



National Roads
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EUROPEAN UNION
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M3 CLONEE – NORTH OF KELLS MOTORWAY SCHEME ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES CONTRACT 4 NAVAN TO KELLS AND KELLS BYPASS



**E3130: PHOENIXTOWN 3
MINISTERIAL DIRECTION REF. NO.: A029/**

FINAL REPORT

SUBMITTED TO MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL

10 NOVEMBER 2010

IAC Irish Archaeological
Consultancy

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Reference No.	MH 00 100
Project	M3 Clonee–North of Kells, Contract 4
Ministerial Direction Reference No.	A029
Excavation Registration Number	E3130
Excavation Director	Ed Lyne
Senior Archaeologist	Shane Delaney
Consultant	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, 120b Greenpark Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow.
Client	Meath County Council
Site Name	Phoenixtown 3
Site Type	Middle Bronze Age structure, medieval / post-medieval pits and linear ditches.
Townland	Phoenixtown
Parish	Martry
County	Meath
NGR (Easting)	279035
NGR (Northing)	271330
Chainage	63940 – 64060; 64120 – 64160
Height m OD	58m OD
RMP No.	N/A
Excavation Start Date	9 November 2006
Excavation Duration	67 days
Report Type	Final
Report Date	10 November 2010
Report By	Ed Lyne

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This final report has been prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd on behalf of Meath County Council and the National Roads Authority in advance of the construction of the M3 Clonee – North of Kells Motorway Scheme. This excavation has been carried out under Ministerial Direction to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG), in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland issued under Section 14 of the National Monuments Acts 1930–2004.

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ABSTRACT

This is a final report of an archaeological excavation at Phoenixtown 3 which was located on the route of the M3 Navan–Kells & Kells Bypass (Archaeological Services Contract 4) of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Motorway Scheme, County Meath. The excavation was carried out by Ed Lyne of Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd on behalf of Meath County Council and the National Roads Authority. The work was carried out under Ministerial Direction No. A029/012 and National Monuments Service (NMS) Excavation Registration No. E3130 which were received from the DoEHLG in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland. The fieldwork took place between 9 November 2006 – 9 February 2007.

A total area of 5500m² was opened around Phoenixtown 3 to reveal the archaeological features that were identified at the site during archaeological testing under licence 04E0923. This site was made up of two separate areas c. 70m apart on opposite slopes of a gentle hill, and on either side of a standing field boundary (Figures 1 and 2). Area A was to the south-east and Area B was to the north-west.

Area A was a very large area measuring approximately 100m x 45m, within which were some dispersed archaeological features with wide ranging dates. On the initial clean back some fragments of a middle Neolithic Broad-Rimmed Bowl were recovered from a topsoil context, however they do not appear to be related to the other finds from this area.

At the south-east end of the area a few possible postholes or pits were excavated, but produced no datable finds and were not arranged in any obvious pattern. Moving north-west from here, the next feature encountered was a modern ditch running east–west across the area, and dated securely by modern pottery finds.

Further north-west, more or less in the centre of the area opened, two very shallow and irregular pits were excavated which produced sherds of very finely decorated early Bronze Age food vessel pottery and returned a date range of 1745–1628 BC.

Further to the north-west the final set of features encountered in Area A consisted of a narrow and shallow ditch running east–west across the site, terminating in a series of large pits to its eastern end. What few finds were encountered in these features appeared to be medieval in date, and consisted of various sherds of pottery. A date returned from one of the pits suggests that some of these features were in fact post-medieval however, and therefore they post-date the established medieval activity at Phoenixtown 2, c. 150m away to the south-east (Plate 3).

Area B consisted of a circle of postholes flanked by curvilinear gullies, and with an entrance to the south-east. This structure measured 10m in diameter. The interior of the structure was divided by a cluster of 40 stakeholes which may have served as a partition dividing the interior from the entrance area. A series of dates from the structure ranged from between c. 1500–1300 BC, and point to a likely construction date of between 1450 and 1400 BC. Also uncovered was a linear pit or ditch c. 14m in length and 2m wide running north–south situated 11m to the south-east of the entrance to the structure. Both the linear feature and a number of the postholes that defined the structure produced numerous sherds of middle Bronze Age domestic pottery. Other finds included a bowl shaped stone recovered from the fill of a pit inside the entrance, which may have been a mortar although it showed little sign of ware (E3130:1048:1). A possible saddle quern fragment was also found in topsoil during cleaning back, although if this is a saddle quern it has only been minimally

used. A small number of flints were recovered from the site, with the bulk of the assemblage consisting of flint debitage recovered during soil processing of fill C1115 of pit C1110.

In conclusion, Phoenixtown 3 consisted of two separate areas of archaeological activity, on opposite slopes of a gentle hill, and on either side of a standing field boundary. Area A comprised a series of features of wide ranging dates, early Bronze Age, medieval and post-medieval. These features were either poorly defined or of relatively little archaeological interest. Conversely, Area B consisted of a coherent series of significant prehistoric features.

A well-defined circular structure and associated settlement activity excavated at Phoenixtown 3B, comprised a middle Bronze Age residence of some archaeological significance, certainly at a local level. Along with other middle Bronze Age structures excavated on the M3 at Boyerstown 3, Grange 3 and Kilmainham 1A it adds greatly to our knowledge of the settlement pattern and population level of this region during that period. Furthermore, in addition to the two houses excavated at Grange 3 it expands southward the distribution of Carlin's Type B middle Bronze Age roundhouse, previously only recorded at Corrstown, Co Antrim (Conway, Gahan and Rathbone, 2004/2005) and at Cappagh Beg, Co Derry (Linnane, 2003), (Carlin 2006, 22).

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1 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of the archaeological excavation of Phoenixtown 3 carried out in the townland of Phoenixtown, Co. Meath (Figures 1–4) as part of an archaeological mitigation program completed under Archaeological Services Contract 4 for the M3 Navan–Kells & Kells Bypass, which forms part of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Motorway Scheme, County Meath. Archaeological fieldwork was directed by Ed Lyne of Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd (IAC) under Ministerial Direction No. A029/012 and NMS Registration No. E3130. The work described here was funded by the Department of Transport under the National Development Plans 2000–2006 and 2007–2013 as part of the Transport 21 initiative. The total archaeological cost is administered by the National Roads Authority through Meath County Council. Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd was appointed by Meath County Council to undertake the works following a public procurement process.

1.1 Background to the Proposed Development

The M3 Clonee–North of Kells Motorway Scheme involves construction of 49km of two-lane, dual-carriageway motorway between Clonee and Kells and 10km of single carriageway from Kells to Carnaross, north of Kells, along with additional road upgrades, realignments and associated ancillary works. For the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment and the subsequent archaeological investigations the scheme was subdivided into five separate sections as follows: Clonee to Dunshaughlin (Contract 1), Dunshaughlin–Navan (Contract 2), the Navan Bypass (Contract 3) Navan to Kells (Contract 4) and Kells to North of Kells (Contract 5). This section of the scheme incorporates 11.1km along the N3 Navan–Kells Road and 3.8km of the N52 Kells Bypass.

The archaeological components of the Environmental Impact Statement published in 2002 were carried out by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd (VJK) and Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd (MGL) in 2000–2001. This included desk based studies and field surveys of each section (VJK – Sections 1 & 3 and MGL – Sections 2, 4 & 5). Additionally on behalf of Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd geophysical survey was undertaken on the Dunshaughlin–Navan section and at Nugentstown on the Navan–Kells section by GSB Prospection (2000 & 2001). These studies carried out as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment were augmented by further geophysical survey conducted by Bartlett-Clark Consultancy on the remainder of the scheme (2002).

Advance archaeological testing was completed by ACS and Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd (IAC) in 2004 (ACS – Sections 1–3 and IAC Sections 4–5). Excavation of the sites identified during testing was conducted by ACS and IAC between 2005 and 2008 (ACS Sections 1–3 & 5 and IAC Section 4).

The archaeological requirements for the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Motorway Scheme are set out in the Archaeological Directions issued to Meath County Council by the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government under Section 14A (2) of the National Monuments Acts 1930 – 2004 and in the terms of the contract between Meath County Council and Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. These documents form the basis of all archaeological works undertaken for this development. The excavations at Phoenixtown 3 were carried out in accordance with the written method statement submitted for approval to the Project Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service and National Museum of Ireland in accordance with the provisions of the Ministerial Directions and the terms of the contract.

All features identified during the assessment phase were subsequently re-identified and the site was fully excavated during the resolution phase of the scheme which took place between 9 November 2006 – 9 February 2007.

Phoenixtown 3 was located in the townland of Phoenixtown, c. 6.3km south-east from Kells town and c. 2km south of the current N3 (County Meath OS sheet 24). The topography from Navan to Kells is generally flat and gently undulating lowland. The area is characterised by a patchwork pattern of high quality agricultural fields as well as developed hedgerows. Phoenixtown 3A was situated in the north-west corner of a rectangular field, while Phoenixtown 3B was located in the eastern part of the square field adjoining to the west. Phoenixtown 3 was c. 400m east of a crossing point on a tributary of the River Martry and c. 300m south of a dismantled railway.

The site was assigned the following identification data:

Site Name: Phoenixtown 3; Ministerial Direction Number: A029; Excavation Registration Number: E3130; Route Chainage (Ch): 63940 – 64060; 64120 – 64160, NGR: 279035/271330.

1.2 Previous Archaeological Work

1.2.1 EIS

An archaeological assessment of the proposed corridor for Contract 4 of the M3 Navan–Kells & Kells Bypass, which in turn forms part of the proposed M3 Clonee–North of Kells Motorway Scheme was included within an Environmental Impact Statement, which was published in February 2002 (Gowen 2002). This identified 12 RMP sites that would be directly affected by the proposed road development and highlighted a number of areas of archaeological potential.

The Environmental Impact Assessment recorded the following archaeological sites and areas of archaeological potential within 500m of Site Phoenixtown 3:

RMP site directly impacted by the proposed route:

- The townland of Phoenixtown is referred to in the EIS as the proposed road travels c. 500m south of recorded monument ME017:038 a rectangular cross base 0.83m x 0.9m which stands atop a mound 1m in height and c. 4m in diameter.

Field walking and an aerial survey for the EIA revealed the following areas of archaeological potential:

- A crossing point of the River Martry (a tributary of the River Blackwater) is located c. 400m west of Phoenixtown 3. The archaeological significance of the River Blackwater is well attested in the archaeological record. Rivers have acted as focal points for settlement through all periods of human settlement, and it is possible, particularly in green-field areas that prehistoric settlement activity may come to light.

1.2.2 Geophysical Survey

A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken in May to July 2002. The survey phases were as follows:

Phase 1:	Magnetometry of 9m blocks within each 20m strip of ground, giving 45% coverage of each 20m block.
Phase 2:	A magnetic susceptibility reading at 12.5m intervals along the magnetometry transects.

Bartlett-Clark Consultancy undertook a geophysical survey of the test area containing Site Phoenixtown 3 under licence No. 02R058. Any potential archaeological anomalies worth investigation were highlighted within the report. Fourteen test trenches were excavated across geophysical anomalies to assess the extent, character and condition of any such below-ground archaeological remains (see Section 1.2.3). In all cases the location of the geophysical trenches were surveyed in by GPS to ensure the accuracy of the testing exercise.

A summary of the results is as follows:

The results show a small number of individual pit like magnetic anomalies at Phoenixtown 3 (in fields 3016D and 3016E) (Bartlett 2002, 8).

Additional geophysical survey was undertaken by Target Archaeological Geophysics at Phoenixtown 3 in May 2006 under Ministerial Direction No. A029/049 (Nicholls 2006). A total of 0.8ha of detailed gradiometer survey was undertaken (Figure 5).

A summary of the results are as follows.

Survey at Phoenixtown 3 recorded the remains of a probable former field system, adjacent to which a number of possible pit type features and short ditch lengths were also identified. Two discrete pit type anomalies of possible interest were recorded from survey over Area B. No further anomalies of significant archaeological interest were recorded. Numerous weak and ill-defined linear trends were recorded throughout. Whilst these may be of possible archaeological interest, they are generally at the limits of instrument detection and therefore interpretation remains uncertain. A natural and / or agricultural origin is suggested. Remains of former cultivation are apparent throughout much of the area from survey of Areas A and B.

1.2.3 Testing

Phoenixtown 3 was identified as a result of archaeological assessment undertaken by IAC Ltd. in 2005. The site was located within Test Area 4 of Contract 4 (Keith 2005). Testing at the site revealed a number of features thought to represent possible prehistoric occupation activity. Site 3A comprised an oval pit and a curvilinear feature. The curvilinear feature measured 2.2m x 1.7m x 0.22m and had a lower fill consisting of burnt clay. The upper fill contained one sherd of probable Bronze Age pottery. Phoenixtown 3A consisted of a number of dispersed possible pits.

1.2.4 Test Pit Assessment

A programme of test-pit excavation was undertaken across the site under Ministerial Direction No. A029/042. This was undertaken to further assess the potential for finds in the topsoil prior to removal of topsoil across the site. This involved the hand excavation of 16 no. 1m² pits through topsoil to the interface between topsoil and natural subsoil and/or archaeological deposits (Figure 5). The excavated soil was placed on a sieve and manually sorted for the retrieval of finds. A total of 14 chert and flint objects; 18 pottery sherds, one metal object and two clay pipes were recovered. These items were allocated NMI registration numbers and are listed in section 2.9 of this report.

1.3 Methodology

The methodology adopted was in accordance with the approved Method Statement. The topsoil was removed to the interface between natural and topsoil using a 20 tonne mechanical excavator equipped with a flat toothless bucket under strict archaeological supervision across an area measuring 5500m². The remaining topsoil was removed by the archaeological team with the use of shovels, hoes and trowels in order to expose and identify the archaeological remains. A site grid was set up at

10m intervals and was subsequently tied in to the national grid using GPS survey equipment.

All archaeological features were fully excavated by hand and recorded on *pro forma* record sheets using a variant of the single context recording system with plans and sections being recorded at a scale of 1:50, 1:20 or 1:10 as appropriate.

A complete photographic record was maintained throughout the excavation. Digital photographs were taken of all features and of work in progress. These photographs were supplemented by specialist aerial photography.

An environmental strategy was devised at the beginning of the excavation which consisted of a combination of targeted and random bulk sampling. This ensured that noticeably rich contexts were sampled, but also allowed for samples where environmental remains may not have been obvious. Features exhibiting large amounts of carbonised material such as pits were the primary targets as well as structural stakeholes and postholes.

All artefacts uncovered on site were dealt with in accordance with the guidelines as issued by the NMI and where warranted in consultation with the relevant specialists. All artefacts, ecofacts and paper archive are currently stored in IAC's facility in Lismore, Co Waterford and will ultimately be deposited with the National Museum of Ireland.

All dating of samples from the site was carried out by means of AMS (Accelerator Mass Spectrometry) Radiocarbon Dating of identified and recommended charcoal, charred plant remains and bone samples. All calibrated radiocarbon dates in this report are quoted to two Sigma. Dating of the site also involved pottery analysis through typological study.

All excavation and post excavation works were carried out in accordance with the relevant approvals and in consultation and agreement with the National Roads Authority (NRA) Project Archaeologist, the National Monuments Section of the DoEHLG and the National Museum of Ireland. Where necessary licences to alter and export archaeological objects were sought from the National Museum of Ireland.

Final Report Date Ranges

The following date ranges for Irish prehistory and medieval periods are used for all final reports for the M3 Contract 4 excavations.

Mesolithic: 7000–4000 BC

Neolithic: 4000–2500 BC

Early Bronze Age: 2500–1700 BC

Middle Bronze Age: 1700–1200 BC

Late Bronze Age: 1200–800 BC

Iron Age: 800 BC–AD 500

Early medieval period: AD 500–1100

Medieval period: AD 1100–1600

Post-medieval: AD 1600–1800

Source:

Carlin, N., Clarke, L. & Walsh, F. 2008 *The M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway: The Archaeology of Life and Death on the Boyne Floodplain*. NRA Monograph Series No. 2, Wordwell, Bray.

2 EXCAVATION RESULTS

Phoenix town 3 comprised two separate areas which were c. 70m apart. This report deals with the phases of activity in Areas A and B separately.

Area A

Three phases of activity were identified in Area A and the earliest of these was represented by two small pits and one pit / posthole dated to the early / middle Bronze Age (1745–1628 BC). The majority of excavated features in Area A were medieval (Phase 2) and included pits and a number of linear ditch features. Undated pits, postholes, stakeholes and spreads may also have belonged to this phase of activity. Phase 3 consisted of post medieval linear ditches and furrows.

Area B

The focus of activity in Area B was a middle Bronze Age circular post and slot built structure c. 10m in diameter with an entrance facing to the south-east and a large oblong pit group c. 11m from the entrance. A series of dates from the structure ranged between c. 1500–1300 BC.

2.1 Natural Geology

The overburden in this area of the proposed route consists of stiff silts overlying glacial till. Bedrock is likely to be found c. 5 m below ground level and to consist of limestone. Generally, the area surrounding Kells is characterised by relatively low ice marginal ridges, eskers, and kame and kettle topography (Finch *et al.* 1983; Meehan 1996) dominated by sand and gravel units. Overall, this area is very hummocky with some interspersed peat bogs and badly drained hollows (Meehan 1999).

The natural subsoil under the site was a very sandy yellow/green silty sand. It was more yellow at the north and east and more gravelly at the south and the west.

PHOENIX TOWN 3A

2.2 Phase 1: Early Bronze Age activity

Two small pits and one pit / posthole were located in the western part of Area A

2.2.1 Pits /Postholes C100, C147, C148

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C99	C100	0.67	0.5	0.2	Loose, mid brown black clay silt.	Fill of pit / posthole.
C100	N/A	0.67	0.5	0.2	Round, irregular sides, flat base.	Cut of pit / posthole.
C137	C147	0.38	0.36	0.06	Firm medium brown sandy clay.	Fill of small pit.
C145	C148	0.47	0.45	0.04	Medium loose brownish grey silty clay.	Upper fill of shallow pit.
C147	N/A	0.38	0.36	0.06	Oval, concave sides, flat base.	Cut of small pit.
C148	N/A	0.47	0.45	0.08	Sub circular, concave sides, irregular base.	Cut of pit.
C149	C148	0.43	0.4	0.06	Medium, loose black grey clay silt.	Layer.
C150	C148	0.35	>0.35	0.07	Medium, loose brownish grey silty clay.	Basal fill of pit.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C99	E3130:99:1	Flint	Prehistoric	Utilised: cutting tool
C137	E3130:137:1–5	Pottery	EBA	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel
C145	E3130:145:1–2	Pottery	EBA	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel
C149	E3130:149:1–11	Pottery	EBA	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel

Interpretation:

There were three clearly prehistoric features on Phoenixtown 3A, all located at the western part of the site (Figure 7). Two of the features, pits C147 and C148, produced 13 sherds and several pottery crumbs from a single early Bronze Age vase food vessel (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1) while the third feature (C100) was a possible pit or posthole.

C100 was almost circular and was filled with mid brown-black clay silt with frequent inclusions of charcoal (C99). A long thin blade with a shattered platform and missing tip was recovered from this context. It had been used for cutting and may have been hafted (E3130:99:1) (Nelis, Appendix 2.3) (Figure 13).

The pits excavated showed possible evidence of burning, in the form of rich inclusions of charcoal, however there was no evidence of scorching or *in situ* burning. The charcoal could have been deliberately deposited here, or it could simply have washed in accidentally.

Pit C148 was sub-circular and contained three fills (C145, C149 and C150) of which C150 was the primary fill. Fill C150 was quite a loose brown-grey silty clay with some inclusions of charcoal flecks, it was deposited along the north-west part of the base of the pit and could be interpreted as a base fill from a possible fire. On top of C150 was C149 a black-grey charcoal stained clay silt with frequent inclusions of medium to small charcoal fragments. This fill represented the remains of the possible fire and was scattered with early Bronze Age vase food vessel pottery fragments. It also produced a carbonised hazelnut shell. The upper fill of pit C148 (C145) contained two further sherds of early Bronze Age vase food vessel pottery (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1). The interface between fill C145 and fill C150 was very mottled which might suggest that the top layer C145 could have been used for covering the fire, thus explaining the mix of the two layers at the interface. The north-west edge of fill C150 was partially cut by a modern furrow C188.

Pit C147 was a small oval-shaped shallow pit with one fill, C137 (Plate 4). The fill was a firm mid brown sandy clay with a moderate amount of charcoal inclusions. Analysis has shown this charcoal to be mainly hazel (*Corylus avellana*), with some oak (*Quercus* sp.) and *Prunus* type (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5).

Both pits C147 and C148 were very shallow and unimpressive apart from the finely decorated pottery which was retrieved from their fills. The two pits were located approximately 1.5m apart and there was no clear connection between these features and posthole C100 other than relative proximity. This posthole was some 10m from the pits to the north-west which in the scale of the site was relatively close.

A fragment (0.3g) of charred hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) was identified from a sample of fill C137 of shallow pit C147. This hazelnut shell sample was chosen for AMS dating and returned an AMS result of 3393 \pm 24 BP (UBA 11110). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1745–1628 BC (Appendix 2.8), dating this feature to middle Bronze Age.

2.3 Phase 2: Medieval Activity

The majority of excavated features in Area A were medieval in date and included a number of linear ditch features and a variety of pits that may have been associated with this phase of activity.

2.3.1 Medieval Pits C182 and C451

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C181	C182	2.8	0.9	0.57	Medium, grey clay.	Main fill of pit.
C182	N/A	3	1.2	0.46	Oval/rectangular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of large pit.
C183	C182	2.9	0.6	0.2	Loose, green grey sand.	Fill of pit.
C185	C182	3	0.32	0.52	Loose to medium, green grey sand.	Fill of pit.
C450	C451	0.98	0.5	0.2	Medium, loose grey sandy silt.	Fill of pit.
C451	N/A	0.98	0.5	0.2	Oval, steep sides, concave base.	Small oval pit.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

These features were interpreted as being medieval because they were inter-cutting other features that were shown to be medieval based on finds recovered from them, and it is likely that they were related. They consisted of two pits in the northern half of Area A. Pit C451 was a small oval pit (Figures 7 and 9) with a medium compacted fill C450 consisting of grey sandy silt and inclusions of stone and charcoal. It was located under ditch C167 and it is a possibility that the pit was dug at the bottom of the ditch while the ditch was still in use, though it may also pre-date ditch C167.

Pit C182 was a large sub-oval pit (Figures 7 and 9), located along the line of medieval ditch C71 and again it is likely to be related to this ditch, although it could not be shown conclusively that it did not pre-date this ditch as the fills were very similar. Pit C182 contained three fills (C181, C183 and C185) none of which give any indication as to what the pit could have been used for. The primary fills C183 and C185 consisted of green grey sand and are very similar to one another. They were possibly formed by natural silting during a period of disuse. The upper and main fill of the pit consisted of grey clay.

2.3.2 Medieval Linear Features

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C61	C71	28	1.36	0.28	Moderate firm brown silty clay.	Fill of ditch.
C71	N/A	28	1.36	0.28	Linear, sloping sides, flat base.	Cut of ditch.
C155	C156	>30	0.48	0.18	Moderate firm, mid brown silty soil.	Fill of possible furrow.
C156	N/A	>30	0.48	0.18	Linear, sloping sides, concave base.	Cut of possible furrow.
C163	C167	11	1.25	0.35	Firm, red brown clay with no inclusions.	Fill of re-cut.
C167	N/A	11	1.25	0.35	Linear, gradual sloping sides and base.	Cut of ditch.
C168	C169	5.5	0.4	0.3	Medium firm, red brown clay silt.	Fill of furrow.
C169	N/A	5.5	0.4	0.3	Linear, near vertical sides, concave base.	Cut of furrow.
C180	C184	3	0.85	0.18	Linear, medium firm brown grey clay silt.	Fill of shallow ditch/pit.
C184	N/A	3	0.85	0.18	Linear, sides are sharp, concave base.	Cut of small linear.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C61	E3130:61:1	Nail	Unknown	Badly corroded, square shaft
C61	E3130:61:2	Pottery	13–14th Century	Local type fine ware
C61	E3130:61:3	Flint	Prehistoric	Utilised: cutting tool

Interpretation:

Ditch C71 was a long linear ditch running east–west through the site, filled by C61 (Figures 7 and 9; Plate 5). The fill consisted of firm brown silt clay with no inclusions. The ditch cut three linear features (C56, C169, and C184).

A possible earlier re-cut of C71 was ditch C167 running east–west (Figure 9). It contained no finds or any other indication for what the ditch could have been used for. Drainage might have been a possible function for the ditch but it was difficult to tell as the ditch had been heavily truncated. A single sherd of 13–14th Century pottery was recovered from C61 (Doyle, Appendix 2.2) as well as an undated badly corroded nail (MacDermott, Appendix 2.4.1) and a flint cutting tool (Nelis, Appendix 2.3).

The fill of C71 (C61), had several pit like features cut into it. Many of the features contained several fills and many of them had rich charcoal inclusions and evidence of *in situ* burning. Ditch C71 ran parallel to two larger ditches on Phoenixtown 2 (C52 and C64) which was located c. 150m south-east of Phoenixtown 3A (Lyne 2010a) (Plate 3). These three ditches, C71 on Phoenixtown 3A and C52 and C64 on Phoenixtown 2 had their fills cut by pit like features that were rich in charcoal and contained evidence of *in situ* burning. A possible explanation for this might be that the ditches were used to burn waste in on different occasions.

2.3.3 Other Possible Associated Features

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C60	C106	2.6	2	0.32	Moderate firm, grey silty clay.	Fill of pit.
C78	C81	1.8	1.4	0.12	Soft, brown red clay silt.	Fill of pit.
C79	C94	0.96	0.6	0.08	Soft, dark red brown clay silt.	Top fill of small pit.
C80	C81	1.5	1.1	0.05	Soft black grey mix silt clay, 30% charcoal.	Fill of pit.
C81	N/A	1.8	1.4	0.17	Sub-oval, gradual sides, flat base.	Cut of pit.
C82	C89	3.2	1.2	0.2	Soft, greyish light brown silty clay.	Fill of linear.
C89	N/A	3.2	1.2	0.2	Linear, gradual sloping sides, flat base.	Cut of linear feature.
C93	C94	0.87	0.45	0.08	Soft, red brown silt clay.	Fill of pit.
C94	N/A	0.96	0.6	0.16	Sub-rectangle, sloping sides, concave base	Cut of pit.
C106	N/A	2.6	2	0.32	Sub-oval, sloping sides and flat base.	Cut of pit.
C132	N/A	0.8	0.55	0.07	Irregular, gradual sides, concave base.	Cut of probable fire pit.
C133	C132	0.8	0.55	0.07	Loose black silty soil with 65% charcoal.	Charcoal rich fill of pit.
C157	C158	1	0.9	0.1	Medium loose, brown clay silt.	Upper fill of pit.
C158	N/A	1.3	1.2	0.15	Circular, concave base.	Cut of pit.
C159	C158	0.75	0.65	0.02	Loose, black charcoal layer.	Fill of pit.
C160	C158	0.9	0.7	0.1	Medium compaction grey silt, possibly ash.	Fill of pit.
C172	N/A	4	2.3	0.23	Oval, sloping sides, flat base.	Cut of pit.
C173	C172	4	2.3	0.23	Medium loose dark brown silt clay.	Fill of pit.
C174	C175	1.52	1.27	0.24	Firm, light grey brown silt clay.	Fill of pit.
C175	N/A	1.52	1.27	0.24	Sub-oval, sloping sides, concave base.	Cut of pit.
C176	C172	0.7	0.6	0.05	Hard compact, red black soil.	Fill of pit.
C177	C178	4.5	1.15	0.3	Firm, yellow brown mottled sandy clay.	Fill of ditch/furrow.
C178	N/A	4.5	1.15	0.3	Linear, irregular sides, flat base.	Cut of ditch.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C60	E3130:60:1–3	Pottery	12–13th Century	Local type ware
C82	E3130:82:1–2	Iron	Unknown	Badly corroded
C173	E3130:173:1	Iron	Unknown	Badly corroded

Interpretation:

A number of small shallow pits were cut into C61 the fill of ditch C71 (Figure 7). They were all very shallow and contained charcoal deposits with some showing signs of *in situ* burning. It is probable that they in some way were associated with small scale rubbish burning.

Two of the pits C172 and C94 contained evidence of *in situ* burning. The primary fill C93 of pit C94 showed a layer of burnt silty clay. The clay was sealed by a layer of dark red brown clay silt C79. Pit C172 contained two fills (C176 and C173). It was cut by C175 (fill C174), which was possibly a modern feature, it contained no charcoal, no burning and the only artefact recovered was a badly corroded nail (Mac Dermott, Appendix 2.4.1).

The other pits C81 (fills C80, C78), C122 (fill C123), C132 (fill C133), C158 (fills C159, C160, C157), and C106 (fill C60) all contained charcoal deposits but no evidence of *in situ* burning. The charcoal deposits might have been created by deliberate dumping of burnt waste. Two of the pits C106 (fill C60) and C172 (fill C173) contained finds. C60 contained a sherd of local type glazed pottery dating from the 12–13th Century (Doyle, Appendix 2.2) and C173 contained part of a badly corroded nail (Mac Dermott, Appendix 2.4.1). Pit C106 also contained the distal midshaft portion of a cow femur while pit C122 contained three cattle teeth (McCarthy, Appendix 2.7).

Pit C106 (Figure 7) contained the only notable wheat assemblage recorded at the site and barley was also recorded in relatively high numbers, but oat and rye were quite low. Pit C132 contained a higher barley and wheat component, with lower oat grains. Both features also contained traces of wild taxa and cereal chaff fragments. The lack of any obvious *in situ* burning present in these pits supports the theory that the plant remains were dumped or discarded from nearby crop drying events (Lyons, Appendix 2.6).

Two linear features cut large ditch C71. C89 (fill C82) running east–west and C178 (fill C177) running north–south (Figure 7). A piece of iron was discovered in fill C82; however, there were no further indications as to what the purpose of the linear feature was. It is possible that C89 was a smaller later re-cut of C71 and that C178 was a short and possibly more modern ditch.

2.4 Undated Features

In Area A there was a scatter of postholes and stakeholes that it was not possible to assign any dates to. They did not form any pattern and no finds were recovered from them. There were also several isolated pits and spreads across the excavation area, none of which contained any finds.

2.4.1 Undated Postholes and Stakeholes

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C20	C21	0.37	0.2	0.06	Dark reddish brown clay sand.	Fill of posthole.
C21	N/A	0.37	0.2	0.06	Sub oval, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C22	C23	0.21	0.21	0.05	Soft, brownish yellow clay sand.	Fill of posthole.
C23	N/A	0.21	0.21	0.05	Oval, sloping sides and concave base.	Cut of posthole.
C30	C31	0.7	0.64	0.28	Loose, grey to mid brown clay silt.	Possible posthole.
C31	N/A	0.7	0.64	0.28	Circular, irregular sides, V-shaped base.	Possible posthole.
C35	N/A	0.12	0.12	0.12	Oval, irregular sides, flat base.	Cut of probable posthole.
C37	C35	0.12	0.12	0.12	Soft, bright brown clay sand.	Probable posthole.
C43	C44	0.48	0.53	0.06	Loose, grey to dark brown sandy silt.	Fill of possible posthole.
C44	N/A	0.48	0.53	0.06	Sub-oval, sloping sides, concave base.	Cut of possible posthole.
C48	C49	0.09	0.08	0.1	Moderately firm, brown silty clay.	Fill of possible stakehole.
C49	N/A	0.09	0.08	0.1	Circular, steep sides, concave base.	Cut of possible stakehole.
C56	C59	0.11	0.09	0.07	Soft brown clay sand with no inclusions.	Fill of stakehole.
C57	C58	0.1	0.08	0.05	Soft brown clay sand with no inclusions.	Fill of stakehole.
C58	N/A	0.1	0.08	0.05	Oval, concave sides and base.	Cut of stakehole.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C59	N/A	0.11	0.09	0.07	Oval, concave sides and base.	Cut of stakehole.
C62	C86	0.6	0.48	0.16	Loose brown grey sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C65	C73	0.2	0.18	0.16	Loose, yellow brown black sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C67	C77	0.3	0.26	0.2	Loose, brown sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C68	C75	0.22	0.2	0.14	Loose, brown sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C69	C76	0.22	0.2	0.15	Loose, brown sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C70	C85	0.2	0.18	0.1	Loose, dark brown sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C73	N/A	0.2	0.18	0.16	Half circular, irregular sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C75	N/A	0.22	0.2	0.14	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C76	N/A	0.22	0.2	0.15	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C77	N/A	0.3	0.26	0.2	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C85	N/A	0.2	0.18	0.1	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C86	N/A	0.6	0.48	0.16	Oval, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C97	C98	0.18	0.17	0.1	Firm, mid greyish brown sandy clay.	Fill of posthole.
C98	N/A	0.18	0.17	0.1	Round, concave sides and a concave base.	Cut of posthole.
C104	C105	0.33	0.33	0.07	Loose, light black brown soft soil.	Fill of shallow posthole.
C105	N/A	0.33	0.33	0.07	Circular, steep sides, rounded base.	Cut of shallow posthole.
C113	C114	0.13	0.13	0.11	Loose, soft black and yellow sandy soil.	Fill of small posthole.
C114	N/A	0.13	0.13	0.11	Circular, gradual sides and circular base.	Cut of small posthole.
C164	C166	0.3	0.26	0.23	Firm, greyish mid brown silty clay.	Fill of possible pit/posthole.
C165	C166	0.16	0.14	0.05	Loose, blackish dark brown silty sand.	Upper fill of pit/posthole.
C166	N/A	0.3	0.26	0.23	Oval, flat and concave base.	Cut of posthole/pit.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

In Area A there were 15 scattered possible postholes and three stakeholes. Most of them were located at the south-east-end of the site and none seemed to be arranged in an obvious pattern (Figure 6). None of the features produced any datable finds.

Two of the postholes C86 (fill C62) and C85 (fill C70), located at the north-west part of the site, cut the upper fill (C121) of large post-medieval pit C127. Postholes C73 (fill C65), C77 (fill 67), C75 (fill C68) and C76 (fill C69) were located about 2m north-west from this large pit. They were 4.5m apart from each other in a sub-rectangular shape. They all had a single fill and no finds to date them. Some of the postholes were not particularly substantial i.e. C73 and C86 and so the possibility of them forming a structure is unlikely.

Five postholes C31 (fill C30), C44 (fill C43), C23 (fill C22), C21 (fill C20) and C35 (fill C37) were located in the south-east corner of the site. All postholes were shallow but quite wide, they all contained single fills and several of these contained inclusions of charcoal. Postholes C31, C44 and C23 were aligned in a row within 1m of each other. About 3m WSW of C22 was posthole C23. There were no other features near these postholes to suggest they might have been part of a structure. A single posthole, C35 (fill C37) was located 7.5m south of C21. This feature was relatively isolated and its purpose is unknown.

Other similar postholes around the site included C98 (fill C97) at the north-west end of area A, and C166 (fills C165 and C164) in the centre of Area A. They were all equally scattered and contained no features around them or other postholes to explain their purpose. C166 contained two fills of which C164 contained some pieces of burnt clay. Some of these features may have been small pits, rather than postholes.

Located close to pit C102 in the southern end of Area A were postholes C105 (fill C104) and C114 (fill C113), both were shallow and again contained no finds to determine a date. Similarly, two shallow stakeholes, C58 (fill C57) and C59 (fill C56) c. 10m to the south-west were shallow and yielded no finds. They were located to the north and east of pit C55 and may have been associated with it. One stakehole, C49 (fill C48) was found under modern furrow C39. The stakehole was the only one in the area and it is difficult to suggest a function.

2.4.2 Undated Pits and Spreads

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C7	C8	1.05	0.58	0.15	Medium, soft light brown sandy clay.	Fill of irregular feature.
C8	N/A	1.05	0.58	0.15	Irregular oval, concave sides and base.	Cut of irregular feature.
C24	C27	0.41	0.32	0.15	Soft, dark yellow black silty sand.	Fill of oval feature.
C25	C26	1.39	0.23	0.14	Dark brown silty clay.	Fill of linear feature.
C26	N/A	1.39	0.23	0.14	Linear, vertical sides, U-shaped base.	Cut of linear feature.
C27	N/A	0.41	0.32	0.15	Oval, irregular sides, sloping base.	Cut of oval feature.
C28	C34	1.17	0.7	0.21	Loose, semi brownish red silty sand.	Fill of shallow pit.
C29	C32	1.85	0.84	0.1	Soft, brownish sandy clay.	Fill of shallow pit.
C32	N/A	1.85	0.84	0.1	Figure of 8 shaped feature, concave sides.	Cut of shallow pit.
C33	N/A	0.38	0.34	0.06	Soft, dark brownish black clay sand.	Spread.
C34	N/A	1.17	0.7	0.21	Linear, concave sides, irregular base.	Cut of shallow pit.
C38	C46	0.46	0.3	0.21	Soft, blackish brown clay sand.	Oval feature.
C45	N/A	0.75	0.56	0.08	Medium compact, orangey red silty clay.	Patch of burnt soil.
C46	N/A	0.46	0.3	0.21	Soft, blackish brown clay sand.	Oval feature.
C47	C51	1.12	0.46	0.36	Moderate, black-dark brown sandy silt.	Fill of pit.
C51	N/A	1.12	0.46	0.36	Sub-rounded, sloping sides, flat base.	Cut of fire pit.
C54	C55	0.64	0.31	0.19	Grey brownish sandy clay.	Fill of oval pit like feature.
C55	N/A	0.64	0.31	0.19	Oval, gradual sides, concave base.	Cut of oval pit like feature.
C84	C92	0.8	0.5	0.1	Medium loose red brown clay silt.	Fill of pit.
C87	C88	0.54	0.4	0.16	Loose, red brown sandy soil.	Fill of pit.
C88	N/A	0.54	0.4	0.16	Oval, irregular sides, rounded base.	Cut of pit.
C90	C92	2.1	1.1	0.43	Medium, loose red/grey clay silt.	Secondary fill of pit.
C92	N/A	2.1	1.18	0.49	Oval, steep sides, concave base.	Cut of irregular feature.
C95	C96	1.86	0.46	0.21	Mod. firm, greyish mid brown sandy silt.	Fill of linear pit.
C96	N/A	1.86	0.46	0.21	Linear, sloping sides, irregular flat base.	Cut of pit.
C101	C102	1.17	0.65	0.08	Loose, soft brown and black sandy soil.	Fill of irregular feature.
C102	N/A	1.17	0.65	0.08	Irregular, sloping sides, rounded base.	Cut of irregular feature.
C103	C107	1.92	1.1	0.34	Firm, brown sand with charcoal inclusions.	Fill of linear pit.
C107	N/A	1.92	1.1	0.34	Linear, concave sides and base.	Cut of linear pit.
C108	C109	0.56	0.54	0.11	Loose, dark grey sand silt.	Fill of small pit.
C109	N/A	0.56	0.54	0.11	Sub-circular, gradual sides, concave base.	Cut of small pit.
C116	C117	0.4	0.35	0.05	Firm, dark brown sandy clay.	Fill of possible pit.
C117	N/A	0.4	0.35	0.05	Linear, concave sides, concave base.	Cut of possible pit.
C124	C146	1.84	1.75	0.58	Loose, dark grey sandy clay.	Fill of irregular feature.
C146	N/A	1.84	1.75	0.58	Irregular, sloping sides and flat base.	Cut of irregular feature.
C151	C154	0.61	0.58	0.31	Loose, brown sandy soil.	Fill of irregular feature.
C152	C154	0.65	1.2	0.17	Firm, grey clay with small stones, charcoal.	Basal fill of pit.
C153	C154	1.3	1.2	0.4	Loose, yellow and orange sandy soil.	Fill of irregular feature.
C154	N/A	2.16	1.2	0.45	Irregular, flat base.	Cut of irregular feature.
C161	C162	1.88	0.5	0.15	Loose, yellowish brown silty sand.	Fill of linear feature.
C162	N/A	1.88	0.5	0.15	Linear, gradually sloping, concave base.	Cut of linear feature.
C170	C171	0.81	0.8	0.15	Loose, dark grey black clay silt.	Fill of shallow pit.
C171	N/A	0.81	0.8	0.15	Circular, irregular sides and base.	Cut of shallow pit.
C179	C186	2.7	1.8	0.55	Medium, soft red brown clay silt.	Fill of pit.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C186	N/A	2.7	1.8	0.55	Sub-oval cut.	Cut of pit.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

Across the site there were several isolated pits and spreads, none of which contained any finds (Figures 6 and 7). Among these were six pits and one spread located in the south-east corner of the site. Located in the centre of this cluster was pit C27 (fill C24) an oval, charcoal-rich feature with no indications of what the pit might have been used for. Analysis of charcoal recovered from a sample of the fill of this pit identified mainly oak (*Quercus* sp.) with hazel (*Corylus avellana*), ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) and pomaceous fruitwood (Maloideae) (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5).

Spread C33 (Figure 6) was located 0.50m east of pit C27. Feature C26 (fill C25) was a small linear feature orientated north–south, also to the west of Pit C27. There was no indication as to the purpose of this feature. It contained a fragment of a sheep/goat mandible from an adult individual (McCarthy, appendix 2.7). A relatively isolated pit C34 (fill C28) was also located in the south-east corner of the site. This fill had stone inclusions and consisted of brown-red silty sand. The closest feature was C109 (fill C108) a sub-oval small pit, located 5m to the north.

