











Project Name:

N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass

Licence Reference No:

10E0306

Townland Names:

Teevnacreeva, County Roscommon

Site Type:

Teevnacreeva 1 Iron Age Pits

Nat. Grid Ref.

167354 / 293507

Consultant:

Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Excavation Director:

James Kyle

Report Authors:

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ABSTRACT

The following report describes the results of an archaeological excavation of Teevnacreeva 1 (licence ref.: 10E0306), which was located along the route of N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass, Co. Roscommon. Teevnacreeva 1 was discovered during a first phase of archaeological testing along the proposed bypass undertaken in 2009 by Headland Archaeology (09E0475).

The Stage (iii) excavation work at Teevnacreeva 1 was undertaken on behalf of the National Roads Authority and it took place between the 18 and 20 of September 2010.

The site at Teevnacreeva 1 comprised two charcoal-rich pit features one of which also contained burnt bone. Some of the burnt bone was dated to AD 20–220 (SUERC 27344), a late Iron Age, during the testing phase – Stage (i) by Headland Archaeology (Doyle 2009). Further burnt bone samples were retrieved from the pit during the resolution phase – Stage (iii). Subsequent analysis of this bone has confirmed that it is most likely burnt animal bone. Therefore it is concluded that the pits at Teevnacreeva 1 are Iron Age cooking pits.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of the Stage (iii) Excavation Services at Teevnacreeva 1 carried out in the townland of Teevnacreeva, Co. Roscommon (Figures 1–3). This work was undertaken as part of an archaeological mitigation program completed under the Archaeological Consultancy Services Contract for the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass, County Roscommon. Archaeological fieldwork was directed by James Kyle of Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd (IAC) under Licence as issued by the DOEHLG in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland (10E0306). The work was untaken on behalf of Roscommon County Council and the National Roads Authority and it took place between the 18 and 20 August 2010.

The purpose of the Stage (iii) Excavation Services is to preserve-by-record through appropriate rescue excavation any significant archaeological features or deposits discovered by earlier investigations, so as to mitigate impacts on the archaeological remains that may be discovered within the footprint of the project.

1.2 The Development

The N5 National Primary Route stretches from Westport (Co. Mayo), through Co. Roscommon to join the N4 National Primary Route at Longford Town; a distance of *c*. 134km. The proposed development consists of the construction of a Bypass, 13.6km long, to the north of Ballaghaderreen Town to upgrade the N5 to National Primary Route Standard.

The scheme traverses the following townlands (from west–east) Currinah, Cashelcolaun, Bohalas, Tonregee, Bockagh, Coolaghtane, Derrynagur, Ballyoughter, Toobrackan, Magheraboy, Tullaghanrock, Banada, Keelbanada, Ballinphuill, Teevnacreeva, Ratra and Rathkeery.

1.3 Topography & Site Description

Teevnacreeva 1 located in the townland of Teevnacreeva, lies at c. 75m Ordnance Datum and is located in the parish of Tibohine. The site was located c. 5km east of Ballaghaderreen town and c. 2.2km south-east of the River Lung. The surrounding topography comprises of relatively level boggy fields and pockets of forestry. The village of Tibohine was located c. 1.75km south of Teevnacreeva 1.

In terms of the Irish National Grid Teevnacreeva 1 is located at 167354 / 293507.

2 EXCAVATION RESULTS

2.1 Excavation Methodology

The excavation area measured *c.* 20m x 20m (400m²) and it had already been mechanically stripped of topsoil as part of the Stage (ii) Pre-excavation Services.

All archaeological features revealed were cleaned by hand and excavated and recorded using customised field record sheets or 'context sheets', as well as supporting records in the form of registers or lists of drawings, photographs, and the excavation director's field diary. All archaeological features found were drawn to scale, photographed and OD levels taken. Comprehensive drawings were produced at appropriate scales.

The excavation area and the locations of any features recorded within them were recorded by a surveyor using GPS survey equipment and have been tied into the National Grid for the report illustrations.

2.2 Excavation Results

Teevnacreeva 1 comprised two small pits, one of which was dated by AMS to the Iron Age.

2.2.1 Natural Geology

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Very compact light grey sandy silty clay	Subsoil

Finds: N/A

Interpretation:

The natural subsoil consisted of compact sandy silty clay and was uniform across the site. It was the glacially deposited natural subsoil underlying the entire area.

2.2.2 Iron Age Pits

2.2.2.1 Pits C3 and C5

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
3	N/A	1.06	0.54	0.17	Pit cut	Pit
4	3	1.06	0.54	0.17	Fill of pit cut	Fill of pit
5	N/A	0.81	0.61	0.16	Pit cut	Cut of pit
6	5	0.81	0.61	0.16	Fill of pit cut	Fill of pit

Finds: None.

