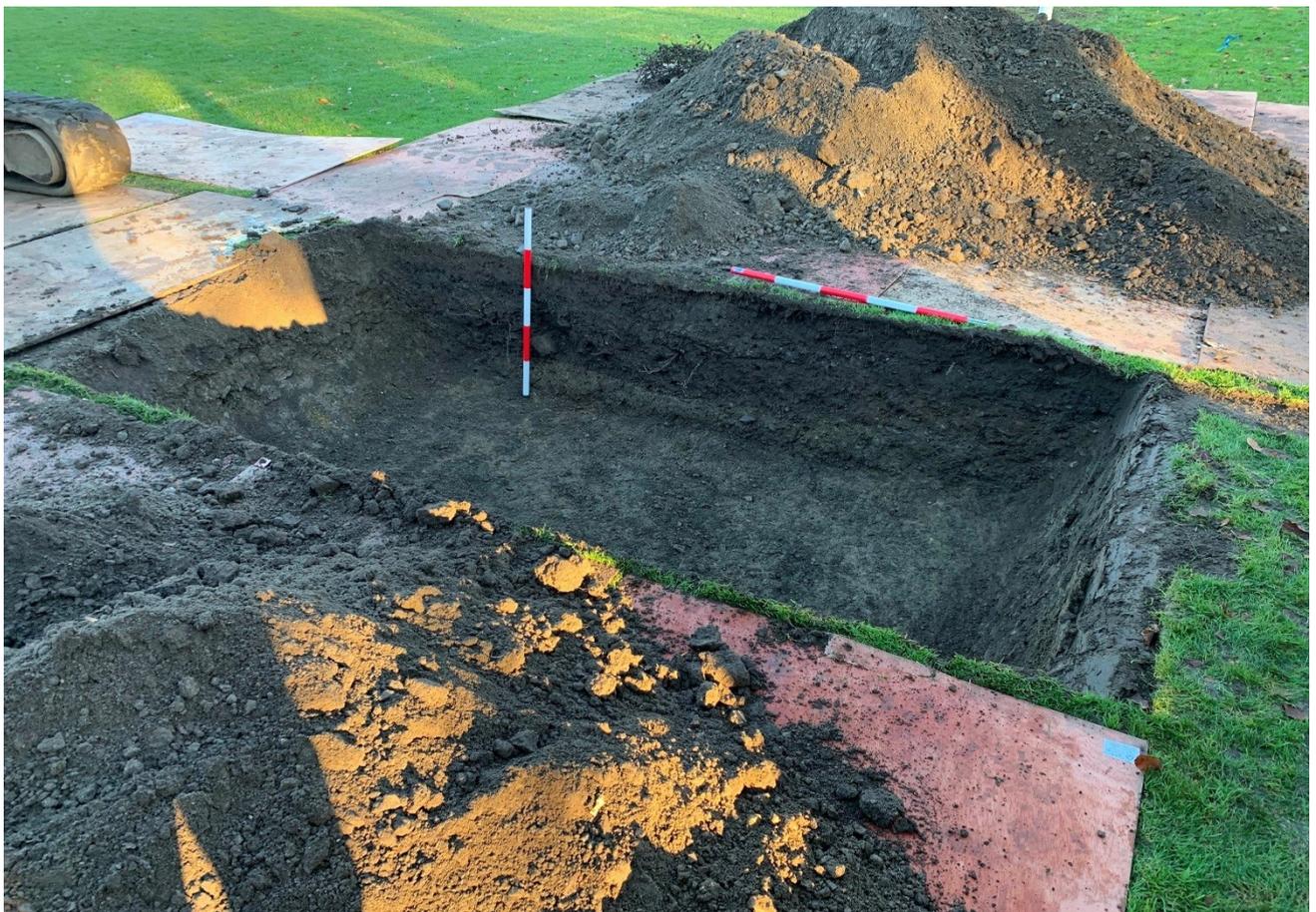


Plate 2: Area 3A: Test Trench 2 facing east



Plate 3: Area 3A: Test Trench 2, portion of modern ditch C6/C10 in west section facing west



Plate 4: Area 3A: Test Trench 3 facing north-west showing modern ditch C10 in section



Plate 5: Area 3A: Test Trench 3, modern ditch C10 facing west



Plate 6: Area 3A: Test Trench 4 facing east



Plate 7: Area 3A: Test Trench 5 facing north-east



Plate 8: Area 3A: Test Trench 6 facing east



Plate 9: Area 3A: Test Trench 7 facing east



Plate 10: Area 3A: Test Trench 8 facing north-west



Plate 11: Area 3A: Test Trench 8, made up ground in north section facing north



Plate 12: Area 3A: Test Trench 8, water pipe/service at western end of trench facing south



Plate 13: Area 3B: Test Trench 9 looking south-east



Plate 14: Area 3B: Test Trench 9 C12 looking south-west



Plate 15: Area 3B: Test Trench 9, C12 looking south-east



Plate 16: Area 3B: Test Trench 10 looking north prior to excavation of section through ditch C17



Plate 17: Area 3B: Test Trench 10, Ditch C17 pre-excitation looking west



Plate 18: Area 3B: Test Trench 10, Ditch C17 section facing west



Plate 19: Area 3B: Test Trench 11 looking west



Plate 20: Area 3B: Test Trench 11, C26 looking north



Plate 21: Area 3B: Test Trench 12 looking north-north-west



Plate 22: Area 3B: Test Trench 12, showing small pits/shallow spreads C28, C30, C32 and C34 facing east



Plate 23: Area 3B: Test Trench 12, C32 and C34 looking south-south-east



Plate 24: Area 3B: Test Trench 12, charcoal spread/pit C28 facing east



Plate 25: Area 3B: Test Trench 13 looking north



Plate 26: Area 3B: Test Trench 14 looking south



Plate 27: Area 3B: Test Trench 14, section through ditch C35 facing east



Plate 28: Area 3B: Test Trench 14, C41 looking north



Plate 29: Area 3B: Test Trench 14, section (part) through C41 facing south-east



Plate 30: Area 3B: Test Trench 14, section (part) through C41 facing east



Plate 31: Area 3B: Test Trench 14, section (part) through C41 facing east



Plate 32: Area 3B: Test Trench 15 looking west



Plate 33: Area 3B: Test Trench 16 facing south



Plate 34: Area 3A: Test Trench 18 facing south-east



Plate 35: Area 3A: Test Trench 19 facing south-east



Plate 36: Area 3A: Test Trench 20 facing south-east



Plate 37: Area 3A: Test Trench 21 facing south-east



Plate 38: Area 3A: Test Trench 22 facing south-east



Plate 39: Area 3A: Test Trench 23 facing south-west



Plate 40: Area 3A: Test Trench 24 facing south-east— modern cut for water pipe visible



Plate 41: Area 3A: Test Trench 17 facing north-east