Located c. 2m north-west of pit C27 was C32 (fill C29) a very shallow pit with a fill containing occasional flecks of charcoal and consisted of brownish sandy clay. It contained no further indications as to what its function might have been. Located c. 12m north-east of pit C27 was C46 (fill C38) an oval pit containing burnt clay with frequent charcoal inclusions. 2m east of C46 was C51 (Figures 6 and 9), an oval pit filled with black-dark brown sandy silt and inclusions of charcoal and burnt stones. These two pits may have been associated. The pit with burnt clay (C46) might have been a fire pit and pit C51 could have been associated with it.

An isolated pit was located in the north-east corner of the site. It was a large shallow pit (C107), and the fill (C103) consisted of brown sand with some charcoal inclusions. Lack of indications as to what the pit might have been used for combined with its isolated location makes this feature difficult to interpret.

Pit C55 (fill C54) was also located in the south-east corner of the site. It was a small oval pit located next to two postholes C58 and C59 and it is possible that these three features might have been related. C45 was a small charcoal-rich deposit, the closest feature to which was pit C102 located 4.50m north-east of the spread. There were no further indications as to the function of the spread. Feature C8 (fill C7) was a small oval-shaped pit with no features close to it and no indication as to what the purpose of the pit might have been. Feature C102 (fill C101) was a very shallow charcoal-rich feature, which may have been related to postholes C105 and C114 which were adjacent to it.

There were five scattered pits in the central part of Area A. Pit C154 (Figures 7 and 9) contained three fills (C151, C152 and C153). The upper fill (C153) was cut by pit C146 (fill C124). Both of the pits were irregular in plan and there were no further indications to their purpose. On the northern side of C154 and C146 there was a small pit-like feature C117 (fill C116) (Figure 7). Originally interpreted as a possible posthole this feature is more likely to have been a very shallow pit. The fill consisted of dark brown sandy clay with some charcoal inclusions but had no further indications as to what the function of the feature was. Pit C186 (fill C179) was located close to the centre of Area A and to the south of pit C172 (Figure 7). It consisted of red-brown

clay silt with inclusions of small stones. There were no further indications to what the use of the feature might have been.

Pit C92 (Figure 7) was a larger sub-circular pit with two fills (C90, C84). These two fills were charcoal rich and contained evidence of burning. The pit was located 9m north-west of the large post-medieval burning pit C127 and other related pits. It is therefore possible it was related to these other features. The pit had been cut by modern furrow C93 running east–west. Just south-west of the large burning pit C127 there was a small pit (C88) filled by C87, which contained nothing to indicate its use or purpose. A relationship between pit C88 and the burning pit C127 is difficult to confirm. Another feature located next to pit C127 was C162 (fill C161). The feature was a small linear cut filled with yellow-brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of small stones and charcoal. Its relationship with pit C127 was uncertain and the feature might have been an animal burrow.

Feature C96 (fill C95) was located south of posthole C98. The feature was a small linear cut filled with some charcoal and stone inclusions. There were no further indications as to what the purpose of the feature might have been. Pit C171 (fill C170) was quite a large isolated circular pit, with no indications as to its purpose.

2.5 Phase 3: Post-Medieval Activity

Post-medieval activity at Phoenixtown 3, Area A consisted of linear ditches and furrows, many of which were oriented east–west.

2.5.1 Post-Medieval Ditches and Furrows

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C5	C6	70	1.55	0.5	Medium compact, mid brown silty clay.	Fill of ditch.
C6	N/A	70	1.55	0.5	Linear, gradual sides, concave base.	Cut of ditch.
C9	C10	3	0.9	0.2	Compact, brown black sandy clay.	Fill of ditch.
C10	N/A	19	0.97	0.16	Linear, irregular sides and base.	Cut of ditch.
C11	C12	10.3	0.6	0.3	Medium, soft brown sandy clay.	Fill of ditch.
C12	N/A	10.3	0.6	0.3	Linear, sloping sides and concave base.	Cut of ditch.
C13	C10	19	0.97	0.16	Med. compact, mid brownish yellow clay.	Fill of ditch.
C14	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Furrow.	Furrow.
C15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Furrow.	Furrow.
C16	C17	12.58	0.8	0.38	Loose, orange-light brown sandy silt.	Fill of possible drain.
C17	N/A	12.58	0.8	0.38	Linear, gradual sides, concave base.	Cut of possible drain.
C18	C19	12.73	1.53	0.28	Mod. firm, greyish mid brown sandy silt.	Fill of ditch.
C19	N/A	12.73	1.53	0.28	Linear, sloping sides, irregular flat base.	Cut of ditch.
C39	N/A	7.55	0.85	0.12	Linear, flat base.	Cut of furrow.
C40	C39	7.55	0.85	0.12	Semi compact brown silty clay.	Fill of furrow.
C52	C53	3.9	0.44	0.13	Loose, light reddish brown silty clay.	Fill of a small ditch/furrow.
C53	N/A	3.9	0.44	0.13	Linear, gradual sides, irregular base.	Cut of small ditch/furrow.
C64	C72	8	0.4	0.17	E–W oriented linear of loose brown sand.	Fill of ditch.
C72	N/A	8	0.4	0.17	Linear, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of ditch/furrow.
C83	C91	N/A	0.6	0.15	N/A	Fill of modern furrow.
C91	N/A	N/A	0.6	0.15	N/A	Cut of modern furrow.
C187	C188	N/A	N/A	N/A	Modern furrow not recorded.	Modern furrow.
C188	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Modern furrow not recorded.	Modern furrow.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C5	E3130:5:1	Glass	Post medieval	Green. Thick. Part of bottle?
C5	E3130:5:2	Stone	n/a	Unworked cobble

Interpretation:

On the site there were a few post-medieval ditches and furrows. These were generally east–west orientated (Figures 6 and 7). Ditch C6 (Figures 6 and 9) running east–west across the whole site, was backfilled by natural silting. Its function might have been drainage as there was a gentle slope towards the east (Plate 8). A piece of glass recovered from the fill of this feature confirmed it as being modern and a stone originally thought to have been a possible grinding stone has been identified as an unworked cobble by Eimear Nelis (Appendix 2.3).

Six of the furrows C15 (fill C14), C53 (fill C52), C39 (fill C40), C188 (fill C187), C72 (fill C64) and C91 (fill C83), that were on the site were recorded. All of them were east–west orientated. Other furrows were not recorded as they did not affect archaeological features. The relationships were as follows: furrow C91 cut pit C92; furrow C72 cut posthole C73; furrow C188 cut pit C148; furrow C39 cut stakehole C49; furrow C53 cut ditch C19 and furrow C15 cut ditch C10 with its fills C9 and C13).

Ditch C19 (fill C18) was cut by ditch C12 (fill C11) which in turn was cut by ditches C17 (fill C16) and C6 (fill C5). Ditch C6 contained two adult cattle teeth (McCarthy, Appendix 2.7).

2.5.2 Burning Pit C127**Contexts:**

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C121	C127	3.3	3.3	0.3	Loose, brownish orange silty clay.	Top fill of large pit.
C125	C127	0.9	0.6	0.01	Loose, charcoal silty clay layer.	Fill of pit.
C126	C127	0.9	0.6	0.03	Loose, red burnt silty clay.	Fill of pit.
C127	N/A	3.3	3.3	0.7	Circular, sloping sides, flat base.	Cut of large pit.
C128	C127	2.55	2.5	0.2	Loose, grey sandy clay.	Basal fill of pit.
C129	C127	0.8	0.5	0.07	Loose, grey silty clay.	Fill of pit.
C130	C127	2.25	2.1	0.18	Loose, yellow sandy clay.	Middle fill of pit.
C131	C127	1.11	1.1	0.11	Loose, yellowish brown silty clay.	Fill in middle part of pit.
C134	C127	1.2	1.1	0.04	Loose, black silty clay charcoal layer.	Fill of pit.
C135	C127	1.45	0.6	0.06	Loose, black silty clay charcoal layer.	Fill of pit.
C136	C127	1	0.8	0.02	Loose, black silty clay charcoal layer.	Fill of pit.
C138	C127	1.15	0.7	0.04	Loose, grey sandy clay.	Fill of pit.
C139	C127	1.4	1	0.1	Loose, grey sandy clay.	Fill of pit.
C140	C127	0.6	0.5	0.07	Loose, grey sandy clay.	Fill of pit.
C141	C127	2.2	0.4	0.01	Loose, black silty clay charcoal layer.	Fill of pit.
C142	C127	1.1	0.9	0.08	Grey sandy clay with 5% charcoal.	Fill of pit.
C143	C127	0.9	0.75	0.01	Loose, red burnt silty clay.	Fill of pit.
C144	C127	0.1	0.09	0.01	Loose, black silty clay charcoal layer.	Fill of pit.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C121	E3130:121:1	Iron	Unknown	Wedge or plug

Interpretation:

Pit C127 cut ditch C71 (Figures 7 and 9). It contained two layers of *in situ* burning and between these were different layers of charcoal and ash (Plate 6).

Fill C143 was the primary fill of the pit. It was the first phase of burning in the stratigraphy of the pit. This was followed by a sequence of four different charcoal and ash layers being built up. Every charcoal and ash layer represented a phase of use in

the life of the pit (see contexts C141 and C142, C136 and C140, C135 and C139, C134 and C138 in table above).

The second phase of *in situ* burning C126 sealed ash fill C138 and was followed by two charcoal layers, C125 and C144, and one ash fill, C128. After the last ash and charcoal sequence, C144 and C128, the pit fell into disuse and C130, C131, C129 and C121 represent the periods of natural silting up that took place after this. C129 had inclusions of charcoal which might indicate a last stage of use of the pit. A corroded iron object was discovered in C121 which may be a small wedge or a plug from a wooden vessel which may have been burnt in the pit (E3130:121:1)(Mac Dermott, Appendix 2.4.1) (Figure 13). The top of the pit had been cut by two postholes (C86 and C85) but these are stratigraphically later and had nothing to do with the original use of the pit.

Barley grain (0.1g) (*Hordeum* sp.) was identified from a sample of pit fill C135 by Susan Lyons. This grain sample was chosen for AMS dating and returned an AMS result of 166+/-23 BP (UBA 11109) and the 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1665–1952 BC (Appendix 2.8), indicating either that this feature was post medieval / modern or that it was subject to later disturbance.

A high quantity of carbonised cereal grain was recorded from pit C127, and the composition of plant remains from the earliest through to the second phase of burning remains relatively uniform. Barley is the dominant cereal, followed by much less oat and wheat. Peas and vetches are also identified, along with trace elements of cereal chaff and wild taxa. The main difference is the very high quantity of barley grains recorded from the earliest phase, quantities which are not repeated in the later phase. This is likely to represent the remains of a conflagration event, where a kiln and contents within had burnt down and were not cleaned out, but remained *in situ*. The possible kiln was obviously reused, and since the later phase contained a similar assemblage, it is likely to have been in use again soon after the initial destruction. The charred plant remains were in lower quantities however and also contained evidence for charred flax seeds. The lower assemblage may also be a reflection of a successful kilning or that the structure and its contents were not destroyed by fire. It is also possible that if the kiln had experienced a second firing episode, the charred debris may have been raked out and dumped elsewhere. C129, C130 and C131 are likely to be post-abandonment layers, where grain and other charred plant remains from previous layers became mixed and spread or raked over the feature after it had gone into disuse or had burnt down (Lyons, Appendix 2.6).

2.5.3 Pits C122 and C120

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C119	C120	0.43	0.25	0.25	Moderate firm, blackish grey silty soil.	Fill of pit.
C120	N/A	0.43	0.25	0.25	Rectangular, steep sides, flat base.	Cut of pit.
C122	N/A	1.2	1.15	0.2	Sub-square, sloping sides and flat base.	Cut of pit.
C123	C122	1.2	1.15	0.2	Moderate firm, grey silty soil, 5% charcoal.	Fill of pit.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

Pit C122 cut the fills of ditch C71 (Figures 7 and 9). It contained two layers of *in situ* burning and between these were different layers of charcoal and ash.

Pit C122 was cut by a smaller rectangular pit C120 (fill C119; Plate 7). The pit was filled by firm yellow-grey silty clay, containing some charcoal inclusions and a piece

of cattle skull. This was a single re-constructed moderately preserved adult cow mandible fragment. A total of 11 cow mandible bone fragments were uncovered articulated within charcoal rich fill C119. This placement along with a distinct lack of further cranial and post cranial cattle bone within C119 may suggest a deliberate placement or deposition of the cattle mandible. Alternatively the fragments may simply represent fragments of discarded domestic debris (McCarthy, Appendix 2.9).

A cattle tooth (29.77g) from this fill was chosen for AMS dating and returned an AMS result of 91+/-21 BP (UBA 13959). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was AD 1693–1954 (Appendix 2.8), indicating a date in the post medieval/modern period. This suggests it may have been associated with pit C127 discussed above.

PHOENIXTOWN 3B

2.6 Phase 1: Middle Bronze Age Activity

Middle Bronze Age activity in Area B consisted of a circular post and slot built structure c. 10m in diameter with an entrance facing to the south-east and a large oblong refuse pit 11m from the entrance. A cluster of 40 stakeholes was situated inside the entrance and may have served as a partition dividing the interior from the entrance area.

All contexts from Phoenixtown 3B were numbered from 1001 onwards, to avoid confusion with Phoenixtown 3A during the excavation.

2.6.1 Circular Structure

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1041	C1055	0.32	0.31	0.09	Semi-compact dark brown sandy silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1042	C1116	0.47	0.4	0.24	Moderately firm, mid brown sand silt.	Fill of posthole.
C1043	C1063	0.35	0.35	0.17	Loose, mid to dark brown silty sand.	Fill of posthole.
C1049	C1073	0.39	0.34	0.38	Loose, mid brownish grey silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1053	N/A	0.4	0.35	0.35	Oval, vertical sides, flat base.	Post/ stakehole.
C1055	N/A	0.32	0.31	0.09	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C1063	N/A	0.35	0.35	0.2	Circular, irregular sides, flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C1073	N/A	0.34	0.39	0.38	Circular, vertical sides, uneven base.	Cut of posthole.
C1103	C1053	0.4	0.35	0.35	Loose, dark brown sandy clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1112	C1113	0.22	0.19	0.09	Medium, loose brown black silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1113	N/A	0.22	0.19	0.13	Circular, convex sides, concave base.	Cut of posthole.
C1116	N/A	0.47	0.4	0.24	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C1126	C1128	0.3	0.26	0.1	Loose, brown sandy clay with sand.	Fill of posthole.
C1127	C1131	0.36	0.36	0.22	Medium, loose grey brown silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1128	N/A	0.3	0.26	0.1	Circular, sloping sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C1131	N/A	0.36	0.36	0.22	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C1137	C1145	0.4	0.33	0.16	Medium, loose greyish brown soil.	Fill of pit/posthole.
C1138	C1164	0.4	0.3	0.2	Compact, brown black clay sand.	Fill of posthole.
C1139	C1188	0.21	0.2	0.1	Loose, dark grey sandy clay.	Fill of possible posthole.
C1140	C1165	0.3	0.3	0.22	Loose, dark grey silty sand.	Fill of possible posthole.
C1144	C1163	0.22	0.2	0.08	Medium, loose grey brown silty clay.	Fill of pit.
C1145	N/A	0.4	0.33	0.16	Sub-oval, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of pit.
C1163	N/A	0.22	0.2	0.08	Sub-circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of shallow pit.
C1164	N/A	0.4	0.3	0.2	Oval, irregular sides and oval base.	Cut of posthole.
C1165	N/A	0.46	0.31	0.25	Circular, steep sides, irregular base.	Cut of possible posthole.
C1188	N/A	0.21	0.2	0.1	Circular, steep sides and an irregular base.	Cut of possible posthole.
C1193	C1165	0.3	0.19	0.23	Loose, light brown sandy clay.	Packing fill.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1137	E3130:1137:1–16	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Domestic Ware

Interpretation:

These 13 postholes made up a circular structure with an entrance facing south-east (Plates 9 & 14). Most of the postholes were quite similar, being generally circular in plan and most had a diameter of 0.35m to 0.40m. Most of the postholes had a single quite dark fill with some inclusions of charcoal. Each posthole was spaced approximately 1.5m to 2m from the next one in the circle (Figure 8).

Some of the postholes were less substantial than others and could be described as possible support posts. In areas where these support posts existed the distance between the posts was shorter (1.5m at the most). The circle was made up of 10 main posts and three supports. Post C1063 (fill C1043) was the first posthole south-west of the entrance. The base of the cut of this posthole was an irregular shape and it is possible that the base of the post that stood in this cut was cut at an angle.

Anti-clockwise from this posthole were postholes C1116 (fill C1042) (Plate 10), C1055 (fill C1041) (Plate 13) and C1165 (fills C1140 and C1193). Posthole C1165 contained packing material C1193. Next to posthole C1165 was a smaller posthole C1188 (fill C1139). This was quite shallow and smaller than the average size of the postholes forming the circle. It was situated 0.6m away from posthole C1165 and slightly inwards towards the middle of the circle. The next posthole after C1188 was C1164 (fill C1138). This posthole was quite small and shallow in comparison to other postholes. The combination of two possible unstable postholes (C1165 and C1164) could have required a support post in the form of C1188.

The circle continued anti-clockwise with postholes C1145 (fill C1137) (Figure 10), C1163 (fill C1144) and C1128 (fill C1126). These three postholes were all comparatively shallow and small (particularly C1163 which was the central one). They were only about 1m apart and it is possible their small size could explain why they were placed so close to each other. Fill C1137 of posthole C1145 produced six body sherds and 11 fragments from a single middle Bronze Age domestic vessel (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1). Approximately 0.8m SSE of post C1128 towards the centre of the structure was post C1113 (fill C1112) which may have supported C1128, or at least acted as an interior support of some sort.

The final three postholes that finished the circle were C1131 (fill C1127), C1053 (fill C1103) (Figure 10, Plate 11) and C1073 (fill C1049) (Figure 10; Plate 12). Just outside this curve, between C1053 and C1073 was another possible posthole (C1074). It was felt that this might in fact be a modern feature.

Samples of the fills of three postholes from the circular structure were sent for charcoal analysis. The fill of posthole C1063 (C1043), contained mainly ash (*Fraxinus* sp.), with some oak (*Quercus* sp.) while the fill of posthole C1073, C1049, contained mainly oak with some ash. Alder (*Alnus* sp.) and oak were identified from the fill of posthole C1055 (C1041). O'Donnell believes that the post held in posthole C1063 was ash and the post in C1073 was oak while the type of post in C1055 was not clear (Appendix 2.5).

A fragment (0.05g) of ash charcoal (*Fraxinus excelsior*) identified from a sample of posthole fill C1049 by Ellen O'Carroll. This charcoal sample was chosen for AMS dating and returned an AMS result of 3152±24 BP (UBA 11111). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1494–1392 BC (Appendix 2.8), indicating a date in the middle Bronze Age for the circular structure.

A fragment (1.5g) of alder charcoal (*Alnus* sp.) was identified from a sample of posthole fill C1041 by Ellen O'Carroll. This charcoal sample was chosen for AMS dating and returned an AMS result of 3113±22 BP (UBA 11113). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1436–1316 BC (Appendix 2.8), supporting the dating of the structure to the middle Bronze Age.

2.6.2 Entrance Postholes and Pits

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1044	C1104	0.81	0.46	0.34	Semi-compact, brown and grey silty clay.	Fill of oval shaped pit.
C1045	C1111	0.4	0.3	0.16	Medium, loose brown black silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1056	C1062	0.32	0.31	0.07	Semi-compact, dark brown sandy silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1059	C1060	0.19	0.15	0.09	Medium, loose brown sandy clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1060	N/A	0.19	0.15	0.09	Circular, gradual sides rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C1061	N/A	1.02	0.55	0.3	Oval, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of pit.
C1062	N/A	0.32	0.31	0.07	Circular, vertical sides and flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C1104	N/A	0.81	0.46	0.34	Semi-circular, irregular sides and base.	Cut of oval pit like feature.
C1111	N/A	0.42	0.35	0.1	Circular, convex sides, concave base.	Cut of posthole.
C1194	C1061	1.02	0.55	0.3	Compact, grey silty clay.	Fill of pit.
C1213	C1214	0.14	0.12	0.12	Yellowish brown sandy silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1214	N/A	0.14	0.12	0.12	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C1215	C1216	0.1	0.1	0.06	Medium compact, slightly sandy silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1216	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.06	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of stakehole.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1194	E3130:1194:1–9	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Domestic ware
C1194	E3130:1194:10a, 10b	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform flakes

Interpretation:

A group of two pits, four postholes and a stakehole together defined the entrance to the circular structure (Figure 8; Plates 9 and 14). The otherwise near-perfect circle of postholes that defined the structure had one large gap, to the south-east between postholes C1063 and C1073. Instead of normal postholes however, there were two shallow pits C1061 (Figure 10) and C1104, both semi-circular in shape, with their straight edges closest to each other and parallel (Plate 15). These seemed to demarcate the entrance to the structure, and may have received some sort of wooden plinths that would have received uprights. They are not shaped like normal postholes, but must surely have been structural nonetheless. The fill (C1194) of pit C1061 contained nine sherds of middle Bronze Age domestic ware (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1) (Figure 12, Plate 28). Some of the sherds were large and the pieces were found in clusters throughout the fill. It is possible that these pieces of pottery were placed deliberately, either as waste or perhaps as some form of foundation deposit. Two flint platform flakes were also recovered from this context (Nelis, Appendix 2.3).

The postholes and stakeholes (C1111, C1062, C1060, C1214, and C1216) were part of the entrance structure, and seemed to form some kind of external porch or formal entranceway. It is difficult to be sure, but based on the size of the spaces between these it would appear that the visitor to the structure, prior to passing between the door posts C1061 and C1104, would first have entered this porch, it would appear from the south, between C1214 and C1061.

Such an addition to the structure could be explained in a number of ways. If the structure was a domestic one, then this annexe may offer extra protection from the wind, keeping the interior warmer. If the structure was a ritual one, then the annexe may have acted as a screen, shielding the view of what happened within from those outside. Perhaps even if the structure was a house, the annexe may still have been a symbolic transition point between the world outside and the house within. Doorways

can be very symbolic in this way; even today in some European countries it is considered bad luck to shake someone's hand when on either side of the threshold.

Samples of charcoal from contexts C1044 and C1194 were sent for analysis and both contained mainly oak (*Quercus* sp.) with C1044 containing a small quantity of ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) and C1194 containing small quantities of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and ash (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5). This suggests that the posts held in these features were of oak.

A fragment (0.5g) of ash charcoal (*Fraxinus excelsior*) was identified from a sample of pit fill C1044 by Ellen O'Carroll. This charcoal sample was chosen for AMS dating. The charcoal returned an AMS result of 3188 \pm 26 BP (UBA 11112). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1503–1415 BC (Appendix 2.8), supporting the dating of the circular structure to the middle Bronze Age.

2.6.3 Gullies/Slot-Trenches

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1047	C1123	3.98	0.56	0.18	Moderately compact, sandy silt.	Fill of linear feature.
C1051	C1174	2.51	0.35	0.36	Firm, mid brown silty sand with stones.	Fill of pit.
C1054	C1177	2.58	0.35	0.2	Firm, dark brown silty clay.	Fill of pit.
C1122	C1148	1.92	0.6	0.2	Compact, mid brown silty soil.	Upper fill of pit.
C1123	N/A	3.98	0.56	0.18	E–W oriented linear feature.	Shallow linear feature.
C1134	C1135	1.06	0.55	0.11	Semi-compact, brown sandy clay.	Fill of oval feature.
C1135	N/A	1.06	0.55	0.11	Oval, rounded sides, flat base.	Cut of oval feature.
C1146	N/A	1.92	0.6	0.46	Oval, irregular sides, flat base.	Cut of pit.
C1147	C1146	1.92	0.6	0.23	Moderate firm, dark brown silty clay.	Main fill of pit.
C1148	C1149	0.73	0.34	0.02	Compact, light brown sandy clay.	Fill of pit.
C1149	N/A	1.92	0.6	0.22	Linear, steep sides, flat base.	Secondary cut of pit.
C1174	N/A	2.51	0.35	0.26	Oval, concave sides and base.	Secondary cut of pit.
C1177	N/A	2.5	0.35	0.2	Linear, concave sides and base.	Primary cut of pit.
C1200	C1177	0.75	0.2	0.05	Stony fill in base of pit.	Basal fill of pit.
C1209	C1146	0.52	0.46	0.04	Circular fill of stones.	Stony fill in base of pit.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1147	E3130:1147:1	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform flake

Interpretation:

Along the edge of the circular structure, outside the curving line of postholes, there were four trenches all of which were gently curvilinear in plan (Figure 8; Plates 9 and 14). They were located on the north-east and south-east sides of the structure, either side of the entrance way. Two trenches were located on the north-east side and two trenches on the south-east side. The two trenches on the north-east side had several fills and had been re-cut.

On the north-east side of the structure, C1146 (Figure 10) had metallurgy (C1209) in its base. Sealing the metallurgy was C1147, the upper fill of the primary cut, a dark brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions which also contained a single flint platform flake (Nelis, Appendix 2.3). The second stage of use of this feature was defined by re-cut C1149 which had two fills (C1148 and C1122). The bottom fill (C1148) was a thin layer of redeposited natural subsoil. The redeposited layer was sealed by C1122. This pit was located about 0.5m away from postholes C1131 and C1053.

Located less than 0.5m south-east of trench C1146 was the second footing trench on this side of the structure (Plate 16). It was a longer feature with C1177 its primary cut and C1174 its secondary cut. The primary cut C1177 (Figure 10) had metalling (C1200) at its base which was sealed by C1054, a dark brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions. The silty clay had been re-cut by C1174 which had only one fill (C1051). A sample of fill C1054 contained wheat grains and indeterminate grains and while the charred grain represents the remains of crop drying activities, it is difficult to ascertain if these activities were contemporary with the prehistoric nature of this site or were the re-distributed remains of plant remains from Area A. Cereal remains can become re-deposited and mixed with other deposits both spatially and temporally over time and the high cereal component present in Area A should not be overlooked when interpreting the plant remains from Area B (Lyons, Appendix 2.6).

Trenches C1135 and C1123 were located on the south-east side of the posthole circle. Both of these were single filled, and considerably shallower than C1146 and C1177. Located approximately 0.5m from posthole C1063, trench C1123 was filled by C1047, a grey-mid brown sandy silt with charcoal inclusions. Located next to it was trench C1135 which was filled by C1134 a mix of dark grey and light brown sandy clay. The trenches were located so close together it seemed that C1135 was almost a continuation of C1123 (perhaps it was originally).

Charcoal analysis showed samples from C1122 and C1147 contained alder (*Alnus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) and oak (*Quercus* sp.) while fill C1054 contained hazel, ash and oak (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5).

A fragment (0.1g) of charred hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) was identified from a sample of pit fill C1147. This hazelnut shell sample was chosen for AMS dating and returned an AMS result of 3102 \pm 29 BP (UBA 11114). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1435–1303 BC (Appendix 2.8).

2.6.4 Pits Inside Structure

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1048	C1133	2.4	1.63	0.2	Semi-compact dark grey silty sandy clay.	Fill of pit.
C1058	C1173	0.43	0.34	0.04	Mid to firm compact, sandy clay.	Fill of oval feature.
C1117	C1121	1.26	0.6	0.1	Semi-compact, mid brown sandy clay.	Fill of small pit.
C1121	N/A	1.26	0.6	0.12	Oval, vertical sides, uneven base.	Cut of small pit.
C1133	N/A	2.4	1.63	0.2	Heart-shaped, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of pit.
C1173	N/A	0.43	0.34	0.04	Oval, concave sides, flat base.	Cut of oval feature.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1048	E3130:1048:1	Stone	Prehistoric	Possible mortar
C1048	E3130:1048:2	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform flake
C1048	E3130:1048:3	Quartz	Prehistoric	Angular shatter

Interpretation:

Inside the circular structure there were three pits all of which were quite shallow (Figure 8). Pit C1133 (Figure 10) was located inside the entrance to the circle 1m from posthole C1073 and 1.5m from posthole C1063. The pit was quite large though shallow (Plate 17), and filled by C1048, a dark grey silty/sandy clay. A bowl shaped stone recovered from this fill may have been a mortar although it showed little sign of ware (E3130:1048:1) (Figure 14). A flint platform flake and a piece of quartz angular shatter were also recovered from this context (Nelis, Appendix 2.3). Charcoal from a sample of this context was found to be from hazel (*Corylus avellana*), ash (*Fraxinus*

sp), pomaceous fruitwood (Maloideae) and cherry (*Prunus avium/padus*) (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5) and a small fragment of charred nutshell was also recovered (Lyons, Appendix 2.6).

About 1.5m south-west of this pit was C1173 (fill C1058). This pit was small and filled by dark grey-brown sandy clay. It contained no further indication as to what the pit could have been used for.

Inside the north-east edge of the circle was oval pit C1121 which was filled by C1117 a fairly compact mid-brown sandy clay. This pit contained no evidence as to what its purpose may have been.

2.6.5 Stakehole Group Inside Structure

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1004	C1102	0.08	0.08	0.18	Moderately firm, mid-grey brown silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1005	C1091	0.1	0.1	0.08	Moderately firm silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1006	C1089	0.1	0.1	0.15	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1007	C1081	0.08	0.08	0.09	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1008	C1090	0.13	0.13	0.11	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1009	C1080	0.12	0.12	0.14	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1010	C1077	0.07	0.07	0.13	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1011	C1078	0.1	0.1	0.08	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1012	C1094	0.07	0.07	0.16	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1013	C1101	0.04	0.04	0.1	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1014	C1100	0.04	0.04	0.06	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1015	C1099	0.08	0.08	0.22	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1016	C1098	0.04	0.04	0.14	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1017	C1097	0.05	0.05	0.08	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1018	C1095	0.1	0.1	0.1	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1019	C1096	0.04	0.04	0.07	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1020	C1093	0.07	0.07	0.06	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1021	C1092	0.03	0.03	0.07	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1022	C1088	0.05	0.05	0.15	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1023	C1087	0.07	0.07	0.1	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1024	C1086	0.1	0.1	0.09	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1025	C1085	0.07	0.07	0.09	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1026	C1084	0.14	0.14	0.08	Moderately, firm silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1027	C1083	0.11	0.11	0.1	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1028	C1082	0.15	0.15	0.09	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1029	C1079	0.07	0.7	0.06	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1030	C1076	0.06	0.06	0.05	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1031	C1075	0.04	0.04	0.03	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1032	C1072	0.05	0.05	0.06	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1033	C1071	0.08	0.08	0.09	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1034	C1070	0.1	0.07	0.1	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1035	C1069	0.07	0.07	0.12	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1036	C1068	0.08	0.08	0.17	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1037	C1067	0.05	0.05	0.09	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1038	C1066	0.08	0.08	0.12	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1039	C1065	0.07	0.07	0.11	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1040	C1064	0.09	0.09	0.05	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1050	C1050	0.07	0.07	0.12	Moderately firm, silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1064	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.05	Circular, vertical sides, irregular base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1065	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.11	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1066	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.12	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1067	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.09	Circular, vertical sides, tapered point.	Cut of stakehole.
C1068	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.17	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1069	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.12	Circular, vertical sides and a flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1070	N/A	0.1	0.07	0.1	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1071	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.09	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1072	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.06	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1075	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.03	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1076	N/A	0.06	0.06	0.05	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1077	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.13	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1078	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.08	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1079	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.06	Circular, vertical sides tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1080	N/A	0.12	0.12	0.14	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1081	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.09	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1082	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.09	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1083	N/A	0.11	0.11	0.1	Circular, vertical sides and a sub flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1084	N/A	0.14	0.14	0.08	Circular, concave sides and base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1085	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.09	Circular, vertical sides, concave base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1086	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.09	Circular, vertical sides, concave base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1087	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.1	Circular, vertical sides, concave base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1088	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.15	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1089	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.15	Circular, vertical sides, irregular base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1090	N/A	0.13	0.13	0.11	Oval, vertical sides and flat base	Cut of stakehole.
C1091	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.08	Oval, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1092	N/A	0.03	0.03	0.07	Circular, vertical sides and concave base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1093	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.06	Circular, vertical sides and flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1094	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.16	Circular, vertical sides and flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1095	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.1	Circular, vertical sides, flattish base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1096	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.07	Circular, vertical sides and concave base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1097	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.08	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1098	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.14	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1099	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.22	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1100	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.06	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1101	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.1	Circular, vertical sides, concave base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1102	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.18	Circular, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1106	C1118	0.09	0.09	0.1	Moderately firm, mid-grey brown silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1107	C1120	0.08	0.08	0.09	Moderately firm, mid brown silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1118	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.1	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1119	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.12	Circular, vertical sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1120	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.09	Circular, irregular sides, concave base.	Cut of stakehole.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1036	E3130:1036:1	Pottery	MBA?	Small fragment.
C1037	E3130:1037:1-4	Pottery	MBA?	Small fragments.

Interpretation:

On the west side of heart-shaped pit C1133 located at the entrance of the circle there was a group of 40 stakeholes (Figures 8 and 10; Plate 18). All these stakeholes were filled by a single fill and two of them, C1067 and C1068 contained pottery.

The pottery pieces in the fill could be interpreted as a possible deliberate deposit, comparable to the deposition of pottery in one of the entrance pits C1061. However, as the stakeholes are within the structure, it is perhaps more likely that the pottery

fragments came to be in the stakeholes by accident. The function of the group of 40 stakeholes could perhaps be interpreted as a partition dividing the interior from the entrance area and the outside.

2.6.6 Features Outside Structure

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1141	C1170	1.15	0.6	0.18	Medium loose, brown grey sandy clay.	Fill of pit.
C1150	C1170	0.24	0.2	0.06	Loose, grey black sandy soil.	Upper fill of pit.
C1169	C1187	0.58	0.55	0.17	Loose, grey black sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C1170	N/A	1.3	0.6	0.18	Oval, concave sides and a flat base.	Cut of pit.
C1185	C1186	0.6	0.55	0.2	Loose, grey black sandy soil.	Fill of posthole.
C1186	N/A	0.6	0.55	0.2	Oval, vertical concave sides, flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C1187	N/A	0.58	0.55	0.18	Oval, vertical sides, flat base.	Cut of posthole.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

Located about 2m WNW of the circle of postholes was pit C1170 (Figure 8). It was the nearest feature to the circle of postholes that did not appear to be directly connected to it in any structural way. In the bottom of the pit there were two postholes (C1186 and C1187) which were filled with C1169 and C1185, respectively. These two fills were grey-black sandy soils with charcoal and stone inclusions and both were cut by C1170. The primary and main fill of C1170 was C1141; a brown-grey sandy clay with some stone inclusions and the upper fill was C1150 which was only in the northern end of the feature.

The purpose of this feature was difficult to establish, as is the relationship between the posthole circle and the pit/postholes. It appears that two posts may have stood here, which were later cut away by the pit. It is possible that the postholes were structural supports related to the circular structure but is not certain. The pit itself may have been a waste pit later in the life of the site.

2.6.7 Linear Pit Group

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1001	C1166	11.1	2.1	0.34	Loose, mid brown greyish silty clay.	Upper fill of pit.
C1155	C1182	1.25	1.22	0.08	Loose, light brown yellow silty sand.	Fill of pit.
C1166	N/A	14.4	2	0.6	Linear, concave sides, flat base.	Cut of waste pit.
C1167	C1166	9.7	2.05	0.3	Firm to loose, sandy clay.	Fill of waste pit.
C1168	C1166	1.88	1.5	0.14	Soft loose, greyish silty sand.	Bottom fill of waste pit.
C1176	N/A	2.1	1.4	0.2	Rectangular, concave sides, flat base.	Cut of rect. feature.
C1182	N/A	1.25	1.22	0.22	Circular, gradual sides and flat base.	Cut of waste pit.
C1183	C1182	1.25	1.22	0.14	Moderately firm, sandy silt.	Fill of waste pit.
C1196	C1176	1.66	1.4	0.2	Soft loose, dark brown silty sand.	Fill of rect. feature.
C1210	C1166	0.3	0.3	0.08	Loose friable, light greyish sandy clay.	Basal fill of waste pit.
C1212	C1166	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Loose fill of black brownish silty sand.	Basal fill of pit.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1001	E3130:1001:1–170, 172–224, 226–234, 238–249	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Domestic ware
C1001	E3130:1001:171	Flint	Prehistoric	Bipolar flake
C1001	E3130:1001:225	Stone	Prehistoric	Possible rubbing/polishing stone

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1168	E3130:1168:1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Domestic ware
C1196	E3130:1196:1–72, 74–295	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Domestic ware

Interpretation:

At the ESE corner of Area B, 11m from the entrance postholes there was a large linear feature, which consisted of three large pits, C1166, C1176 and C1182 (Figures 8 and 10; Plates 19–21).

Pit C1182 (Figure 10) appeared to be the earliest of the three pits. It was filled by C1155 and C1183. The base fill of the pit was C1155, a light brown-yellow silty sand, which was under C1183, a dark brown sandy silt with rare charcoal inclusions and some stones. Cutting the upper fill of pit C1182 was large linear pit C1166 orientated north-east to south-west. C1166 contained fills C1210, C1212, C1168, C1167, C1001 and may have been contemporary with pit C1176 (fill C1196).

The fills in C1166 were quite different from each other, some containing more charcoal i.e. C1212, and each had a distinct colour. Some of the fills in the pits were very rich in finds. C1001 produced 246 sherds of middle Bronze Age domestic ware pottery as well as a bipolar flint flake and a possible rubbing/polishing stone (Nelis, Appendix 2.3) while fill C1196 in pit C1176 contained 294 sherds of middle Bronze Age domestic ware pottery. The pottery from these two contexts combined represented at least seven different vessels (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1) (Figure 12; Plates 22 and 27). Charcoal analysis carried out on two fills from this pit, C1168 and C1001, identified alder (*Alnus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), ash (*Fraxinus* sp), pomaceous fruitwood (Maloideae) and cherry (*Prunus avium/padus*) in both fills while C1001 also contained charcoal from oak (*Quercus* sp.) and willow (*Salix* sp.) (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5)

Single fragments of indeterminate burnt bone were recovered from three fills of pit C1166, C1001, C1167 and C1168. The fill of rectangular feature C1176/C1196 produced five indeterminate burnt bones (McCarthy, Appendix 2.7).

Two samples of charcoal from the fills of pit C1166 were identified by Ellen O'Carroll and selected for AMS radiocarbon dating. A fragment (0.5g) of hazel charcoal (*Corylus avellana*) was identified from a sample of fill C1001 and returned an AMS result of 3203±24 BP (UBA 12111). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1515–1428 BC (Appendix 2.8). A fragment (0.8g) of alder charcoal (*Alnus* sp.) was identified from a sample of fill C1168 and returned an AMS result of 3247±22 BP (UBA 12941). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1607–1451 BC (Appendix 2.8). These two dates confirm the association between pit C1166 and the circular structure and date this activity to the middle Bronze Age.

2.6.8 Associated Features

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1153	C1179	0.12	0.11	0.07	Medium loose, yellowish brown silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1154	C1180	0.09	0.08	0.06	Medium loose, yellowish brown silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1156	C1184	0.3	0.28	0.14	Medium loose brown silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1157	C1191	0.3	0.24	0.14	Medium loose, brown silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1158	C1195	0.44	0.32	0.11	Medium compact, brownish grey silty clay.	Fill of shallow pit.
C1162	C1178	0.13	0.13	0.11	Medium loose, yellowish brown silty clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1178	N/A	0.13	0.13	0.11	Circular, irregular sides, flat base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1179	N/A	0.12	0.11	0.07	Sub circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of stakehole.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1180	N/A	0.09	0.08	0.06	Circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1184	N/A	0.3	0.28	0.14	Sub circular, concave sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C1191	N/A	0.3	0.24	0.14	Sub oval, irregular sides, rounded base.	Cut of posthole.
C1195	N/A	0.44	0.32	0.11	Sub-oval, convex sides, irregular base.	Cut of shallow pit.
C1207	C1208	0.12	0.1	0.13	Loose light brownish sandy clay.	Fill of stakehole.
C1208	N/A	0.12	0.1	0.13	Circular, concave sides, tapered base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1211	C1218	0.09	0.09	0.1	Loose, pale grey sandy silt.	Fill of posthole.
C1218	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.1	Circular, concave sides, concave base.	Cut of posthole.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

Located in the environs of the possible domestic pits were four stakeholes, three postholes and one shallow pit (Figure 8). The pit C1195 (fill C1158) was located about 0.25m from the large linear pit C1166. There were no finds or environmental material to suggest a purpose for the pit. It is possible that the pit would have been associated with the postholes and the three large nearby pits C1176, C1182 and C1166.

Postholes C1184 (fill C1156), C1191 (fill C1157), and stakeholes C1179 (fill C1153), and C1180 (fill C1154), were all located on the east and south-east side of the pits and could have formed some kind of a slight shelter. It should be stated however, that the area south-east of these features was stripped of topsoil and cleaned back following the excavation of Phoenixtown Area B, and no further features were found here. Only two of the stakeholes C1178 (fill C1162) and C1208 (fill C1207) were located to the west of the pits. Posthole C1218 (fill C1211) was cut into the upper fill of pit C1166.