Interpretation:

Two pits were excavated at the site (Figures 3 and 4; Plates 1 and 2). One of these pits (C3) contained burnt bone. A calibrated radiocarbon date of AD 20–220 (SUERC-27344) was returned from the burnt bone during the testing phase of works by Headland Archaeology (Doyle 2009). During this phase of works the pit was sectioned in three spits with a sample taken from each. Charred hazelnut shell, cereal grain, burnt and unburnt bone and charcoal was recovered from the soil retent from each sample. Initial inspection of some of the burnt bone by Headland

Archaeology suggested that the bone was possibly animal (preliminary identification Caoimhe Ni Thoibin).

The remainder of the pit was excavated by IAC during the resolution phase of the N5 project – Stage (iv). The bone retrieved from this was analysed by Maeve Tobin (Appendix 2.1). A total of 107 fragments (25.5g) of burnt bone, retrieved from the fill C4 of pit C3, were analysed. Tobin concludes that although the majority of the bone was unidentifiable three fragments of cranial vault and long bone were identified as belonging to the mammal animal species. As such it is likely that the sample represents well burnt animal bone.

The second pit (C5) was positioned 8m to the west of C3. This pit contained moderately compact grey peaty silt with some charcoal inclusions and was probably associated with the dated pit.

2.2.3 Topsoil

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1	N/A	Site	Site	0.36	Loose grey-brown peaty clay	Topsoil

Interpretation:

The topsoil sealed all the archaeological features on site. It was a loose grey-brown peaty clay and was consistent across the site. No finds were identified from the topsoil.

3 SYNTHESIS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Landscape setting

Teevnacreeva 1 was located in the townland of Teevnacreeva at *c.* 75m Ordnance Datum and. The surrounding topography comprises of relatively level boggy fields and pockets of forestry. The village of Tibohine is located *c.* 1.75km south of Teevnacreeva 1.

The Topography, Geology and Hydrology of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass in Co. Roscommon

The N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass is located in the north-west corner of Co. Roscommon and travels in a north-west direction where it joins the N5 Charlestown Bypass and continues into Co. Mayo. It is an inland county with an area of 2463 km² which is bounded by the River Shannon to the east and the River Suck to the west (Hickey & Drew 2003, 35). Roscommon has an abundance of surface streams and rivers, the majority of which feed into these two rivers (*ibid*, 37). The present road scheme traverses the River Lung which feeds into Lough Gara located *c*. 4km to the north-east. A cluster of lakes are also situated to the SSW of the scheme *c*. 10km away; these all feed into the River Suck which meanders to the south. A number of caves have also been explored in the county. The largely fossil Pollawaddy cave is located near Ballaghaderreen (*ibid*, 38) and some 1.5km to the south of Frenchpark (directly to the south of the present scheme), there are four stream sinks (*ibid*, 39). Pollnagollum Cave and Doline is also located in the south-west of Frenchpark (*ibid*, 45).

The landscape of the scheme is undulating and the present road scheme passes through the Lung River Valley. Bockagh Hill (227m) rises to the north and Mullaghanoe Hill (234m) is situated to the WNW of the scheme. To the north-east, the Curlew Mountains are situated c. 10km away and just beyond these to the north are the Bricklieve Mountains. The Curlew Mountains form a narrow ridge of resistant Devonian Sandstone (Lee & Daly 2003, 8). The geology of the county is complex with both temporal and lateral changes in rock composition (ibid, 8). The majority of the rocks of Roscommon (90%) are limestone of various degrees of purity and structure (Hickey & Drew 2003, 35) however the landscape crossed by the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass is underlain with Devonian Sandstone (EPA 2011). Deposition of the Old Red Sandstone (ORS) rocks took place on a desert like environment which was subjected to intense erosion and then the deposition of gravel, and some clay in the flood plains of the meandering rivers (Lee & Daly 2003, 11). The Sandstones are reddish-brown in colour reflecting the avid sub-arial oxidising conditions under which these rocks were formed (ibid.). In these rocks, the groundwater circulation is probably limited to faults and fractures and the assumed low permeability is supported by the drainage in the area, which is often poor with most of the rainfall running off to the nearest surface watercourse (ibid, 36). In the townland of Toobrackan, the underground geology consists of both Devonian and Carboniferous Sandstones (EPA 2011). The Lower Carboniferous was a period of marine deposition, where on land rivers deposited sand and silts; now represented by the Boyle Sandstone (Lee & Daly 2003, 11).

Many of the sub-soils in Co. Roscommon were laid down during the last glaciation affecting Ireland (Lee & Daly 2003, 11). The sub-soils underlying the present scheme consist of Devonian Sandstone Tills and cut-over peat with the exception of Toobrackan, where Carboniferous Sandstone Tills are also present (EPA 2011). Till is the dominant Quaternary deposit and has a variable thickness in Roscommon; it is generally thin or absent in uphill areas, with bedrock outcropping frequently, and

thickness in low-lying areas where till thickness of over 30m are not uncommon (Hickey & Drew 2003, 37). It is a diverse material that is largely deposited sub-glacially and has a wide range of characteristics due to the variety of parent materials and different processes of deposition (Lee & Daly 2003, 17). The deposition of peat occurred in post-glacial times with the onset of wetter and warmer climatic conditions (*ibid.*). Peat is an unconsolidated brown to black organic material comprising a mixture of decomposed and undecomposed plant matter that accumulated in a water logged environment (*ibid.*). The over lying soils of the scheme consist of Surface Water Gleys and Ground Water Gleys as well as Basin Peats and Blanket Peats (EPA 2011). Surface water gleys are formed in slowly permeable materials as a result of poor drainage of surface water and ground water Gleys are soils whose drainage problems stem not from the soil material but from their topographic position close to the water table (Conway 2011).

3.2 Iron Age Archaeological Landscape

Excavated Iron Age (800 BC-AD 500) activity in the region is not abundant however visible traces of this period exist to the south of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass at Rathcroghan and in the form of a linear earthwork to the north-east. Iron Age activity recovered along the present scheme was isolated to a single site; 10E0306 Teevnacreeva 1, where two pits were excavated. One of these pits, C3, contained burnt bone and has returned a calibrated radiocarbon date of AD 20-220 (SUERC-27344) (Doyle 2009; Kyle and Delaney 2011). Along the N5 Charlestown Bypass to the north-west, oak charcoal from two later features at Lowpark, Co. Mayo returned Iron Age dates of AD 230-410 (Beta-231652) and AD 340-540 (Beta-231658) and may be residual material from an otherwise unrepresented Iron Age phase (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 19). A small number of other sites dating to the Iron Age period have been uncovered in the county. Excavations at Cloongownagh, Co. Roscommon in advance of the N4 Rockingham-Cortober Road Project (Murphy 1999) revealed evidence for an unenclosed Iron Age settlement dating from the first to the fourth centuries A.D. (O'Sullivan et al 2008, 62). At Kiltullagh Hill to the south-west of the present scheme along the Mayo-Roscommon border, human remains dating to the Iron Age representing four people were found during guarrying at the site (Coombs and Maude 1997). In 1993 an area around a small standing stone on the hill produced a shallow cremation and a male inhumation, and in 1996 a small ring barrow with a central pit was partially excavated, from which a small blue glass bead was recovered (ibid.). The central grave consisted of a pit containing numerous disarticulated bones and on the outer edge of the ditch a shallow pit with a cremation was also located (ibid.).

In Magheraboy, to the west of Keelbanada townland, a ring barrow (RO008:024) is recorded c. 300m to the south of the present scheme. Further to the south lies the Rathcroghan complex spread across the eastern end of a large elevated plateau (O'Connor 2008). Rathcroghan (Ráth Crúachan) is often referred to as both a royal settlement and a sacred burial place; it is one of several major royal sites in ancient Ireland (Waddell et al 2009, 1). The continued importance of Rathcroghan into historic times is attested by a significant number of monuments (Waddell 2009). Rathcroghan features prominently in early myth and legend; in several early tales ancient Crúachain figures as a kingly settlement, the royal residence of the Connachta or Fir Ol nÉcmacht (Waddell et al 2009, 27) and in early Irish literature it is said to have been the royal seat of Queen Maeve in the Táin Bó Cúailgne (O'Connor 2008). Other Iron Age activity can be seen in the north-east of the county where the large linear earthwork known as the Doon of Drumsna is located close to the River Shannon, where the river forms the boundary with County Leitrim (Condit and Buckley 1997, 7). The main portion of the defence is formed by a large earthen

rampart of staggering proportions (*ibid*.) and the Doon would have functioned with its entrances controlling the flow of human and other traffic (*ibid*, 10).

3.3 Discussion and Conclusion

Two small pits, one of which was dated to the Iron Age (AD 20–220), were identified at Teevnacreeva 1. The pits both contained charcoal-rich clay and the pit which returned the Iron Age date contained burnt bone. This was tentatively identified as a possible cremation pit however specialist analysis by Maeve Tobin of IAC can confirmed that the burnt bone was most likely to be animal. This conforms to the analysis and interpretation undertaken by Headland Archaeology (Doyle 2009). With this in mind it is concluded that this was a small cooking pit and not a cremation.