2.6.9 Isolated Features - Pits and Spreads

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1002	C1057	0.75	0.6	0.13	Loose, brown sandy soil.	Fill of pit.
C1057	N/A	0.75	0.6	0.13	Oval, gradual sloping sides, rounded base.	Cut of pit.
C1105	C1110	0.52	0.46	0.09	Moderately firm, yellowish brown silty sand.	Fill of pit.
C1110	N/A	0.54	0.46	0.14	Oval, concave sides and base.	Cut of pit.
C1114	C1110	0.46	0.24	0.12	Moderately firm, brownish black clay sand.	Fill of pit.
C1115	C1110	0.46	0.21	0.05	Moderately firm, dark brown silty sand.	Fill of pit.
C1124	N/A	0.97	0.2	0.11	Linear, sloping sides, flat base.	Cut of small pit.
C1125	C1124	0.97	0.2	0.11	Compact, brown grey clay sand.	Fill of small pit.
C1129	C1132	2.45	1.2	0.12	Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy clay.	Fill of pit.
C1130	C1136	0.77	0.55	0.35	Oval, fill of firm brown clay sand.	Fill of pit.
C1132	N/A	2.45	1.2	0.12	Irregular, stepped sides, irregular base.	Cut of pavement?
C1136	N/A	0.77	0.55	0.35	Oval, concave sides and base.	Cut of pit.
C1142	C1132	1.75	1.2	0.06	Irregular-shaped stone layer, 95% stones.	Stone fill.
C1198	C1203	1.04	0.35	0.08	Loose, light brownish yellow sand.	Fill of shallow pit.
C1203	N/A	1.04	0.35	0.08	Oval, concave sides and irregular base.	Cut of shallow pit.
C1219	N/A	0.25	0.15	0.03	Loose, mid brown blackish sandy silt.	Charcoal spread.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1002	E3130:1002:1–4	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Domestic ware
C1115	E3130:1115:1, 2, 7–28	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform flakes
C1115	E3130:1115:3, 5	Flint	Prehistoric	Bipolar flakes

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1115	E3130:1115:4	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform blade
C1115	E3130:1115:6	Flint	Prehistoric	Bipolar blade
C1115	E3130:1115:29, 30	Flint	Prehistoric	Angular shatter

Interpretation:

There were six pits dispersed around the peripheral parts of the site (Figure 8). Most of them were located on the north-east side of the site: C1132 (fills C1129 and C1142) (Figure 10), C1203 (fill C1198), C1057 (fill C1002), and C1124 (fill C1125).

Pits C1124 (fill C1125) and C1203 (fill C1198) contained nothing that would help us to understand what they may have been used for. Pit C1057 was an oval pit containing one fill (C1002). This contained four sherds of middle Bronze Age domestic ware pottery (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1) and a fragment of a long bone from a medium-sized mammal (McCarthy, Appendix 2.7). The basal fill of C1132 consisted of C1142, a mottled surface that was irregular in plan. The metalling was defined by a deposit of quite small rounded and sub-rounded stones. This was sealed by C1129, a firm yellow-brown sandy clay with some stone inclusions.

On the south of the site and close to the limit of the excavation area, 2m apart, were two pits C1110 and C1136. Pit C1110 (Figure 10) had three fills (C1105, C1114 and C1115). The primary fill (C1115) was a dark brown silty sand with rich charcoal inclusions. The bulk of the lithics assemblage from the site was recovered from this fill as a result of post-excavation soil sample processing which yielded 30 flint artefacts, most of which were micro-debitage (Nelis, Appendix 2.3). The secondary fill was C1114, a clay sand with some charcoal inclusions, and sealing these layers was the upper fill C1105, a yellow-brown silty sand. Analysis of a combined sample of these fills identified hazel (*Corylus avellana*), pomaceous fruitwood (Maloideae), oak (*Quercus* sp.) and elm (*Ulmus* sp.) charcoal (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5).

Pit C1136 was oval with one fill (C1130), and was located approximately 2m south-east of two postholes, C1109 and C1190 (Cf. Section 2.6.10). Both of these postholes were single filled and the fills contained inclusions of charcoal.

2.6.10 Post and Stakeholes

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1003	C1046	0.13	0.1	0.04	Moderately firm, dark brownish black silt.	Fill of stakehole.
C1046	N/A	0.13	0.1	0.04	Oval, concave sides and a concave base.	Cut of stakehole.
C1108	C1108	0.3	0.17	0.18	Firm, black sand with charcoal inclusions.	Fill of possible posthole.
C1109	N/A	0.3	0.17	0.18	Oval, concave sides and base.	Cut of possible posthole.
C1189	C1190	0.3	0.25	0.1	Firm, dark brown silty sand.	Fill of posthole.
C1190	N/A	0.3	0.25	0.1	Oval, concave sides and base.	Cut of posthole.
C1197	C1204	0.65	0.5	0.27	Loose, grey brownish silt.	Fill of posthole.
C1199	C1205	0.33	0.25	0.16	Loose, mid yellow brown silty sand.	Fill of posthole.
C1204	N/A	0.65	0.5	0.27	Circular, convex sides.	Cut of pit/posthole.
C1205	N/A	0.33	0.25	0.16	Oval, concave sides, sharp tapered base.	Cut of posthole.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

There were some more isolated groups of postholes and stakeholes around the site (Figure 8). Two of the postholes, C1109 (fill C1108) and C1190 (fill C1189) were single filled and located 0.5m apart in the SSE part of the site. Charcoal analysis

showed that a sample of C1108 contained pomaceous fruitwood (Maloideae), *Prunus* type and oak (*Quercus* sp.) charcoal (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5).

To the south-east of these two postholes there were two pits C1110 and C1136 (Cf. Section 2.6.9). It is possible that these four features could have formed an activity area that was in some way associated with the circular structure. There were no finds to indicate the function of these features.

On the north-east side of the site there was another possible activity area made up of postholes C1204 (fill C1197) and C1205 (fill C1199) and stakehole C1046 (fill C1003). These features were all single filled and located in an area where there were a few small pits. Again, this combination of features may represent a phase of activity associated with the circular structure.

2.7 Phase 2: Possible Medieval Features

One agricultural furrow in Area B was interpreted as being possibly medieval in date.

2.7.1 Furrows

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1151	C1152	3.1	0.44	0.07	Mid firm, mid brownish yellow sandy clay.	Fill of furrow.
C1152	N/A	3.1	0.44	0.07	Linear, concave sides, concave base.	Cut of furrow.

Finds: None

Interpretation:

On the site there was one furrow C1152 (fill C1151). The furrow cut large waste pit C1166 (Figure 8). The furrow also contained an indeterminate fragment of burnt bone (McCarthy, Appendix 2.7) which may have been carried from the waste pit.

2.8 Non-Archaeological Features

A variety of non-archaeological features were investigated in both Areas A and B and many were found to be burnt or unburnt tree-bowls.

Contexts:

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Changed to C99.	Changed to C99.
C36	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C41	C42	1.17	0.72	0.07	Medium firm, dark grey black silt clay.	Charcoal rich fill of pit.
C42	N/A	2.75	0.76	0.4	Sub-oval, gradual sides, concave base.	Cut of pit.
C50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C63	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C66	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C74	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C110	C42	2.75	0.76	0.28	Medium firm, grey brown silty clay.	Top fill of pit.
C111	C42	1.06	0.64	0.05	Medium compaction brown grey silt clay.	Ash/charcoal layer.
C112	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C115	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C118	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1052	C1074	0.33	0.17	0.14	Loose, mid brown clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1074	N/A	0.33	0.17	0.14	Oval cut, vertical sides and an oval base.	Cut of posthole.
C1143	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1159	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1160	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1161	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1171	C1181	1.59	1.3	0.32	Medium hard, dark brown sandy clay.	Upper fill of pit.
C1172	C1175	0.33	0.21	0.11	Mid firm, mid black silty clay.	Fill of posthole.
C1175	N/A	0.33	0.21	0.11	Oval, vertical sides and a flat base.	Cut of posthole.
C1181	N/A	2.35	2.2	0.78	Irregular, concave stepped sides, flat base.	Cut of irregular feature.
C1192	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1201	C1181	2.08	1.5	0.4	Medium hard grey brown sandy clay.	Fill of irregular feature.
C1202	C1181	0.5	0.4	0.12	Medium hard yellow clay, stone inclusions.	Re-deposited natural.
C1206	C1181	1.4	1.1	0.35	Loose, red, black, brown sandy soil.	Fill of irregular feature.
C1217	C1181	1.4	0.95	0.56	Firm, yellow brown grey clay.	Fill of irregular feature.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C115	E3130:115:1	Pottery	12–13th Century	Local type ware

Interpretation:

Many of the non-archaeological features on the site at Phoenixtown 3A and B were burnt or unburnt tree-bowls.

Possible posthole C1074 (fill C1052) was located just north-east of the circle of postholes (Figure 8). Its fill was organic and contained one big stone. It is deemed likely that this was a modern feature. A single sherd of 12–13th Century local type ware was recovered from C115 (Doyle, Appendix 2.2).

2.9 Topsoil**Contexts:**

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description	Interpretation
C1	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.3	Mid brown organic looking top soil.	Topsoil.

Finds:

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1	E3130:1:1	Chert	Prehistoric	Platform flake
C1	E3130:1:2, 4, 19, 23, 24, 32, 37, 46, 47	Pottery	12–13th Century	Medieval. Local type ware
C1	E3130:1:3	Pottery	18–20th Century	Transfer printed ware. Blue. Floral pattern
C1	E3130:1:5, 9, 21, 22, 26, 54, 55, 58–61, 65, 77	Pottery	18–19th Century	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft
C1	E3130:1:6, 8, 17	Chert	Prehistoric	Angular shatter
C1	E3130:1:7, 36, 51	Clay	Possibly 17th Century	Tobacco pipe fragment
C1	E3130:1:10, 15	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform flake
C1	E3130:1:11	Pottery	18th Century	Under painted pearlware
C1	E3130:1:12, 18, 20, 29	Pottery	Post-medieval	Creamware
C1	E3130:1:13	Flint	Prehistoric	Utilised: ?wedge tool
C1	E3130:1:14	Flint	Prehistoric	Bipolar flake
C1	E3130:1:16	Flint	Prehistoric	Core
C1	E3130:1:25	Pottery	16–18th Century	Tin glazed earthenware
C1	E3130:1:27	Pottery	18th Century	Pearlware
C1	E3130:1:28, 30, 64	Pottery	13–14th Century	Medieval. Local type fine ware
C1	E3130:1:31, 67–73, 75	Pottery	Middle Neolithic	Broad rimmed bowl
C1	E3130:1:33	Pottery	12–14th Century	Medieval. Leinster Cooking ware
C1	E3130:1:34	Glass	Post medieval/modern	Colourless. Thick.

Context	Find Number	Material	Period	Description
C1	E3130:1:38, 39, 45	Pottery	18–19th Century	Glazed red earthenware
C1	E3130:1:40	Clay	Possibly 17th Century	Tobacco pipe fragment
C1	E3130:1:41	Pottery	18–20th Century	Transfer printed ware, blue pattern
C1	E3130:1:42–44, 49	Iron	Unknown	Nail
C1	E3130:1:48	Iron	Unknown	Door latch
C1	E3130:1:50	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform Blade
C1	E3130:1:52	Glass	Post-medieval	Glass
C1	E3130:1:53	Pottery	Post-medieval	Possible brick fragment, no surface
C1	E3130:1:62	Glass	Early medieval	Glass bead
C1	E3130:1:63	Stone	Unknown	Possible saddle quern
C1	E3130:1:66	Pottery	18–20th Century	Transfer printed ware. Blue. Geometric pattern
C1	E3130:1:74	Flint	Prehistoric	Platform flake
C1	E3130:1:76	Metal	Unknown	Bracket, brace or strap hinge

Interpretation:

The topsoil sealed all the archaeological features on the site. It consisted of a mid-brown organic silty clay although the colour changed to a deep red at the eastern end of the site.

A fragment of a decorative polychrome bead (E3136:1:62) (Figure 13; Plate 26) was recovered from the topsoil, along with a range of objects of prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval date. The bead is an uncommon type, made from reddish-brown glass, for which close parallels are difficult to find. The bead, while unusual, has characteristics which make an early medieval date likely (Johnson, Appendix 2.4.3). A number of 12–14th Century pottery sherds were recovered as well as a number of post-medieval sherds (Doyle, Appendix 2.2) as well as pieces of tobacco pipe (Norton, Appendix 2.4.2), iron (Mac Dermott, Appendix 2.4.1) and sherds of glass.

A few sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered during topsoil stripping. These pieces are from a middle Neolithic Broad-Rimmed Bowl (c. 3500–3200 BC) (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1) (Figure 11). They do not appear to be related to the other finds from this area.

A number of pieces of flint and chert were also recovered, the most notable of which was a possible wedge tool (E3136:1:13) (Nelis, Appendix 2.3) (Figure 13). A possible saddle quern was also recovered from the topsoil although if this is a saddle quern it has only been minimally used (Nelis, Appendix 2.3).

3 SYNTHESIS

The synthesis presents the combined results of all of the archaeological analysis carried out at Phoenixtown 3. This includes the analysis of the physical and archaeological landscape, the compilation of information gathered during research into the site type, date, and function, and the results of the excavation and specialist analysis of samples taken during the course of on-site works.

3.1 Landscape Setting

The topography from Navan to Kells is generally flat and gently undulating lowland. The area is characterised by a patchwork pattern of high quality agricultural fields as well as mature hedgerows. The River Tolka and its tributaries drain much of southern part of County Meath. The Blackwater drains most of north Meath, flowing just east of Kells and is fed by a number of significant tributaries such as the Moynalty River and Yellow River.

The geology of Meath consists of solid and glacial geology. The solid geological formations are mostly of Palaeozoic age dating between 545–290 million years ago (Finch *et al.* 1983, 9). The solid geology of the area through which the road traverses is dominated principally by carboniferous limestone, which provides the basis for the nourishing, calcium-rich pastures that are seen throughout much of County Meath. The outcome of geological activity from other periods can be seen in the Namurian shales, which form a number of the hills in the area, such as the Hill of Tara and Skreen, and the Ordovician and Silurian shale and sandstones, which form the underlying geology of Kells and the surrounding area.

The overburden in this area consists of stiff silts overlying glacial till. Bedrock is likely to be found c. 5 m below ground level and to be limestone. Generally, the area surrounding Kells is characterised by relatively low ice marginal ridges, eskers, and kame and kettle topography (Finch *et al.* 1983; Meehan 1999) dominated by sand and gravel units. Overall, this area is very hummocky with some interspersed peat bogs and badly drained hollows (Meehan 1999).

The overlying soils of County Meath are mostly classified as grey-brown podzolics which are good all-purpose, well drained soils used for both arable and pastoral farming. The overlying soil of the Kells area is brown earths, which are well-drained, mature soils which are generally ideally suited to arable farming. A detailed survey of the soils of County Meath is provided by Finch *et al.* (1983).

Phoenixtown 3 was located at 58m above sea level and straddled two undulating rectangular-shaped pasture fields. The field was bounded on all four sides by mature hedgerows and the nearest watercourse was located along the south-eastern boundary of the field in the form of a ditch/stream. The disused Navan to Oldcastle railway line was located c. 250m to the north and a third class road was located c. 300m to the north-east. There are several recorded archaeological monuments in the vicinity of Phoenixtown 3 (Figure 2). All of these sites date to the early medieval and medieval periods.

3.2 The Archaeological Landscape – Bronze Age

As part of the general research relating to sites along the scheme and the specific research relating to Phoenixtown 3, the known archaeology within the surrounding landscape was assessed in order to establish the level and type of activity in the surrounding area in the past. This included a review of information from the Record of monuments and places, previous excavations and other relevant documentary sources including mapping and other sites excavated as part of the M3 scheme. The excavated archaeology at Phoenixtown 3 has been identified as being Bronze Age.

3.2.1 General Bronze Age Landscape of the Scheme

Activity dating to the Bronze Age period (2500–800 BC) along Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Road Scheme was represented in the form of funerary and settlement activity.

Funerary Activity

Bronze Age funerary sites occur throughout Co. Meath. Ring-ditches and barrows are a common feature of the Bronze Age, 48 of which are listed as recorded monuments in the county. Ring-ditches are circular ditches or gullies that are associated with prehistoric funerary activities and sometimes contain deposits of cremated human bone within their ditch fills. In some cases the ring-ditch may encircle a central pit containing a cremation deposit, and they are sometimes found in association with Bronze Age cemeteries. Ring-barrows are similar funerary features however the circular ditch surrounds a low earthen mound. A cluster of such monuments occurs at the Tara complex, to the south of Navan, in the townlands of Castletown Tara and Castleboy, and barrows are recorded at Kilmainham (ME017:020) and Commons of Lloyd (ME016:014) to the west of Kells. Additional barrows recorded within the vicinity of Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–Kells Road Scheme include those at Hurdlestown (ME017:028) and Ardraccan (ME024:013). Barrows are located to the north-west at the Loughcrew complex. Further Bronze Age funerary sites worthy of note in the county include the cemetery at Keenoge (Mount 1995), the early Bronze Age flat cemetery at Bettystown (Eogan 2000), the ring-ditch with burial urns at Staleen (Campbell 2007) and the Bronze Age cist cemetery at Donaghmore, Blackcastle Demesne (Roche 1994). At the Mound of the Hostages, Tara, Co. Meath, approximately fifty secondary burials were inserted in the earth-covering of the mound but only a single, poorly constructed cist was noted (Raftery 1969, 13) and Bronze age burials including cists were recorded at Fourknocks (Waddell & Ríordáin 1993, 123–124). Cist burials are also common and 22 are listed as recorded monuments throughout Co. Meath; one of which is located at Commons of Lloyd (ME016:049). Settlement activity dating to this period presents itself in the form of enclosures and houses as well as widespread evidence for burnt mound activity.

Two ring-ditches dating to the Bronze Age were excavated on Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–Kells Road Scheme. At Grange 3 a large ring-ditch was established in the middle Bronze Age (1372–1131 BC) and re-cut in the late Bronze Age (974–828 BC). Four cremation pits were also excavated at the site and are likely to be contemporary with this Bronze Age monument. At Kilmainham 3 (Whitty 2010b), close to recorded monument ME017:020 (possible barrow), an early Bronze Age ring-ditch was tentatively identified (2137–1965 BC). Bronze Age pottery was also recovered from a number of sites. The types of pottery consisted of cinerary urns and included cordoned urns, vase urns and a fine bipartite vase that was recovered from Phoenixtown 3. In addition to this a cordoned urn recovered from Kilmainham 1C (Walsh 2010) has been identified as a possible disturbed burial. The remainder of the Bronze Age vessels, although they are most commonly associated with burial, have been associated with domestic use.

Bronze Age ring-ditches have been excavated along Contract 1, 2, 3 & 5 of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Road Scheme and occur at Johnstown 4 (Elder & Ginn 2009b), Raynestown 1 (Elder, O'Connor & Owen 2009), Ardsallagh 2 (Clarke & Carlin 2008a), Garretstown 2 (Rathbone 2009), Lismullin 1 (O'Connell 2009) and a circular enclosure representing a possible ring-ditch was excavated at Boyerstown 3 (Clarke 2009). A flat cemetery was also excavated at Ardsallagh 2 (Clarke & Carlin 2008a) and urn burials were discovered at Ardsallagh 1 (Clarke & Carlin 2008b), Collierstown 2 (Linnane 2008) and Lismullin 1. Bronze Age pottery sherds were

plentiful throughout the scheme representing food vessels, collared and cordoned urns and Bronze Age domestic ware. Such sherds were recovered from Ardsallagh 1 (Clarke & Carlin 2008b), Ardsallagh 2 (Clarke & Carlin 2008a), Dunboyne 4 (Elliott & Ginn 2008a), Boyerstown 3 (Clarke 2009), Pottlebane 1 (Rathbone & Ginn 2008), Johnstown 3 (Elder & Ginn 2009a), Johnstown 4 (Elder & Ginn 2009b), Chapelbride 4 (O'Hara, Gallagher & Ginn 2009) and Macetown 1 (Martin 2009). Similar collections of Bronze Age pottery have been retrieved from Site 10, Rathmullan (Bolger 2003), Stamullin (Ní Lionain 2008) and Colp West (Clarke & Murphy 2003) further east in Co. Meath.

Settlement Activity

Settlement sites dating to the Bronze Age period along Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–Kells Road Scheme have recovered substantial evidence for Bronze Age houses. The most common type in Ireland is circular or almost circular in plan (Doody 2000, 139) and similarly, the majority of the structures excavated along Contract 4 conform to this design. Burnt mound activity is also a common feature of the Bronze Age and a number of these sites were excavated along Contract 4 of the M3 Road Scheme. The most enduring explanation for the function of burnt mound sites is that they were used for cooking joints of meat in a trough of boiling water (O'Kelly 1954). These sites are identified by deposits of heat shattered stones and trough features. Water was an essential element for the function of these sites and as a result they are often located in wetland/boggy areas or close to watercourses.

As part of the excavations for Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Road Scheme Bronze Age structures were excavated at Grange 3 (Structure 1: 1499–1415 BC – and Structure 2: 1408–1269 BC; Kelly 2010), Nugentstown 1 (Structure 3: 1186–978 BC; Lynch 2010c), Phoenixtown 3 (Structure 1: 1503–1415 BC – 1435–1303 BC, Cakestown Glebe 2 (Structure 1: 1122–939 BC and 993–838BC, Structure 2: 1215–1013 BC; Lynch 2010d), Kilmainham 1A (Structure 3: 1436–1314 BC – 1419–1269 BC; Lyne 2010c), and Town Parks 3 (late Bronze Age structure: 1019–906 BC; Gleeson 2010b). In addition to these two small 'D shaped' structures were excavated at Cookstown Great 3 (McLoughlin 2010) dated to the early Bronze Age and some small Bronze Age huts were identified at Kilmainham 1C (Walsh 2010).

A number of Bronze Age enclosures were excavated as part of the M1 Northern Motorway–Drogheda Bypass in Co. Meath to the west of Drogheda town. Bronze Age enclosures were uncovered at Sheephouse (Nelis 2002), Kilsharvan, site 16 (Russell 2003b) and at site 17, Lagavooren (Murphy 2003). Several Bronze Age houses have been excavated throughout the county and structures have been identified as part of Contract 1, 2, 3 & 5 of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Road Scheme excavations at Chapelbride 4 (O'Hara, Gallagher & Ginn 2009) and Skreen 3 (O'Neill 2005) that date to the late Bronze Age. Possible Bronze Age structures have been excavated at Bennetstown 3 (Elliott & Ginn 2008b), Dunboyne 2 (O'Hara 2009) and Boyerstown 3 (Clarke 2009), all of which are part of the excavations of Contracts 1, 2, 3 & 5 of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Road Scheme. Bronze Age houses were also excavated at Kilsharvan 5 (Russell 2003a) and Rathmullan site 15/16 (Stafford 2003) as part of the M1 Motorway, west of Drogheda town and structures have also been identified in other parts of Co. Meath; at the lakeshore settlement at Moynagh Lough, Brittas (Bradley 2005) and Colp West (Clarke & Murphy 2003).

Burnt Mound Activity

As part of the archaeological investigations conducted in advance of the construction of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Road Scheme 41 sites exhibiting evidence for hot stone technology were excavated (O'Connor 2007, 2). In addition to these, burnt

mound activity was present at 15 of the sites excavated along Contract 4 of the scheme. Nine of these have been identified as dating to the Bronze Age. One of two burnt mounds excavated at Kilmainham 1C (Walsh 2010) was dated to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age (2 Sigma Cal 2573–2472 BC) and a late Neolithic/early Bronze Age date was also recovered for burnt mound activity at Nugentstown 2 (Lynch 2010b) (2 Sigma Cal 2575–2475 BC). Similar activity was also recorded at Town Parks 6 (Whitty 2010a) however this has been dated to the Neolithic and dates were not recovered from three of the remaining sites. The River Blackwater is located to the east of this part of the M3 scheme and meanders on a north-west, south-east axis. Many of its tributaries traverse the M3 road scheme providing an ideal landscape and ready water source for these burnt mound sites. Within the vicinity of Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–Kells Road Scheme a burnt spread (ME025:044019) and a burnt mound (ME025:044015; *fulacht fiadh*) listed as recorded monuments are located at Abbeyland South in Navan, and a cluster of *fulachta fiadh* are located approximately 5km east of Nugentstown.

An increase of development in recent years has exposed numerous sites displaying burnt mound activity in Co. Meath; twelve sites presenting such activity were excavated as part of the M1 Northern Motorway Drogheda Bypass, three similar sites were uncovered as part of the N2 Ashbourne Bypass and five sites with burnt mound activity were excavated in Co. Meath as part of the Dunshaughlin–Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme.

Lithic finds were also recovered throughout Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–Kells Road Scheme. A number of these artefacts have a wide date range from the Neolithic to the historic period. Lithics recovered from Phoenixtown 1 (Lyne 2010b) included thumbnail scrapers diagnostic of the Bronze Age period and flint artefacts recovered from Nugentstown 3 (Lynch 2010a), Ballybeg 3 (Coughlan 2010a) and Town Parks 2 (Gleeson 2010a) have been identified as late Neolithic/Bronze Age in date.

The funerary and settlement activity excavated along Contract 4 of the M3 Clonee–North of Kells Road Scheme has uncovered additional elements of Co. Meath's Bronze Age heritage and further contributes to our knowledge and understanding of these communities.

3.2.2 Archaeological Landscape of site Phoenixtown 3

Phoenixtown 3 was a circular structure dating to the middle Bronze Age where a series of dates fell within range of c. 1500–1300 BC. There were also some indications of activity on the site predating the structure, in the form of a small quantity of early Bronze Age pottery recovered from a pit and a small quantity of middle Neolithic pottery recovered from the topsoil. Contemporary activity was identified c. 300m to the north-west at Ballybeg 3 where a burnt mound dated to the early to middle Bronze Age was excavated (1879–1693 BC, 1600–1431 BC) (Coughlan 2010a). Another burnt mound (1403–1265 BC) was located c. 700m to the north-west at Ballybeg 1 and this returned dates in the middle – late Bronze Age (1403–1265 BC, 1208–1013 BC) (Lynch 2010e).

There were several newly discovered prehistoric sites found in the vicinity of Phoenixtown 3 (Figure 2) that were not contemporary or of a similar type but they do provide tangible evidence of a continued settlement in the immediate landscape spanning several millennia. A late Neolithic/early Bronze Age – middle Bronze Age burnt mound (2559–2300 BC, 2457–2205 BC, 1408–1269 BC) was located c. 450m to the south-east at Phoenixtown 1 (Lyne 2010b). Another burnt mound dated to the early Bronze Age (2119–1895 BC, 1742–1617 BC) was located c. 600m to the south-east at Phoenixtown 6 (Lyne 2010d). A late Neolithic structure was located c. 950m

to the south-east at Phoenixtown 5 and a series of dates from this site ranged between 2867–2487 BC (Coughlan 2010b).

There are several recorded monuments in the vicinity of Phoenixtown 3. One of these monuments is a mound (ME024:007) located c. 1.8km to the south-east which may date to the Bronze Age. Two other recorded monuments located to the north of the site both date to the early medieval or medieval period (ME017:038, ME017:037).

3.3 Typological Background of Bronze Age Houses

The evidence for Bronze Age domestic activity generally comes in two main forms. The first, and most obvious, consists of house structures, while the second consists of more ephemeral evidence in the form of post-, stake-holes, pits and hearths. It is often difficult to decipher the true nature of the latter group of features, as more often than not they occur in isolation. Whatever the nature of these sites, they are significant as they give an indication of the parts of the landscape that were being exploited during the Bronze Age and can be linked with known domestic structures, thus providing a more extensive understanding of the wider landscape and settlement patterns.

The more easily defined structures or house sites often occur in isolation but can be found in nucleated groups, such as Corrstown, Co. Londonderry (Conway *et al* 2008). On occasion they may be enclosed by ditches, banks or palisades, such as Chancellorsland, Co. Tipperary (Doody 2000) and Ballybrowney, Co. Cork (Cotter 2005). The enclosures are not always defensive and in some cases may have been used to delimit the occupational area. There is a considerable variation of site location of Bronze Age houses which includes lowland, uplands, wetlands and hillforts. The domestic structures of the early and middle Bronze Age are not as common as those of the late Bronze Age, which indicates that during this period there was a significant increase in population. This is verified by the increase in the number of late Bronze Age burnt mound and ringditch sites.

Circular ground-plans are the most common type in Bronze Age structures, with oval and rectilinear structures occurring on occasion (Doody 2000, 137). Both Doody (*ibid.*) and Carlin (2006) have attempted to classify the excavated Bronze Age structures into a series of categories on the basis of those with slot trenches, rings of posts, or components of both. Typologies identified include: external penannular slot trench with internal ring of posts; external interrupted slot trenches and internal ring of posts; external slot trench without any internal postholes; circular or oval ring of freestanding postholes; mixture of freestanding posts and slot trenches; and internal and external ring of freestanding posts.

The diameter of Bronze Age roundhouses vary from 3m–15m, with the majority occurring between 5–9m (Doody 2000, 139). Where the entrance is identifiable it most commonly occurs on the south-east, east, north-east, north and south, in decreasing frequency (Carlin 2006, 10). The entrance is usually identifiable as a gap in the slot or posts, often defined by larger posts on either side, or parallel postholes inside or outside the circle of posts defining the house and representing internal or external porched entrance.

Since the research outlined by Doody, Grogan, Carlin and others there has been a further surge in the number of Bronze Age settlements uncovered in Ireland. This includes a large number of buildings identified in advance of road construction in Munster (McQuade *et al.* 2009 and Tierney and Johnston 2009).

3.4 Summary of the Excavation Results

Phoenixtown 3 was made up of two separate areas c. 70m apart on opposite slopes of a gentle hill, Area A to the south-east and Area B to the north-west.

Area A

Three phases of activity were identified in Area A and the earliest of these was represented by two small pits and one pit / posthole which were located in the western part of the area. Fragments of early Bronze Age food vessel pottery were recovered from the two pits and a charcoal sample from one of them returned a calibrated date range of 1745–1628 BC. The majority of excavated features in Area A were medieval and were most likely associated with the medieval activity identified at site Phoenixtown 2 located 150m to the south-east (Lyne 2010a) (Plate 3). These features included pits and a number of linear ditch features. Undated pits, postholes, stakeholes and spreads may also have belonged to this phase of activity or a post-medieval phase which included linear ditches and furrows.

Area B

The focus of activity in Area B was a middle Bronze Age circular post and slot built structure c. 10m in diameter with an entrance facing to the south-east and a large oblong refuse pit 11m from the entrance. A cluster of 40 stakeholes was situated inside the entrance and may have served as a partition dividing the interior from the entrance area.

3.5 Summary of the Specialist Analysis

A number of specialists provided analysis of samples and artefacts recovered from the site as part of the post-excavation works. This work in part formed the basis for the dating evidence for the site. The detailed reports on the results of all analysis are in Appendix 2.

Prehistoric Pottery Analysis

The site produced an assemblage of 237 sherds (plus 239 fragments and 102 crumbs; total weight: 2,297g) representing a middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl, a single early Bronze Age vase and at least seven middle Bronze Age domestic vessels. The middle Bronze Age material, from features associated with a roundhouse, is particularly important and extends the distribution of this material in the north Leinster area (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1).

Medieval and Post Medieval Pottery

The pottery assemblage from Phoenixtown 3 contains 46 sherds of pottery including 27 sherds of 17th–19th century post-medieval pottery and 18 sherds of 12th–14th century locally produced medieval pottery (Doyle, Appendix 2.2).

Lithics Analysis

A small assemblage of flint and chert was recovered during excavations at Phoenixtown 3 (14 pieces), with a further 35 flint and quartz artefacts being found during soil sample processing. The assemblage also included a small ground stone assemblage, which included an unworked cobble, as well as a putative saddle quern, a polishing/rubbing stone and a possible mortar. Most of the chert and quartz artefacts were angular shatter, with only a single chert flake fragment being found. The chipped flint assemblage was mainly populated by flake debitage, most of which was small scale and produced during tool production. None of the modified tools were clearly datable on morphological grounds (Nelis, Appendix 2.3).

Small Finds Analysis

Metal finds

Finds from Phoenixtown 3 consist of six nail fragments, three from medieval contexts, an iron door latch and a fragment of an iron bracket or brace. A small fractured object is possibly an iron wedge or plug (MacDermott, Appendix 2.4.1).

Clay Pipes

One bowl fragment and three stem fragments were recovered from the site. Two of these were possibly dated to the 17th Century and the others were too small to be dated (Norton, Appendix 2.4.2).

Glass Bead

A fragment of a decorative polychrome bead (E3136:1:62) came from the topsoil at Phoenixtown 3. The bead is an uncommon type, made from reddish-brown glass, for which close parallels are difficult to find, however it has characteristics which make an early medieval date likely (Johnson Appendix 2.4.3).

Charcoal and Wood Species Identification

Charcoal was identified from sixteen contexts from Phoenixtown 3 and nine wood taxa were identified. The results indicate the site was located close to oak woodlands and that these woodlands were not closed canopy in nature as a variety of light dependent scrub/shrub trees were identified. The presence of alder and willow indicates a nearby water source. Most of the identifications concentrated on a middle Bronze Age post built circular structure where it is likely that both oak and ash were selected for posts (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5).

Analysis of Plant Remains

The cultivated plant assemblage recorded from Phoenixtown 3 was largely a medieval, potentially later medieval crop assemblage dominated by barley, with lesser wheat, oat, rye, pea, vetches and flax. Pit C127 probably functioned as a crop drying facility, which is likely to have burnt down at least once, but later reused before going into disuse. Pits C106 and C132, while containing the highest wheat assemblage at the site, were used as refuse pits to dump the discarded waste of nearby kilning debris. These pits may have contained multiple phases of kilning waste, which may account for the different cereal composition from here (Lyons, Appendix 2.6).

Animal Bone Analysis

The distal midshaft portion of a cow femur was recovered from pit C106 and seven adult cattle teeth were found in pit C120. The fill of a third pit C122 also contained three cattle teeth. The fill of an undated linear feature C26 produced a fragment of a sheep/goat mandible from an adult individual. A post-medieval ditch C6 produced two adult cattle teeth. Small fragments of indeterminate burnt bone were recovered from structural features making up the house (McCarthy, Appendix 2.7).

In addition to this the animal bone from pit C120 was analysed separately by Aoife McCarthy. Bone from this pit included 11 fragments of cow mandible and premolar crown. (McCarthy, Appendix 2.9).

Radiocarbon Dating

A total of nine samples of animal bone, charred seeds and charcoal were sent for AMS radiocarbon dating. Six of these returned dates in the middle Bronze Age, one in the early Bronze Age and two were post medieval / modern (QUB, Appendix 2.8).

Charred Barley recovered from fill C135 of pit C127 returned an AMS result of 166 \pm 23 BP (UBA 11109). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1665–1952 BC. A fragment of hazelnut shell recovered from fill C137 of pit C147 returned an AMS result of 3393 \pm 24 BP (UBA 11110). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1745–1628 BC.

Ash charcoal recovered from fills C1049 and C1044 of postholes C1073 and C1104 returned AMS results of 3152 \pm 24 BP (UBA 11111) and 3188 \pm 26 (UBA 11112). The 2 Sigma calibrated results for these were 1494–1392 BC and 1503–1415 BC respectively.

Alder charcoal recovered from fill C1041 of posthole C1055 returned an AMS result of 3113 \pm 22 BP (UBA 11113). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1436–1316 BC.

A fragment of hazelnut shell recovered from fill C1147 of slot trench C1146 returned an AMS result of 3102 \pm 29 BP (UBA 11114). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1435–1303 BC.

A cow tooth recovered from fill C119 of pit C120 returned an AMS result of 91 \pm 21 BP (UBA 13959). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was AD 1693–1954.

Hazel charcoal recovered from upper fill C1001 of pit C1166 returned an AMS result of 3203 \pm 24 BP (UBA 12111). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1515–1428 BC.

Alder charcoal recovered from basal fill C1168 of pit C1166 returned an AMS result of 3247 \pm 22 BP (UBA 12941). The 2 Sigma calibrated result for this was 1607–1451 BC.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Evidence was recovered at Phoenixtown 3 for activity in the Neolithic, early Bronze Age, middle Bronze age, medieval and post-medieval periods. The middle Bronze Age features were the most numerous, significant and coherent; and the site contributes most to our knowledge of that period.

4.1 Discussion

The significance of the site in the Neolithic landscape

The Neolithic period was represented at Phoenixtown 3A in the form of five sherds of pottery recovered from topsoil during the topsoil stripping of the site. These represented a middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl. A blackened accretion on the interior surface suggests that, as was typically the case, this was used in a domestic setting for food preparation. No features from this period were recorded at Phoenixtown 3 so unfortunately these sherds tell us only that activity from this period was going on somewhere nearby, presumably in the form of a settlement.

While some evidence for early Neolithic activity was found at Phoenixtown 1 and 6, and late Neolithic activity at Phoenixtown 5, no such evidence was found for the middle Neolithic in the immediate area.

The significance of the site in the Bronze Age landscape

Area A

Limited evidence for early Bronze Age activity was recorded in Area A in the form of a posthole that contained a single lithic and two shallow pits that produced 13 sherds of vase food vessel. While commonly recovered from funerary contexts, this type of pottery can also occur at settlement sites (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1). For this reason little can be said of this phase of activity at Phoenixtown 3 as the evidence is insufficient.

A date was recovered from a charred hazelnut shell taken from one of these shallow pits, dating this activity to 1745–1628 BC (Appendix 2.8) placing this activity in the early to middle Bronze Age. Broadly contemporary activity was identified c. 300m to the north-west at Ballybeg 3 where a burnt mound dated to the early to middle Bronze Age was excavated (1879–1693 BC, 1600–1431 BC) (Coughlan 2010a), while another burnt mound dated to the early/middle Bronze Age (2119–1895 BC, 1742–1617 BC) was located c. 600m to the south-east at Phoenixtown 6 (Lyne 2010d). Taken together this evidence suggests that this area was reasonably well populated at this time, with a range of activity going on in the general area.

Area B

The features in Area B are the most significant on site, and present a very coherent picture of a particular phase of activity. These features (as discussed in detail in chapter 2) represent a well defined middle Bronze Age round house and associated pits, postholes and surfaces. Thanks to detailed dating of various features on site, it is clear that all of the prehistoric features date to a relatively concise period of time, between 1515 and 1303 BC. A more detailed interrogation of the dates retrieved points to a construction and use phase between approximately 1450 and 1400 BC. The relatively concise date range may suggest that the site was in use for a relatively short period of time, perhaps just a generation. In fact, it has been suggested that middle Bronze Age roundhouses in general may have been one generation homes, perhaps built when a couple began a new life together, maintained throughout their lives and abandoned at the end of their life, with their children having moved on with adulthood (Brück 1999, 149). Without extensive repairs, it is likely that a wooden

structure, even of oak as is the case at Phoenixtown 3B, would last between 30 years and 75 years maximum (ibid, 149).

Circular structure - function and form

The structure at Phoenixtown 3B consisted of a well defined circular house that was post built, with an interrupted flanking slot trench that did not extend to the rear half of the house. The entrance, identified by two larger postholes that stood proud of the others, was toward the south-east, the most common orientation for Bronze Age roundhouses in Ireland (Carlin 2006, 10). This orientation - facing the rising sun at midwinter - may have been symbolic; but it may also have been a practical way of either observing the time of year, or indeed of allowing the morning sun to enter and warm the house at sunrise at the time of year when it was most needed, winter.

The structural posts, which seem to have been of oak or ash (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5) would have supported the roof, which is likely to have been of thatch (Carlin 2006, 20). Whether any superstructure or second level might have existed within the house is unclear, but in the absence of further internal supports we must presume not. Consequently, the roof which would have been conical, would have created a relatively airy space within the house, particularly if no internal hearth was in use. Were a fire being lit within, it is possible that a small opening would have been existed at the apex of the roof.

A limited number of internal pits were identified, the function of which was not clear, but general domestic use is likely; for example storage of food or other material. A series of stakeholes ran in a south-west to north-east direction a short distance inside the entrance. These suggest the presence of a screen hiding the interior of the house from the outside world and also offering further protection from the wind. Furthermore, the layout of these stakeholes suggests that having passed through the entrance to the house, the visitor entered a sort of hall area, where they turned left to round the partition and enter the main chamber. Outside the main entrance a series of four postholes were excavated that may have formed an annexe or porch outside of the formal threshold. This is not a unique feature being an accepted part of these quite typical middle Bronze Age structures. Whether its intended function was to offer further protection from the elements, to provide another layer of privacy, or perhaps to act as some form of symbolic transition area between the inner domestic world and the world outside we can only speculate (Cooney 2000, 62). A desire to mark the entrance to these structures with larger posts and with a porch is surely an elaboration with some meaning however (Brück 1999, 155).

Just inside the entrance the largest pit within the structure was located, C1133. This again is typical of many middle Bronze Age roundhouses, and while it may simply reflect the need for light while carrying out certain tasks, it may also suggest a desire to sit and work at the entrance to one's home as an act of guardianship or in order to emphasise again the divide between the interior and the exterior (Brück 1999, 156). Where hearths have been identified to date, this is generally where they are located, as may be the case at Kilmainham 1A (Brück 1999, 156; Lyne 2010c).

The posts that defined the structure at Phoenixtown – with the exception of some small posts that may have been associated with repair work – displayed axial symmetry along a line from the entrance to the back of the house. This layout, as suggested by Brück, may have been used to 'create dimensions of opposition or complementarily in the use of space on either side of the axis', and was evident in 21% of the structures studied by her (Brück 1999, 155). This symmetry may also be reflective of the building technique employed, and may simply be suggestive of

opposing timbers in the roof above being built to push against each other in opposing pairs.

No internal hearth was identified at Phoenixtown 3B, but it cannot be ruled out that one may have existed for which the evidence has not survived. There was no remaining evidence for the original floor surface either, so it appears that all 'positive' features have been ploughed away in the intervening millennia.