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<u>www.osi.ie</u> – Ordnance Survey aerial photographs (1995, 2000 & 2005) and historic OS mapping (first edition 6" and 25")

APPENDIX 1 CATALOGUE OF PRIMARY DATA

Appendix 1.1 Context Register

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds
1	N/A	Site	Site	0.36m	Topsoil of site - pastureland, easily waterlogged	Loose grey-brown peaty clay	None
2	N/A	Site	Site	N/A	Glacially deposited natural subsoil underlying the entire area	Very compact light grey sandy silty clay	N/A
3	N/A	1.06	0.54	0.17	Cut of pit	Sub-oval in plan. North-west–south-east orientated. Rounded corners with sharp break of slope	N/A
4	3	1.06	0.54	0.17	Fill of pit	Friable grey -black silty clay with a high charcoal content. Some burnt bone content	None
5	N/A	0.81	0.61	0.16	Cut of pit	Irregular sub-circular shaped cut. Rounded corners except at north end. Shallower at the north end	N/A
6	5	0.81	0.61	0.16	Fill of pit, possibly associated with pit C3	Moderately compact grey peaty silt with some charcoal inclusions	None

Note: All archives and ecofacts are currently in storage with IAC Ltd at The Library, Chapel Street, Lismore, Co. Waterford awaiting final submission to facilities at the National Museum of Ireland.

Appendix 1.2 Finds Register

No finds were recovered at Teevnacreeva 1

Appendix 1.3 Catalogue of Samples

Sample No.	Context No.	Sample type:	Sample volume (I) / weight (g)	Description of context	Sieving result (g)
1	14	Charcoal & burnt bone		Cooking / cremation pit	5.9g charcoal and 54.5g bone
2	16	Charcoal & soil	201	Pit assoc cooking / cremation pit	No result

Appendix 1.4 Photograph Register

Photo number	Context #	Direction	Туре	Comments
1	C5	Facing East	Section	Pit
2	C5	Facing East	Post-ex	Pit
3	C5	Facing North	Post-ex	Pit
4	C3	Facing North	Post-ex	Pit

Appendix 1.5 Plan Register and Section Register

Drawing No.	Plan/ Sections	Description	Scale
1	01:01	Section of C3,C4	01:10
	01:02	Section of C5, C6	01:10
	01:03	Post-ex plan of C3	01:20
	01:04	Post-ex plan of C5	01:20

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

Appendix 2.1 Analysis of the Burnt Bone from Teevnacreeva 1 – Maeve Tobin

Osteological Report on burnt bone from Teevnacreeva 1, Co. Roscommon Maeve Tobin

1.1 Introduction

The following report details the osteological analysis of burnt bone recovered from a pit (C3) at Teevnacreeva 1 (Licence Ref.: 10E306). An unknown quantity of burnt bone was retrieved from the pit during testing and this was dated to AD 20–220 (SUERC-27344); the late Iron Age (Doyle 2009). Preliminary inspection of the bone identified it as possible animal bone (*ibid.*). The remaining half of the pit was excavated in August 2010 (Kyle and Delaney 2011) and 25.5g of burnt bone was retrieved at this time.

1.2 Methodology

Prior to analysis the burnt bone was removed from the surrounding matrix as part of post-excavation processing. The sample was sieved through laboratory-grade stack sieves of 2mm, 5mm and 10mm diameter mesh and the material from each sieve was weighed to the nearest 0.1g. Once sieved and weighed as complete samples the material was examined macroscopically. An attempt was made to identify the bone to species and the four main skeletal regions, i.e. skull, trunk, upper limb, lower limb and also unidentified long bone.

2 Analysis Results

A total of 107 fragments (25.5g) of burnt bone, retrieved from the fill C4 of pit C3, were presented for analysis. The sample of bone was heavily fragmented. Only three fragments of bone (4.1g) measured greater than 10mm. These were identified as fragments of cranial vault and long bone belonging to the mammal animal species. A total of 48 fragments (16.4g) of bone measured between 5–10mm. These could not be identified to species or skeletal elements, but appeared be animal bone. The remaining 56 fragments (5g) of burnt bone measured less 5mm. None of this material could be identified to species or skeletal element. All of the bone appeared to have been exposed to a sufficient temperature (i.e. above 600°C) so as to completely oxidise the bone.

3 Conclusions

A total of 107 fragments (25.5g) of burnt bone, retrieved from the fill C4 of pit C3, were presented for analysis. Although the majority of the bone was unidentifiable three fragments of cranial vault and long bone were identified as belonging to the mammal animal species. As such it is likely that the sample represents well burnt animal bone.

4 References

Doyle, T. 2009 N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass Scheme, Co. Roscommon, Report on Archaeological Testing of Areas G-P (09E476). Unpublished report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd. for Roscommon County Council.

Kyle, J. and Delaney, S. 2011 Teevnacreeva 1 (10E306) Post Excavation Assessment Report. Unpublished report prepared by IAC Ltd for Roscommon County Council.

APPENDIX 3 GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

Access Road A new private/public road provided for access to lands

where previous access has been cut off by road

development

Barrow Circular burial monument of the Bronze Age and Iron

Age with a central area defined by a ditch and an

external bank

Bivallate Two sets of ramparts

Bronze Age c. 2400–800 BC the introduction of metallurgy in

Ireland. A time of technological, social and economic

development and change

Cairn Mound composed of stones, sometimes with internal

structures; usually a burial monument, but sometimes

used as a memorial

Cashel A ringfort with stone instead of earthen banks

Cist Pits lined with stone flags containing a burial

Code of Practice The Code of Practice is an agreement between the

Minister (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government) and the National Roads Authority acting on behalf of the Authority and the local authorities in relation to archaeology and the

development of national roads

Chainage Road scheme centreline distance in metres from

scheme start point to finish, in this case south to north

Context No The individual number used to record a feature

uncovered in an archaeological excavation.

CPO Compulsory Purchase Order used to compulsorily

acquire land required for the development, in this case

a road

Cropmark Where buried features such as ditches or walls affect

the covering soil and alter the colour of the surface

vegetation and/or crop

Directions Under 2004 National Monuments (Amendment)Act

Section 14A(2) – any works of an archaeological nature that are carried out in respect of an approved road development shall be carried out in accordance with the directions of the Minister, which directions shall be issued following consultation by the Minister with the

Director of the National Museum of Ireland

DoEHLG Department of the Environment Heritage and Local

Government

Dún A ringfort, usually with earthen banks, but a name also

given to prehistoric ceremonial enclosures

Earthwork Any monument made entirely or largely of earth

Enclosure Any monument consisting of an enclosing feature, such

as a bank or a ditch, usually earthen, such as barrows

or ringforts.

Excavation Or resolution is an archaeological term and means the

manual and mechanical excavation by an archaeologist-led team with specific objectives with regard to information, preservation, recording, etc. of archaeological information. Its purpose is to fully

investigate archaeological deposits and features

Feature Archaeological feature, an artificial (man-made)

structure or cut or deposit

Field system Pattern of fields, now no longer in use, sometimes

visible as low earthworks and often associated with

medieval or earlier settlements

Fosse A ditch

Fulacht fiadh Bronze Age cooking site characterised by a crescentic

mound of burnt stone; usually built in damp areas, where the trench for cooking in would fill with water; usually found in groups and also referred to as Burnt

Mounds (plural: fulachta fiadh).

Geophysics A non-invasive survey method involving one or more of

the following; earth resistance, various types of

magnetometry and ground penetrating radar

Henge Large earthen embanked enclosure with an internal

ditch and external bank

Hillfort Large late Bronze Age/Iron Age defensive hilltop

enclosure defined by one or more large ramparts and

consisting of banks with external ditches

Holy well A natural spring or well associated with a saint or a

tradition of cures

In situ Archaeological features or artefacts found in their

original position in the ground

Iron Age Prehistoric period from c. 500 BC to c. AD 500. Also

described as the Celtic period, when influences from central Europe and Britain led to the adoption of the Celtic language and the development of an Irish style of

Celtic art.

Landtake The land acquired for the road development (see CPO)

Licencee An archaeologist qualified under the DoEHLG to direct

the excavation of archaeological sites

Lime kiln A stone and brick structure utilised for the burning of

lime. Mostly built in the 18th and 19th centuries when the burning of lime as an agricultural fertiliser was

widespread.

Megalithic tomb Literally 'large stone,' a Neolithic tomb

Mesolithic Prehistoric period from *c.* 7000–4000 BC

Moated site An Anglo-Norman defended homestead consisting of a

square or rectangular enclosure defined by a bank and a broad, flat-bottomed ditch; date to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries and often built in damp land in

order that the moat would fill with water

Motte and bailey An Anglo-Norman defensive structure consisting of a

large, steep-sided earthen mound – the motte – with a rectangular enclosure at the base – the bailey; date

from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries

Multivallate More than two sets of ramparts

National Monument A monument or the remains of a monument the

preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto.

NGR National Grid Reference

NMI National Museum of Ireland

Natural Sub soils located beneath the topsoil in which

archaeological features are located

Neolithic Pertaining to the New Stone Age c. 4000–2500 BC,

when agriculture and cattle husbandry was developed

in Ireland

Occupation site A settlement site; the term is usually used to indicate a

prehistoric site

OS Ordnance Survey

Passage tomb Megalithic tomb dating to the Neolithic characterised by

an oval or circular mound, kerbing, and a passage, often terminating with a chamber in which cremated

burials were placed; often situated on hilltops

Rath A ringfort, usually with earthen banks, or any circular

enclosure

Raheen Small fort

Resolution See excavation above

Ring barrow Barrow with raised or domed central area

Ring ditch Barrow with flat or dished central area

Ringfort Early Christian (c. AD 500 to 1100) defended secular

settlement consisting of a bank and external ditch defining a central circular area that contained dwelling structures of occupants; also called fairy fort, rath, lios, or cashel (the latter constructed of stone as opposed to

earth)

RMP Record of Monuments and Places – a list of

monuments and places and accompanying maps complied by the State. Sites designated an RMP are subject to statutory protection under the National

Monuments Act.