The circular nature of the majority of Bronze Age houses is not perhaps surprising. A circular structure, if built well, will be stronger than a rectangular one, and will offer less wind resistance, meaning that it is less likely to suffer storm damage for example. Also, a circular shape means the maximum possible area is enclosed with the minimum amount of walling material needed. The reasons for a general changeover from rectangular to circular houses in the Bronze Age, and any possible ritual or symbolic connotations that changeover might have embodied, is beyond the scope of this report.

Aside from the large linear pit and related contexts, the various pits, postholes, spreads and possible hearths found outside the structure offered few clear insights into the activities of those that resided here. They point nonetheless to a typical scenario of day to day chores and activities related to domestic life being carried on in the vicinity of the house. One pit (C1110) produced some 30 pieces of flint debitage, and this clearly shows that on occasion at least stone tools were being fashioned in the environs of the house, with the waste material being disposed of in pits.

The Bronze Age roundhouse – further thoughts

Although the structure at Phoenixtown 3B was presumed to be a Bronze Age house during excavation, initial examination of the pottery recovered suggested that the site might date to the Neolithic, as the pottery was considered to be Neolithic Grooved Ware. Furthermore, that might have suggested that the structure was in fact a timber circle (Lyne, 2008; Lyne 2008b). The recovery of a range of very tight dates from both the structure and the associated pits has since placed the site firmly in the middle Bronze Age. This required a reassessment of the pottery, which has since been identified as middle Bronze Age domestic ware (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1), of a form not dissimilar in appearance to Grooved Ware.

The recovery of so much pottery from the linear pit outside and in front of the structure at Phoenixtown 3B, and lithic debitage from another pit nearby, offers us an insight into the lives of those who lived here. It seems that while stone tools were at least occasionally produced on site, this work was not being conducted indoors where the debitage would be left strewn across the floor. Furthermore, the sherds of pottery representing at least 7 vessels were almost all recovered from the linear pit, with only a few sherds found in contexts within the structure. This points to the conscious removal of broken or waste material to the waste pit outside, showing a desire to maintain a clean and tidy space within the domestic abode and suggesting that house-keeping was a concern 3,500 years ago just as it is today.

Another point worth consideration with regard to the linear pit C1166 relates to its location. While some 11m away from the house, it was placed directly in front of the entrance, which seems somewhat strange. A possible explanation may relate to the topography on site. The entrance to the structure at Phoenixtown 3B faces southeast, common for Bronze Age round houses, but it also happens to face uphill. It is conceivable that during wet spells the inhabitants occasionally suffered from rain water flowing down the slope and into the house. A solution to this might have been

to erect a barrier in front of the structure to stop most of the rain. The linear pit C1166 could have acted as part of such a barrier, perhaps with a bank running along one side, made from the clay taken from the pit. In an area where cultivation has been so intensive such a bank would not survive. If this were the case, the dumping of waste within this pit may not have been its intended primary function. Clearly this suggestion is purely speculative, but it is nonetheless a possible explanation for the placing of this unusual feature immediately outside the front of the structure.

It is also worth consideration that the linear pit or ditch C1166 may have been one of a series of such features, perhaps the rest lying outside of the area of excavation, which may have - symbolically at least - defined the area around the roundhouse. It was common during this period to use such boundary ditches as dumps for domestic waste such as broken pottery, and in this way Phoenixtown 3B may have been typical (Brück 1999, 153).

Diet

The pottery, which was a domestic variant of the Cordoned Urn tradition, in at least one case showed evidence for cooking (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1). This pottery type was also recovered at Kilmainham 1A and 1C, Townparks 3, Boyerstown 3 and Lismullin 1, and occurred on many domestic sites of the middle Bronze Age. Other evidence for the diet of the inhabitants came from a sample taken in one of the slot trenches in the form of a few wheat grains (Lyons, Appendix 2.6). Burnt bone fragments were recovered from a number of contexts, but were too small to be identified to species (McCarthy, Appendix 2.7).

Comparable structures/sites

As mentioned above, round houses became the dominant form of domestic structure as the Bronze Age progressed, and many examples have been excavated in Ireland to date, generally from the middle and later Bronze Age. A number of studies of Bronze Age house forms have been conducted to date (e.g. Doody 2000, and O'Neill 2005), however for the purpose of categorising this structure it is of most benefit to look to Carlin's research report on Bronze Age house types which assimilates and updates much of this earlier work (Carlin, 2006).

Based on Carlin's categorisation, Phoenixtown 3B would fall comfortably into his Category B, which are houses that consist of an internal ring of posts with an external circular arrangement of interrupted slot trenches concentric to the internal postholes (ibid, 22). These structures range in diameter from 9 to 11 m and tend to have south-eastern porched entrances. Radiocarbon dates generally cluster around 1500–1350 BC, marking these structures out as peculiar to the middle Bronze Age (ibid 22–23). Carlin's study also identifies a very similar house type, Category A, which comprises of an internal ring of posts surrounded by a penannular slot trench, broken only at the entrance (ibid, 20). These structures are more variable in size, ranging from 6.5 to 14.5 m in diameter, and range in date from 1600 to 1350 BC (ibid, 21). Many examples are known, including Kilmurry, Co Wicklow (O'Neill, 2005) and Rathmullan 15/16, Co Meath (Stafford, 2003).

Carlin concedes that these two house types are very similar, and suggests that either a continuous slot was unnecessary in some cases, or that the Type B house was a regional variation, as at the time of his study he states that Type B houses had only been found in the northeast of the country - at Corrstown, Co Antrim (Conway, Gahan and Rathbone, 2004/2005) and at Cappagh Beg, Co Derry (Linnane, 2003). The sites since uncovered on the M3 have shown that this is not the case, with Type B houses evident at Phoenixtown 3B and at Grange 3, Structures 1 and 2 (see below). Furthermore, this writer would question whether the distinction between

Types A and B is potentially a misleading one, as in some cases a penannular slot trench might survive as an interrupted series of slots depending on the evenness of the depth of the slot and levels of truncation since prehistory. In either case, it is clear that Types A and B are probably related, and they broadly occur contemporaneously.

It is perhaps most appropriate and beneficial in the case of Phoenixtown 3B to compare it to structures that were broadly contemporary in date (i.e. middle Bronze Age, c. 1700–1200 BC), that shared similar characteristics, and finally to those that were found in the same region. Some of the best comparative material has in fact been identified as part of the same project as led to the discovery of Phoenixtown 3, i.e. M3 Motorway, Contracts 1–5.

Particularly relevant are Grange 3 - Structure 1 and Structure 2 which were located c. 2.5 km south-east of Phoenixtown (Kelly, 2010) and to a lesser degree Kilmainham 1A Structure 3 located c. 6 km north-west of Phoenixtown (Lyne, 2010c). Structure 1 at Grange 3 presents a particularly good parallel for Phoenixtown 3B, and comprised a series of interrupted pits forming a circle, with an internal diameter of approximately 7m and an external diameter of approximately 8m. These were flanked internally by a circle of postholes which were spaced approximately 2m apart. The date for this structure was 1499–1415 BC, making it broadly contemporary with Phoenixtown 3B, and while it is somewhat smaller, they share many key characteristics in form and layout. Grange 3 Structure 2, dated to 1408–1269 BC was broadly similar to Structure 1, but the pattern is not as defined. It is unclear whether these two structures were contemporary or if one was a replacement for the other. Kilmainham 1A Structure 3 dated to 1436–1269 BC, consisted of a circle of ten postholes approximately 8.5m in diameter with two entrance posts slightly outside the circle to the south-east. Stakeholes existed within the structure possibly defining a square area inside the circle, and as with Phoenixtown 3B, a possible working pit was noted in the entrance area. A saddle quern fragment was recovered from this feature. As this structure showed no evidence for an external slot trench of any form, it falls into Carlin's Type D structure (Carlin 2006, 25), but its proximity to Phoenixtown and its similar dating make it worthy of mention as again it appears to have been broadly contemporary, and it produced very similar pottery (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1).

Somewhat further afield, a circular structure was also excavated at Boyerstown 3 by Linda Clarke for ACS Ltd (also part of the M3 project). This structure was somewhat smaller at 7.5m in diameter, with a near continuous slot-trench and internal postholes (Clarke, 2009). The slot trench was narrower and shallower than that at Phoenixtown, and there were just six main internal postholes, giving the impression of an overall slighter structure. This structure had a small assemblage of pottery of similar form to that at Phoenixtown 3B (domestic cordoned urn), and was similarly dated to the middle Bronze Age. It falls into Carlin's Type A Structure.

The houses at Phoenixtown 3B, Grange 3 (Str. 1 and 2), Kilmainham, and Boyerstown 3 share many characteristics, albeit there are slight differences. The pottery recovered is generally very similar in form (Grogan and Roche, Appendix 2.1), and their dates also overlap. The overall picture from the M3 excavations then is one of dispersed settlement in the region during the middle Bronze Age, with communities dotted through the landscape, building and inhabiting houses that were broadly the same though with slight variation in construction, form and size.

Of relevance also (from the immediate area) were the burnt mounds excavated at Ballybeg 3 (300m to the north-west), Ballybeg 1 (700m to the north-west) and Phoenixtown 1 (450m to the south-east), all of which were broadly contemporary with

these houses. Looked at as a group, these sites give us a real glimpse of the middle Bronze Age landscape in this part of Co Meath.

The significance of the site in the medieval period

Area A was dominated by a series of linear ditches and pits which in many cases were inter-cutting. The majority of these are likely to have been medieval in date, based on a limited amount of pottery recovered, and on the proximity of this area to Phoenixtown 2 (c. 150m away to the south-east). In fact it is probably appropriate to consider most of these medieval features as essentially being part of the complex uncovered at Phoenixtown 2, albeit peripherally so. Many of the ditches at Phoenixtown 3A ran in an east–west direction, and therefore were broadly parallel to the ditches at Phoenixtown 2, perhaps suggesting that they represent field boundaries associated with that site (Plate 3). Consequently these ditches and the associated pits are likely to represent various forms of medieval agricultural activity.

The significance of the site in the post-medieval period

One ditch excavated in Area A was securely dated to the Post-Medieval period based on pottery recovered, and is likely to represent a relatively recent field boundary. A large pit (C127) which was cut into the fills of one of the medieval ditches, has also been shown to have a post-medieval date, based on a date retrieved from charred barley grain recovered from one of its primary fills (AD 1665–1952). The high quantity of carbonised cereal grain recorded from this pit suggests that it functioned as a crop drying facility (Appendix 2.6, Lyons). These features can therefore be seen as part of the wider post-medieval agricultural landscape.

The surrounding environment in the Bronze Age and medieval period

Charcoal was identified from sixteen contexts from Phoenixtown 3, with nine wood taxa identified. The results of this analysis indicate that the Bronze Age site was located in the environs of oak woodlands, and that these woodlands were not closed canopy as a range of light-dependent scrub/shrub trees were also identified. Alder and willow in the assemblage indicates that a water source was located nearby (O'Donnell, Appendix 2.5). Insufficient charcoal was analysed from the medieval features to allow for discussion, however the charcoal analysis from Phoenixtown 2 should give a good indication of the local environment during that period.

4.2 Conclusions

Phoenixtown 3 consisted of two separate areas of archaeological activity, on opposite slopes of a gentle hill, and on either side of a standing field boundary. Area A comprised a series of features of wide ranging dates, early Bronze Age, medieval and post-medieval. These features were either poorly defined or of relatively little archaeological interest. Conversely, Area B consisted of a coherent series of significant prehistoric features.

The well-defined circular structure and associated settlement activity excavated at Phoenixtown 3B, comprised a Middle Bronze Age residence of some archaeological significance, certainly at a local level. Along with other middle Bronze Age structures excavated on the M3 at Boyerstown 3, Grange 3 and Kilmainham 1A it adds greatly to our knowledge of the settlement pattern and population level of this region during that period. Furthermore, along with the two houses excavated at Grange 3 it expands southward the distribution of Carlin's Type B Middle Bronze Age roundhouse, previously only recorded at Corrstown, Co Antrim (Conway, Gahan and Rathbone, 2004/2005) and at Cappagh Beg, Co Derry (Linnane, 2003), (Carlin 2006, 22).

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5.2 Other Sources

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Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

APPENDIX 1 CATALOGUE OF PRIMARY DATA

Appendix 1.1 Context Register

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.3	Topsoil.	Mid brown organic top soil. Deep red at east end.
C2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Natural subsoil.	Sandy yellow/green silty sand.
C3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Changed to C99.	Changed to C99.
C5	C6	70 Extends beyond site limit.	1.55	0.5	Fill of a ditch.	Medium compacted mid brown silty clay with 2% stones.
C6	N/A	70 Extends beyond site limit.	1.55	0.5	Cut of a ditch.	E–W oriented linear cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and an imperceptible break of slope at the base. Gradual sloping sides and concave base.
C7	C8	1.05	0.58	0.15	Fill of irregular feature.	Medium soft light brown sandy clay.
C8	N/A	1.05	0.58	0.15	Cut of irregular feature.	E–W oriented irregular oval cut with no corners, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and base.
C9	C10	3	0.9	0.2	Fill of a ditch.	Compact brown black sandy clay with 30% stones.
C10	N/A	19	0.97	0.16	Cut of a ditch. Straight after being cut by 6 fill 13 is replaced by 9.	N–S oriented linear cut with gradual break of slope at the top and an imperceptible break of slope at the base, irregular sides and an irregular base.
C11	C12	10.3	0.6	0.3	Fill of a ditch.	Medium soft brown sandy clay with stones.
C12	N/A	10.3	0.6	0.3	Cut of a ditch.	N–S oriented linear cut with gradual break of slope at the top and base, gradual sloping sides and a concave base.
C13	C10	19	0.97	0.16	Fill of ditch 10, which is replaced by fill nine after ditch is cut by 6.	Medium compaction mid brown- yellow clay with occasional inclusions.
C14	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Furrow.	Furrow.
C15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Furrow.	Furrow.
C16	C17	12.58+	0.8	0.38	Fill of possible drain.	Loose orange-light brown sandy silt with approximately 30% stones.
C17	N/A	12.58+.	0.8	0.38	Cut of possible drain.	E–W oriented linear cut. The break of slope at the top is gradual and sharp to gradual at the base. The sides are gradual sloping and the base is concave.
C18	C19	12.73+	1.53	0.28	Fill of a ditch.	Moderately firm grey-mid brown sandy silt with no inclusions.
C19	N/A	12.73+	1.53	0.28	Cut of a ditch.	E–W oriented linear cut, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and an irregular flat base.
C20	C21	0.37	0.2	0.06	Probable posthole or stone socket.	Weakly cemented dark reddish brown clay sand with charcoal inclusions.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C21	N/A	0.37	0.2	0.06	Probable posthole or stone socket.	Irregular sub oval cut with rounded corners. The sides are convex to the east, south and west but vertical to the north. The base is flat.
C22	C23	0.21	0.21	0.05	Probable posthole or stone socket.	Soft, brown-yellow clay sand with no inclusions.
C23	N/A	0.21	0.21	0.05	Probable posthole or stone socket.	Oval cut with rounded corners, sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base, moderate sloping sides and a concave base.
C24	C27	0.41	0.32	0.15	Oval feature with lots of charcoal inclusions.	Oval shaped feature of soft dark yellow black silty sand with no stones but some charcoal.
C25	C26	1.39	0.23	0.14	Fill of a linear feature.	Weakly cemented dark brown silty clay with frequent small and medium sized stones.
C26	N/A	1.39	0.23	0.14	Cut of a linear feature.	N–S oriented linear cut with rounded corners and vertical sides. The base is U shaped.
C27	N/A	0.41	0.32	0.15	Oval feature with lots of charcoal inclusions.	Oval shaped cut with rounded corners, sharp break of slope at the top on all sides. The sides are gradual to the N and W and vertical to the S and the E. The base slopes from N to S.
C28	C34	1.17	0.7	0.21	Fill of a shallow pit.	Loose semi brown-red silty sand with 15% stones.
C29	C32	1.85	0.84	0.1	Fill of a very shallow pit.	Soft brown sandy clay with rare spots of charcoal and occasional small stones.
C30	C31	0.7	0.64	0.28	Possible posthole.	Loose grey to mid brown clay silt with approximately 5% stones and charcoal.
C31	N/A	0.7	0.64	0.28	Possible posthole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and a non-perceptible break of slope at the base. The sides are gradual to steep, the base is V-shaped.
C32	N/A	1.85	0.84	0.1	Cut of a very shallow pit.	NE–SW oriented figure of 8 shaped cut with rounded corners. The sides are concave as is the base.
C33	N/A	0.38	0.34	0.06	Spread with some charcoal possibly originating from cut 27, fill 24.	Soft dark brown-black clay sand with rare charcoal and occasional small stone inclusions.
C34	N/A	1.17	0.7	0.21	Cut of a shallow pit.	N–S oriented linear cut with rounded corners. The sides are concave and the base is irregular.
C35	N/A	0.12	0.12	0.12	Probable posthole/stakehole or stone socket/burnt roots.	Oval cut with rounded corners and a sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual to sharp break of slope at the base. The sides are gradual/vertical and the base is flat.
C36	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C37	C35	0.12	0.12	0.12	Probable posthole/stakehole or stone socket/burnt roots.	Soft bright brown clay sand with rare charcoal and small red stones.
C38	C46	0.46	0.3	0.21	Oval feature once used for fire.	Soft black-brown clay sand with red spots and frequent burnt stones and charcoal.
C39	N/A	7.55	0.85	0.12	Cut of a furrow.	E–W oriented linear cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and the base, and a linear flat base.
C40	C39	7.55	0.85	0.12	Fill of a furrow.	Semi compact brown silty clay with <5% stones.
C41	C42	1.17	0.72	0.07	Charcoal rich fill of pit.	Medium firm dark grey black silt clay with many inclusions of charcoal.
C42	N/A	2.75	0.76	0.4	Cut of pit. Contains charcoal and ash material but no sign of burnt natural.	Sub oval with sharp break of slope all around the top. The sides are gradual to the N and W and sharp to the S and E. The base is sub oval concave. Possible tree roots.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C43	C44	0.48	0.53	0.06	Fill of possible posthole.	Loose grey to dark brown sandy silt with flecks of charcoal.
C44	N/A	0.48	0.53	0.06	Cut of possible posthole.	Sub oval cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a concave base.
C45	N/A	0.75	0.56	0.08	Patch of burnt soil.	Sub oval deposit of medium compact orange-red silty clay with small flecks of charcoal.
C46	N/A	0.46	0.3	0.21	Oval feature once used for fire.	N–S oriented oval of soft blackish brown with red spots clay sand with common small red stones and frequent charcoal.
C47	C51	1.12	0.46	0.36	Fill of a pit.	Oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a flat base.
C48	C49	0.09	0.08	0.1	Fill of possible stakehole.	Moderately firm brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.
C49	N/A	0.09	0.08	0.1	Cut of possible stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are steep and the base is concave.
C50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C51	N/A	1.12	0.46	0.36	Cut of a fire pit.	N–S oriented oval cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a flat base.
C52	C53	3.9	0.44	0.13	Fill of a small ditch/furrow.	Loose light red-brown silty clay with some flecks of charcoal and a few stones.
C53	N/A	3.9	0.44	0.13	Cut of small ditch/furrow.	NW–SE oriented linear cut. The sides are gradual sloping and the base is irregular.
C54	C55	0.64	0.31	0.19	Fill of oval pit like feature.	Weakly cemented grey-brown sandy clay with some charcoal and rare grey inclusions of soil.
C55	N/A	0.64	0.31	0.19	Cut of oval pit like feature.	Oval cut with rounded corners. The sides are gradual to the W and vertical to the E, S and N. The base is concave.
C56	C59	0.11	0.09	0.07	Fill of a stakehole.	Soft brown clay sand with no inclusions.
C57	C58	0.1	0.08	0.05	Fill of a stakehole.	Soft brown clay sand with no inclusions.
C58	N/A	0.1	0.08	0.05	Cut of a stakehole.	Oval cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C59	N/A	0.11	0.09	0.07	Cut of a stakehole.	Oval cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C60	C106	2.6	2	0.32	Fill of a pit.	Moderate firm grey silty clay with 2% charcoal and 15% stones.
C61	C71	28	1.36	0.28	Fill of a ditch.	Moderate firm brown silty clay with no inclusions.
C62	C86	0.6	0.48	0.16	Fill of a posthole.	Loose brown grey sandy soil with stones and charcoal.
C63	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C64	C72	8	0.4	0.17	Fill of ditch.	Loose brown sandy soil.
C65	C73	0.2	0.18	0.16	Fill of a posthole.	Loose yellow brown black sandy soil with charcoal.
C66	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C67	C77	0.3	0.26	0.2	Fill of a posthole.	Loose brown sandy soil.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C68	C75	0.22	0.2	0.14	Fill of a posthole.	Loose brown sandy soil.
C69	C76	0.22	0.2	0.15	Fill of a posthole.	Loose brown sandy soil.
C70	C85	0.2	0.18	0.1	Fill of a posthole.	Loose dark brown sandy soil with one big stone making up about 80% of fill.
C71	N/A	28	1.36	0.28	Cut of a ditch.	E–W oriented linear cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and an irregular flat base.
C72	N/A	8	0.4	0.17	Cut of a ditch/furrow.	E–W oriented linear cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C73	N/A	0.2	0.18	0.16	Posthole cut by ditch.	Semi circular cut, truncated by ditch. With gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base and a concave slope to the S, N is cut by ditch. The base is rounded.
C74	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C75	N/A	0.22	0.2	0.14	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C76	N/A	0.22	0.2	0.15	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C77	N/A	0.3	0.26	0.2	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C78	C81	1.8	1.4	0.12	Top fill of pit.	Medium soft brown red clay silt with 5% small stones and occasional charcoal.
C79	C94	0.96	0.6	0.08	Top fill of small pit with burning.	Soft dark red brown clay silt.
C80	C81	1.5	1.1	0.05	Layer of burnt material in bottom of pit.	Lower fill of soft black grey mix silt clay with 30% charcoal.
C81	N/A	1.8	1.4	0.17	Cut of pit with burnt material in the base, although there is no sign of burnt natural suggesting it was placed into pit after burning. No finds to suggest usage.	Sub oval cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and a very gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are gradual all round the cut but are steeper to the E. The base is flat and oval.
C82	C89	3.2	1.2	0.2	Fill of linear.	Very soft grey-light brown silty clay.
C83	C91	N/A	0.6	0.15	Fill of modern furrow.	N/A
C84	C92	0.8	0.5	0.1	Intense area of burning in a larger irregular pit.	Medium loose red brown clay silt with charcoal inclusions.
C85	N/A	0.2	0.18	0.1	Cut of posthole with a large stone making up 80% of the fill.	Circular cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C86	N/A	0.6	0.48	0.16	Cut of a posthole.	Oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C87	C88	0.54	0.4	0.16	Fill of a pit.	Loose red brown sandy soil with stone inclusions.
C88	N/A	0.54	0.4	0.16	Cut of a pit.	Oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave side to the S and a concave/step side to the N. The base is rounded.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C89	N/A	3.2	1.2	0.2	Possibly cut or indent left by C60 being built up.	E–W oriented linear cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a flat base.
C90	C92	2.1	1.1	0.43	Secondary fill of irregular pit.	Medium loose red/grey clay silt with large pieces of charcoal.
C91	N/A	N/A	0.6	0.15	Cut of modern furrow.	N/A
C92	N/A	2.1	1.18	0.49	Cut of irregular feature cut by furrow C91.	E–W oriented oval cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base, steep sides and a concave base.
C93	C94	0.87	0.45	0.08	Layer of burning in C94. No finds to indicate usage.	Soft red brown silt clay with occasional stones.
C94	N/A	0.96	0.6	0.16	Cut of a pit with unknown usage, it contains burnt material but no finds.	Sub rectangular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a concave sub rectangular base.
C95	C96	1.86	0.46	0.21	Fill of pit linear in shape.	Firm grey-mid brown sandy silt with 15% charcoal and 10% stones.
C96	N/A	1.86	0.46	0.21	Cut of pit linear in shape.	N–S linear cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and an irregular flat base.
C97	C98	0.18	0.17	0.1	Fill of a posthole.	Firm mid grey-brown sandy clay.
C98	N/A	0.18	0.17	0.1	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C99	C100	0.67	0.5	0.2	Fill of a pit / posthole.	Loose mid brown black clay silt with 5% stones and 25% charcoal.
C100	N/A	0.67	0.5	0.2	Cut of a pit / posthole.	Circular cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, gradual to steep sides and a flat base.
C101	C102	1.17	0.65	0.08	Fill of shallow irregular feature.	Loose soft brown and black sandy soil with charcoal and stones.
C102	N/A	1.17	0.65	0.08	Cut of shallow irregular feature.	Irregular cut with gentle sloping sides and a rounded base.
C103	C107	1.92	1.1	0.34	Fill of a linear pit.	Firm brown sand with charcoal inclusions.
C104	C105	0.33	0.33	0.07	Fill of a very shallow posthole.	Loose light black brown soft soil with charcoal and small stones.
C105	N/A	0.33	0.33	0.07	Cut of a very shallow posthole.	Circular cut with steep break of slope at the top and sharp break of slope at the base, steep sides and a rounded base.
C106	N/A	2.6	2	0.32	Cut of pit in East end of ditch 71.	Sub oval cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a flat base.
C107	N/A	1.92	1.1	0.34	Cut of a linear pit.	N–S oriented linear cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C108	C109	0.56	0.54	0.11	Fill of small pit.	Loose dark grey sand silt with some charcoal.
C109	N/A	0.56	0.54	0.11	Cut of a small pit.	Sub circular cut. The sides are gradual to steep with a concave base.
C110	C42	2.75	0.76	0.28	Top fill of pit.	Medium-firm grey brown silty clay with large stones at the bottom.
C111	C42	1.06	0.64	0.05	Ash/charcoal layer in 42.	Medium compaction brown grey silt clay , very ashy.
C112	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C113	C114	0.13	0.13	0.11	Fill of small posthole.	Loose soft black and yellow sandy soil with charcoal flecks.
C114	N/A	0.13	0.13	0.11	Cut of small posthole.	Circular cut with steep break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sides and a circular base.
C115	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C116	C117	0.4	0.35	0.05	Fill of possible pit.	Firm dark brown sandy clay with charcoal inclusions.
C117	N/A	0.4	0.35	0.05	Cut of possible pit.	Linear cut with rounded corners, gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C118	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C119	C120	0.43	0.25	0.25	Fill of a pit.	Moderate firm yellow / black / grey silty soil with charcoal inclusions.
C120	N/A	0.43	0.25	0.25	Cut of a pit.	Rectangular cut with sharp corners, sharp break of slope at the top and the base, steep sides and a flat rectangular base.
C121	C127	3.3	3.3	0.3	Top fill of large pit. Cutting ditch 71.	Loose brown-orange silty clay with occasional stones.
C122	N/A	1.2	1.15	0.2	Cut of pit. Probably a fireplace.	Sub square cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a flat linear base.
C123	C122	1.2	1.15	0.2	Fill of pit.	Moderately firm grey silty soil with 5% charcoal.
C124	C146	1.84	1.75	0.58	Fill of irregular feature.	Loose dark grey sandy clay with 20% charcoal and 30% stones.
C125	C127	0.9	0.6	0.01	Charcoal layer at the bottom of large pit.	Loose charcoal silty clay layer.
C126	C127	0.9	0.6	0.03	Red burnt material at bottom of large pit. Same as 143.	Loose red burnt silty clay with 15% charcoal.
C127	N/A	3.3	3.3	0.7	Cut of large pit with charcoal layers between ash layers.	Circular cut. The sides are gradually sloping and the base is irregular and flat.
C128	C127	2.55	2.5	0.2	Grey fill on the bottom of large pit. Probably ash between charcoal layers.	Loose grey sandy clay with occasional small stones.
C129	C127	0.8	0.5	0.07	Grey fill with charcoal in middle part of pit.	Loose grey silty clay with charcoal inclusions.
C130	C127	2.25	2.1	0.18	Yellow fill in middle part of large pit.	Loose yellow sandy clay with occasional small stones.
C131	C127	1.11	1.1	0.11	Brownish yellow fill in middle part of pit.	Loose yellowish brown silty clay.
C132	N/A	0.8	0.55	0.07	Cut of probable fire pit.	Irregular cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base. The sides are gradual sloping and the base is concave.
C133	C132	0.8	0.55	0.07	Charcoal rich fill of pit.	Loose black silty soil with 65% charcoal.
C134	C127	1.2	1.1	0.04	Charcoal layer between 138 and 139.	Loose black silty clay charcoal layer.
C135	C127	1.45	0.6	0.06	Charcoal layer under 139 on the bottom of 127.	Loose black silty clay charcoal layer.
C136	C127	1	0.8	0.02	Charcoal layer under 139 and 140 on the East side of pit.	Loose black silty clay charcoal layer.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C137	C147	0.38	0.36	0.06	Fill of small pit.	Firm medium brown sandy clay with 15% charcoal and 1% stones.
C138	C127	1.15	0.7	0.04	Grey fill. Possibly ash, between charcoal layers 125 and 134.	Loose grey sandy clay with 5% charcoal and occasional small stones.
C139	C127	1.4	1	0.1	Grey fill. Possibly ash, between charcoal layers 135, 139, 136 and 142.	Loose grey sandy clay with 5% charcoal.
C140	C127	0.6	0.5	0.07	Grey fill. Possibly ash, between charcoal layers 134, 138 and 135.	Loose grey sandy clay with 5% charcoal.
C141	C127	2.2	0.4	0.01	Charcoal layer between 135, 136, 142 and 143.	Loose black silty clay charcoal layer.
C142	C127	1.1	0.9	0.08	Grey fill between 136, 135 and 141.	Grey sandy clay with 5% charcoal.
C143	C127	0.9	0.75	0.01	Red burnt material at bottom of large pit. Same as 126.	Loose red burnt silty clay.
C144	C127	0.1	0.09	0.01	Charcoal layer in large pit.	Loose black silty clay charcoal layer.
C145	C148	0.47	0.45	0.04	Top fill of round shallow pit.	Medium loose brown-grey silty clay with flecks of charcoal and medium sized sub angular stones.
C146	N/A	1.84	1.75	0.58	Cut of irregular feature.	Irregular cut with gradual break of slope at the top, gradual sloping sides and a concave break of slope at the base. The base is flat with various levels.
C147	N/A	0.38	0.36	0.06	Cut of small pit.	Oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and an imperceptible break of slope at the base, concave sides and flat base.
C148	N/A	0.47	0.45	0.08	Cut of pit used for burning.	Sub circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded irregular base.
C149	C148	0.43	0.4	0.06	Layer of coal, blackish soil and pottery.	Medium loose black grey clay silt with frequent charcoal and small to medium sized stones.
C150	C148	0.35	>0.35	0.07	Base fill of pit used for burning.	Medium loose brown-grey silty clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and small stones.
C151	C154	0.61	0.58	0.31	Fill of irregular feature.	Loose brown sandy soil with charcoal flecks and small stones.
C152	C154	0.65	1.2	0.17	Fill at the bottom of pit 154 either side of 153.	Compacted grey clay with small stones and charcoal.
C153	C154	1.3	1.2	0.4	Fill of irregular feature.	Loose yellow and orange sandy soil with charcoal and decayed stone.
C154	N/A	2.16	1.2	0.45	Cut of irregular feature.	NW–SE oriented cut with gradual break of slope at the top and a gentle-sharp break of slope at the base. Flat base.
C155	C156	>30	0.48	0.18	Fill of possible furrow.	Moderate firm mid brown silty soil.
C156	N/A	>30	0.48	0.18	Cut of possible furrow.	E–W oriented linear cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a concave base.
C157	C158	1	0.9	0.1	Top fill of average pit cutting ditches 71 and 167.	Medium loose brown clay silt with some small stones.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C158	N/A	1.3	1.2	0.15	Regular pit of three fills. A number of similar pits were found along the length of the ditch.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base.
C159	C158	0.75	0.65	0.02	Charcoal layer in base of pit. Similar to charcoal layers in base of other pits along the ditch.	Very loose black charcoal layer.
C160	C158	0.9	0.7	0.1	Secondary fill of average sized pit.	Medium compaction grey silt, possibly ash.
C161	C162	1.88	0.5	0.15	Fill of linear feature. Possibly animal burrow.	Loose yellow-brown silty sand with occasional small stones and 2% charcoal.
C162	N/A	1.88	0.5	0.15	Cut of linear feature. Possibly animal burrow.	E–W oriented linear cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are gradually sloping and the base is concave.
C163	C167	11	1.25	0.35	Fill of recut. Heavily cut away by cut 71, c61.	Very firm red brown clay with no inclusions.
C164	C166	0.3	0.26	0.23	Fill of possible pit/posthole.	Moderately firm grey-mid brown silty clay with a few flecks of charcoal, few stones and some burnt clay.
C165	C166	0.16	0.14	0.05	Top fill of possible pit/posthole.	Fairly loose black-dark brown silty sand with possible inclusions of charcoal.
C166	N/A	0.3	0.26	0.23	Cut of possible posthole/pit.	Oval cut with slightly pointed corners, steep break of slope at the top and a fairly gradual break of slope at the base. The base is oval and concave.
C167	N/A	11	1.25	0.35	Cut of a ditch.	E–W linear cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, gradual sloping sides and a gradual base.
C168	C169	5.5	0.4	0.3	Fill of a furrow.	Medium firm red brown clay silt with occasional small stones.
C169	N/A	5.5	0.4	0.3	Cut of a furrow.	E–W oriented linear cut with very sharp break of slope at the top and a sharp break of slope at the base, near vertical sides and a concave base.
C170	C171	0.81	0.8	0.15	Fill of a very shallow pit.	Very loose dark grey black clay silt with charcoal and stone inclusions.
C171	N/A	0.81	0.8	0.15	Cut of shallow pit.	Circular cut with sharp to medium break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are steep to medium and the base is stepped concave.
C172	N/A	4	2.3	0.23	Cut of pit. With burning at the base.	Oval cut with sharp break of slope at top and base and sharp sloping sides. The base is oval and flat.
C173	C172	4	2.3	0.23	Silted up fill of pit.	Medium loose dark brown silt clay with occasional medium sized stones.
C174	C175	1.52	1.27	0.24	Fill of pit.	Firm light grey brown silt clay with 10% medium and large stones.
C175	N/A	1.52	1.27	0.24	Cut of pit cutting 173.	Sub oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top, and very gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are gradually sloping and the base is sub oval, concave.
C176	C172	0.7	0.6	0.05	Small patch of scorched earth under main fill.	Compacted red black soil with possible charcoal inclusions.
C177	C178	4.5	1.15	0.3	Fill of ditch/furrow.	Firm yellow brown mottled sandy clay with occasional small stones.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C178	N/A	4.5	1.15	0.3	Cut of a ditch.	N–S oriented linear cut with sharp to very sharp break of slope at the top to the W, and to the E at the base and near 90° break of slope at the base to the W. The sides are steep to the E and near vertical to the W. The base is flat.
C179	C186	2.7	1.8	0.55 (to water)	Fill of pit.	Medium soft red brown clay silt with occasional small stones.
C180	C184	3	0.85	0.18	Fill of small shallow ditch/pit.	Medium firm brown grey clay silt with no inclusions.
C181	C182	2.8	0.9	0.57	Main fill of C182.	Medium grey clay with very occasional small stones.
C182	N/A	3	1.2	0.46	Cut of a large pit located at end of C71. Could be coincidence that pit is located at end of ditch but is unlikely.	E–W oriented oval/rectangular cut with rounded corners, sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C183	C182	2.9	0.6	0.2	A very sandy lower fill of the pit.	Loose green grey sand with no inclusions.
C184	N/A	3	0.85	0.18	Cut of small linear.	E–W oriented linear cut with sharp break of slope at the top. The break of slope at the base to the S is sharp but it is more gradual to the N. The sides are sharp and the base is concave.
C185	C182	3	0.32	0.52	Green grey sandy fill of pit. Came away easily from natural.	Loose to medium compaction green-grey sand with no inclusions.
C186	N/A	2.7	1.8	0.55	Cut of pit.	Sub oval cut.
C187	C188	N/A	N/A	N/A	Modern furrow. Cutting C148.	Modern furrow fill.
C188	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Modern furrow. Cutting C148.	Modern furrow.
C450	C451	0.98	0.5	0.2	Grey fill of small pit found under ditch 167.	Medium loose grey sandy silt with a small amount of charcoal and stones.
C451	N/A	0.98	0.5	0.2	Small oval pit under ditch 167.	Oval cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are steep and the base is concave.
C1001	C1166	11.1	2.1	0.34	Top fill of long linear waste pit. With 249 pieces of pottery some of reasonable size.	Loose mid brown greyish silty clay with 5% charcoal and 4% small and medium sized stones.
C1002	C1057	0.75	0.6	0.13	Fill of pit.	Loose brown sandy soil with charcoal inclusions.
C1003	C1046	0.13	0.1	0.04	Fill of stakehole.	Moderately firm dark brown-black silty soil with charcoal inclusions.
C1004	C1102	0.08	0.08	0.18	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid grey-brown silty clay.
C1005	C1091	0.1	0.1	0.08	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm grey-mid brown silty clay.
C1006	C1089	0.1	0.1	0.15	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm grey-mid brown silty clay.
C1007	C1081	0.08	0.08	0.09	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm grey-mid brown silty clay.
C1008	C1090	0.13	0.13	0.11	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm grey-mid brown silty clay.
C1009	C1080	0.12	0.12	0.14	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm grey-mid brown silty clay with 4% stone.
C1010	C1077	0.07	0.07	0.13	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1011	C1078	0.1	0.1	0.08	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1012	C1094	0.07	0.07	0.16	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1013	C1101	0.04	0.04	0.1	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1014	C1100	0.04	0.04	0.06	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1015	C1099	0.08	0.08	0.22	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1016	C1098	0.04	0.04	0.14	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1017	C1097	0.05	0.05	0.08	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid brown silty clay.
C1018	C1095	0.1	0.1	0.1	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid brown silty clay with inclusions of stone.
C1019	C1096	0.04	0.04	0.07	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid brown silty clay.
C1020	C1093	0.07	0.07	0.06	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid brown greyish silty clay.
C1021	C1092	0.03	0.03	0.07	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1022	C1088	0.05	0.05	0.15	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1023	C1087	0.07	0.07	0.1	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1024	C1086	0.1	0.1	0.09	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1025	C1085	0.07	0.07	0.09	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1026	C1084	0.14	0.14	0.08	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1027	C1083	0.11	0.11	0.1	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1028	C1082	0.15	0.15	0.09	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1029	C1079	0.07	0.7	0.06	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1030	C1076	0.06	0.06	0.05	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1031	C1075	0.04	0.04	0.03	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1032	C1072	0.05	0.05	0.06	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1033	C1071	0.08	0.08	0.09	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1034	C1070	0.1	0.07	0.1	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1035	C1069	0.07	0.07	0.12	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1036	C1068	0.08	0.08	0.17	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1037	C1067	0.05	0.05	0.09	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1038	C1066	0.08	0.08	0.12	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1039	C1065	0.07	0.07	0.11	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1040	C1064	0.09	0.09	0.05	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1041	C1055	0.32	0.31	0.09	Fill of a posthole.	Semi compact dark brown sandy silty clay with very small stones and charcoal inclusions.
C1042	C1116	0.47	0.4	0.24	Fill of a posthole.	Moderately firm black-mid brown sand silt with 5% small stones.
C1043	C1063	0.35	0.35	0.17	Fill of a posthole.	Fairly loose mid to dark brown silty sand with charcoal and a few small stones.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1044	C1104	0.81	0.46	0.34	Fill of oval shaped pit.	Semi compact brown and grey silty clay with 65% big stones and 25% charcoal.
C1045	C1111	0.4	0.3	0.16	Fill of a posthole.	Medium loose brown black silty clay with 10% stones.
C1046	N/A	0.13	0.1	0.04	Cut of a stakehole.	Oval cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C1047	C1123	3.98	0.56	0.18	Fill of shallow linear feature.	Moderately compact, greyish, mid brown, sandy silt with stones and flecks of charcoal.
C1048	C1133	2.4	1.63	0.2	Pit next to entrance of house.	Semi-compact dark grey silty sandy clay with small and medium sized stones and charcoal.
C1049	C1073	0.39	0.34	0.38	Fill of a posthole.	Loosely compacted mid brown-grey silty clay with medium sized and small stones and 10% charcoal.
C1050	C1050	0.07	0.07	0.12	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid greyish brown silty clay.
C1051	C1174	2.51	0.35	0.36	Fill of a pit.	Firm mid brown silty sand with stones.
C1052	C1074	0.33	0.17	0.14	Fill of a posthole.	Loose mid brown clay with one medium stone and some organic material.
C1053	N/A	0.4	0.35	0.35	Cut of a post/ stakehole.	Oval cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a sharp to gradual break of slope at the base, the sides are vertical and the base is flat.
C1054	C1177	2.58	0.35	0.2	Fill of a pit / wall footing trench.	Firm dark brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.
C1055	N/A	0.32	0.31	0.09	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is level.
C1056	C1062	0.32	0.31	0.07	Fill of a posthole.	Semi compact dark brown sandy silty clay with very small stones.
C1057	N/A	0.75	0.6	0.13	Cut of a pit.	Oval cut with rounded break of slope at the top and a concave break of slope at the base, gradual sloping sides and a rounded base.
C1058	C1173	0.43	0.34	0.04	Fill of an oval feature.	Mid to firm compaction dark grey-brown sandy clay.
C1059	C1060	0.19	0.15	0.09	Fill of a posthole.	Medium loose brown sandy clay.
C1060	N/A	0.19	0.15	0.09	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with a rounded break of slope at the top and a concave break of slope at the base, gradual sloping sides and a rounded base.
C1061	N/A	1.02	0.55	0.3	Cut of a pit.	Oval cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and a sharp to gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a flat base to the E and a concave base to the west.
C1062	N/A	0.32	0.31	0.07	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a level base.
C1063	N/A	0.35	0.35	0.2	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with very steep break of slope at the top, and a fairly steep break of slope at the base. The sides are straight to sloping gradually. The base is semi circular flat.
C1064	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.05	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and an irregular tapered rounded point base.
C1065	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.11	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top, gradual break of slope at the base. It has vertical sides and a tapered rounded base.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1066	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.12	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C1067	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.09	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and imperceptible break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point.
C1068	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.17	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point at the base.
C1069	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.12	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C1070	N/A	0.1	0.07	0.1	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point at the base.
C1071	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.09	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C1072	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.06	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1073	N/A	0.34	0.39	0.38	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with rounded corners, with sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a circular uneven base.
C1074	N/A	0.33	0.17	0.14	Cut of a posthole.	Oval cut with rounded corners, sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and an oval base.
C1075	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.03	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top, gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1076	N/A	0.06	0.06	0.05	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C1077	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.13	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1078	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.08	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C1079	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.06	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1080	N/A	0.12	0.12	0.14	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a sub gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point at the base.
C1081	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.09	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1082	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.09	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a sub gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C1083	N/A	0.11	0.11	0.1	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with a gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a sub flat base.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1084	N/A	0.14	0.14	0.08	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C1085	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.09	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a fairly sharp break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is slightly concave.
C1086	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.09	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with fairly sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a circular slightly concave base.
C1087	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.1	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with steep break of slope at the top and a fairly steep break of slope at the base. Straight vertical sides and a circular concave base.
C1088	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.15	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with fairly sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a circular flat base.
C1089	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.15	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with fairly steep break of slope to the top and a fairly sharp to gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is circular with a two step depth.
C1090	N/A	0.13	0.13	0.11	Cut of a stakehole.	Oval cut with round corners, fairly sharp break of slope at the top and a fairly sharp to gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is circular flat.
C1091	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.08	Cut of a stakehole.	Oval cut with rounded corners, fairly steep break of slope at the top and fairly steep to gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is flat except a bump in the centre.
C1092	N/A	0.03	0.03	0.07	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with steep break of slope at the top and a fairly steep break of slope at the base. Straight vertical sides and a circular concave base.
C1093	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.06	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with steep break of slope at the top and the base, straight vertical sides and a circular flat base.
C1094	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.16	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a circular flat base.
C1095	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.1	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with fairly sharp break of slope at the top and fairly gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a circular flattish base.
C1096	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.07	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a fairly sharp break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is slightly concave.
C1097	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.08	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a fairly sharp break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is circular flat.
C1098	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.14	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a circular flat base.
C1099	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.22	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with fairly sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a circular flat base.
C1100	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.06	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a fairly sharp break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is circular flat.
C1101	N/A	0.04	0.04	0.1	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and fairly gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical and the base is circular concave.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1102	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.18	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with fairly steep break of slope at the top and the base, straight vertical sides and a circular flat base.
C1103	C1053	0.4	0.35	0.35	Fill of a posthole.	Loose dark brown sandy clay with very little charcoal and some stones.
C1104	N/A	0.81	0.46	0.34	Cut of oval pit like feature.	Almost semi circular cut. The sides are vertical-gradual sloping and the base is irregular.
C1105	C1110	0.52	0.46	0.09	Fill of a pit.	Moderately firm mid yellow-brown silty sand with stone inclusions.
C1106	C1118	0.09	0.09	0.1	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid grey-brown silty clay.
C1107	C1120	0.08	0.08	0.09	Fill of a stakehole.	Moderately firm mid brown silty clay.
C1108	C1109	0.3	0.17	0.18	Fill of possible posthole.	Firm black sand with charcoal inclusions.
C1109	N/A	0.3	0.17	0.18	Cut of possible posthole.	Oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C1110	N/A	0.54	0.46	0.14	Cut of a pit.	Oval cut with round corners, gradual break of slope at the top and a sharp break of slope at the base. The sides and base are both concave.
C1111	N/A	0.42	0.35	0.1	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, convex sides and a concave base.
C1112	C1113	0.22	0.19	0.09	Fill of a posthole.	Medium loose brown black silty clay with 8% stones.
C1113	N/A	0.22	0.19	0.13	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base. The sides are convex and the base is concave.
C1114	C1110	0.46	0.24	0.12	Fill of a pit.	Moderately firm dark brownish black clay sand with stone and charcoal inclusions.
C1115	C1110	0.46	0.21	0.05	Fill of a pit.	Moderately firm dark brown silty sand with charcoal and stones.
C1116	N/A	0.47	0.4	0.24	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and steep break of slope at the base. It has vertical sides and a flat base.
C1117	C1121	1.26	0.6	0.1	Fill of a small pit.	Semi compact mid brown sandy clay with charcoal and small stones.
C1118	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.1	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1119	N/A	0.07	0.07	0.12	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base, vertical sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1120	N/A	0.08	0.08	0.09	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a fairly gradual break of slope at the base. It has vertical to gradually sloping sides with a sub-circular slightly concave base.
C1121	N/A	1.26	0.6	0.12	Cut of a small pit.	Oval cut with uneven break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base. The sides are vertical to the West and gradual to the East. The base is uneven.
C1122	C1148	1.92	0.6	0.2	Top fill of pit.	Compact mid brown silty soil with 15% stones and 2% charcoal.
C1123	N/A	3.98	0.56	0.18	Shallow linear feature.	E–W oriented linear cut.
C1124	N/A	0.97	0.2	0.11	Cut of a small pit.	SE–NW oriented linear cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, moderate sloping sides and a flat base.
C1125	C1124	0.97	0.2	0.11	Fill of a small pit.	Compact brown grey clay sand with 20% small stones.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1126	C1128	0.3	0.26	0.1	Fill of a posthole.	Loose brown sandy clay with sand and small stones.
C1127	C1131	0.36	0.36	0.22	Fill of a posthole.	Medium-loose grey brown silty clay with very small stones and flecks of charcoal.
C1128	N/A	0.3	0.26	0.1	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with rounded break of slope at the top and concave break of slope at the base, gradual sloping sides and a rounded base.
C1129	C1132	2.45	1.2	0.12	Fill of a pit.	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay with stones.
C1130	C1136	0.77	0.55	0.35	Fill of a pit.	Firm brown clay sand with stones and little bits of charcoal.
C1131	N/A	0.36	0.36	0.22	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C1132	N/A	2.45	1.2	0.12	Cut of a pavement?	Irregular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and irregular to imperceptible break of slope at the base, stepped sides and an irregular base.
C1133	N/A	2.4	1.63	0.2	Cut of pit near to the entrance of possible house structure.	Heart-shaped cut with rounded corners. The sides are vertical to the SE and uneven elsewhere. The base is flat and concave.
C1134	C1135	1.06	0.55	0.11	Fill of oval feature, possibly connected to 1047.	Semi compact to loose dark grey-light brown sandy clay with 25% stones and 5% charcoal.
C1135	N/A	1.06	0.55	0.11	Cut of an oval feature, possibly connected to 1123.	Oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and gentle break of slope at the base, rounded sides and a flat base.
C1136	N/A	0.77	0.55	0.35	Cut of a pit.	Oval cut with rounded corners with a sharp break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C1137	C1145	0.4	0.33	0.16	Fill of possible pit/posthole.	Medium loose grey-brown with small frequent stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal.
C1138	C1164	0.4	0.3	0.2	Fill of a posthole.	Compact brown black clay sand with 7% charcoal and 15% stones.
C1139	C1188	0.21	0.2	0.1	Fill of possible posthole.	Loose dark grey sandy clay with 15% medium stones.
C1140	C1165	0.3	0.3	0.22	Fill of possible posthole.	Loose dark grey silty sand with 20% medium stones, 15% small stones and 10% charcoal.
C1141	C1170	1.15	0.6	0.18	Fill of secondary cut 1170 of pit.	Medium compaction loose brown grey sandy clay with some stones.
C1142	C1132	1.75	1.2	0.06	Stone fill of irregular feature.	N–S oriented irregular shaped stone layer consisting of 95% stones.
C1143	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1144	C1163	0.22	0.2	0.08	Fill of a pit.	Medium loose grey brown silty clay with small stones and one big sub angular stone.
C1145	N/A	0.4	0.33	0.16	Cut of pit. Or possibly a truncated posthole.	Sub oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C1146	N/A	1.92	0.6	0.46	Cut of a pit lying in outer perimeter of the round house. The base layer is made up of stone pebbles and may be a part of the foundation wall.	NW–SE oriented cut. The sides to the NW and SE are gradual, the sides to the NE and SW are steep. The base is sub oval and flat.
C1147	C1146	1.92	0.6	0.23	Main and charcoal rich fill of primary cut 1146.	Moderate firm dark brown silty clay with 10% charcoal.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1148	C1149	0.73	0.34	0.02	Redeposit layer at base of secondary cut 1149.	Compact light brown sandy clay with no inclusions.
C1149	N/A	1.92	0.6	0.22	Secondary cut of pit that is part of a foundation wall.	NW–SE oriented linear cut with steep sides to the NW and gradual elsewhere. The base is flat.
C1150	C1170	0.24	0.2	0.06	Upper fill of cut 1170.	Loose grey black sandy soil with charcoal inclusions.
C1151	C1152	3.1	0.44	0.07	Fill of a furrow.	Mid firm mid brown-yellow sandy clay with 1% charcoal.
C1152	N/A	3.1	0.44	0.07	Cut of a furrow.	E–W oriented linear cut with gradual break of slope at the top and imperceptible break of slope at the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C1153	C1179	0.12	0.11	0.07	Fill of a stakehole.	Medium-loose yellow-brown silty clay.
C1154	C1180	0.09	0.08	0.06	Fill of a stakehole.	Medium-loose yellow brown silty clay.
C1155	C1182	1.25	1.22	0.08	Fill of a pit.	Loose light brown yellow silty sand.
C1156	C1184	0.3	0.28	0.14	Fill of a posthole.	Medium loose brown silty clay with infrequent charcoal flecks.
C1157	C1191	0.3	0.24	0.14	Fill of a posthole.	Medium loose brown silty clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and medium sized sub angular stones.
C1158	C1195	0.44	0.32	0.11	Fill of a shallow pit.	Medium compaction brown-grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks and small sub angular stones.
C1159	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1160	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1161	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.
C1162	C1178	0.13	0.13	0.11	Fill of a stakehole.	Medium-loose yellow-brown silty clay.
C1163	N/A	0.22	0.2	0.08	Cut of a shallow pit or possibly a truncated posthole.	Sub circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave side and a rounded base.
C1164	N/A	0.4	0.3	0.2	Cut of a posthole.	Oval cut with rounded corners. The sides are irregular and the base is oval.
C1165	N/A	0.46	0.31	0.25	Cut of possible posthole.	Circular cut. The sides are steep and the base is irregular.
C1166	N/A	14.4	2	0.6	Cut of a waste pit.	NE–SW oriented linear cut with rounded corners, gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a linear flat base.
C1167	C1166	9.7	2.05	0.3	Fill of waste pit.	Firm to loose light brown grey sandy clay with a small proportion of stones and 5% charcoal.
C1168	C1166	1.88	1.5	0.14	Bottom fill of a waste pit.	Loose dark brown-grey silty sand with 20% charcoal.
C1169	C1187	0.58	0.55	0.17	Fill of a posthole.	Loose grey black sandy soil with charcoal and stone inclusions.
C1170	N/A	1.3	0.6	0.18	Secondary cut of pit with two postholes at the base.	Oval cut with rounded break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a flat base.
C1171	C1181	1.59	1.3	0.32	Upper fill of a pit, possible tree-bowl.	Medium hard dark brown sandy clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.
C1172	C1175	0.33	0.21	0.11	Charcoal rich fill in a posthole.	Mid firm mid black silty clay.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1173	N/A	0.43	0.34	0.04	Cut of oval feature.	Oval cut with concave sides and a flat base.
C1174	N/A	2.51	0.35	0.26	Secondary cut of pit.	NW–SE oriented oval cut with round corners, concave sides and a concave base.
C1175	N/A	0.33	0.21	0.11	Cut of a posthole.	N–S oriented oval cut with sharp break of slope at the top and the base, vertical sides and a flat base.
C1176	N/A	2.1	1.4	0.2	Cut of a rectangular feature.	NE–SW oriented rectangular cut with rounded corners and a gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rectangular base.
C1177	N/A	2.5	0.35	0.2	Primary cut of a pit belonging to foundation wall in the outer perimeter of the house. It has stone lining made from pebbles.	NW–SE oriented linear cut with rounded corners and a gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C1178	N/A	0.13	0.13	0.11	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, fairly sharp slightly concave sides and a flat slightly rounded base.
C1179	N/A	0.12	0.11	0.07	Cut of a stakehole.	Sub circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C1180	N/A	0.09	0.08	0.06	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C1181	N/A	2.35	2.2	0.78	Cut of very irregular feature. Possible tree bowl.	Irregular cut with sharp to rounded break of slope at the top and a rounded break of slope at the base, concave stepped sides and a flat concave base.
C1182	N/A	1.25	1.22	0.22	Cut of a waste pit.	Circular cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and a not perceptible break of slope at the base, the sides are gradual to very gradual and the base is flat.
C1183	C1182	1.25	1.22	0.14	Fill of a waste pit.	Moderately firm mid to dark brown sandy silt with less than 1% charcoal and 8% stones.
C1184	N/A	0.3	0.28	0.14	Cut of a posthole.	Sub circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.
C1185	C1186	0.6	0.55	0.2	Fill of a posthole.	Loose grey black sandy soil with charcoal and stone inclusions.
C1186	N/A	0.6	0.55	0.2	Cut of a posthole.	Oval cut with rounded break of slope at the top and the base, vertical concave sides and rounded flat base.
C1187	N/A	0.58	0.55	0.18	Cut of a posthole.	Oval cut with rounded break of slope at the top and the base, vertical rounded sides and a rounded flat base.
C1188	N/A	0.21	0.2	0.1	Cut of a possible posthole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base with steep sides and an irregular base.
C1189	C1190	0.3	0.25	0.1	Fill of a posthole.	Firm dark brown silty sand with charcoal inclusions.
C1190	N/A	0.3	0.25	0.1	Cut of a posthole.	Oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave base.
C1191	N/A	0.3	0.24	0.14	Cut of a posthole.	Sub oval cut with sharp break of slope at the top and gradual break of slope at the base, straight to slightly concave sides and rounded base.
C1192	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Non-archaeological.	Non-archaeological.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1193	C1165	0.3	0.19	0.23	Packing fill attached to 1140.	Loose fill of light brown sandy clay with 40% medium sized stones and 15% charcoal.
C1194	C1061	1.02	0.55	0.3	Fill of a pit.	Compact grey silty clay with large and small stones and charcoal inclusions.
C1195	N/A	0.44	0.32	0.11	Cut of a shallow pit or possibly a truncated posthole.	Sub oval cut with gradual break of slope at the top and the base, convex sides and an irregular base.
C1196	C1176	1.66	1.4	0.2	Fill of a rectangular feature.	Loose dark brown grey-silty sand with 3% charcoal, under fill 1001.
C1197	C1204	0.65	0.5	0.27	Fill of a posthole. Rich concentration of charcoal in Northern part. Could be evidence of a burnt post?	Loose grey brown silt with very small stones and charcoal flecks.
C1198	C1203	1.04	0.35	0.08	Fill of a shallow pit.	Loose light brown-yellow sand with 3% stones.
C1199	C1205	0.33	0.25	0.16	Fill of a posthole.	Loose mid yellow grown silty sand with stones 15% and <5% charcoal.
C1200	C1177	0.75	0.2	0.05	Stone pebble lining at the base of 1177.	Stony fill in base of pit.
C1201	C1181	2.08	1.5	0.4	Fill of irregular feature.	Irregular shaped fill of medium hard grey brown sandy clay with stones and charcoal inclusions.
C1202	C1181	0.5	0.4	0.12	Redeposit/patch of natural.	Irregular shaped feature of medium hard yellow clay with stone inclusions.
C1203	N/A	1.04	0.35	0.08	Cut of a shallow pit.	Oval cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and not perceptible break of slope at the base, concave sides and an irregular base.
C1204	N/A	0.65	0.5	0.27	Cut of irregular pit/posthole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and an irregular uneven break of slope at the base, and convex sides.
C1205	N/A	0.33	0.25	0.16	Cut of a posthole.	Oval cut with rounded corners, gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a concave, sharp tapered base.
C1206	C1181	1.4	1.1	0.35	Fill of irregular feature.	Loose red / black / brown sandy soil with charcoal and stones.
C1207	C1208	0.12	0.1	0.13	Fill of a stakehole.	Loose light brown sandy clay with <30% charcoal.
C1208	N/A	0.12	0.1	0.13	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with rounded corners, sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope at the base, concave sides and a tapered rounded point base.
C1209	C1146	0.52	0.46	0.04	Stony fill in base of cut 1146.	Circular fill of stones.
C1210	C1166	0.3	0.3	0.08	Bottom fill of a waste pit.	Loose friable light grey-blue sandy clay.
C1211	C1218	0.09	0.09	0.1	Fill of a posthole.	Loose pale grey sandy silt with >10% charcoal flecks.
C1212	C1166	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Bottom fill of northern part of the waste pit.	Loose black-brown silty sand with >20% charcoal.
C1213	C1214	0.14	0.12	0.12	Fill of a posthole.	Medium compaction yellow-brown slightly sandy silty clay with infrequent small sub angular stones.
C1214	N/A	0.14	0.12	0.12	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut. The sides are slightly concave and the base is rounded and slightly slanted.
C1215	C1216	0.1	0.1	0.06	Fill of a stakehole.	Medium compaction, yellow-brown slightly sandy silty clay.
C1216	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.06	Cut of a stakehole.	Circular cut with a gradual break of slope at the top and the base, concave sides and a rounded base.

Context	Fill of	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Interpretation	Description
C1217	C1181	1.4	0.95	0.56	Very similar to natural but has charcoal flecks and not as hard compacted.	Compacted yellow brown grey clay with stone inclusions and charcoal flecks.
C1218	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.1	Cut of a posthole.	Circular cut with sharp break of slope at the top and a gradual break of slope and the base and concave sides and a concave base.
C1219	N/A	0.25	0.15	0.03	Charcoal spread.	Irregular spread of loose mid brown black sandy silt with >5% charcoal flecks.

Appendix 1.2 Catalogue of Artefacts

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1:1	C1	1	Platform flake	Platform flake	Chert	1	Indeterminate shatter
E3130:1:2	C1	2	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century, black one side, orange on other.
E3130:1:3	C1	3	Pottery	Transfer printed ware. Blue. Floral pattern	Pottery	1	18–20th Century. Glazed both sides
E3130:1:4	C1	4	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century, fine rim sherd.
E3130:1:5	C1	5	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Dark glaze, both sides.
E3130:1:6	C1	6	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Chert	1	Angular shatter
E3130:1:7	C1	7	Tobacco pipe fragment	Tobacco pipe fragment	Clay	1	Bowl Fragment. Possibly 17th.c
E3130:1:8	C1	8	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Chert	1	Angular shatter
E3130:1:9	C1	9	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Glazed both sides
E3130:1:10	C1	10	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Complete
E3130:1:11	C1	11	Pottery	Under painted pearlware	Pottery	1	18th Century. Blue/white one side. Glazed on both sides
E3130:1:12	C1	12	Pottery	Creamware	Pottery	1	Blue/white one side. Glazed on both sides
E3130:1:13	C1	13	Possible wedge tool	Possible wedge tool	Flint	1	Modified
E3130:1:14	C1	14	Bipolar flake	Bipolar flake	Flint	1	Complete
E3130:1:15	C1	15	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Core trimming
E3130:1:16	C1	16	Core	Core	Flint	1	Bipolar
E3130:1:17	C1	17	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Chert	1	Angular shatter
E3130:1:18	C1	18	Pottery	Creamware	Pottery	1	Sherd
E3130:1:19	C1	19	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century rim sherd. Glazed.
E3130:1:20	C1	20	Pottery	Creamware	Pottery	1	White. Glazed both sides.
E3130:1:21	C1	21	Pottery	Glazed red earthenware	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Glazed both sides
E3130:1:22	C1	22	Pottery	Glazed red earthenware	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Glazed both sides

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1:23	C1	23	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century glazed sherd
E3130:1:24	C1	24	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century glazed sherd
E3130:1:25	C1	25	Pottery	Tin glazed earthenware	Pottery	1	16–18th Century. White. Glazed both sides.
E3130:1:26	C1	26	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Dark glaze, both sides.
E3130:1:27	C1	27	Pottery	Pearlware	Pottery	1	18th Century. White rim sherd. Glazed.
E3130:1:28	C1	28	Pottery	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Pottery	1	13–14th Century unglazed sherd
E3130:1:29	C1	29	Pottery	Creamware	Pottery	1	White. Glazed both sides.
E3130:1:30	C1	30	Pottery	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Pottery	1	13–14th Century white. Glazed both sides.
E3130:1:31	C1	31	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Coarse pottery fragment
E3130:1:32	C1	32	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century unglazed sherd
E3130:1:33	C1	33	Pottery	Medieval. Leinster Cooking ware	Pottery	1	12–14th Century glazed sherd
E3130:1:34	C1	34	Glass	Glass	Glass	1	Colourless. Thick.
E3130:1:36	C1	36	Tobacco pipe fragment	Tobacco pipe fragment	Clay	1	Stem Fragment, too small to date
E3130:1:37	C1	37	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century, glazed both sides
E3130:1:38	C1	38	Pottery	Glazed red earthenware	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Glazed both sides
E3130:1:39	C1	39	Pottery	Glazed red earthenware	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Orange. Glazed both sides
E3130:1:40	C1	40	Tobacco pipe fragment	Tobacco pipe fragment	Clay	1	Stem Fragment, Possibly 17th.c.
E3130:1:41	C1	41	Pottery	Transfer printed ware, blue pattern	Pottery	1	18–20th Century. White. Glazed both sides.
E3130:1:42	C1	42	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Badly corroded, shaft shape not visible
E3130:1:43	C1	43	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Badly corroded, shaft shape not visible

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1:44	C1	44	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Badly corroded, shaft shape not visible
E3130:1:45	C1	45	Pottery	Glazed red earthenware	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Glazed inside.
E3130:1:46	C1	46	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century small glazed sherd.
E3130:1:47	C1	47	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century small glazed sherd.
E3130:1:48	C1	48	Door latch	Door latch	Iron	1	Square bar flattening and splaying to curved terminal with rectangular section. Single rectangular hole punched near terminal.
E3130:1:49	C1	49	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Badly corroded, shaft shape not visible.
E3130:1:50	C1	50	Platform Blade	Platform Blade	Flint	1	Distal fragment
E3130:1:51	C1	51	Tobacco pipe fragment	Tobacco pipe fragment	Clay	1	Stem Fragment, too small to date
E3130:1:52	C1	52	Glass	Glass	Glass	1	Green bottle glass
E3130:1:53	C1	53	Pottery	Possible brick fragment, no surface	Pottery	1	Dark glaze. Thick
E3130:1:54	C1	54	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Dark glaze. Thick
E3130:1:55	C1	55	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Dark glaze. Thick
E3130:1:58	C1	58	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Rim sherd. Glazed.
E3130:1:59	C1	59	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Red glazed sherd
E3130:1:60	C1	60	Pottery	Glazed red earthenware	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Red glazed sherd
E3130:1:61	C1	61	Pottery	Glazed red earthenware	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Unglazed sherd
E3130:1:62	C1	62	Glass bead	Glass bead	Glass	1	Glass bead. Reddish brown with yellow strips to top and base, white raised spots.
E3130:1:63	C1	63	Stone	possible quern stone (minimal use)	Sedimentary greywacke	1	Quern stone? Found during clean back in possible house area.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1:64	C1	64	Pottery	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Pottery	1	13–14th Century, orange. Smooth, unglazed.
E3130:1:65	C1	65	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century. Black. Glazed.
E3130:1:66	C1	66	Pottery	Transfer printed ware. Blue. Geometric pattern	Pottery	1	18–20th Century. Blue/white one side. Glazed on both
E3130:1:67	C1	67	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Rim sherd. Decorated with lines. Very coarse.
E3130:1:68	C1	68	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Black. Small fragment. Unglazed and coarse.
E3130:1:69	C1	69	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Black. Small fragment. Unglazed and coarse.
E3130:1:70	C1	70	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Fragment. Very coarse.
E3130:1:71	C1	71	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Rim sherd. Decorated with lines. Very coarse.
E3130:1:72	C1	72	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Rim sherd. Decorated with lines. Very coarse.
E3130:1:73	C1	73	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Rim sherd. Decorated with lines. Very coarse.
E3130:1:74	C1	74	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Complete
E3130:1:75	C1	75	Pottery	Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl	Pottery	1	Red one side, black on other, body sherd.
E3130:1:76	C1	76	Bracket, brace or strap hinge	Bracket, brace or strap hinge	Iron	1	Straight thin bar with D-shaped section, two oval holes punched at either end
E3130:1:77	C1	77	Pottery	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Pottery	1	18–19th Century.
E3130:5:1	C5	1	Glass	Glass	Glass	1	Green. Thick. Part of bottle?
E3130:5:2	C5	2	Stone	Unworked cobble	Sedimentary greywacke	1	Unworked cobble
E3130:60:1	C60	1	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century glazed sherd
E3130:60:2	C60	2	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century glazed sherd

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:60:3	C60	3	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century glazed sherd
E3130:61:1	C61	1	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Badly corroded, square shaft
E3130:61:2	C61	2	Pottery	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Pottery	1	13–14th Century, small bit of glaze
E3130:61:3	C61	3	Utilised: cutting tool	Utilised: cutting tool	Flint	1	Modified
E3130:82:1	C82	1	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Badly corroded
E3130:82:2	C82	2	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Badly corroded
E3130:99:1	C99	1	Utilised: cutting tool	Utilised: cutting tool	Flint	1	Modified
E3130:115:1	C115	1	Pottery	Medieval. Local type ware	Pottery	1	12–13th Century sherd
E3130:121:1	C121	1	Wedge or plug	Wedge or plug	Iron	1	Broad square head, sloping downwards, thick sides tapering in a curve to straight sharp end
E3130:137:1	C137	1	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Crude. Red outside, black inner. Highly decorated body sherd.
E3130:137:2	C137	2	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:137:3	C137	3	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:137:4	C137	4	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:137:5	C137	5	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:145:1	C145	1	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Vertical lines. Coarse body sherd.
E3130:145:2	C145	2	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:1	C149	1	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Neck sherd.
E3130:149:2	C149	2	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Neck sherd.
E3130:149:3	C149	3	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:4	C149	4	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:149:5	C149	5	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:6	C149	6	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:7	C149	7	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:8	C149	8	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:9	C149	9	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:10	C149	10	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:149:11	C149	11	Pottery	Early Bronze Age vase food vessel	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:173:1	C173	1	Nail	Nail	Iron	1	Rectangular head tapering directly to rectangular shaft, creating triangular upper shaft
E3130:1001:1	C1001	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Large inclusions. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:2	C1001	2	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Large inclusions. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:3	C1001	3	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x2.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:4	C1001	4	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately. 2x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:5	C1001	5	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2x4.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:6	C1001	6	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2.5x2cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:7	C1001	7	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2.5x3.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:8	C1001	8	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2x2cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:9	C1001	9	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 4x2cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:10	C1001	10	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1.5x1cm. Body sherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:11	C1001	11	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1.5x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:12	C1001	12	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2x1.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:13	C1001	13	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:14	C1001	14	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:15	C1001	15	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 4.5x2.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:16	C1001	16	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small piece. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:17	C1001	17	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:18	C1001	18	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:19	C1001	19	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 6x3.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:20	C1001	20	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 4x2cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:21	C1001	21	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1.5x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:22	C1001	22	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 3x1.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:23	C1001	23	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 4x4cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:24	C1001	24	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 4x4cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:25	C1001	25	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 2x2cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:26	C1001	26	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 3x2.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:27	C1001	27	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:1001:28	C1001	28	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 3.5x2cm. Body sherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:29	C1001	29	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 3.5x1.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:30	C1001	30	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:31	C1001	31	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:32	C1001	32	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:33	C1001	33	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:34	C1001	34	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:35	C1001	35	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:36	C1001	36	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:37	C1001	37	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:38	C1001	38	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:39	C1001	39	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:40	C1001	40	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:41	C1001	41	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:42	C1001	42	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:43	C1001	43	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:44	C1001	44	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:45	C1001	45	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:46	C1001	46	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:47	C1001	47	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:48	C1001	48	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:49	C1001	49	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:50	C1001	50	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:51	C1001	51	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:52	C1001	52	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:53	C1001	53	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:54	C1001	54	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:55	C1001	55	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:56	C1001	56	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:57	C1001	57	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:58	C1001	58	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:59	C1001	59	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:60	C1001	60	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:61	C1001	61	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:62	C1001	62	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:63	C1001	63	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:64	C1001	64	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:65	C1001	65	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:66	C1001	66	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:67	C1001	67	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:68	C1001	68	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:69	C1001	69	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:70	C1001	70	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:71	C1001	71	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:72	C1001	72	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:73	C1001	73	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:74	C1001	74	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:75	C1001	75	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:76	C1001	76	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:77	C1001	77	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:78	C1001	78	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:79	C1001	79	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:80	C1001	80	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:81	C1001	81	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:82	C1001	82	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:83	C1001	83	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:84	C1001	84	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:85	C1001	85	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:86	C1001	86	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:87	C1001	87	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:88	C1001	88	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:89	C1001	89	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:90	C1001	90	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:91	C1001	91	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:92	C1001	92	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:93	C1001	93	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:94	C1001	94	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:95	C1001	95	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:96	C1001	96	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:97	C1001	97	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:98	C1001	98	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:99	C1001	99	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:100	C1001	100	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:101	C1001	101	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:102	C1001	102	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:103	C1001	103	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:104	C1001	104	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:105	C1001	105	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 3x2.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:106	C1001	106	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:107	C1001	107	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1x1.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:108	C1001	108	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:109	C1001	109	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Approximately 1x0.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1001:110	C1001	110	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:111	C1001	111	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:112	C1001	112	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:113	C1001	113	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:114	C1001	114	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:115	C1001	115	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:116	C1001	116	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:117	C1001	117	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:118	C1001	118	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:119	C1001	119	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:120	C1001	120	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:121	C1001	121	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:122	C1001	122	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:123	C1001	123	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:124	C1001	124	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:125	C1001	125	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:126	C1001	126	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:127	C1001	127	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:128	C1001	128	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:129	C1001	129	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:130	C1001	130	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:131	C1001	131	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:132	C1001	132	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:133	C1001	133	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:134	C1001	134	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:135	C1001	135	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:136	C1001	136	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:137	C1001	137	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:138	C1001	138	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:139	C1001	139	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:140	C1001	140	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:141	C1001	141	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:142	C1001	142	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:143	C1001	143	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:144	C1001	144	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:145	C1001	145	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:146	C1001	146	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:147	C1001	147	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:148	C1001	148	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:149	C1001	149	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:150	C1001	150	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:151	C1001	151	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:152	C1001	152	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:153	C1001	153	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:154	C1001	154	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:155	C1001	155	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:156	C1001	156	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:157	C1001	157	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:158	C1001	158	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:159	C1001	159	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:160	C1001	160	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:161	C1001	161	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:162	C1001	162	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:163	C1001	163	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:164	C1001	164	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:165	C1001	165	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:166	C1001	166	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:167	C1001	167	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:168	C1001	168	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:169	C1001	169	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:170	C1001	170	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crumb.
E3130:1001:171	C1001	171	Bipolar flake	Bipolar flake	Flint	1	Proximal fragment
E3130:1001:172	C1001	172	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 6.5x5cm. Rimsherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:173	C1001	173	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:174	C1001	174	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:175	C1001	175	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:176	C1001	176	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small body sherd.
E3130:1001:177	C1001	177	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Rim piece.
E3130:1001:178	C1001	178	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:179	C1001	179	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:180	C1001	180	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:181	C1001	181	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:182	C1001	182	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:183	C1001	183	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Very small piece. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:184	C1001	184	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:185	C1001	185	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:186	C1001	186	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:187	C1001	187	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:188	C1001	188	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Fragment.
E3130:1001:189	C1001	189	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1.5cm. Fragment.
E3130:1001:190	C1001	190	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Bodysherd. Crude. 2x1.5cm
E3130:1001:191	C1001	191	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age pot	Pottery	1	Crude. Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:192	C1001	192	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Fragment.
E3130:1001:193	C1001	193	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Fragment.
E3130:1001:194	C1001	194	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Fragment.
E3130:1001:195	C1001	195	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:196	C1001	196	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:197	C1001	197	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:198	C1001	198	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:199	C1001	199	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:200	C1001	200	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:201	C1001	201	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:202	C1001	202	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:203	C1001	203	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:204	C1001	204	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:205	C1001	205	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:206	C1001	206	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:207	C1001	207	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:208	C1001	208	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:209	C1001	209	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:210	C1001	210	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:211	C1001	211	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:212	C1001	212	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:213	C1001	213	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:214	C1001	214	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:215	C1001	215	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:216	C1001	216	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small sized piece. Rimsherd.
E3130:1001:217	C1001	217	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:218	C1001	218	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:219	C1001	219	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:220	C1001	220	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:221	C1001	221	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:222	C1001	222	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:223	C1001	223	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:224	C1001	224	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:225	C1001	225	Stone	Stone		1	Rounded with smooth sides. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:226	C1001	226	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 5x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:227	C1001	227	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2.5cm. Bodysherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:228	C1001	228	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2.5cm. Rim sherd.
E3130:1001:229	C1001	229	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:230	C1001	230	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:231	C1001	231	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:232	C1001	232	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:233	C1001	233	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:234	C1001	234	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:238	C1001	238	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small sized piece. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:239	C1001	239	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:240	C1001	240	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:241	C1001	241	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Rim sherd.
E3130:1001:242	C1001	242	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1001:243	C1001	243	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small sized piece. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:244	C1001	244	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Orange and black. Bodysherd.
E3130:1001:245	C1001	245	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:246	C1001	246	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:247	C1001	247	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1001:248	C1001	248	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1001:249	C1001	249	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1.5cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1002:1	C1002	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Black. Coarse. Orange patch. Body sherd.
E3130:1002:2	C1002	2	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Black. Coarse fragment.
E3130:1002:3	C1002	3	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Black. Coarse fragment.
E3130:1002:4	C1002	4	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Black. Coarse fragment.
E3130:1036:1	C1036	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age?	Pottery	1	Small fragment.
E3130:1037:1	C1037	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age?	Pottery	1	Small fragment.
E3130:1037:2	C1037	2	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age?	Pottery	1	Small fragment.
E3130:1037:3	C1037	3	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age?	Pottery	1	Small fragment.
E3130:1037:4	C1037	4	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age?	Pottery	1	Small fragment.
E3130:1048:1	C1048	1	Stone	Possible mortar	Sedimentary sandstone	1	Possible mortar. "Bowl shaped stone"
E3130:1048:2	C1048	2	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Proximal fragment
E3130:1048:3	C1048	3	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Quartz	1	Angular shatter
E3130:1115:1	C1115	1	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Complete
E3130:1115:2	C1115	2	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Core trimming
E3130:1115:3	C1115	3	Bipolar flake	Bipolar flake	Flint	1	Complete
E3130:1115:4	C1115	4	Platform blade	Platform blade	Flint	1	Distal fragment
E3130:1115:5	C1115	5	Bipolar flake	Bipolar flake	Flint	1	Proximal fragment
E3130:1115:6	C1115	6	Bipolar blade	Bipolar blade	Flint	1	Complete
E3130:1115:7	C1115	7	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:8	C1115	8	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:9	C1115	9	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	flake shatter platform
E3130:1115:10	C1115	10	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:11	C1115	11	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:12	C1115	12	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:13	C1115	13	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:14	C1115	14	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1115:15	C1115	15	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:16	C1115	16	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:17	C1115	17	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:18	C1115	18	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:19	C1115	19	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:20	C1115	20	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:21	C1115	21	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:22	C1115	22	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:23	C1115	23	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1115:24	C1115	24	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: percussion
E3130:1115:25	C1115	25	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Indeterminate shatter
E3130:1115:26	C1115	26	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Indeterminate shatter
E3130:1115:27	C1115	27	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Distal fragment
E3130:1115:28	C1115	28	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Indeterminate shatter
E3130:1115:29	C1115	29	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Flint	1	Angular shatter
E3130:1115:30	C1115	30	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Flint	1	Angular shatter
E3130:1137:1	C1137	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Black inner, red outer. Body sherd.
E3130:1137:2	C1137	2	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Black inner, red outer. Body sherd.
E3130:1137:3	C1137	3+3a	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Black inner, red outer. Body sherd.
E3130:1137:4	C1137	4	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Black inner, red outer. Body sherd.
E3130:1137:5	C1137	5	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:6	C1137	6	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:7	C1137	7	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:8	C1137	8	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:9	C1137	9	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1137:10	C1137	10	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:11	C1137	11	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:12	C1137	12	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:13	C1137	13	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:14	C1137	14	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:15	C1137	15	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1137:16	C1137	16	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Mainly red/orange. Body sherd.
E3130:1147:1	C1147	1	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Retouch: pressure
E3130:1168:1	C1168	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:1194:1	C1194	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Orange outside. Black inside. Coarse body sherd.
E3130:1194:2	C1194	2	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Coarse. Ridged body sherd.
E3130:1194:3	C1194	3	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Coarse rim.
E3130:1194:4	C1194	4	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:1194:5	C1194	5	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:1194:6	C1194	6	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:1194:7	C1194	7	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:1194:8	C1194	8	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Body sherd.
E3130:1194:9	C1194	9	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Rim sherd.
E3130:1194:10	C1194	10a	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Pressure frag: distal

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1194:10	C1194	10b	Platform flake	Platform flake	Flint	1	Pressure frag: distal
E3130:1196:1	C1196	1	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age pottery	Pottery	1	Small fragment
E3130:1196:2	C1196	2	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small rim sherd.
E3130:1196:3	C1196	3	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Pottery	1	Small fragment
E3130:1196:4	C1196	4	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Pottery	1	Small fragment
E3130:1196:5	C1196	5	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Pottery	1	Small fragment
E3130:1196:6	C1196	6	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Pottery	1	Small fragment
E3130:1196:7	C1196	7	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Pottery	1	Small fragment
E3130:1196:8	C1196	8	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age	Pottery	1	Small fragment
E3130:1196:9	C1196	9	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:10	C1196	10	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:11	C1196	11	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:12	C1196	12	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:13	C1196	13	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:14	C1196	14	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:15	C1196	15	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:16	C1196	16	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:17	C1196	17	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:18	C1196	18	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:19	C1196	19	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:20	C1196	20	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:21	C1196	21	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:22	C1196	22	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:23	C1196	23	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1cm. Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:24	C1196	24	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:25	C1196	25	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:26	C1196	26	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:27	C1196	27	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:28	C1196	28	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:29	C1196	29	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:30	C1196	30	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2.5cm. . Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:31	C1196	31	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Rim sherd. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:32	C1196	32	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:33	C1196	33	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:34	C1196	34	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:35	C1196	35	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:36	C1196	36	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:37	C1196	37	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:38	C1196	38	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:39	C1196	39	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:40	C1196	40	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:41	C1196	41	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:42	C1196	42	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:43	C1196	43	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:44	C1196	44	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:45	C1196	45	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:46	C1196	46	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:47	C1196	47	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:48	C1196	48	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:49	C1196	49	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:50	C1196	50	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:51	C1196	51	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:52	C1196	52	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:53	C1196	53	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:54	C1196	54	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:55	C1196	55	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:56	C1196	56	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:57	C1196	57	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:58	C1196	58	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:59	C1196	59	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:60	C1196	60	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:61	C1196	61	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:62	C1196	62	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:63	C1196	63	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1196:64	C1196	64	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x4cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1196:65	C1196	65	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:66	C1196	66	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:67	C1196	67	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:68	C1196	68	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:69	C1196	69	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:70	C1196	70	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:71	C1196	71	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 5x4cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:72	C1196	72	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:74	C1196	74	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:75	C1196	75	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Cordoned neck sherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:76	C1196	76	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:77	C1196	77	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:78	C1196	78	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x1.5cm. Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:79	C1196	79	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1.5cm. Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:80	C1196	80	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2.5cm. Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:81	C1196	81	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x2cm. Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:82	C1196	82	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. Small sized piece.. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:83	C1196	83	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:84	C1196	84	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:85	C1196	85	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:86	C1196	86	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:87	C1196	87	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:88	C1196	88	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:89	C1196	89	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:90	C1196	90	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1196:91	C1196	91	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age?	Pottery	1	Roughly spherical piece of worn fired light buff clay: some smooth sides, may have been broken-off from a larger piece. 19.75 x 15.62 x 15.29mm.
E3130:1196:92	C1196	92	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:93	C1196	93	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:94	C1196	94	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:95	C1196	95	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Possible rim sherd.. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:96	C1196	96	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:97	C1196	97	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:98	C1196	98	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:99	C1196	99	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 5x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:100	C1196	100	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:101	C1196	101	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:102	C1196	102	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:103	C1196	103	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x2.5cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:104	C1196	104	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2.5cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:105	C1196	105	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:106	C1196	106	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:107	C1196	107	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:108	C1196	108	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:109	C1196	109	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 6x4cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:110	C1196	110	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude.8x6cm. Bodysherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:111	C1196	111	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4.5x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:112	C1196	112	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:113	C1196	113	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:114	C1196	114	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:115	C1196	115	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:116	C1196	116	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:117	C1196	117	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 5.5x3.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:118	C1196	118	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4.5x3.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:119	C1196	119	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4.5x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:120	C1196	120	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 6x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:121	C1196	121	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:122	C1196	122	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:123	C1196	123	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:124	C1196	124	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:125	C1196	125	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:126	C1196	126	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:127	C1196	127	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:128	C1196	128	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 5.5x3cm. Bodysherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:129	C1196	129	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:130	C1196	130	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:131	C1196	131	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:132	C1196	132	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:133	C1196	133	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:134	C1196	134	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:135	C1196	135	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:136	C1196	136	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:137	C1196	137	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1196:138	C1196	138	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:139	C1196	139	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:140	C1196	140	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:141	C1196	141	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:142	C1196	142	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4.5x3.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:143	C1196	143	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:144	C1196	144	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4.5x3cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:145	C1196	145	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	3.5x2cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:146	C1196	146	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x2.5cm. Neck sherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:147	C1196	147	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x3cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:148	C1196	148	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:149	C1196	149	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:150	C1196	150	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:151	C1196	151	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:152	C1196	152	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:153	C1196	153	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:154	C1196	154	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:155	C1196	155	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:156	C1196	156	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:157	C1196	157	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:158	C1196	158	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:159	C1196	159	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:160	C1196	160	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:161	C1196	161	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2x1.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:162	C1196	162	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4x2.5cm. Rim sherd
E3130:1196:163	C1196	163	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4.5x3cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:164	C1196	164	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4.5x3cm. Bodysherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:165	C1196	165	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:166	C1196	166	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	3.5x2cm.. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:167	C1196	167	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	3.5x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:168	C1196	168	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x2cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:169	C1196	169	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:170	C1196	170	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1.5x1cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:171	C1196	171	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:172	C1196	172	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	6.5x5cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:173	C1196	173	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	3.5x3cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:174	C1196	174	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4x2.5cm. Part of E3130:1196:173
E3130:1196:175	C1196	175	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	5x3cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:176	C1196	176	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	3.5x2.5cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1196:177	C1196	177	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:178	C1196	178	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3.5x1.5cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:179	C1196	179	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x1.5cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:180	C1196	180	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:181	C1196	181	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Detached cordon fragment.
E3130:1196:182	C1196	182	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	1.5x1.5cm. Cordoned neck sherd.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:183	C1196	183	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	1.5x1.5cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:184	C1196	184	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:185	C1196	185	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:186	C1196	186	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:187	C1196	187	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	2.5x2cm.. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:188	C1196	188	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:189	C1196	189	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:190	C1196	190	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	3x1.5cm. Neck sherd.
E3130:1196:191	C1196	191	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:192	C1196	192	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 5x3cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1196:193	C1196	193	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	2.5x2.5cm. Part of E3130:1196:192. Rim sherd.
E3130:1196:194	C1196	194	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 4x3cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:195	C1196	195	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Cordoned neck sherd.
E3130:1196:196	C1196	196	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:197	C1196	197	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:198	C1196	198	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:199	C1196	199	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 3x2.5cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:200	C1196	200	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	3x1.5cm. Rim sherd

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:201	C1196	201	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	2.5x1.5cm. Crude. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:202	C1196	202	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:203	C1196	203	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:204	C1196	204	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:205	C1196	205	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:206	C1196	206	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:207	C1196	207	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age pottery	Pottery	1	small fragment
E3130:1196:208	C1196	208	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:209	C1196	209	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:210	C1196	210	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:211	C1196	211	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:212	C1196	212	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:213	C1196	213	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:214	C1196	214	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:215	C1196	215	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:216	C1196	216	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:217	C1196	217	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:218	C1196	218	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:219	C1196	219	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:220	C1196	220	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:221	C1196	221	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:222	C1196	222	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:223	C1196	223	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:224	C1196	224	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:225	C1196	225	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:226	C1196	226	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:227	C1196	227	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:228	C1196	228	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:229	C1196	229	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:230	C1196	230	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:231	C1196	231	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:232	C1196	232	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:233	C1196	233	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:234	C1196	234	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:235	C1196	235	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:236	C1196	236	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:237	C1196	237	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:238	C1196	238	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:239	C1196	239	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:240	C1196	240	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:241	C1196	241	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:242	C1196	242	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:243	C1196	243	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:244	C1196	244	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:245	C1196	245	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:246	C1196	246	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:247	C1196	247	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:248	C1196	248	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:249	C1196	249	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:250	C1196	250	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:251	C1196	251	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:252	C1196	252	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:253	C1196	253	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:254	C1196	254	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:255	C1196	255	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:256	C1196	256	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:257	C1196	257	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:258	C1196	258	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:259	C1196	259	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:260	C1196	260	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:261	C1196	261	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:262	C1196	262	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:263	C1196	263	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:264	C1196	264	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:265	C1196	265	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:266	C1196	266	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:267	C1196	267	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:268	C1196	268	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:269	C1196	269	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:270	C1196	270	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:271	C1196	271	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:272	C1196	272	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:273	C1196	273	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:274	C1196	274	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:275	C1196	275	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:276	C1196	276	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:277	C1196	277	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:278	C1196	278	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:279	C1196	279	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 6.5x6cm. Rim sherd.
E3130:1196:280	C1196	280	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4.5x3cm. Body sherd.
E3130:1196:281	C1196	281	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	4.5x4cm. Rim sherd.
E3130:1196:282	C1196	282	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	2.5x1.5cm. Rim sherd.
E3130:1196:283	C1196	283	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	2.5x2cm. Crude. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:284	C1196	284	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 2.5x1.5cm. Rimsherd.
E3130:1196:285	C1196	285	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Crude. 1x1cm. Bodysherd.
E3130:1196:286	C1196	286	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:287	C1196	287	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:288	C1196	288	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:289	C1196	289	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:290	C1196	290	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.