Roadtake The outer edge of the road including any embankment.

Souterrain Underground passages, probably built for storage

purposes or possibly as temporary refuges; often

associated with ringforts

Standing stone Upright stone, usually single but sometimes in pairs

and groups. They can be shaped or natural and are usually dated to the Bronze Age but occasionally to the Neolithic. Used to mark routes, sacred areas,

boundaries or, occasionally, burials

Site Archaeological site – an individual or group of artefacts

and/or features in an area.

Test excavation A form of archaeological excavation where the purpose

is to establish the nature and extent of archaeological deposits and features present in a location that is proposed for development. Its purpose is not to fully

investigate those deposits or features.

Test trenching See Test excavation

Tower house Small castle, usually of three storeys, dating from the

14th to 16th centuries

Tumulus Burial mound composed of earth, sometimes with

internal structures

Uncoursed masonry Wall laid in a random form

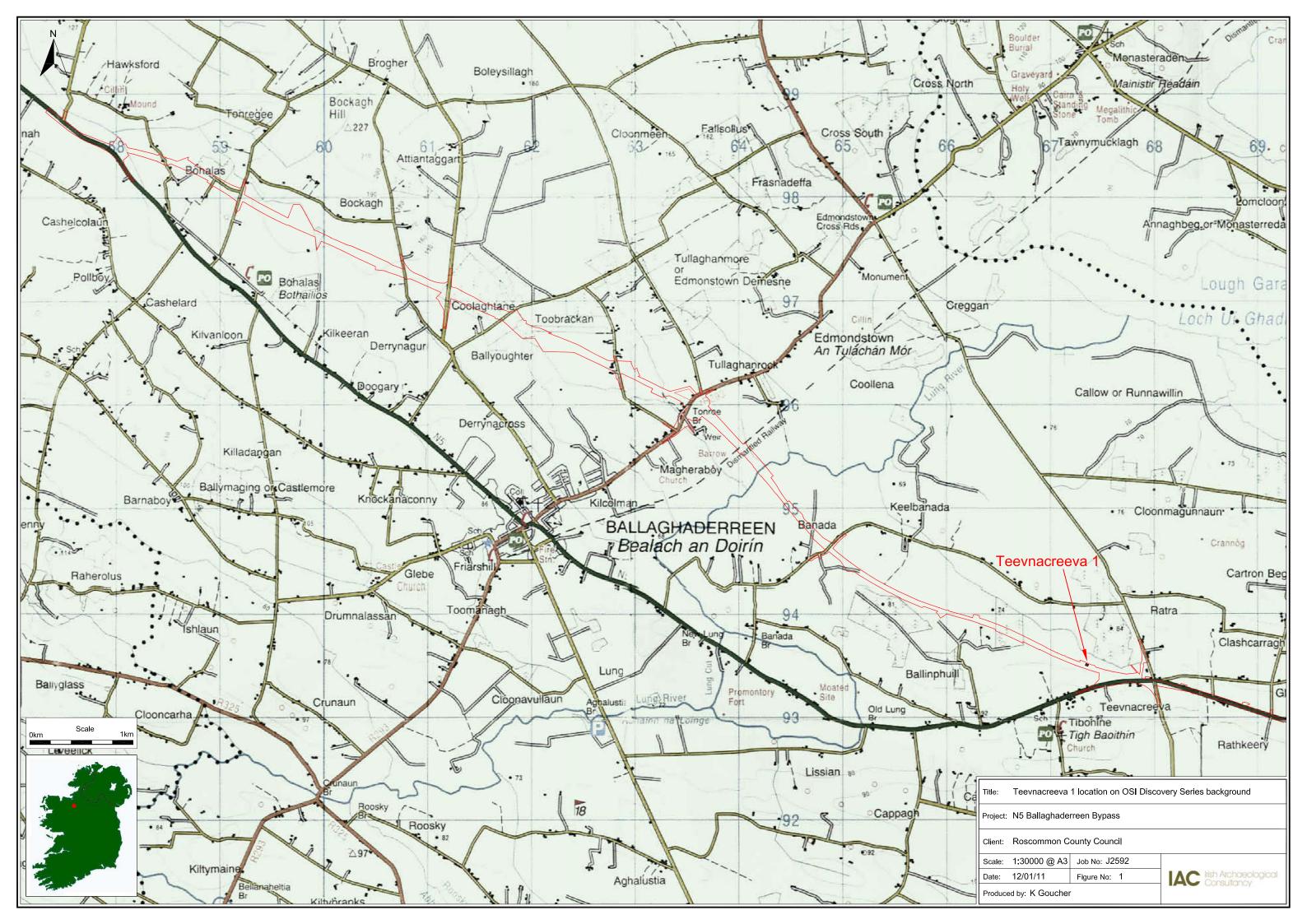
Univallate Single set of ramparts