Registration Number	Context	Item No.	Simple Name	Full Name	Material	No. of Parts	Description
E3130:1196:291	C1196	291	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:292	C1196	292	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:293	C1196	293	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:294	C1196	294	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Fragment.
E3130:1196:295	C1196	295	Pottery	Middle Bronze Age Domestic Ware	Pottery	1	Cordoned neck sherd.

Appendix 1.3 Catalogue of Ecofacts

A total of 193 bulk soil samples, were taken during the course of excavation at this site as well as six animal bone samples. 77 of these were processed by means of flotation and sieving through a 250/300µm mesh and 108 were processed by dry sieving. The results of this are outlined below. A further four samples were retained.

1.3.1 Animal Bone

Context number	Sample number	Feature	Sample weight (g)
C5	7	Ditch	28.2
C25	12	Linear feature	2.7
C60	36	Pit	30.4
C119	53	Pit	246
C119	69	Pit	With wrapping 560
C123	54	Pit	38.1

1.3.2 Burnt Bone

Context number	Sample number	Feature	Sample weight (g)
C1001	206	Pit	2.1
C1001	232	Pit	0.1
C1002	2	Pit	0.1
C1151	189	Furrow	0.7
C1167	209	Pit	0.3
C1168	208	Pit	0.1
C1196	224	Pit	0.3

1.3.3 Charcoal

Context number	Sample number	Feature	Sample weight (g)
C24	10	Pit	20.2
C137	67	Small feature	12.3
C1001	207	Pit	8.8
C1041	159	Posthole	0.7
C1041	160	Posthole	2.2
C1043	103	Posthole	4.0
C1044	150	Pit	7.2
C1048	171	Pit	6.7
C1048	172	Pit	7.5
C1049	106	Posthole	1.6
C1054	216	Pit	5.7
C1054	213	Pit	48.8
C1054	216	Pit	1.8
C1105, C1115, C1119	155	Pit	74.7
C1108	151	Possible posthole	1
C1122	168	Pit	4
C1140	178	Possible posthole	3.1
C1147	222	Pit	50.1
C1147	226	Pit	42.6
C1168	210	Pit	2.7
C1168	233	Pit	3.0
C1194	147	Pit	3.4
C1194	152	Pit	28.6
C1205	219	Posthole	
C1206	234	Irregular feature	


1.3.4 Carbonised Seeds

Context number	Sample number	Feature	Sample weight (g)
C60	35	Pit	13.1
C125	65	Pit	2.4
C126	60	Pit	1.5
C128	74	Pit	3.8
C129	71	Pit	1.3
C130	73	Pit	0.1
C131	72	Pit	0.6
C133	51	Pit	9.5
C134	58	Pit	3.7
C135	56	Pit	14.2
C136	59	Pit	1.7
C137	67	Small feature	0.3
C139	61	Pit	2.0
C140	57	Pit	2.0
C141	64	Pit	4.0
C142	62	Pit	2.1
C143	63	Pit	2.7
C144	55	Pit	0.4
C1147	222	Pit	0.1
C1048	172	Pit	0.1
C1054	213	Pit	0.2

1.3.5 Shell

Context number	Sample number	Feature	Sample weight (g)
C125	65	Pit	0.1

Appendix 1.4 Archive Checklist

Project: M3 – Navan to Kells, Contract 4	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
Site Name: Phoenixtown 3		
Excavation Registration No.: E3130		
Ministerial Direction: A029/012		
Site director: Ed Lyne		
Date: June 2010		
Field Records	Items (quantity)	Comments
Site drawings (plans)	34	
Site sections, profiles, elevations	130 section drawings, 34 profile drawings.	
Other plans, sketches, etc.	0	
Timber drawings	0	
Stone structural drawings	0	
Site diary/note books	1	
Site registers (folders)	2	
Survey/levels data (origin information)	On plans	
Context sheets	407	
Wood Sheets	0	
Skeleton Sheets	0	
Worked stone sheets	0	
Digital photographs	728	
Photographs (print)	0	
Photographs (slide)	0	
Finds and Environ. Archive		
Flint/chert	49	
Stone artefacts	5	
Pottery (specify periods/typology)	237 sherds prehistoric (+239 frags+102 crumbs) 27 sherds post medieval 18 sherds medieval	Prehistoric = middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl, EBA vase and MBA domestic ware.
Ceramic Building Material (specify types eg daub, tile)	0	
Metal artefacts (specify types - bronze, iron)	9	
Glass	1 glass bead fragment	
Other find types or special finds (specify)	4 clay pipe fragments	
Human bone (specify type eg cremated, skeleton, disarticulated)	0	
Animal bone	13 samples	(includes 7 burnt bone samples)
Metallurgical waste	0	
Enviro bulk soil (specify no. of samples)	185 processed	4 retained-
Enviro monolith (specify number of samples and number of tins per sample)	0	
Security copy of archive	Yes	

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

Appendix 2.1 Prehistoric Pottery Report – Eoin Grogan and Helen Roche

Appendix 2.2 Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery Report – Niamh Doyle

Appendix 2.3 Lithics Analysis Report – Eimear Nelis

Appendix 2.4 Small Finds Reports

Appendix 2.4.1 The Metal Finds – Jacqueline Mac Dermott

Appendix 2.4.2 The Clay Pipe – Joe Norton

Appendix 2.4.3 The Glass Bead – Cathy Johnson

Appendix 2.5 Charcoal and Wood Analysis Report – Lorna O’ Donnell

Appendix 2.6 Plant Remains Analysis Report – Susan Lyons

Appendix 2.7 Faunal Assemblage Report – Margaret McCarthy

Appendix 2.8 Radiocarbon Dating Results – QUB Laboratory

Appendix 2.9 Report on the Animal Bone from Pit C120 – Aoife McCarthy

THE PREHISTORIC POTTERY
PHOENIXTOWN 3 (E3130)

EOIN GROGAN AND HELEN ROCHE

APRIL 2010

Summary

The site produced an assemblage of 237 sherds (plus 239 fragments and 102 crumbs; total weight: 2,297g) representing a middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl, a single early Bronze Age vase and at least seven middle Bronze Age domestic vessels. The middle Bronze Age material, from features associated with a roundhouse, is particularly important and extends the distribution of this material in the north Leinster area.

The middle Neolithic pottery

There are five sherds (four rim- and a single bodysherd; weight: 67g) representing a broad rimmed bowl. These were recovered from the topsoil (Lyne 2008a). These vessels are generally deep hemispherical bowls with a broad flat, or gently curved rim and a short, frequently constricted (cavetto), neck (Case 1961: 'Dundrum bowls'; Herity 1982: 'Broad-Rimmed Vessels'); the rim top often has a pronounced outward slope that projects over the wall. Decoration is common on the rim top but less so on the remainder of the pot. While they are found in a wide variety of contexts the majority of this pottery type have come from domestic contexts. The Phoenixtown example is a medium sized bowl with a broad, flat-topped, rim that has a pronounced outward projection, a constricted neck and rounded, closed¹, bowl profile. Sooting and a blackened accretion on the internal surface indicate that the vessel was used for cooking while a band of similar material along the outer side of the rim suggest it had a loose cover or lid. It was not possible to determine the size of the pot but it may have been c. 20cm in maximum external diameter at the rim. Very close comparisons occur at Townleyhall 2, Co. Louth, where there are at least three pots of identical form and similar rim decoration of circumferential and radial lines of cord (Eogan 1963, fig. 7.5–7).

Early Bronze Age vase food vessel

This vessel was represented by 13 sherds that came from the fills of two pits (**148**, **147**) 1.5m apart (Lyne 2008a): these had been cut by a single furrow (**188**) and it appears that the sherds from **147** were derived from pit **148**. The pot is a fine bipartite vase with an angular neck profile and a high flared neck; the belly and lower body has a more gently rounded profile. The overall form is similar to that from Ballynahow, Co. Cork, although the angular flared neck is more readily paralleled amongst tripartite vessels such as Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford (Ó Ríordáin and Waddell 1993, 94 and 143, nos 472 and 438, figs p.255, p.249).

Pottery of the Vase Tradition is most commonly recovered from funerary contexts. The Phoenixtown pot is a fine example and it is possible, despite the absence of associated human remains, that it was disturbed from a burial. However, food vessel pottery has occasionally come from domestic sites including Site 10, Lough Gur, Co. Limerick (Grogan and Eogan 1987, 461, fig. 72).

Middle Bronze Age domestic pottery

This material came from three principal contexts (Lyne 2008a). Pottery was derived from two contexts within the roundhouse –posthole **1145** (fill **1137**, section 2.6.1) on the north-west perimeter and posthole **1061** (fill **1194**, section 2.6.2) on the south-west (left-hand) side of the entrance. The largest body of material came from two pits (**1166**, fills **1001/1168**, and **1176**, fill **1196**: all section 2.6.7) within a long linear feature made up of these and another pit (**1182**) and set laterally across the line of the house entrance 11m to the south-east. A small quantity of material came from the fill (**1002**) of a pit (**1057**) to the north-east of the house.

¹ Closed: the rim diameter is less than that of the widest part of the body.

Of the eight vessels identified three were represented by sherds from single contexts: Vessel 2 was derived solely from fill **1001** of pit **1166**, Vessel 5 came from fill **1196** of pit **1176**, and Vessel 8 came from fill **1137** of posthole **1145**. However, a more complex pattern of disposal is reflected by the fact that sherds from the other five vessels came from more than one context (Table 1). Of these the most interesting are the linking of pit/posthole **1061** (fill **1194**) and the linear feature in front of the entrance (fill **1196** of pit **1176**) (Vessel 7), and pit **1166** (fill **1001**) with pit **1057** (fill **1002**) (Vessel 6). Two vessels, Nos 3–4, came from the fills (**1001/1196**) of the intercutting pits **1166/1176**.

The pottery

The site produced an assemblage of 219 sherds (15 rim-, 29 base-angle-, nine cordon- and 166 bodysherds, plus 235 fragments and 102 crumbs; total weight: 2,129g). These represent at least seven large flat bottomed, bucket-shaped, vessels. Nos 2–3 and 5–6 have flat-topped, occasionally slightly inward sloping rims. The pots have relatively thick walls generally 10–11.5mm although Nos 4–5 and 8 have some areas of thinner fabric (c. 8.85–9.7mm). The pottery is generally buff to grey- or brown-buff with dark grey cores and inner surfaces. The pots were well-fired with compact fabric although No. 4 is of more brittle material. There is a low to medium content of crushed dolerite inclusions and there are mainly less than 5 by 4mm although all of the pots contained larger pieces up to, and occasionally longer than 10mm, in maximum dimensions. Although there is some surface wear, especially to the outer faces, it is clear from the better preserved material that the pots had smooth finishes and in the case of Nos 3–4 and 7 the exteriors were finished with a fine slurry paste. The pots were coil built as indicated by the distinctive breaks on Vessels 5 and 7. These are shallow U-shaped convex and concave breaks that indicate an overlap between the blended coils of only ≤ 6 mm. Some longer coil junctions are also present, such as on Vessel 5 where the overlap between the coils is up to 17mm.

Sooting and a blackened accretion on the internal surface of Vessel 2 indicate that it was used for cooking; on Nos 3–4 and 6–7 internal sooting may be residual from the firing process.

Decoration

Three pots, Nos 5–7, have broad, shallow, channels set horizontally immediately beneath the rim on the outer surface: This appears to be a form of rilling of the type found, for example, on similar vessels from Site C, Lough Gur, Co. Limerick (Ó Ríordáin 1954, figs 17:1, 18:10, 19:27). Another feature of Vessel 7 at Phoenixtown, the perforation through the upper part of the pot, also occurs at Site C, Lough Gur (Ó Ríordáin 1954, fig. 19:22). Small, regularly spaced, vent holes immediately beneath the rim are an occasional feature on late Bronze Age domestic pots, including Site H, Lough Gur (Ó Ríordáin 1954, fig. 50:14–15), and Freestone Hill ('Coolgrange'), Co. Kilkenny (Raftery 1969, 86–90, figs 32–33)². There is a narrow applied horizontal cordon on Vessel 4. These vessels belong to the domestic variant of the Cordoned Urn Tradition (Grogan and Roche 2010; Waddell 1995, 113, 118; Kavanagh 1976, 330; Brindley 2007a, 143). Several important assemblages have been identified. The most extensive is on the Knockadoon peninsula at Lough Gur (Ó Ríordáin 1954; Grogan and Eogan 1987) but others include Knockhouse Lower, Co. Waterford (Brindley 2005; 2007b; Richardson and Johnson 2007), and Ballybrowney Lower, Co. Cork (Cotter 2005; Roche and Grogan 2005).

² More recently the latter has been dated to the late Bronze Age rather than the Iron Age as thought in the 1960s (Raftery 1995).

Three of the vessels (Nos 2–3 and 8) are undecorated. These simple, bucket-shaped, plain ware pots developed from domestic cordoned urns in the period after 1500 BC (Grogan and Roche 2010). Plain ware forms a component of the Knockhouse and Ballybrowney material but the most significant assemblage is that from Corrstown, Co. Derry (Conway *et al.* 2004/5; Roche and Grogan 2008), which produced very fine quality, well-fired vessels dated to 1500–1200 BC. The combination of both domestic cordoned urn and plain ware features at Phoenixtown should date to the early part of this period which is confirmed by the dates from the roundhouse and the associated trench.

Regional contexts

The Phoenixtown 3 discovery, with similar material from Town Parks 3, and Kilmainham sites 1A and 1C (Gleeson 2008; Lyne 2008b; Walsh 2010), is an important addition to the distribution of middle Bronze Age domestic activity in north Leinster. This cluster of sites is in an area of intense early prehistoric activity on the fringes of the Blackwater Valley (McLoughlin and Walsh 2008). Similar contemporary assemblages associated with settlement occur to the south-east at Boyerstown 3 and Lismullin 1 (Clarke 2009; O’Connell 2009).

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CATALOGUE

The excavation number E3130 is omitted throughout: only the context number, in **bold**, followed by the find number is included (e.g. 1:67). Numbers in square brackets (e.g. 1:[71–72]) indicate that the sherds are conjoined. The thickness refers to an average dimension; where relevant a thickness range is indicated. Vessel numbers have been allocated to pottery where some estimation of the form of the pot is possible, or where the detailed evidence of featured sherds (e.g. rims, shoulders), decoration or fabric indicates separate pots. Fragments are small sherds (generally less than 10mm square) where only one surface has survived while crumbs are very small pieces ($\leq 5 \times 5$ mm) generally without surviving surfaces. The inclusions were examined using simple magnification and in some cases attribution reflects probable, rather than certain, identification.

Worn: some wear damage to surfaces and edge breaks much worn: considerable wear damage

Abraded: very considerable wear resulting in loss of surfaces

Inclusions: low content: less than 15%, medium: 15–25%, high: more than 25%

R. rimsherd N. necksherd Be. Bellysherd N/A measurement not possible

D. decorated

Middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl

Context 001: topsoil

Vessel/ 1. This is represented by 5 sherds (4 rimsherds: 1:67, [71–72], 73; 1 bodysherd: 1:75; 4 fragments: 1:31, 68–70) from a vessel with a broad (24.55–27.25mm) flat-topped and gently outward sloping rim: this has an outward expansion and a constricted cavetto neck. There is a pronounced inward expansion and a long curved junction forming the inner face of the neck. The smooth, well-finished, fabric is dark brown-buff with a dark grey core. A band of sooting and patchy black accretion occurs along the outer half to one-third of the rim top; a similar deposit occurs on the inner surface and extends to the mid-point of the internal neck curve with occasional patches on the upper part of the neck. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 3.87 \times 3$ mm, up to 4.87×4.5 mm). Neck thickness: 9.21–11.17mm; body: 11.21mm; weight: 67g.

Decoration Closely spaced radial scores occur on the rim top and along the inner edge of the rim. There appears to be a row of triangular stab marks along the outer face immediately beneath the neck.

Early Bronze Age vase food vessel

Fills 145 and 149 of pit 148/ pit 147 filled by 137

Vessel/ 9. This is represented by 13 sherds (2 necksherds: 149:1–2; 11 bodysherds: 149:3–4, [5, 8], 6–7, 9–10, 137:1, 145:[1–2]; 6 fragments: 149:11 (2 pieces), 137:2–5) from a fine vessel. It has an angular profile with a sharply constricted waist. External wear has exposed the slightly abrasive under surface. Where preserved (e.g. 149:3–4, [5, 8]) the inner is buff to dark grey brown with patches of sooting. The core is dark grey. There is a medium content of quartzite ($\leq 3 \times 2$ mm) and dolerite inclusions (up to 5.25×4.2 mm). Neck thickness: 8.06; body: 8.12mm; weight: 101g.

External decoration There are oblique lines of whipped cord on the neck; these are slightly curved and were impressed with a tool face measuring 24.38×3.46 mm. This is not a continuous motif and there may have been alternating panels of these lines. There are three deep, closely spaced, horizontal lines in the crook of the waist. The body has alternating horizontally arranged panels including a narrow band of herringbone executed with short lines of whipped cord, bands of oblique lines of whipped cord, and a band of alternating groups of oblique and vertical whipped cord

lines; these are separated by bands of three scored horizontal lines and there is a high panel of at least six horizontal lines on the lower body.

Internal The inner surface of the neck is decorated with wide horizontal lines: these are much worn but appear to be scored although they could be whipped cord.

Middle Bronze Age domestic pottery

The site produced 219 sherds (15 rim-, 29 neck-, 9 cordon- and 166 bodysherds as well as 235 fragments and 102 crumbs; weight: 2,129g) from at least 7 bucket-shaped domestic vessels. These came from features associated with a roundhouse.

Fill 1001 of linear pit 1166

Vessel/ 2. This is represented by 46 sherds (1 rimsherds: **1001**:177; 34 bodysherds: **1001**:1–2, [3, 8–9], 4–7, 10–11, [12–14], 15, [16, 20, 23], 17–19, 21–26, [28–29], 105–09; 11 small bodysherds: **1001**:30–40; 19 fragments: **1001**:41–47, 56–58, 110–18; crumbs: 48–55, 59–100, 119–70) from a vessel with a flat-topped inward sloping rim and an overall bucket-shaped profile. All of the sherds appear to be from the upper part of the vessel. There is a slight external constriction immediately beneath the rim. The external surface is worn to abraded exposing the buff-brown under surface; sooting, on the upper part of the inner face, and a thick black accretion on the lower. The core is dark grey. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 4.5 \times 4.5\text{mm}$, up to $7.07 \times 5.15\text{mm}$). Body thickness: 10.15–11.15mm; weight: 391g.

Fill 1001 of linear pit 1166/ fill 1196 of large rectangular pit 1176

Vessel/ 3. This is represented by 6 sherds (2 small rimsherds: **1001**:172, 216; 3 bodysherds: **1001**:27, **1196**:63–64, 90) from a large vessel with a flat slightly inward sloping rim and an overall bucket-shaped profile. All of the sherds appear to be from the upper part of the vessel. The grey-buff outer surface is, where preserved, smooth and the external surface was finished with a fine slurry; the core is dark grey and the inner surface is dark grey-brown with occasional sooting. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 7.9 \times 5.25\text{mm}$, up to $12.09 \times 10.12\text{mm}$). Body thickness: 10.15–11.15mm; weight: 80g.

Vessel/ 4. This is represented by 132 worn sherds (16 cordoned necksherds: [**1001**:249, **1196**:75], **1196**:30–31, 144–45, [172, 182, 295i–ii]³, [173, 175], 178–80, 195; 1 necksherd from which cordon detached: **1196**:76; 12 necksherds: **1196**:98, 103–04, 146–47, 163, 168–70, 183, 189–90; 9 detached cordon fragments: **1001**:242, **1196**:9, 19, 21, 23, 78–81, 181; 94 bodysherds: **1001**:173–75, 178–180, 182–87, 190, 195–96, [210–11], 212–13, 223–27, 230–34, 238, 240, 243–44, **1196**:65, 67–69, 71, 82, 85, 87, 93–95, 99–100, [101–02], 105–14, 116–124, 128–29, 136, 138–40, 142–43, 148–50, 161, 164–67, 177, 186–88, 191, 194, 199, 201, 207, 283, 285; 193 fragments: **1001**:188–89, 191–94, 197–209, 214–15, 217–222, 229, 239, 245–48; **1196**:10–18, 20, 22, 24–29, 32–62, 66, 70, 72, 74, 77, 83–84, 86, 88–89, 92, 96–97, 115, 125–27, 130–35, 141, 151, 152–60, 171, 184–85, 196–98, 202–06, 208–78, 286–94) from a large vessel with a slightly concave neck, a rounded applied cordon on the junction between the neck and body, and an overall bucket-shaped profile. All of the sherds appear to be from the upper part of the vessel. The buff to red-buff to grey-buff outer surface is, where preserved, smooth and the external surface was finished with a fine slurry; the core is dark grey and the inner surface is dark grey-brown with extensive sooting. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite ($\leq 6 \times 4\text{mm}$, up to $7.5 \times 6.5\text{mm}$) and sandstone inclusions (up to $8.9 \times 7\text{mm}$). Neck thickness: 10.18mm; body: 9.7–11.4mm; weight: 1067g.

³ See Lyne 2008a, pl. 20.

Comment Many of the breaks are along natural fractures at the coil junctions, or along the applied cordon. However, there are also multiple fragments, several of them quite large such as **1196**:20, 22, 86 and 142, that were broken vertically through the sherds; the overall pattern may indicate deliberate breakage. The wear patterns, to the surfaces, but less so to the edge breaks, suggest the material may have been over-zealously cleaned.

Fill 1196 of pit 1176

Vessel 5. This is represented by 11 sherds (3 rim-/bodysherds: **1196**:[R. 193, B. 176, 192]; 6 rimsherds: **1196**:[279, 282], 162, 200, 281, 284; 2 bodysherds: **1196**:137, 280) from a large vessel with an upright flat-topped rim: this has a slight external expansion. The overall profile appears to be bucket-shaped, possibly with a slightly closed profile⁴. All of the sherds are from the upper part of the vessel. The compact light buff, to buff, to grey-brown fabric is, where preserved, smooth; the core is grey-brown and there is a blackened accretion on the upper part of the outer surface. There is a low content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 5.25 \times 5\text{mm}$, occasionally up to $11.80 \times 9.5\text{mm}$). Body thickness: 9.6–10.5mm; weight: 132g.

Decoration There is a broad shallow, and intermittent, channel immediately beneath the rim.

Comment There is markedly differential wear to the sherds from this vessel despite the fact that they are all from the rim or close to it. The surfaces and edge breaks of some sherds, e.g. **1196**:162, 281 and 284 are fresh with little wear, the outer surface of **1196**:280 and the inner of **1196**:193 are much worn while part of the inner surface and the rim top of **1196**:279 are abraded. This suggests that the sherds were differentially exposed on the surface, or in contact with free-flowing water. There are very distinct vertical and horizontal coils breaks: these include wide coil overlaps (up to 17mm) and U-section joins.

Fill 1001 of linear pit 1166/ fill 1002 of pit 1057

Vessel 6. This is represented by 3 sherds (2 rimsherds: **1001**:[228, 241]; 1 bodysherd: **1002**:1; 3 fragments: **1002**:2–4) from a large vessel with an upright flat-topped rim: this has slight internal and external expansions. The overall profile appears to be bucket-shaped. All of the sherds appear to be from the upper part of the vessel. The compact grey-brown fabric is, where preserved, smooth; the core is dark grey and there is sooting on the inner surface. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 5 \times 4\text{mm}$, occasionally up to $9.5 \times 6\text{mm}$). Neck thickness: 10.9mm; body: 11.1mm; weight: 79g.

Decoration There are two broad (c. 10mm), shallow, horizontal channels set immediately beneath the rim on the outer surface.

Other sherds: fill 1001 of pit 1166

There are 4 small bodysherds (**1001**:[101–02], 103, 176; 3 fragments: **1001**:104; 181, 183) from a small to medium vessel of light buff fabric with smooth surfaces. There is a low content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 2 \times 1\text{mm}$). Body thickness: 8.35mm; weight: 7g.

Fill 1168 of pit 1166

Bodysherd (**1168**:1) is of worn light brown-buff fabric with a dark grey core and inner surface. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 4 \times 3\text{mm}$, up to $4.2 \times 4.5\text{mm}$). Body thickness: 10.82mm; weight: 8g.

Comment This is from Vessel 6 or one very similar to it.

⁴ The upper profile curves slightly inwards so that the diameter of the rim is less than that of the body.

Fill 1194 of pit 1061/ fill 1196 of large rectangular pit 1176 (see Lyne 2008, pl. 13) *Vessel* 7. This is represented by 10 sherds (4 rimsherd/bodysherds: **1194**: [R. 9, B. 1], R. 3, **1196**:2; 6 bodysherds: **1194**:2, 4, [5–6], 7–8) from a large vessel with an upright, narrow, flat-topped rim. The overall profile appears to be bucket-shaped. All of the sherds appear to be from the upper part of the vessel. The compact grey-brown to brown-buff fabric is, where preserved (e.g. **1194**:1), smooth and was finished with a fine slurry; the core is dark grey and there are patches of sooting on the inner surface. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite ($\leq 7.5 \times 5\text{mm}$, occasionally up to $15.22 \times 10.56\text{mm}$) and broken sandstone pebble inclusions (up to $15 \times 9\text{mm}$). Neck thickness: 10.79mm ; body: $10.3\text{--}11.3\text{mm}$; weight: 320g .

Decoration There are two wide (c. 6mm), V-sectioned horizontal grooves set immediately beneath the rim on the outer surface. There is a circular perforation (external diameter: 7.34mm , internal: 4.8mm) through the lower groove; this was bored through the pot wall from the outside after firing.

Fill 1137 of pit/posthole 1145

Vessel 8. This is represented by 6 bodysherds (**1137**:1–3, 3a, 4, 11 fragments: **1137**:5–16) of smooth buff to brown-buff fabric with a dark grey core and inner surface. There is a medium content of crushed dolerite inclusions ($\leq 4 \times 3\text{mm}$, up to $8 \times 6\text{mm}$). Body thickness: $8.84\text{--}9.5\text{mm}$; weight: 45g .

Other material

1196:91 is a roughly spherical piece of worn fired light buff clay: some smooth sides suggest it may have been broken-off from a larger piece. This measures $19.75 \times 15.62 \times 15.29\text{mm}$; weight: 4g . There are two small scores, possibly fingernail impressions.

Comment A macehead of compact fired clay came from a middle Bronze Age context at Knockgraffon, Co. Tipperary (McQuade *et al.* 2009).

Vessel No.	Context/feature	Number of sherds	Rimsherds	Base-, baseangle	Necksherds	Cordon sherds	Bodysherds	Fragments	Crumbs	Inclusions	Vessel size	Weight (g)	Pottery type
1	1	5	4	0	0	0	1	4	0	D	L	67	MN broad rimmed
9	149/145/137	13	0	0	2	0	11	6	0	Q D	M	101	EBA vase food vessel
2	1001	46	1	0	0	0	45	19	102	D	L	391	MBA domestic
3	1001/1196	6	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	D	L	80	MBA domestic
4	1001/1196	132	0	0	29	9	94	193	0	D S	L	1067	MBA domestic
5	1196	11	7	0	0	0	4	0	0	D	L	132	MBA domestic
6	1001/1002	3	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	D	L	79	MBA domestic
Other	1001	4	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	D	-	7	MBA domestic
Other	1168	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	D	-	8	MBA domestic
7	1194/1196	10	3	0	0	0	7	0	0	D S	L	320	MBA domestic
8	1137	6	0	0	0	0	4	11	0	D	-	45	MBA domestic
TOTAL		219	15	0	29	9	164	229	102			2129	MBA domestic

D dolerite Q quartzite L large vessel MN middle Neolithic EBA early Bronze Age
MBA middle Bronze Age

Table 1. Details of pottery including individual vessels from Phoenixtown 3, Co. Meath.

Vessel	Context	Sherds to draw	Section only	Photograph
1	001	R. 1:67, [71–72], 73		
2	1001	R. 1001:177		
3	1001/1196		R. 1001:177	
4	1001/1096	N. [1001:249, 1196:75], B. 1196:79, 111		Yes
6	1001/1002	R. 1001:[228, 241]		
7	1194/1196	R. 1194:[R. 9, B. 1]		Yes
9	149/145/137	N. 149:1, B. 149:3, 8, 145:[1–2]		

R rim S shoulder N neck B body

Table 2. Suggestions for illustration: Phoenixtown 3, Co. Meath.

THE POST-MEDIEVAL AND MEDIEVAL POTTERY
PHOENIXTOWN 3 E3130

NIAMH DOYLE MA MIAI
MARGARET GOWEN & CO. LTD

NOVEMBER 2007

1 Introduction

The pottery assemblage from Phoenixtown 3 contains 45 sherds of pottery including 27 sherds of 17th–19th century post medieval pottery and 18 sherds of 12th–14th century locally produced medieval pottery. The presence of pottery from the post medieval and medieval period at Phoenixtown 3 represents activity from both periods onsite.

2 Methodology

These fragments were identified visually in accordance with existing typologies. A brief description of fabric and decoration is given. The different types of pottery are presented in tabular form. Medieval vessel types and styles of manufacture were identified in accordance with the Medieval Pottery Research Group's classification of ceramic forms (1998). Both medieval and post medieval types were identified based on information from published excavations in Ireland and existing typologies.

3 Dating

Date ranges for the pottery types are based on published dates for the production and distribution of pottery excavated from archaeological sites in Ireland, England and the United States of America.

4 Discussion

Medieval Pottery

The assemblage contains eighteen fragments of medieval Irish pottery including 13th–14th century Meath-type wares and Leinster Cooking Ware.

Figure 1 - Table of medieval Irish pottery types, date ranges and origins from Phoenixtown 3

Type	Sherds	MVR	MNV	Form	Date Range	Origin
Meath-type ware	13	4		Jugs	12th–13th C	Irish
Meath-type fine ware	4	2		Jugs	13th–14th C	Irish
Leinster Cooking ware	1	1		Jar	12th–14th C	Irish
Total	18	7				

4.1 Local medieval pottery: Meath-type wares

The medieval pottery from Phoenixtown 3 consists of two locally produced medieval pottery types that have been named Meath-type ware and Meath-type fine ware. These local medieval wares are similar in form to much medieval pottery found in Ireland from the 13th–14th century, with a strong influence on form and decoration from Ham Green and Bristol Redcliffe wares. It is a convention on medieval pottery studies to name a pottery type after its production site, in the absence of a known production site the pottery is named as a type after the area in which it has been found to be most prolific (Blake and Davey, 1983, 39–40).

The medieval pottery type found at Phoenixtown 3, situated between Navan and Kells has also been found on multiple sites along the route between the towns of Navan and Kells in County Meath (Doyle 2007 a, c, d, f–m). Due to the fact that this local medieval pottery has been found in multiple sites in central Meath and the production site is as yet unknown the pottery has been named simply Meath-type and Meath-type fine ware.

This pottery is distinctly different to that already identified at Trim (Sweetman 1987), and Drogheda ware (Campbell 1996). Locally produced wheel thrown medieval

pottery from county Meath sites Castlefarm 1 (Doyle 2007a) and Dunboyne 4 (Doyle 2007b) is similar to the sandy wheel thrown pottery from Killeen Castle (Doyle 2006) and Tullykane (Sandes 2006). This pottery type is different to the Meath-type ware described here. Meath-type fine ware, however is similar to the local fine wares from Castlefarm 1 (Doyle 2007a) and Garrettstown 2 (Doyle 2007c).

4.2 Meath-type pottery

The assemblage contains 13 fragments of Meath-type medieval pottery representing a MNR of four vessels of this type, probably a jug form indicated by the rim fragment present. The assemblage contains four fragments of Meath-type fine ware representing a MNR of two vessels, most likely jugs.

The fabric of these vessels is soft powdery clay with frequent inclusions of haematite and mica as well as small stones that stand proud on the surface where the soft fabric has been weathered. The fine powdery clay of this type is the same as that used for the local fine wares with the addition of small stone inclusions. The soft nature of this pottery is such that it is often heavily abraded meaning it is sometimes difficult to discern the throwing lines of this pottery.

4.3 Leinster cooking ware

Leinster Cooking Ware is a hand built ware found on most sites in south-eastern Ireland from the 12th to 14th centuries. The fabric is coarse and contains large plates of quartz, mica and occasionally decomposed feldspar (Ó'Floinn 1988). The assemblage contains a single base fragment of this type, representing a jar form with the characteristic pitted base of Leinster Cooking Ware, achieved by allowing the leather hard vessels to dry on a bed of sand (O'Floinn 1988).

Post medieval pottery

A MNR of nine vessels ranging in date from the 17th–19th century are represented from Phoenixtown 3. The pottery types represented here are associated with domestic activity such as food storage, preparation and consumption.

4.4 Tin glazed earthenware

The term tin glazed earthenware describes ceramics with a fine earthenware fabric and a lead glaze made opaque through the addition of tin. They were imported widely into Ireland, mainly from the English and Dutch centres, producing similar types that were termed Anglo Netherlands wares, but also from Italy and Spain in the 16th and 17th centuries. Tin glazed earthenware was produced in Ireland from the 18th century in centres located in Belfast and Dublin. The assemblage contains a single fragment of tin glazed earthenware with a buff fabric and pale coloured glaze. The fragment is too small to determine vessel form and there are no distinguishing characteristics to denote place of origin.

4.5 Creamware

Creamware was developed in the 18th century as a durable mass produced alternative to china and tin glazed earthenwares that could be manufactured in a variety of forms suitable for use in domestic and industrial contexts. The assemblage contains a MNR of two creamware vessels; a plate and a small bowl or cup.

4.6 Pearlware

The assemblage contains a small pearlware bowl with under-painted floral pattern and a painted band around the rim. This type of pearl ware is decorated by applying the painted decoration before the glaze so that the decoration is more durable.

4.7 Transfer printed ware

Transfer printing was an efficient way to decorate large quantities of durable pearlware vessels in the 19th–20th century. It was introduced in the mid 18th century and was quickly developed by John Sadler and Guy Green of Liverpool. The assemblage contains two transfer printed ware vessels, most likely tableware. One vessel is decorated with a blue printed geometric pattern, the other with a blue printed floral pattern.

4.8 Glazed red earthenwares

Red earthenware vessels decorated with black and lead glazes were widely imported and produced in Ireland in the 18th–19th century. The Phoenixtown 3 assemblage contains two glazed red earthenware jars, with brown coloured glazes and two black glazed ones. The black glazed vessels are both made from the soft orange fabric associated with vessels of this type produced in Ireland (Meenan and McCutcheon 1997, 352). A thin walled vessel, possibly a jar or jug and a larger vessel with curved, possibly lug handles, most likely a large jar or pancheon are represented.

Figure 2 - Catalogue of pottery from Phoenixtown 3

Licence Number	Context	Find number	links	Category	Type	Part
E3130	1	2		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	1	3		Ceramic	Transfer printed ware. Blue. Floral pattern	Body fragment
E3130	1	4		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Rim fragment
E3130	1	5		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Body fragment
E3130	1	9		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Body fragment
E3130	1	11		Ceramic	Under painted pearlware	Rim fragment
E3130	1	12		Ceramic	Creamware	Body fragment
E3130	1	18		Ceramic	Creamware	Rim fragment
E3130	1	19		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Rim fragment
E3130	1	20		Ceramic	Creamware	Body fragment
E3130	1	21		Ceramic	Glazed red earthenware	Body fragment
E3130	1	22		Ceramic	Glazed red earthenware	Body fragment
E3130	1	23		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	1	24		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	1	25		Ceramic	Tin glazed earthenware	Body fragment
E3130	1	26		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Body fragment
E3130	1	27		Ceramic	Pearlware	Rim fragment
E3130	1	28		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Body fragment
E3130	1	29		Ceramic	Creamware	Body fragment
E3130	1	30		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Body fragment
E3130	1	32		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	1	33		Ceramic	Medieval. Leinster Cooking ware	Base fragment
E3130	1	37		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	1	38	39	Ceramic	Glazed red earthenware	Body fragment
E3130	1	39	38	Ceramic	Glazed red earthenware	Body fragment

Licence Number	Context	Find number	links	Category	Type	Part
E3130	1	41		Ceramic	Transfer printed ware, blue pattern	Body fragment
E3130	1	45		Ceramic	Glazed red earthenware	Body fragment
E3130	1	46		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Base fragment
E3130	1	47		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Too small to tell
E3130	1	53		Ceramic	Possible brick fragment, no surface	
E3130	1	54		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Body fragment
E3130	1	55		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Body fragment
E3130	1	58		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Handle fragment
E3130	1	59		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Body fragment
E3130	1	60		Ceramic	Glazed red earthenware	Body fragment
E3130	1	61		Ceramic	Glazed red earthenware	Body fragment
E3130	1	64		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Rim fragment
E3130	1	65		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Base fragment
E3130	1	66		Ceramic	Transfer printed ware. Blue. Geometric pattern	Body fragment
E3130	1	77		Ceramic	Black glazed red earthenware. Orange soft	Body fragment
E3130	60	1		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	60	2		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	60	3		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
E3130	61	2		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type fine ware	Body fragment
E3130	115	1		Ceramic	Medieval. Local type ware	Body fragment
Total no. of sherds						45

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THE LITHICS
PHOENIXTOWN 3 (E3130)
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FEBRUARY 2010

Introduction to report

During archaeological mitigation at the M3 Navan to Kells road scheme, excavations uncovered a number of archaeological sites. The project yielded a large assemblage of chipped, ground and unworked stone artefacts from numerous sites, and this report documents the analysis of the chipped stone and ground stone assemblages.

Methodology

All recovered artefacts were presented for analysis, and were studied visually and catalogued using SPSS (V13) for Windows. For each artefact, the following details were recorded: contextual information (including context/feature/sample number, northings and eastings where available), basic condition, extent of abrasion, material, colour, cortex, basic character and detailed classification, platform and termination type (where relevant for chipped stone), detail of working (where relevant), length (L), breadth (B), thickness (T), fragment size (mm) and mass (g). The criteria upon which these attributes have been selected, and the analytical methodology deployed, are presented in some detail elsewhere (Nelis 2003). Analysis of the ground stone assemblage, and comments on the petrology of the assemblage, was undertaken with Ms Clare McGranaghan.

Flint, chert and quartz assemblage

Investigations at Phoenixtown 3 covered a large area, divided into two areas (A and B). Prehistoric (possibly early Bronze Age) occupation remains were identified in Area A, as well as medieval linear features, burning pits and other associated features, post-medieval ditches/furrows and other undated features. In Area B, a prehistoric circular structure was excavated (Lyne 2008). The pottery assemblage included fragments of a middle Neolithic broad rimmed bowl (found in topsoil), as well as middle Bronze Age domestic ware and an early Bronze Age vase (Grogan and Roche 2008). An assemblage of 14 flint and chert artefacts were found during excavation, and a further 35 pieces were recovered during post-excavation soil sample processing (Table 1). In addition to these, a total of five ground stone artefacts were found.

Unique No	Basic Character	Classification	Condition	Cortex	Fragment size (mm)	Length (mm)	Breadth (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Mass (g)
E3130:1:1	Platform flake	Indeterminate shatter	Abraded	Tertiary	14	-	13	5	0.71
E3130:1:6	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Abraded	Tertiary	-	21	13	12	2.76
E3130:1:8	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Abraded	Secondary	-	19	11	9	2.57
E3130:1:10	Platform flake	Complete	Fresh	Tertiary	-	20	12	2	0.52
E3130:1:13	Modified	Utilised: ?wedge tool	Patinated	Secondary	-	21	25	8	4.91
E3130:1:14	Bipolar flake	Complete	Patinated	Secondary	-	22	14	13	4.82
E3130:1:15	Platform flake	Core trimming	Fresh	Tertiary	-	10	14	4	0.39
E3130:1:16	Core	Bipolar	Patinated	Secondary	-	25	15	13	5.27
E3130:1:17	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Patinated	Secondary	-	20	13	8	2.15
E3130:1:50	Platform Blade	Distal fragment	Patinated	Secondary	29	-	18	6	2.22
E3130:1:74	Platform flake	Complete	Patinated	Tertiary	-	21	21	6	1.96
E3130:61:3	Modified	Utilised: cutting tool	Fresh	Tertiary	-	20	21	3	1.66
E3130:99:1	Modified	Utilised: cutting tool	Fresh	Secondary	44	-	23	4	3.81
E3130:1001:171	Bipolar flake	Proximal fragment	Patinated	Secondary	21	-	21	6	2.68
(S) E3130:1115:1	Platform flake	Complete	Patinated	Tertiary	-	29	20	5	2.72

(S) E3130:1115:2	Platform flake	Core trimming	Patinated	Tertiary	-	25	31	7	4.97
Unique No	Basic Character	Classification	Condition	Cortex	Fragment size (mm)	Length (mm)	Breadth (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Mass (g)
(S) E3130:1115:3	Bipolar flake	Complete	Abraded	Tertiary	-	25	12	8	3.39
(S) E3130:1115:4	Platform blade	Distal fragment	Patinated	Tertiary	20	-	14	6	2.03
(S) E3130:1115:5	Bipolar flake	Proximal fragment	Patinated	Tertiary	16	-	15	2	0.64
(S) E3130:1115:6	Bipolar blade	Complete	Fresh	Tertiary	-	22	8	2	0.53
(S) E3130:1115:7	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Fresh	Tertiary	-	17	14	3	0.81
(S) E3130:1115:8	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Patinated	Tertiary	-	17	13	2	0.34
(S) E3130:1115:9	Platform flake	flake shatter platform	Fresh	Tertiary	15	-	13	1	0.35
(S) E3130:1115:10	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Abraded	Tertiary	-	10	14	5	0.71
(S) E3130:1115:11	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Fresh	Tertiary	-	14	8	1	0.14
(S) E3130:1115:12	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Fresh	Tertiary	-	13	6	2	0.08
(S) E3130:1115:13	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Fresh	Tertiary	-	12	9	1	0.04
(S) E3130:1115:14	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Patinated	Tertiary	-	9	12	2	0.21
(S) E3130:1115:15	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Fresh	Tertiary	-	12	14	3	0.28
(S) E3130:1115:16	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Patinated	Tertiary	-	12	11	2	0.16
(S) E3130:1115:17	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Fresh	Tertiary	-	14	7	2	0.11
(S) E3130:1115:18	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Patinated	Tertiary	-	10	6	1	0.11
(S) E3130:1115:19	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Fresh	Tertiary	-	10	6	2	0.21
(S) E3130:1115:20	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Patinated	Tertiary	-	12	6	2	0.16
(S) E3130:1115:21	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Fresh	Tertiary	-	9	10	1	0.12
(S) E3130:1115:22	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Fresh	Tertiary	-	10	9	2	0.19
(S) E3130:1115:23	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Fresh	Tertiary	-	10	10	2	0.13
(S) E3130:1115:24	Platform flake	Retouch: percussion	Patinated	Tertiary	-	12	6	1	0.14
(S) E3130:1115:25	Platform flake	Indeterminate shatter	Patinated	Tertiary	10	-	8	3	0.51
(S) E3130:1115:26	Platform flake	Indeterminate shatter	Fresh	Tertiary	15	-	5	2	0.16
(S) E3130:1115:27	Platform flake	Distal fragment	Patinated	Tertiary	11	-	4	2	0.21
(S) E3130:1115:28	Platform flake	Indeterminate shatter	Patinated	Tertiary	16	-	5	1	0.13
(S) E3130:1115:29	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Fresh	Tertiary	8	-	8	4	0.41
(S) E3130:1115:30	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Patinated	Tertiary	13	-	8	4	0.25
(S) E3130:1048:2	Platform flake	Proximal fragment	Fresh	Tertiary	7	-	7	1	0.08
(S) E3130:1048:3	Angular shatter	Angular shatter	Fresh	Tertiary	-	6	2	1	0.03
(S) E3130:1147:1	Platform flake	Retouch: pressure	Fresh	Tertiary	-	8	7	1	0.06
(S) E3130:10a	Platform flake	Pressure frag: distal	Fresh	Tertiary	2	-	2	1	0.01
(S) E3130:10b	Platform flake	Pressure frag: distal	Abraded	Tertiary	2	-	2	1	0.02

Table 1: M3 Clonee–North of Kells: Contract 4: Phoenixtown 3 (E3130): showing basic composition of the flint, chert and quartz assemblage (NB Italics denotes quartz, bold denotes chert).

Analytical Methodology: Excavated assemblage and post-excavation assemblage

This report details the analysis of both the excavated assemblage, and that recovered during post-excavation soil sample processing. Soil sample processing is an extremely important method of recovering small-scale artefacts which, during excavation, tend to have limited visibility and are therefore not inclined to be retrieved. In terms of chipped stone assemblages, this small-scale material commonly relates to micro-debitage. Micro-debitage is mainly produced during two stages of knapping: (a) fine core trimming, and (b) the production of tools. Consequently, the lack of recovery of such an important element of an industry leads to a lack of understanding of industrial behaviour at any given site. Soil sample processing therefore helps to cast light on issues such as identifying knapping locations and clarifying disposal patterns. Such techniques represent a sub-sampling of deposits and therefore such processing may appear to create biased concentrations in a sub-set of excavated features. Consequently, it is important to analyse the excavated and soil sample assemblages separately in order to avoid introducing a bias into the quantitative analyses. For this reason, within this report both assemblages are presented separately, but the overall results are discussed together; for the purpose of clarity, all artefacts retrieved during soil sample processing are prefixed with (S).

Provenance

Only a small number of flint and chert artefacts were found during excavation, and most of these were found in topsoil (11/14 artefacts); the majority of these were flake and angular debitage, and a small bipolar core and a small edge-damaged flake was also found (this piece may have been used as a wedge tool: C1:13). Single flint artefacts were found in a prehistoric posthole fill in Area 3A (C99) and medieval ditch fill (C61) (both of which were small, utilised cutting tools); in Area 3B, the prehistoric pit-fill C1001 yielded a small bipolar flake fragment (the same context yielding middle Bronze Age domestic ware pottery: Grogan and Roche 2008).

Context No	Description	Unworked	Core	Flake Debitage	Angular shatter	Modified	TOTAL
Area 3A							
99	Prehistoric features: Fill of posthole C100	-	-	-	-	1	1
61	Medieval linear features: Fill of ditch C71	-	-	-	-	1	1
Area 3B							
(S) 1194	Prehist Circ Structure: Fill of pit C1061	-	-	2	-	-	2
(S) 1147	Prehist Circ Structure: Fill of pit C1146	-	-	1	-	-	1
(S) 1048	Prehist Circ Structure: Fill of pit C1133	-	-	1	1	-	2
1001	Prehistoric refuse pits: Fill of pit C1166	-	-	1	-	-	1
(S) 1115	Prehistoric pits and spreads: Fill of pit C1110	-	-	28	2	-	30
1	Topsoil	-	1	6	3	1	11
	TOTAL	-	1	39	6	3	49

Table 2: M3 Contract 4 Navan to Kells: Phoenixtown 3 (E3130): showing distribution and basic composition of the flint, chert and quartz assemblage (NB: Bold denotes Context containing chert; italics denotes Context containing quartz).

The bulk of the assemblage was recovered through post-excavation soil sample processing, and prehistoric pit-fill C1115 was particularly prolific, yielding 30 flint artefacts (most of which were micro-debitage). Soil sample processing also yielded small quantities of flake and angular debitage from features relating to the Area 3B prehistoric circular structure (C1048; C1147, C1194: with middle Bronze Age domestic ware pottery being recovered from the latter context: Grogan and Roche 2008) (Table 2).

Assemblage composition and condition

The assemblage was mainly comprised of flint and chert flake debitage (39/49 pieces: 38 flint, 1 chert), with most of the remaining artefacts being angular debitage (6 pieces: 3 chert, 2 flint, 1 ?quartz/rock crystal). A single flint bipolar core was found in topsoil (E3130:1:16; Plate 3) and three modified tools were recovered (E3130:1:13; E3130:61:3; E3130:99:1; Plates 4–6). None of the modified tools have been formally retouched, but were simply utilised and sustained visible edge damage through use. One of these was a cutting tool (E3130:99:1), and another was almost certainly used as a wedge tool (E3130:1:13); the function of the remaining tool was unclear, but it may have been used as a cutting tool/chisel (E3130:61:3). Most of the assemblage remained quite fresh (23 pieces) or had some patination (21 pieces), and some exhibited post-depositional abrasion (5 pieces), but there was no evidence for burning within the assemblage.

The assemblage was dominated by small-scale artefacts. Complete artefacts ranged in length from just 6–29mm, with the majority measuring less than 19mm (75%). The source of flint was only evident on one artefact (the bipolar core: E3130:1:16) which was clearly based on a small-scale beach pebble, but this could not be determined for the remainder of the assemblage. Notably, some of the flint was of a very fine, translucent and flawless quality, and this includes both utilised cutting tools (E3130:66:3; E3130:99:1).

Primary debitage: cores, flakes, blades and angular shatter

The primary debitage assemblage is mainly populated by small-scale flake debitage, which were either produced by pressure flaking, or small-scale percussion flaking; for the most part, these were probably produced during the final stages of tool production, and some may derive from fine core preparation or trimming. Only one core was found (E3130:1:16); this is a small beach pebble used as bipolar core; its scars suggest that it produced few usable flakes and it has been quite heavily exhausted, measuring only 25mm in length.

By far, the greatest concentration of material was recovered during soil sample processing of pit fill C1115; this context yielded small-scale pressure and percussion flakes, in the main, but also some larger core trimming flakes. No refit groups were identified, although it is entirely likely that some (or all) of these pieces are technically related and derived from a common knapping episode. The small-scale pressure flakes, particularly, seem to have been produced during tool production, but some have probably also been produced by fine core trimming and preparation. Small, punctiform platforms are present on the pressure flakes, whereas small planar platforms (sometimes with edge preparation) are mainly found on the small percussion flaked debitage. It is reasonable to conclude that the knapping debris has been intentionally collected and discarded into C1115, while the objective piece (be it a core or finished tool) was removed elsewhere.

Aside from the micro-debitage, the remaining flakes indicate that both platform reduction and bipolar reduction occurred, but again, no refit groups were identified, and the incongruous attributes of the remaining assemblage would suggest that they represent individual elements of numerous knapping episodes. Most of these are also quite small in scale, and it may have been because of the limited size of the raw material, as suggested by the small proportions of the one surviving core (E3130:1:16). In some cases, the platforms used were small and carefully produced (e.g. E3130:1:15; E3130:1:10: both of which are small flakes). Good quality flint was used for both platform and bipolar reduction (e.g. E3130:66:3; E3130:99:1; E3130:1:14).

Secondary technology

Three modified tools were found (E3130:1:13; E3130:61:3; E3130:99:1; Plates 4–6). None had been retouched, and all could be described as flakes which were utilised without retouch. They include a cutting tool (E3130:99:1), a wedge tool (E3130:1:13) and a small tool of unclear purpose (E3130:99:1).

The cutting tool (E3130:99:1) was a long thin blade with a shattered platform and its tip missing; its left lateral edge is corticated and unused, but the right lateral edge is 'S' shaped, is naturally sharp and has been used for cutting; it is possible that this piece may have been hafted. The assemblage also included a small flake which exhibits some use-wear along its short right lateral edge (E3130:61:3); its function is unclear: it may have been used for cutting/chiseling (it is not thought to be gunflint). The remaining tool was a small square core trimming flake, with bifacial scalar edge damage along its distal and left lateral edges (E3130:1:13), recovered from topsoil. This is most probably a wedge tool which has been utilised without retouch; the scalar flaking is likely to have been caused during use.

None of the modified tools were clearly datable on morphological grounds: simply utilised tools were found throughout the prehistoric (and indeed historic) periods in Ireland. Cutting tools, particularly, are commonly found at most sites during all periods, but wedge tools (which seem to have been used as small chisels, for splitting bone and/or wood) seem to be more commonly found during the Neolithic period; on rare occasions, they can dominate tool assemblages, such as Ballynahatty timber circle, Co Down (Nelis 2003), but they more commonly represent a minor element of the tool repertoire.

Ground stone: summary

A small number of ground stone artefacts were found during excavation (4 pieces), and these were found in a range of contexts. They include a large polishing stone (which may be a minimally used saddle quern) found in topsoil (E3130:1:63; Plate 2), an apparently unworked cobble, found in a post-medieval ditch fill (E3130:5:2). Both of the remaining ground stone artefacts were found in association with the prehistoric deposits: these include a 'bowl'-shaped stone, which seems to have seen minimal use, found in a pit within the prehistoric circular structure (perhaps used as a mortar: E3130:1048:1; Plate 1) and a small rubbing/polishing stone, found in a prehistoric refuse pit (E3130:1001:25).

While these artefacts seem to have mainly served as polishing or grinding tools or vessels, only the saddle quern is diagnostic of a particular chronological period (and this only broadly datable to the prehistoric period, from the Neolithic onwards); its recovery from topsoil does little to clarify its period of use. Both the rubbing/polishing stone (E3130:1001:225: possibly a handstone for a quern?) and the ?mortar (E3130:1048:1) were recovered from prehistoric deposits, with middle Bronze Age

domestic ware pottery being found in the same deposit as the rubbing stone (Grogan and Roche 2008).

E3130:5:2

Unworked cobble

Sedimentary greywacke: 122mm (L) x 107mm (B) x 25mm (T); 960.08g.

Sub-circular flat cobble, grey with frequent quartz/feldspar inclusions (aver 1mm width) throughout the matrix. It was found in C5, the fill of post-medieval ditch C6.

E3130:1048:1

Possible mortar (Plate 1)

Sedimentary sandstone: 164mm (L) x 143mm (B) x 58mm; depression: 109mm (L) x 94mm (B) x 18mm (T); 1176.95g.

'Bowl'-shaped stone with a flattened base, four flattened sides. The centre of the top surface is pecked into a sub-circular depression. Red/brown in colour with large inclusions of quartz and feldspar (aver 2mm width) within the coarse grained matrix. It was found in the fill C1048 of pit C1133 within the circular structure. The pecked surface of the concave is apparently unworn, and so it may not have seen extensive use.

E3130:1:63

Possible saddle quern (Plate 2)

Sedimentary greywacke: 212mm (L) x 132mm (B) x 55mm (T); 1.98kg.

Angular stone, with top surface rubbed and smoothed into concave; otherwise unworked. Grey/brown with fine quartz and feldspar inclusions. It was found in topsoil (C1). While this piece may be a quern, it is quite a flat example, presumably having only been minimally used (therefore lacking the more familiar, characteristically deep concave which many saddle querns bear).

E3130:1001:225

Possible rubbing/polishing stone

Sedimentary sandstone: 59mm (L) x 52mm (B) x 34mm (T); 134.74g.

Small flattened pebble with two faces that seem to have been smoothed through use. Grey/brown with very large inclusions of quartz and feldspar (average 3mm) and small amounts of mica within coarse grained matrix.

Discussion: Phoenixtown 3 (E3130)

A small assemblage of flint and chert was recovered during excavations at Phoenixtown 3 (14 pieces), with a further 35 flint and quartz artefacts being found during soil sample processing. The assemblage also included a small ground stone assemblage, which included an unworked cobble, as well as a putative saddle quern, a polishing/rubbing stone and a possible mortar.

Most of the chert and quartz artefacts were angular shatter, with only a single chert flake fragment being found; these artefacts offered little information regarding the flaking of non-flint materials. The chipped flint assemblage was mainly populated by flake debitage, most of which was small scale and produced during tool production. A small number of utilised tools were found, none of which had been retouched prior to use. Clearly, then, the retouch flake assemblage was not produced during the manufacture of the three tools found during excavation. In fact, the bulk of the flake debitage (28 pieces) was found in C1115, the fill of a prehistoric pit. It is probable that at least some of these flakes form part of a single knapping episode, but no refit groups were identified during analysis, and it would seem that the core and/or tool from which they were produced was curated away from the remaining debitage

assemblage, which may have then been discarded into C1115. The remainder of the assemblage has much greater variability in terms of production and raw material quality, and these artefacts therefore represent only partial elements of numerous knapping episodes. It is of interest that no artefacts were recovered from C1115 during excavation, with all being found during soil sample processing, and therefore this concentration introduces a compositional bias to the content of the assemblage; such results from soil sample processing is a stark reminder of the ‘hidden’ elements within most chipped stone assemblages, and concentrations of micro-debitage discard are undoubtedly more common than excavation alone can clarify.

The pottery assemblage at Phoenixtown 3 included middle Neolithic ware, middle Bronze Age domestic ware and an early Bronze Age vase. While the chipped and ground stone artefacts are broadly compatible with middle Neolithic to early/middle Bronze Age activity, unfortunately they do little to assist in clarifying the chronological detail of the prehistoric occupation activity at Phoenixtown 3, with no clearly datable artefacts being found.

References

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Lyne, E. 2008 *M3 Clonee–North of Kells: Contract 4: Navan–Kells and Kells Bypass: Interim report on archaeological excavation of Phoenixtown 3*. Unpublished report prepared by IAC Ltd on behalf of Meath County Council.

Nelis, E. 2003 *Lithics of the Northern Irish Neolithic*. Unpublished PhD thesis. Belfast: Queen’s University, Belfast.

Plates



Plate 1: Phoenixtown 3 E3130:1048:1 Possible mortar/grinding stone.



Plate 2: Phoenixtown 3 E3130:1:63 Possible quern stone.



Plate 3: Phoenixtown 3 E3130:1:16 Bipolar core.



Plate 4: Phoenixtown 3 E3130:1:13 Wedge tool.



Plate 5: Phoenixtown 3 E3130:61:3 Utilised flake, function unclear.



Plate 6: Phoenixtown 3 E3130:99:1, utilised cutting tool.

METAL FINDS CATALOGUE
PHOENIXTOWN 3

JACQUELINE MAC DERMOTT.

JULY 2009

Finds from Phoenixtown 3 consist of six nail fragments, three from medieval contexts, an iron door latch and a fragment of an iron bracket or brace. A small fractured object is possibly an iron wedge or plug.

Nails.

Of the seven nails recovered, three were from sieved topsoil. The heads of 1:42, 1:44 and 1:45 are not visible, but 1:49, though fractured, bears a rectangular head that tapers directly to the shaft. The nails from datable contexts are also badly preserved. 173:1, from a medieval context, is smaller but of similar shape to 1:49, with an almost triangular upper shaft. Medieval nail 61:1 is also badly corroded, but x-rays reveal a square or rectangular head with the stub of a square shaft, and fragments 82:1&2 are part of the same badly damaged nail.

Catalogue.

E3130:1:42

Nail. Iron. Badly corroded, shaft shape not visible. Length (mm): 23. Width (mm): 6. Thick (mm): 5. Context C1. Topsoil.

E3130:1:44

Nail. Iron. Badly corroded. Shaft shape not visible. Length (mm): 32.4. Width (mm): 9.1. Thick (mm): 6. Context C1. Topsoil.

E3130:1:43

Nail. Iron. Badly corroded. Shaft shape not visible. Length (mm): 32. Width (mm): 8.5. Thick (mm): 6. Context C1. Topsoil.

E3130:1:49

Nail. Iron. Rectangular head tapering directly to rectangular shaft, creating triangular upper shaft. Slightly fractured. Length (mm): 34.1. Width (mm): 14.5. Thick (mm): 7. Context C1. Topsoil.

E3130:173:1

Nail. Iron. Rectangular head tapering directly to rectangular shaft, creating triangular upper shaft. Length (mm): 29.5. Width (mm): 11.5. Thick (mm): 7. Context C173. Fill of pit C172. Medieval?

E3130:61:1

Nail. Iron. Badly corroded, square shaft. Length (mm): 20. Context C61. Fill of pit C71. Medieval?

E3130:82:1

Nail fragment. Iron. Badly corroded. See 82:2. Context C82. Fill of linear pit C89.

E3130:82:2

Nail fragment. Iron. Badly corroded. See 82:1. Context C82. . Fill of linear pit C89.

Latch and strap hinge?

Two objects found in the topsoil layer resemble post-medieval or modern furniture or door accessories. 1:48 is the curved spayed end of a narrow bar with a single rectangular hole pierced near the terminal. It has the appearance of a window or door latch. 1:76 is a straight thin bar with two oval holes punched near the tapering ends. It was possibly a bracket or strap hinge for a large wooden object.

Catalogue.

E3130:1:48

Door latch? Iron. Square bar flattening and splaying to curved terminal with rectangular section. Single rectangular hole punched near terminal. Broken at other end. Length (mm): 90. Width (mm): 17.1. Thick (mm): 9.5. Context C1. Topsoil.

E3130:1:76

Bracket, brace or strap hinge. Iron. Straight thin bar with D-shaped section, two oval holes punched at either end. Both ends rounded. Length (mm): 190. Width (mm): 19.5. Thick (mm): 6. Context C1. Topsoil.

Wedge or plug.

A small tapering object was taken from the fill of a small pit containing layers of burnt material. It was possibly originally a small wedge, but the slight angle of the head would not facilitate precise hammering. It is also possible that it was an iron plug in a larger object, subsequently destroyed.

E3130:121:1

Wedge or plug. Iron. Broad square head, sloping downwards, thick sides tapering in a curve to straight sharp end. Rectangular section. Length (mm): 45. Width (mm): 19. Thick (mm): 14.2. Context C121. Top fill of pit C127. Medieval?

Recommendations: None.

Objects for illustration / photographs:

Door latch 1:48

Wedge/plug 121:1

THE CLAY TOBACCO PIPES
PHOENIXTOWN 3

JOE NORTON

MAY 2009

Sometimes it was only possible to be very general in attributing a date, as the item, usually a stem piece, was too small for positive dating. This applied to some bowl fragments also.

Find No.	Date	Description
E 3130:1:7	Poss. 17th.c	Bowl Fragment. Possibly 17th.c no dimensions possible
E3130:1:36	?	Stem Fragment, too small to date. L=30mm, W=4mm, Diameter of Hole=1mm
E3130:1:40	Poss. 17th.c	Stem Fragment, Possibly 17th.c. L=47mm, W=5mm, Diameter of Hole=2mm
E3130:1:51	?	Stem Fragment, too small to date. L=9mm, W=4mm, Diameter of Hole=2mm

Table 1 – Catalogue of clay pipe pieces from Phoenixtown 3

THE GLASS BEAD
PHOENIXTOWN 3

CATHY JOHNSON

PHOENIXTOWN 3

Fragment of a decorative polychrome bead (E3136:1:62) came from the topsoil at Phoenixtown 3, along with a range of objects of prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval date. The bead is an uncommon type, made from reddish-brown glass, for which close parallels are difficult to find, particularly as there has been such a limited study of Irish glass beads. Two unstratified polychrome beads of red glass from Lagore are somewhat similar. The first of these is drum shaped, with applied white glass in the central area and a yellow band at one end (Hencken 1950, 143, and fig. 66 no. 1400). The other bead is biconical, with white zig-zags around the centre and a blue band at either end (ibid. 143 and fig. 66, no. 1420). Collars and knobs are features of cable beads, which are a characteristically Irish type, occurring on early medieval Irish sites including Lagore (ibid.), Knowth (Johnson and Barton forthcoming) and Killickaweeny, Co Kildare (Johnson 2008). However, the collar of the Phoenixtown bead is considerably less substantial than those found on cable beads. In conclusion, the bead, while unusual, has characteristics which make an early medieval date likely.

E3136:1:62 is half of a globular-shaped polychrome bead, with flat ends, a D-shaped section and a 3 mm diameter longitudinal perforation. Air-bubbles are apparent on the internal surface. The bead is made from opaque reddish brown glass. There are applied narrow collars of opaque yellow glass around both ends and the centre of the bead is decorated with two horizontally placed knobs of opaque, pale, milky-green glass.

D. 7.82 mms H. 3.86 mms.

Bibliography

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Johnson, C. 2008 Report on the small finds. In F. Walsh Killickaweeny 1 on CD-Rom in N. Carlin, L. Clarke and F. Walsh *The M4 Kinnegad–Enfield–Kilcock Motorway: The Archaeology of Life and Death on the Boyne Floodplain: NRA Monograph Series* 2. Wordwell, Bray.

Recommendations:

This is an unusual bead, for which I have, so far, been unable to find a close parallel. Photograph the bead from several angles and insert into text and /or draw if funds permit. You could also have it analysed for content as an aid to future research.

THE CHARCOAL REMAINS
PHOENIXTOWN 3 E3130
LORNA O'DONNELL

MARCH 2010

1 Introduction

Evidence for domestic activity was unearthed at Phoenixtown 3. Initial pottery analysis and radiocarbon dating indicates the site was in use during the Neolithic period, the middle Bronze Age and the medieval period. The archaeology at the site consisted of pits and ditches. Also excavated was a circle of postholes, flanked on either side by incomplete footing trenches. A clear entrance was visible (Lyne 2008). This site was excavated as part of Contract 4 of the M3 Navan–Kells bypass. The aim of the charcoal analysis is to provide a floristic background to the area. The analysis can also identify any fuel selection patterns at Phoenixtown 3. Charcoal previously identified by Ellen O'Carroll for radiocarbon dating has been included in this report. Further analysis, discussions and comparisons of results will be incorporated into a final integrated charcoal and wood report for all sites excavated on Contract 4 of the M3 (Lyons and O'Donnell forthcoming).

2 Methodology (After IAC Ltd)

2.1 Processing

- A mechanical flotation tank using a pump and water recycling system is used for soil flotation
- The soil is washed using a 1mm mesh in the flotation tank and a 300 micron and 1mm sieve is used to catch floated material.
- The volume of all soil samples are recorded in litres using a measuring jug.
- The sample is then placed into the 1mm mesh in the flotation tank, the tank is then filled with water and the sample washed. Any large lumps of soil can be carefully broken down by hand, but the jets of water in the flotation tank gently clean the rest of the sample.
- Once the sample is clean (just stones, charcoal, artefacts remaining in the mesh) the tank is filled up with water and at this stage any floating material (charcoal, seeds etc) should flow over the spout and into the sieves.
- The retent is then gently poured into a labelled tray (containing site code, site name, sample number and context number) and place on a shelf to dry.
- The flots are securely packaged in tissue, labelled and hung up to dry. This prevents any loss of light material (seeds) which could result once the flots are dry and being moved (if they are dried on trays).
- Before washing a new sample all equipment used (measuring jugs, 1mm mesh, sieves etc) are thoroughly washed using clean water.
- The large black settling tanks (and water) are cleaned between every site, or if a large site is being processed, every 1–2 weeks.
- Any samples containing high clay content will be soaked in water for 1–2 days to aid the sieving process.

2.2 Charcoal identification

Each piece of charcoal was examined and orientated first under low magnification (10x–40x). They were then broken to reveal their transverse, tangential and longitudinal surfaces. Pieces were mounted in plasticine, and examined under a binocular microscope with dark ground light and magnifications generally of 200xs and 400xs. Each taxa or species will have anatomical characteristics that are particular to them, and these are identified by comparing their relevant characteristics to keys (Schweingruber 1978; Hather 2000 and Wheeler *et al* 1989) and a reference collection supplied by the National Botanical Gardens of Ireland, Glasnevin. It was aimed to identify fifty fragments per sample.

2.3 Details of charcoal recording

The general age group of each taxon per sample was recorded, and the growth rates were classified as slow, medium, fast or mixed. It was not within the scope of this project to measure all the ring widths from the charcoal, however, some measurements were taken with a microscopic graticule in order to make the scale of slow, medium and fast growth less subjective. Slow growth within the charcoal from this site was considered to be approximately 0.4mm per annum, medium approximately 1mm per annum and fast approximately 2.2mm per annum.

The ring curvature of the pieces was also noted – for example weakly curved annual rings suggest the use of trunks or larger branches, while strongly curved annual rings indicate the burning of smaller branches or trees (Fig. 1). Tyloses in vessels in species such as oak can denote the presence of heartwood. These occur when adjacent parenchyma cells penetrate the vessel walls (via the pitting) effectively blocking the vessels (Gale 2003, 37). Insect infestation is usually recognised by round holes, and is considered to be caused by burrowing insects. Their presence normally suggests the use of decayed degraded wood, which may have been gathered from the woodland floor or may have been stockpiled.

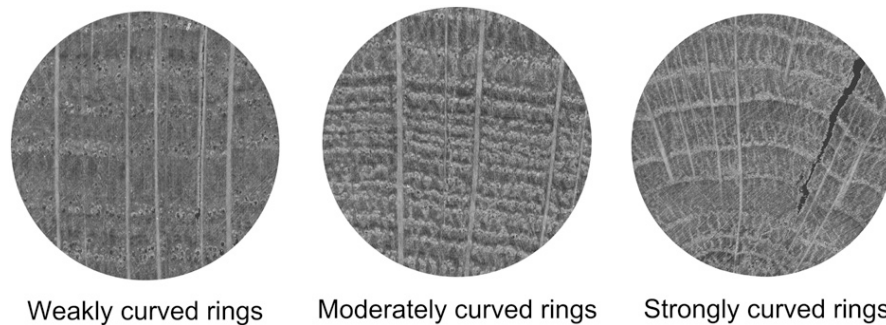


Fig. 1 Ring curvature. Weakly curved rings indicate the use of trunks or large branches (after Marguerie and Hunot 2007 1421, Fig. 3).

3 Results

Charcoal was identified from sixteen contexts at Phoenixtown 3. Nine wood types or taxa were identified including alder (*Alnus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), ash (*Fraxinus* sp.), pomaceous fruitwood (Maloideae), wild/bird cherry (*Prunus avium/padus*), *Prunus*, oak (*Quercus* sp.), willow (*Salix* sp.) and elm (*Ulmus* sp.). The results are dominated by oak (Fig. 2).

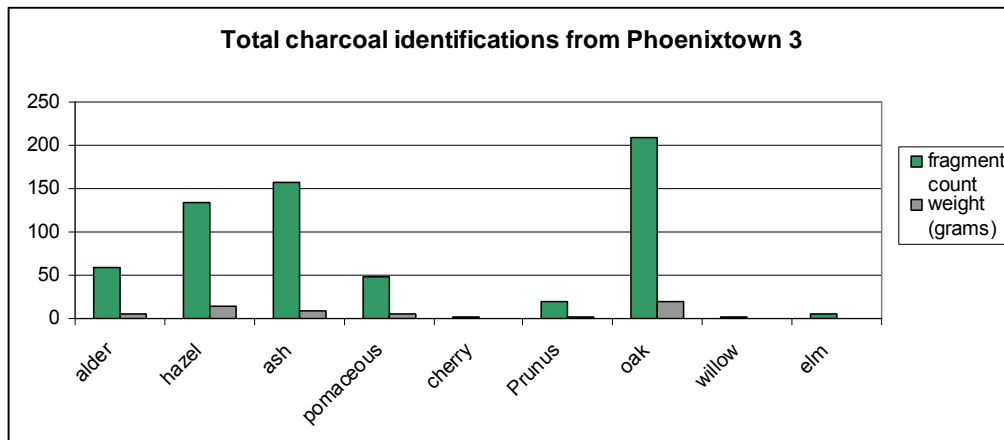


Fig. 2 Charcoal identifications from Phoenixtown 3

Most of the charcoal samples examined from Phoenixtown 3 relate to a circular structure with a south-eastern entrance.

Circular Structure

Entrance postholes and pits

Fills from three postholes from the circular structure were examined. Posthole **C1063** (fill **C1043**) contained mainly ash, with some oak. Posthole **C1073** (fill **C1049**) contained mainly oak with some ash. A radiocarbon date of Cal 1494–1392 BC (2 sigma) was received from this context. It is likely that the former post was made from ash and the latter from oak. Alder and oak were identified from posthole **C1055** (fill **C1041**). It is not possible to discern the dominant wood taxa in this context. A radiocarbon date of Cal 1436–1316 BC (2 sigma) was received from this context.

Entrance postholes and pits

Pit **C1104** (fill **C1044**) contained mainly oak with some ash. A radiocarbon date of Cal 1503–1415 BC (2 sigma) was received from this fill. In comparison, Pit **C1061** (fill **C1194**) contained mainly oak with some hazel and ash.

Wall footing trenches

Pit **C1148** (fill **C1122**) contained alder, hazel, ash and oak. Pit **C1177** (fill **C1054**) contained hazel, ash and oak while pit **C1146** (fill **C1147**) contained alder, hazel, ash and oak. A radiocarbon date of Cal 1435–1303 BC (2 sigma calibration) has been received from this pit.

Pits inside structure

Pit **C1048** (fill **C1133**) contained hazel, ash, pomaceous fruitwood and cherry.

Prehistoric refuse pits and associated features

Pits

Charcoal was identified from two fills from waste pit **C1166**. The basal fill (**C1168**) contained alder, hazel, ash, pomaceous fruitwood and cherry. The upper fill (**C1001**) contained alder, hazel, ash, pomaceous fruitwood, cherry, oak and willow. The charcoal results from the two fills are very similar. A high quantity of pottery was found in **C1001**.

Isolated features

Pit **C27** (fill **C24**) contained mainly oak, with hazel, ash and pomaceous fruitwood. Pit **C147** (fill **C137**) contained mainly hazel, with some oak and *Prunus* type. A radiocarbon date of Cal 1745–1628 BC (2 sigma) has been received from this fill. Pit **C1110** (including fills **C1105**, **1115** and **1114**) contained hazel, pomaceous fruitwood, oak and elm. An isolated posthole **C1109** (fill **C1108**) contained pomaceous fruitwood, *Prunus* type and oak.

Charcoal was examined from two main types of features at Phoenixtown 3, pits and postholes. It is likely that ash and oak were both selected for posts for the middle Bronze Age circular structure. Both are strong durable timbers and were frequently selected during the Bronze Age for building (O'Donnell 2007). Ash particularly flourished during the Bronze Age in Ireland. It is a very light dependent tree and benefited from woodland clearance of oak forests. It was not possible to discern if a particular wood type was selected for building of the other posts.

A variety of wood types were noted within the pit features. This charcoal is probably a result of on site domestic burning. There is no evidence of particular functions of the pits through charcoal analysis, for example pits containing only oak heartwood often point to the production of charcoal.

The site is close to Phoenixtown 2 and 4. Charcoal from a post medieval kiln deposit at Phoenixtown 4 contained pomaceous fruitwood, ash and oak, indicating that these were still growing in the Phoenixtown area by the post medieval period (O'Donnell 2009). The charcoal from Phoenixtown 2 had not been identified at this time.

4 Local environment

The charcoal results from Phoenixtown 3 indicate the site was located close to oak woodlands. The oak present could be either our native pedunculate (*Quercus robur*) which prefers more wet, heavier clays than the sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) (Beckett 1979, 40–41). Hazel is a very tolerant tree; it can grow from wet to dry conditions (but not waterlogged ones (Orme and Coles 1985, 9). It was once very common in Ireland, Mc Cracken writes that it was once widespread to an extent that is hard to imagine today (1971, 19). It can grow as a tree or as a scrub, and is frequently found growing in association with oak as an understorey tree.

The presence of ash, cherry, possible blackthorn and pomaceous fruitwood indicate that, the woodland canopy had opened out, allowing light loving species to grow. Ash trees prefer moist, well drained and fertile soils. It is very intolerant of shade (Lipscombe and Stokes 2008, 188). Wild cherry (*Prunus avium*) needs light to grow, on or near woodland margins and on light well drained soils (Orme and Coles 1985, 11). Bird cherry (*Prunus padus*) occurs particularly in marginal forests, and is generally solitary (Stuijts 2005, 142). Undifferentiated *Prunus* type was identified from the site which could represent wild/bird cherry or blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). Blackthorn grows in woodland where the canopy has been opened, on woodland margins, in scrub and along streams where it may be found with alder. It does not survive under heavy shade (Orme and Coles 1985, 11).

The Maloideae group (pomaceous fruitwood), a sub family of the Rosaceae includes crab apple, wild pear, rowan/whitebeam and hawthorn. Crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*) is a tree of hedges, copses and oak woodland, thriving in fertile and heavy soils. It often grows singly, with large distances between individual trees (Lipscombe and Stokes 2008, 78). Wild pear (*Pyrus pyraeaster*) can grow on woodland edges and also can be found growing in a solitary situation (Lipscombe and Stokes 2008, 114; Stuijts 2005, 142). Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) is a tough colonizer which can tolerate peaty soils and exposed conditions. It needs plenty of light to thrive (Hickie 2002, 65). It is a tree of mountains, woodlands and valleys, growing on a wide range of soils, including chalks, acid soils and even peat (Lipscombe and Stokes 2008, 120). Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*) grows up to 20m high and has a preference for limestone soils (Orme and Coles 1985, 11). Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) can thrive in all but the most acid of soils (Gale and Cutler 2000). As wild pear is not a native Irish species, it is likely that the charcoal represents other types encompassed in the Maloideae group.

The presence of alder indicates nearby wetland areas. It can often be seen growing alongside rivers, lakes, on marshes or in fens. It can form alder carr when its roots are in water. It is able to survive on these wet sites (which generally lack the nitrates needed for growth) as its roots have nodules which contain nitrogen fixing bacteria that extract nitrogen from the air (Lipscombe and Stokes 2008, 134). In comparison, willow will also grow in wet areas. The main Irish native willows are grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), goat willow (*Salix caprea*) and eared willow (*Salix aurita*).

Elm trees will grow well on rich, alluvial soils and do prefer riverine habitats (Gale and Cutler 2000, 264).