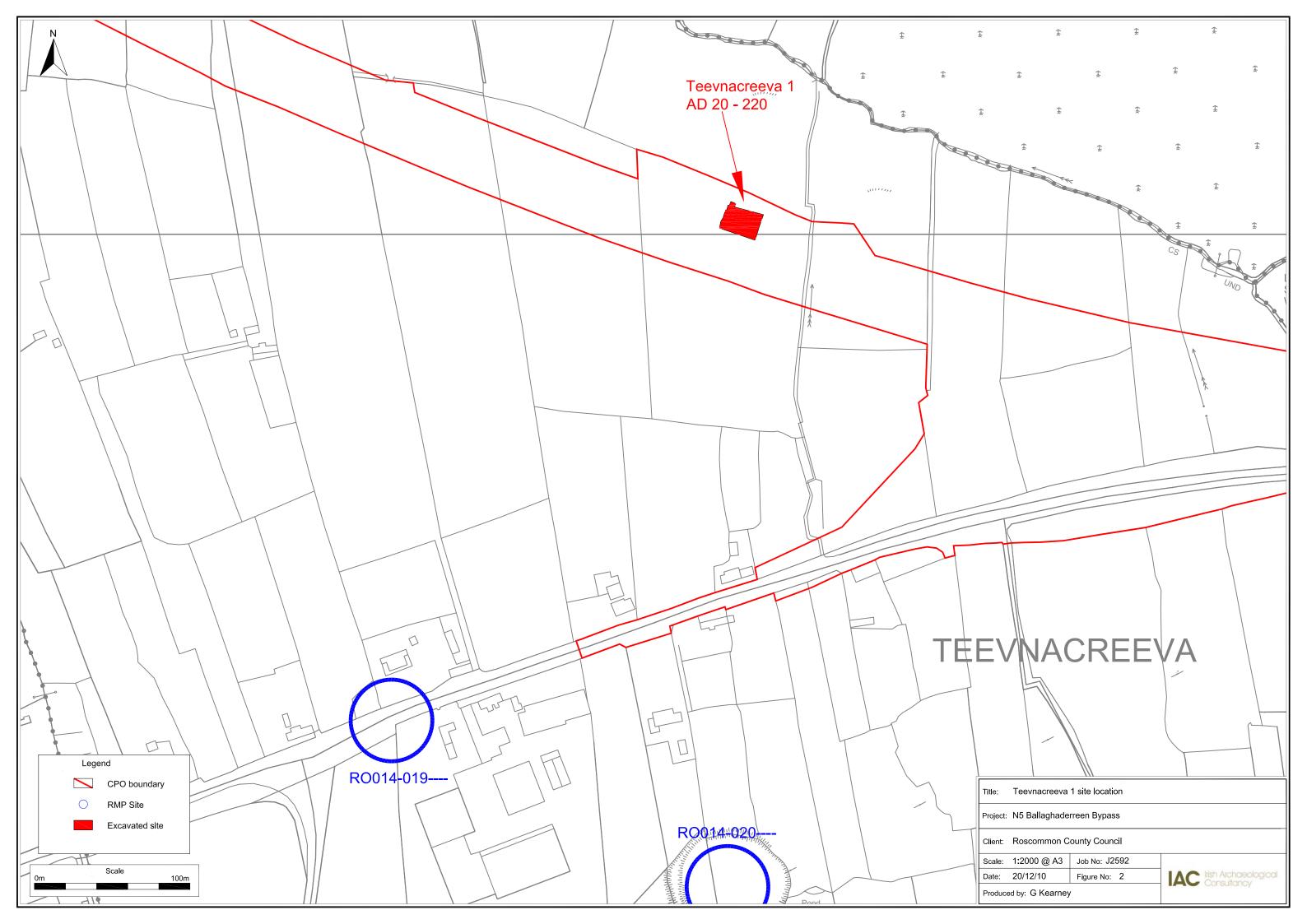
Zone of archaeological Potential

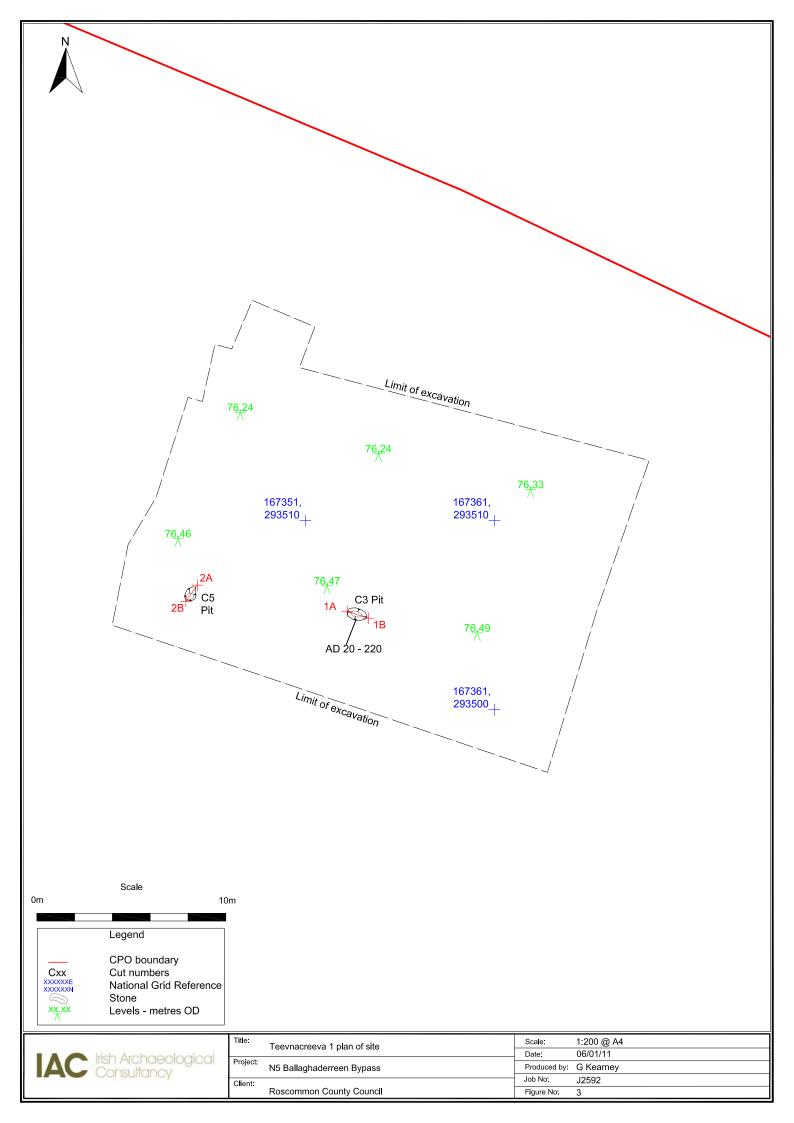
A buffer area around an archaeological site or monument where greatest potential exists for the recovery of archaeology associated with a site or monument

APPENDIX 4 COPY OF NRA DATABASE ENTRY

Database entry	Comment	
Excavation number	10E0306	
Townland	Teevnacreeva	
Site name	Teevnacreeva 1	
County	Roscommon	
Project reference	N/A	
Year of excavation	2010	
Grid reference (Easting)	167354	
Grid reference (Northing)	293507	
OD Height (m)	75m	
Landscape setting	The site was located c. 5km east of Ballaghaderreen	
	town and c. 2.2km south-east of the River Lung. The	
	surrounding topography comprises of relatively level	
	boggy fields and pockets of forestry.	
Project Archaeologist	Deirdre McCarthy	
Site Director	James Kyle	
Archaeological consultancy	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
Identification technique	1 0	
Site type	Two pits	
Site activity	Possible Cooking Pits	
Dating period	Iron Age	
Radiocarbon dates	SUERC 27344 Cal. AD 20–220 (2 sigma).	
Dendro-chronological dates	None	
Descriptions	The site at Teevnacreeva 1 comprised two charcoal-rich pit features one of which also contained burnt bone. Some of the burnt bone was dated to AD 20–220 a late Iron Age, during the testing phase – Stage (i) by Headland Archaeology (Doyle 2009). Further burnt bone samples were retrieved from the pit during the resolution phase – Stage (iii). Subsequent analysis of this bone has confirmed that it is most likely burnt animal bone. Therefore it is concluded that the pits at Teevnacreeva 1 are Iron Age cooking pits.	
Artefacts	None	
Environmental evidence	Environmental: unidentifiable burnt bone likely to be animal bone.	
Additional information	N/A	
Publication	Publication proposal submitted to client.	



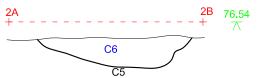


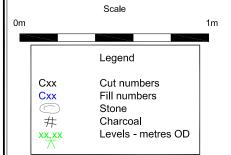


Southwest facing section of C3



Northwest facing section of C5







Title:	Teevnacreeva 1 sections	Scale:	1:20 @ A4
		Date:	11/01/11
Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	Produced by:	G Kearney
Client:		Job No:	J2592
	Roscommon County Council	Figure No:	4

Plates



Plate 1: Section of pit C5



Plate 2: Post-excavation view of pit C3