5 Summary

Charcoal was identified from sixteen contexts from Phoenixtown 3. Nine wood taxa were identified. The results indicate the site was located close to oak woodlands and that these woodlands were not closed canopy in nature as a variety of light dependent scrub/shrub trees were identified. The presence of alder and willow indicates a nearby water source. Most of the identifications concentrated on a middle Bronze Age post built circular structure. It is likely that both oak and ash were selected for posts. The charcoal within the pits is most likely a result of on site domestic burning.

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Table 1 Charcoal identifications from Phoenixtown 3

Sample number	Context number	Feature type	Wood taxon	Flot weight	No. of fragments	Charcoal weight (grams)	Size of fragments (mm)	No. of growth rings	Growth	Ring curvature	Insect holes	Tyloses	Comment
10	C24	Fill of charcoal rich pit C27	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	20.2	1	0.03	3	3		Strongly curved			
10	C24	Fill of charcoal rich pit C27	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	20.2	1	0.09	3	3		Strongly curved			
10	C24	Fill of charcoal rich pit C27	Maloideae spp. (pomaceous)	20.2	1	0.1	2	3		Strongly curved			
10	C24	Fill of charcoal rich pit C27	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	20.2	47	4.56	3–6	2–5	Medium	Weakly curved			
67	C137	Fill of pit C147	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	12.3	42	4.2	4–6	4–7	Medium				
67	C137	Fill of pit C147	Maloideae spp. (pomaceous)	12.3	1	0.09	3	3					
67	C137	Fill of pit C147	<i>Prunus</i> sp.	12.3	7	1.19	2–4	2–4	Medium	Strongly curved			
103	C1043	Posthole C1063, structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	4.0	42	2.41	2–4	2–4	Medium	Strongly curved			
103	C1043	Posthole C1063, structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	4.0	8	0.93	2–4	2–5	Medium	Weakly curved			
106	C1049	Posthole C1073, structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	1.6	5	0.07	2–5	2–5	Medium	Weakly curved			
106	C1049	Posthole C1073, structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	1.6	23	0.92	2–5	2–5	Medium	Weakly curved			
150	C1044	Pit C1104, entrance to structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	7.2	11	0.91	2–4	2–3	Medium	Strongly curved			

Sample number	Context number	Feature type	Wood taxon	Flot weight	No. of fragments	Charcoal weight (grams)	Size of fragments (mm)	No. of growth rings	Growth	Ring curvature	Insect holes	Tyloses	Comment
150	C1044	Pit C1104, entrance to structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	7.2	40	3.82	2–10	2–5	Slow	Weakly curved		50%	
151	C1108	Posthole C1109, isolated activity	Maloideae spp. (pomaceous)	1	11	0.69	2–5	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			Probably the same piece
151	C1108	Posthole C1109, isolated activity	<i>Prunus</i> sp.	1	1	0.04	3	3					
151	C1108	Posthole C1109, isolated activity	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	1	1	0.04	3	4					
152	C1194	Pit C1061, entrance to structure	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	28.6	1	0.04	3	3					
152	C1194	Pit C1061, entrance to structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	28.6	3	0.58	2–4	2–3	Medium	Strongly curved			
152	C1194	Pit C1061, entrance to structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	28.6	46	5.48	5–10	5–8	Slow	Weakly curved		100%	
155	C1105, C1115, C1114	Pit (3 fills of pit C1110)	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	74.7	16	2.96	2–7	2–7	Medium	Strongly curved			
155	C1105, C1115, C1114	Pit (3 fills of pit C1110)	Maloideae spp. (pomaceous)	74.7	26	4.22	4–8	3–10	Medium	Strongly curved			
155	C1105, C1115, C1114	Pit (3 fills of pit C1110)	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	74.7	2	0.19	4	3					
155	C1105, C1115, C1114	Pit (3 fills of pit C1110)	<i>Ulmus</i> sp. (elm)	74.7	6	0.65	2–4	2–4	Medium	Strongly curved			

Sample number	Context number	Feature type	Wood taxon	Flot weight	No. of fragments	Charcoal weight (grams)	Size of fragments (mm)	No. of growth rings	Growth	Ring curvature	Insect holes	Tyloses	Comment
160	C1041	Posthole C1055, structure	<i>Alnus</i> sp. (alder)	2.2	5	0.24	4–5	4–5	Medium				
160	C1041	Posthole C1055, structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	2.2	5	1.5	4–5	4–5					
168	C1122	Upper fill pit C1148, related to structure	<i>Alnus</i> sp. (alder)	4	17	1.73	2–5	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
168	C1122	Upper fill pit C1148, related to structure	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	4	14	0.82	2–4	2–4	Medium	Strongly curved			
168	C1122	Upper fill pit C1148, related to structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	4	14	0.6	2–5	2–4	Medium	Strongly curved			Roundwoods
168	C1122	Upper fill pit C1148, related to structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	4	5	0.13	2–4	2–4	Medium	Weakly curved			
172	C1048	Pit C1133, interior of structure	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	7.5	18	0.52	2–4	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
172	C1048	Pit C1133, interior of structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	7.5	15	0.36	2–4	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
172	C1048	Pit C1133, interior of structure	Maloideae spp. (pomaceous)	7.5	1	0.04	3	2					
172	C1048	Pit C1133, interior of structure	<i>Prunus avium/padus</i> sp. (wild/bird cherry)	7.5	1	0.04	3	3					

Sample number	Context number	Feature type	Wood taxon	Flot weight	No. of fragments	Charcoal weight (grams)	Size of fragments (mm)	No. of growth rings	Growth	Ring curvature	Insect holes	Tyloses	Comment
172	C1048	Pit C1133, interior of structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	7.5	15	0.4	2–4	2–5	Medium	Weakly curved			
178	C1140	Posthole C1165, structure	<i>Alnus</i> sp. (alder)	3.1	12	0.23	2–5	2–6	Medium	Strongly curved			
178	C1140	Posthole C1165, structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	3.1	4	0.53	2–5	2–6	Medium	Strongly curved			
178	C1140	Posthole C1165, structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	3.1	6	0.23	2–5	2–6	Slow	Weakly curved			
207	C1001	Upper fill waste pit C1166	<i>Alnus</i> sp. (alder)	8.8	13	1.46	2–6	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
207	C1001	Upper fill waste pit C1166	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	8.8	13	1.21	2–6	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
207	C1001	Upper fill waste pit C1166	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	8.8	3	0.11	2–6	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
207	C1001	Upper fill waste pit C1166	Maloideae spp. (pomaceous)	8.8	6	0.82	2–6	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
207	C1001	Upper fill waste pit C1166	<i>Prunus</i> sp.	8.8	11	0.8	2–6	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
207	C1001	Upper fill waste pit C1166	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	8.8	3	0.37	2–6	2–5	Medium	Weakly curved			
207	C1001	Upper fill waste pit C1166	<i>Salix</i> sp. (willow)	8.8	1	0.12	3	4	Medium				
213	C1054	Pit C1177, related to structure	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	48.8	3	0.35	2–7	2–8	Medium	Strongly curved			

Sample number	Context number	Feature type	Wood taxon	Flot weight	No. of fragments	Charcoal weight (grams)	Size of fragments (mm)	No. of growth rings	Growth	Ring curvature	Insect holes	Tyloses	Comment
213	C1054	Pit C1177, related to structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	48.8	45	2.98	5–10	2–6	Medium	Strongly curved			
213	C1054	Pit C1177, related to structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	48.8	4	0.27	2–5	2–4	Medium	Weakly curved			
222	C1147	Pit C1146, structure	<i>Alnus</i> sp. (alder)	50.1	11	1.93	5–6	2–8	Medium	Strongly curved			
222	C1147	Pit C1146, structure	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	50.1	20	3.24	5–6	2–8	Medium	Strongly curved			
222	C1147	Pit C1146, structure	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	50.1	12	0.61	2–4	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
222	C1147	Pit C1146, structure	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	50.1	4	0.43	2–4	2–4	Medium	Weakly curved			
233	C1168	Base fill waste pit, C1166	<i>Alnus</i> sp. (alder)	3.0	1	0.1	3	3	Medium				
233	C1168	Base fill waste pit, C1166	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	3.0	6	0.18	2–5	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
233	C1168	Base fill waste pit, C1166	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp. (ash)	3.0	3	0.19	2–5	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
233	C1168	Base fill waste pit, C1166	Maloideae spp. (pomaceous)	3.0	2	0.05	2–5	2–5	Medium	Strongly curved			
233	C1168	Base fill waste pit, C1166	<i>Prunus avium/padus</i> sp. (wild/bird cherry)	3.0	1	0.05	3	3	Medium				

THE PLANT REMAINS
PHOENIXTOWN 3 (E3130)

SUSAN LYONS MSC MIAI
JOB CODE: PR/088.06

FEBRUARY 2010

1 Introduction

The plant remains from twenty one flint samples were analysed from excavations associated with the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval activity recorded at Phoenixtown 3, Co. Meath. Phoenixtown 3 was excavated as part of the archaeological mitigation programme associated with Contract 4 of the M3 Navan–Kells and Kells Bypass, which formed part of the proposed M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway Scheme.

The site contained two main areas – Area A and Area B. Area A comprised of a series of postholes and pits located at the south-eastern end of the site, which formed no obvious pattern. Two pits which contained early Bronze Age pottery were also recorded along with a shallow ditch with two pits located at either end. A number of pits were also cut into the ditch and pottery recovered from some of these features was potentially medieval in date. No finds pertaining to the date of the ditch were recovered. Area B was characterised by a number of postholes and stakeholes forming a possible circular structure of Bronze Age date (Lyne, 2008).

The following seven radiocarbon dates were returned for the site:

Context number	Sample number	Feature type	Material type	C14 date (Cal 2 sigma)
C135	C56	Ph 3A Possible medieval pit	Barley grain	Cal AD1665 –1952
C137	C67	Possible Beaker pit	Hazelnut shell	Cal 1745 –1628 BC
C1049	C106	Structural posthole	Ash charcoal	Cal 1494 –1392 BC
C1044	C150	Entrance post to structure	Ash charcoal	Cal 1503 –1415 BC
C1041	C160	Structural posthole	Alder charcoal	Cal 1436 – 1316 BC
C1047	C222	House footing trench	Hazelnut shell	Cal 1435 – 1301 BC
C1001	C207	Fill of linear pit/ditch, separate from structure	Hazel charcoal	Cal 1515 – 1428 BC

The primary objective of the plant remains project is to identify, analyse and interpret the charred and any waterlogged botanical remains present in order to help with understanding the change in the floral environment and activities at the site over time and to help with highlighting the function of certain areas of the site or indeed the features recorded within. This report will later form part of an overall scheme-wide report encompassing all sites along the M3 Clonee to North Kells Motorway Scheme (Lyons, *forthcoming*).

2 Methodology

2.1 Sample processing (after IAC Ltd)

- A mechanical flotation tank using a pump and water recycling system is used for soil flotation
- The soil is washed using a 1mm mesh in the flotation tank and a 300 micron and 1mm sieve is used to catch floated material.
- The volume of all soil samples are recorded in litres using a measuring jug.
- The sample is then placed into the 1mm mesh in the flotation tank, the tank is then filled with water and the sample washed. Any large lumps of soil can be carefully broken down by hand, but the jets of water in the flotation tank gently clean the rest of the sample.
- Once the sample is clean (just stones, charcoal, artefacts remaining in the mesh) the tank is filled up with water and at this stage any floating material (charcoal, seeds etc) should flow over the spout and into the sieves.

- The retent is then gently poured into a labelled tray (containing site code, site name, sample number and context number) and place on a shelf to dry.
- The flots are securely packaged in tissue, labelled and hung up to dry. This prevents any loss of light material (seeds) which could result once the flots are dry and being moved (if they are dried on trays).
- Before washing a new sample all equipment used (measuring jugs, 1mm mesh, sieves etc) are thoroughly washed using clean water.
- The large black settling tanks (and water) are cleaned between every site, or if a large site is being processed, every 1–2 weeks.
- Any samples containing high clay content will be soaked in water for 1–2 days to aid the sieving process.
- The flots were sorted by post-ex staff at IAC Ltd and any archaeobotanical materials removed and bagged separately

2.2 Quantification and identification of plant remains

The flot samples are viewed under a low powered binocular microscope (Nikon SMZ645) at magnification x0.8 to x5 and any carbonised or potentially waterlogged botanical materials were identified to genus/species level where applicable. Where preservation allowed, all charred and waterlogged plant remains recovered were identified to species level where applicable and the constituents quantified numerically. Those plant remains which were abraded or fragmented were recorded using an abundance key to highlight the concentrations of material identified from each sample;

+ = rare (1–10) **++** = occasional (11–50)
+++ = common (51–100) **++++** = abundant (>100)

To fully identify charred remains, a series of morphological characteristics are recorded, which includes length, breadth, shape on the longitudinal and transverse planes, texture of the seed coat (smooth or reticulate), attachments (pappus), scars (hilum) and the presence of the embryo and endosperm components in cereal grains (Pearsall, 2000, 135–6). Cereal chaff fragments were noted for glume base angle, ventral/dorsal keels, nerves, size of lemma scars etc (Hillman, 1981).

Plant species are made using reference to the author's seed collection and standard seed atlases and references; *Flora of the British Isles* (Clapham, A R, Tutin, T G, Warburg, E F, 1957), *Zadenatlas der Nederlandsche Flora* (Beijerinck, W.1976), *New Flora of the British Isles 2nd Edition* (Stace, C, 1997) and *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* (Cappers, R.T.J., R.M. Bekker and J.E.A. Jans, 2006).

3 Results

Twenty one samples associated with the following features were submitted for archaeobotanical analysis: The results are summarised in **Table 1**.

Area A

- Prehistoric pit – **C147 (C137)**
- Burnt pit – **C127 (C125, C126, C128, C129, C130, C131, C134, C135, C136, C139, C140, C141, C142, C143, C144)**
- Pits with no *in situ* burning – **C106 (C60)** and **C132 (C133)**

Area B

- Wall footing trench – **C1146 (C1147)**
- Pits inside structure – **C1133 (C1048)**
- Wall footing trench – **C1177 (C1054)**

Carbonised cereal remains – Carbonised cereal grains in the form of barley (*Hordeum* sp.), oat (*Avena* sp.), bread/crumb wheat (*Triticum aestivum/compactum*) and rye (*Secale cereale*) were all identified from Phoenixtown 3. Barley, which was identified as the hulled variety, was the dominant grain recorded, especially from the deposits within pit **C127**. Oat and wheat were recorded in much lesser incidences. Interestingly, wheat was the dominant crop identified from pit **C106 (C060)** and was in notable quantities from pit **C132 (C133)**. Rye was only recorded from pit **C106 (C060)**. The majority of the oat grains were free of the palea/lemma (hulls) and awn fragments, which are required in identifying between oat types. However, based on the size of the oat grain, it seems likely that the common oat type (*Avena sativa*) was present. Many of the grains were abraded and distorted and so were difficult to definitively identify to species level.

Fragments of vesicular and eroded grains were also recorded from the majority of the samples and these appear in the tables as indeterminate grain. Due to the abraded nature of this material it was difficult to identify these grains to species level. Cereal grains can become eroded and abraded as a result of charring at high temperatures, that the grain was damp when burnt or that this material had degraded due to re-deposition and/or exposure.

Fragments of cereal chaff were recorded from **C127 (C125, C126, C134, C135, C136, C140, C141 and C143)** and pit **C132 (C133)** in the form of culm nodes and rachis fragments. Since cereal chaff by its very nature is light and papery, it fragments and separates quite easily as a result of threshing and can disintegrate during the carbonization process. It is difficult to quantify chaff fragments as the exact intact elements are unknown and represent a multitude of cereal remains fragments. As a result, chaff components are recorded using the abundance key (as discussed above).

Carbonised economic species (legumes and flax) - Evidence for legumes, in seed form, were recorded from **C127 (C125, C126, C128, C129, C134, C135, C136, C139, C140, C141, C142, C143, and C144)** and pit **C106 (C060)**.

In the more well-preserved material, possible field pea (*Pisum cf sativum*) were identified by the presence of a hilum, a typical surface feature of the *Leguminosae* family. In archaeobotanical charred material, the hilum is frequently missing, but the characteristic radicle is visible above the depressed end from which the hilum has fallen (Renfrew, 1973, 108). A number of fragmented legume seeds were also recovered from the samples however they were quite abraded and could only be identified to genus, vetch/pea/vetchling (*Vicia/Pisum/Lathyrus* spp.).

Carbonised flax (*Linum usitatissimum*) seeds were tentatively identified, albeit in low concentrations, from **C127 (C125 and C126)**.

Carbonised weed seeds – carbonised weed seeds were recorded from the majority of the deposits within pit **C127**, as well as pit **C106 (C060)** and pit **C132 (C133)**.

Elder (*Sambucus* sp.), corn spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*), spurge (*Euphorbia* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), black bindweed (*Polygonum convolvulus*), pale persicaria (*Polygonum lapathifolium*), knotgrass (*Polygonum* sp.), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), curled dock (*Rumex crispus*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), charlock (*Raphanus* sp.), cleavers (*Galium* sp.) and grasses (*Gramineae* spp.) were present in relatively low concentrations. These species represent plant communities commonly found in peripheral woodland/scrub, on disturbed open ground and in areas of cultivation.

4 Discussion

4.1 Carbonisation of plant remains

Charred plant remains are those which have been heated to more than about 200° C, but where there is not enough oxygen to complete the burning process. Instead, the organic components are converted to a more carbon-rich resilient material or to carbon itself rather than to ash (Broadman & Jones, 1990). Despite being subjected to high temperatures, many charred remains retain a morphology or exterior detail which can aid plant identification to genus or even species level. Some remains are found in the same place that they were charred (hearths, fires, kilns, ovens, burnt stores). More are found thinly spread and scattered across a wider area entering deposits such as occupational layers, pits and potholes for example. Over time, this material can move and be re-distributed due to disturbances such as soil movement, extreme climatic conditions, root penetration or worm/animal action. The carbonisation process obviously affects different species and plant components in different ways, where finer, lighter material can be destroyed more easily than larger elements. It must therefore be noted that the charred plant remains recovered from archaeological features can as much reflect the results of the carbonisation process as how and what plant remains were used on a site.

4.2 The carbonised plant remains from Phoenixtown 3

The recovery of wheat, barley, oat and rye collectively from pits **C127** and **C106** falls into a pattern already established on other excavated early medieval sites, such as Ratoath, Co. Meath (Lyons, 2005), Lisleagh, Co. Cork (Monk, 1995), Lisnagun, Co. Cork (Monk *et al*, 1998) and later medieval sites namely Kilferagh, Co. Kilkenny (Monk, 1987a), Ballyveelish, Co. Tipperary (Monk, 1987b) and the nearby Phoenixtown 2 (Lyons, 2010), excavated as part of this scheme. All four cereals would have been cultivated and consumed by all social classes during the medieval period. While oat and rye were processed for human consumption they would also have been used for animal fodder (oat) and possibly thatch (rye). The low occurrence of rye from the assemblage is not unusual within the context of the medieval period in Ireland. It could represent a low level of contamination within a different crop i.e. with the rye growing as a weed. Other explanations for its presence on site would be that it was grown on marginal areas where it would tend to out-compete other cereals (particularly on saline or acidic soils).

The presence of pulse crops (peas and beans), in their cultivated form, are frequently under-represented on Irish archaeological sites and to date little is known as to how they contributed to the agricultural economy. The emergence of these plant types as cultivated crops has also been said to coincide with the Anglo-Norman era in Ireland dating to c. 1200 AD. One suggestion for the rise in the use of legumes during this period is the introduction of a crop rotation system, where crops familiar to the Anglo-Norman population would have been allowed to thrive in a controlled environment (Monk, 1986, 34). The cultivation of pulse crops would have suited crop rotation as the root nodules of these plants fix nitrogen in the soil, which provide vital nutrition for plants such as cereals. This would have proved very beneficial in the absence of artificial fertilisers (McClatchie, 1997, 54).

Where there is evidence for field peas (*Pisum sativum*) on other archaeological sites, such as Kilferagh, Co. Kilkenny (Monk, 1987a), Ballyveelish, Co. Tipperary (Monk, 1987b) and Trim, Co. Meath (Mitchell cited in Sweetman, 1978) the seeds are generally recorded in such low numbers that it is difficult to ascertain to what extent these pulse crops was being cultivated at each site. A large pulse crop assemblage was recently identified from Cappydonnell, Co. Offaly (Lyons, 2008a) and Tonaphort, Co. Westmeath (Lyons 2008b), both later medieval sites excavated along the N6

Kilbeggan to Athlone road Scheme. These assemblages show evidence that pulse crops may have been dried independently of the cereals and then later integrated with the cereal assemblage as foodstuffs or in the production of bread (McClatchie, 1997, 54).

Flax seeds essentially represent the possible use of flax at the site. While there is evidence for flax from the Bronze Age period in Ireland (Monk, 1986, 32), it is more likely to have been grown as a field crop and utilised on a larger scale from the early Medieval period (Monk, 1986, 34; Kelly, 1997, 269). To date the evidence for flax is generally recorded from waterlogged deposits associated with later medieval urban sites such as Drogheda (Mitchell & Dickson, 1985), Dublin (Mitchell, 1987), Waterford (Tierney & Hannon, 1997) and Cork (McClatchie, 2003). This plant resource is very versatile and can be used to produce linseed oil, fibres for spinning into linen or used in cooking. After harvesting, the seed cases or bolls are still firmly attached to the plant stems and have to be forcibly removed, a process known as rippling (Geraghty, 1996, 46). If the seed is to be used for oil, then this process is done soon after the harvest. In order to break down the outer woody fragments of flax, a process known as retting is employed, where the material is soaked in water to encourage bacteriological attack (Geraghty, 1996, 46). Since this was a polluting process, specially dug retting-pools were used for this activity (Geraghty, 1996, 46). It has even been documented that this process was carried out in the countryside close to bogs or fens (Greig, 1991, 318). It is difficult to fully understand the use of flax at Phoenixtown 3 based on such a low flax assemblage and its presence may just be residual material from localised flax processing or the remnants of flax debris used as fuel.

The wild taxa component recorded from the samples is generally low and would, in all probability have been brought to the site with the gathered crop and inadvertently charred during the kilning process. The small quantities of chaff from the samples suggest that the material dried at the site was essentially a clean crop. The process of threshing (the removal of awns/hulls/weed seeds) would have left behind a higher concentration of chaff and weed seeds and therefore suggests that this crop processing was carried out elsewhere on this site or that the plant material was brought to the site already processed.

The presence of charred elder seeds, which is a woody species of scrub, hedgerows or abandoned farmsteads, may have been brought to the site attached to wood used for fuel. Elder has been cultivated for its fruits and used as a medicinal plant and a colorant since the Middle Ages (Tutin *et al*, 1976; Atkinson & Atkinson, 2002) and its presence at the site may also hold an anthropogenic significance. It is also important to note that these wild species together with wood can form a very suitable fuel for parching grain (Hillman, 1981) and may form another explanation for their presence within these samples.

4.3 The distribution of plant remains from Phoenixtown 3

The carbonised cereal grain assemblage recorded at Phoenixtown 3 was confined to the deposits identified from pit **C127**, pit **C106** and pit **C132**, which were located in Area A and wall footing trench **C1177**, located in Area B.

Pit C127

The high quantity of carbonised cereal grain recorded from pit **C127** is most likely the remains of a crop drying assemblage and therefore suggests that **C127** functioned as a crop drying facility. A date of AD 1665 – 1952, which was retrieved from C135, would support the later medieval date put forward for the presence of pulse crops and flax at the site.

Pit **C127** was noted as having more than one phase of activity (Lyne, 2008, 15). The earliest phase within the feature was represented by **C134**, **C135**, **C136**, **C139**, **C140**, **C141**, **C142** and **C143**. The second phase was made up of **C125**, **C126**, **C128** and **C144**, while **C129**, **C130** and **C131** are likely to represent later disuse of the pit. The composition of plant remains from the earliest through to the second phase remains relatively uniform. Barley is the dominant cereal, followed by much less oat and wheat. Peas and vetches are also identified, along with trace elements of cereal chaff and wild taxa. The main difference is the very high barley grains recorded from the earliest phase, quantities which are not repeated in the later phase. This is likely to represent the remains of a conflagration event, where the kiln and contents within had burnt down and were not cleaned out, but remained *in situ*. The kiln was obviously reused, and since the later phase contained a similar assemblage, it is likely to have been in use again soon after the initial destruction. The charred plant remains were in lower quantities however and also contained evidence for charred flax seeds. The lower assemblage may also be a reflection of a successful kilning or that the structure and its contents were not destroyed by fire. It is also possible that if the kiln had experienced a second firing episode, the charred debris may have been raked out and dumped elsewhere. **C129**, **C130** and **C131** are likely to be post-abandonment layers, where grain and other charred plant remains from previous layers became mixed and spread or raked over the feature after it had gone into disuse or had burnt down.

Pit C106 & Pit C132

Pit **C106** contained the only notable wheat assemblage recorded at the site. Barley was also recorded in relatively high numbers, but oat and rye were quite low. Pit **C132** contained a higher barley and wheat component, with lower oat grains. Both features also contained traces of wild taxa and cereal chaff fragments. **C106** and **C132** were both shallow features, with no obvious *in situ* burning present (Lyne, 2008, 18) and this implies that the plant remains from here were dumped or discarded from nearby crop drying events. Whether the high wheat assemblage suggests that this feature represents a different phase of crop drying and therefore a different phase of activity at the site, it is also possible that it just reflects a snapshot of grain destroyed and may contain kilning debris from one or more kilning activities.

Wall footing trench C1177

The circular structure recorded from Phoenixtown 3 (Area B) was prehistoric in date and, while it contained a number of associated stakehole, postholes and pits, wall footing trench **C1177** was the only deposit sampled for archaeobotanical analysis. The wheat grains recorded were abraded and further species identification was difficult to undertake. While the charred grain represents the remains of crop drying activities, it is difficult to ascertain if these activities were contemporary with the prehistoric nature of this site or were the re-distributed remains of plant remains from Area A. Cereal remains can become re-deposited and mixed with other deposits both spatially and temporally over time and the high cereal component present in Area A should not be overlooked when interpreting the plant remains from Area B.

5 Summary

The cultivated plant assemblage recorded from Phoenixtown 3 was largely a medieval, potentially later medieval crop assemblages dominated by barley, with lesser wheat, oat, rye, pea, vetches and flax. This later medieval activity is also supported by the C14 date for **C135** (fill of pit C127) of AD 1665 – 1952. While the grain was largely free of chaff and wild taxa, these elements may have become part of the assemblage as fuel or tinder. The high elder content may also be fuel related, however its presence in the assemblage may also be anthropogenic, but this is a tentative suggestion at this time. Pit **C127** probably functioned as a crop drying

facility, which is likely to have burnt down at least once, but later reused before going into disuse or abandoned. Pits **C106** and **C132**, while containing the highest wheat assemblage at the site, were used as refuse pits to dump the discarded waste of nearby kilning debris. These pits may have contained multiple phases of kilning waste, which may account for the different cereal composition from here.

Despite wall footing trench **C1177** from a prehistoric feature containing evidence for charred wheat grains it is difficult to ascertain whether these grains were the remains of prehistoric crop drying. It is also possible that the medieval assemblage recorded from Area A became mixed or re-deposited into earlier deposits at the site.

6 Recommendations

- 1 There is no further identification work required on these samples from Phoenixtown 3. If more processed samples are available from other primary features recorded at the site these should also be scanned to help determine the exact nature of the cereals being dried at the site.
- 2 Any further samples associated with prehistoric features recorded at the site should be analysed for plant remains to highlight any prehistoric plant assemblages and how they relate to the earlier activities recorded at the site.
- 3 A record of the methodology and results of this assessment should be included in any final report.

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Table 1. Composition of plant remains from Phoenixtown 3 (E3130)

Feature	Context number	Sample Number	Flot volume (grams)	Context description	Wood charcoal	Carbonised cereal grains	Carbonised cereal chaff	Carbonised legumes	Carbonised flax	Carbonised nutshell	Carbonised wild taxa	Comments
Prehistoric	137	67	0.3 grams	Fill of small feature C147	+							
Burnt Pit	125	65	2.4 grams	Charcoal layer at the bottom of large pit C127		++++	+	++	+			Barley (x79) Oat (x15) Wheat (x11) Wheat cf emmer (x4) Cereal indet +++++ Pisum sp. (11) Flax (x3) Vicia/Lathyrus spp. (x39) Sambucus sp. (x2) Spargula arvensis (x2) Galium sp. (x2) Polygonum sp. (x2) Polygonum aviculare (x1) Rumex crispus (x1) Rubus sp. (x1) Raphanus sp. +
Burnt Pit	126	60	1.5 grams	Red burnt material at the bottom of large pit C127. Same as C143.		+++	+	+	+		++	Barley (x43) Oat (x7) Wheat (x3) Cereal indet +++ Pisum sp. (4) cf Flax (x3) Vicia/Lathyrus spp. (x19) Sambucus sp. (x21) Spargula avensis (x5) Euphorbia sp. (x2) Chenopodium sp. (x1) Gramineae spp. (x1)
Burnt Pit	128	74	3.8 grams	Grey fill on bottom part of large pit C127. Probably ash between charcoal layers.		+++		+			+++	Carbonised: Barely (x63) Oat (x8) Bread/club wheat (x6) Rye (x1) Cereal indet +++ Pisum sp. (x4) Vicia/Lathyrus spp. (x25) Ranunculus sp. (x1) Polygonum sp. (x1) Sambucus sp. (x1) Raphanus sp. + Uncarbonised: Sambucus sp. +++++

Feature	Context number	Sample Number	Flot volume (grams)	Context description	Wood charcoal	Carbonised cereal grains	Carbonised cereal chaff	Carbonised legumes	Carbonised flax	Carbonised nutshell	Carbonised wild taxa	Comments
Burnt Pit	129	71	1.3 grams	Grey fill with charcoal in middle part of pit C127		+++		+			++	Barley (x58) Wheat (x2) Cereal indet ++ <i>Pisum</i> sp. (x3) <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (x11) <i>Sambucus</i> sp. (x1)
Burnt Pit	130	73	0.1 grams	Yellow fill in middle part of large pit C127	+	+					+	Carbonised: Barley (x2) Cereal indet + <i>Sambucus</i> sp. (x1) Uncarbonised: <i>Sambucus</i> sp. +++
Burnt Pit	131	72	0.6 grams	Brownish yellow fill in middle part of pit C127	+	+						Barley (x4)
Burnt Pit	134	58	3.7 grams	Charcoal layer between C138 and C139 in C127		++++	+	+			++	Barley (x230) Oat (x2) Wheat (x1) Cereal chaff (culm node fragments +) <i>Pisum</i> sp. + <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. ++ <i>Spergula arvensis</i> (x16) <i>Sambucus</i> sp. +(x8) <i>Polygonum</i> sp. (x1) <i>Rumex crispus</i> (x1)
Burnt Pit	135	56	14.2 grams	Charcoal layer under C139 and on the bottom of C127		++++	+	+			++	Barley (x1352) Wheat (x13) Oat (x9) Cereal indet ++ Cereal chaff (culm nodes +; rachis fragments +) <i>Pisum</i> sp. + <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (55) <i>Rumex</i> sp. (x3) <i>Galium</i> sp. (x1) <i>Raphanus</i> sp. +
Burnt Pit	136	59	1.7 grams	Charcoal layer under C139 and C140 on the east side of pit C127			+	+			++	Barley (x156) Oat (x5) Wheat (x2) Cereal indet ++ Cereal chaff (culm nodes +) <i>Pisum</i> sp. (x6) <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (x8) <i>Sambucus</i> sp. (x8)

Feature	Context number	Sample Number	Flot volume (grams)	Context description	Wood charcoal	Carbonised cereal grains	Carbonised cereal chaff	Carbonised legumes	Carbonised flax	Carbonised nutshell	Carbonised wild taxa	Comments
Burnt Pit	139	61	2.0 grams	Grey fill of C127, possibly ash between charcoal layers C135, C139, C136 and C142		++++					++	Barley (x105) Oat (x7) Cereal indet ++ <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (x11) <i>Sambucus</i> sp. (x1)
Burnt Pit	140	57	2.0 grams	Grey fill of C127, possibly ash between charcoal layers C134, C138 and C135		+++	+				+++	Carbonised: Barley (x72) Wheat (x4) Cereal indet + Cereal chaff (rachis frags/culm nodes) <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (x12) <i>Rumex</i> sp. (x3) <i>Sambucus</i> sp. (x3) <i>Polygonum convolvulus</i> (x1)
Burnt Pit	141	64	4.0 grams	Charcoal layer between C136, C135, C142 & C143		+++	+				++	Barley (x298) Oat (x6) Wheat (x1) Cereal indet ++ Cereal chaff (culm nodes/palae/lemma frags +) <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (x31) <i>Sambucus</i> sp. (x7) <i>Spergula arvensis</i> (x5) <i>Galium</i> sp. (x2) <i>Polygonum</i> sp. (x1)
Burnt Pit	142	62	2.1 grams	Grey fill of C127, between C136, C135 and C141		++++		+			++	Barley (x187) Oat (x4) Wheat (x1) Cereal indet +++ cf <i>Pisum</i> sp. (x1) <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (x36) <i>Raphanus</i> sp. +
Burnt Pit	143	63	2.7 grams	Red burnt material at the bottom of large pit C127. Same as C126.		++++	+				+++	Barley (x114) Oat (x22) Wheat (x4) Cereal indet ++ <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> spp. (x32) <i>Sambucus</i> sp. (x26) <i>Spergula arvensis</i> (x4) <i>Galium</i> sp. (x2) <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (x1) <i>Raphanus</i> sp. +

Feature	Context number	Sample Number	Flot volume (grams)	Context description	Wood charcoal	Carbonised cereal grains	Carbonised cereal chaff	Carbonised legumes	Carbonised flax	Carbonised nutshell	Carbonised wild taxa	Comments
Burnt Pit	144	55	0.4 grams	Charcoal layer in large pit C127		+					+	Barley (x7) Oat (x1) Vicia/Lathyrus spp. (x2) Raphanus sp. +
Other Possible Associated Features with Burnt Pits	60	35	13.1 grams	Fill of pit C106		++++					+++	Wheat (x262) Barley (x138) Oat (x3) Rye (x3) Cereal indet +++++ Vicia/Lathyrus spp. (x69) Polygonum convolvulus (x2) Polygonum lapathifolium (x2) Polygonum sp. (x4) Raphanus sp. +
Other Possible Associated Features with Burnt Pits	133	51	9.5 grams	Charcoal rich fill of pit C132		++++	++				++	Barley (x214) Oat (x16) Bread/club wheat (x133) Cereal indet + Cereal chaff (culm nodes ++)
Wall footing trench	1147	222	0.1 grams	Main and charcoal rich fill of primary cut C1146	+							
Pits inside Structure	1048	172	0.1 grams	Fill of pit C1133 next to entrance of house						+		
Stakehole Group inside Structure	1054	213	0.2 grams	Fill of stakehole C1050	+	+						Wheat (x8) Cereal indet +

Key: + = rare (1–10), ++ = occasional (11–50), +++ = common (51–100) and ++++ = abundant (>100)

THE FAUNAL REMAINS
PHOENIXTOWN 3 (E3130)

MARGARET MCCARTHY

The two excavated areas at Phoenixtown 3 produced animal bones. The exposed features included pits, postholes and hearths from which prehistoric material finds including ceramics and flints were recovered. The faunal remains are described below by individual area. In contrast to many of the other sites along the route of the M3, the small samples from Area 3A included quite a high proportion of identified fragments.

Area 3

The distal midshaft portion of a cow femur was recovered from pit C106 and seven adult cattle teeth were found in pit C120. The fill of a third pit C122 also contained three cattle teeth. The fill of an undated linear feature C26 produced a fragment of a sheep/goat mandible from an adult individual. A post-medieval ditch C6 produced two adult cattle teeth.

Area 3B

The precise date and function of a circular structure in Area 3B remains unclear but a middle Bronze Age date is probable and the site appears to be a dwelling. Regrettably, the recovered animal bones cannot be used to aid in an interpretation of the structure as the samples are small and consist entirely of fragments of indeterminate burnt bone. Just nine indeterminate bones were recovered from three structural features making up the house.

Prehistoric pits

Single fragments of indeterminate burnt bone were recovered from three fills of a linear waste pit C1166. The fill of a rectangular feature C1176 produced five indeterminate burnt bones.

Isolated features

The fill of an isolated pit C1057 contained one fragment of a long bone from a medium-sized mammal.

Medieval furrow

The fill of a medieval furrow C1152 contained an indeterminate fragment of burnt bone.

Radiocarbon Dating Results – QUB Laboratory

The “Measured radiocarbon age” is quoted in conventional years BP (before AD 1950). The error is expressed at the one-sigma level of confidence.

The “Calibrated date range” is equivalent to the probable calendrical age of the sample material and is expressed at the one Sigma (68.3% probability) and two-Sigma (95.4% probability) level of confidence.

Calibration dataset:

Calibration programme: CALIB REV5.0.2 - used in conjunction with Stuiver, M., and Reimer, P.J., 1993, Radiocarbon, 35, 215–230.

Context	Sample No	Material	Species id/ Weight	Lab	Lab Code	Date Type	Calibrated date ranges	Measured radiocarbon age (BP)	¹³ C/ ¹² C Ratio ‰
C135 Ph 3A Possible medieval pit	56	Grain	<i>Hordeum</i> sp. Barley (<0.1g)	QUB	UB11109	AMS(Std)	AD 1670–1943 (1 sigma), AD 1665–1952 (2 sigma)	166+/-23	-26.7
C137 pit	67	Hazelnut Shell	<i>Corylus avellana</i> Hazelnut shell (0.3g)	QUB	UB11110	AMS(Std)	1738–1643 BC (1 sigma), 1745–1628 BC (2 sigma)	3393+/-24	-31.4
C1001 Ph 3B Fill of linear pit/ditch	207	Charcoal	<i>Corylus avellana</i> Hazel (0.5g)	QUB	UB12111	AMS(Std)	1496–1448 BC (1 sigma), 1515–1428 BC (2 sigma)	3203+/-24	-27.7
C1041 Structural posthole	160	Charcoal	<i>Alnus</i> sp. Alder (1.5g)	QUB	UB11113	AMS(Std)	1425–1326 BC (1 sigma), 1436–1316 BC (2 sigma)	3113+/-22	-26.4
C1044 Entrance post to structure	150	Charcoal	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> Ash (0.5g)	QUB	UB11112	AMS(Std)	1493–1434 BC (1 sigma), 1503–1415 BC (2 sigma)	3188+/-26	-28.9
C1049 Structural posthole	106	Charcoal	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> Ash (0.05g)	QUB	UB11111	AMS(Std)	1449–1409 BC (1 sigma), 1494–1392 BC (2 sigma)	3152+/-24	-26.2
C1147 House footing trench	222	Hazelnut Shell	<i>Corylus avellana</i> Hazelnut shell (0.1g)	QUB	UB11114	AMS(Std)	1419–1319 BC (1 sigma), 1435–1303 BC (2 sigma)	3102+/-29	-23.1
C1168 Fill of key pit	233	Charcoal	<i>Alnus</i> sp. Alder (0.8g)	QUB	UB12941	AMS(Std)	1599–1461 BC (1 sigma), 1607–1451 BC (2 sigma)	3247±22	-29.2
C119 Fill of pit	53	Tooth	Cattle (29.77g)	QUB	UB13959	AMS(Std)	AD 1698–1916 (1 sigma), AD 1693–1954 (2 sigma)	91+/-21	-24

REPORT ON THE ANIMAL BONE
FROM PIT C120
PHOENIXTOWN 3 (E3130)

AUTHOR: AOIFE MCCARTHY BA, MA
DATE: JUNE 2010

INTRODUCTION

This report details the osteological analysis of faunal remains recovered during excavations at Site A029 E3130 Phoenixtown 3 in the townland of Phoenixtown, Co. Meath as part of the archaeological mitigation programme of the M3 Navan to North of Kells Motorway Scheme (Contract 4). Aoife McCarthy MA (Osteoarchaeology University of Southampton 2006) undertook the analysis on behalf of Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd in June 2010.

GENERAL OSTEOLOGICAL INFORMATION

The osteological analysis of hand retrieved faunal remains was undertaken to provide an overview of the osteoarchaeological aspect of the site and determine if the material could provide further interpretation of site activity.

A total of 11 fragments from one possible skeletal element and weighing 505.7g were recovered within the assemblage. The degree of preservation of the animal bone retrieved at Phoenixtown 3 was moderate.

The faunal remains recovered at Phoenixtown 3 originated from a single archaeological context C119 the fill of pit feature C120. A fragment of cow tooth recovered from C119 was issued for radiocarbon dating and returned a two sigma calibrated date of Cal. AD 1693–1954, placing activity within the post-medieval period.

Context 119 Sample 69:

A total of 11 fragments of cow mandible and premolar crown were recovered within C119 the fill of pit feature C120.

Specimen 1 comprised a single moderately preserved almost complete left mandible fragment containing permanent 3rd & 4th premolar and permanent 1st, 2nd and 3rd molar teeth in wear. Dental wear stages were recorded for the P4, M1, M2 & M3 teeth. The analysis of tooth wear patterns refers to the alteration of the enamel surface and exposure of inner dentine through use. These were then compared to dentine exposure and wear stages created by Grant (1982) for cattle. Specimen 1 fell within the Adult age category. The mandible fragment weighed 264.6g and bore evidence of rodent gnawing in the form of several surface striations on the buccal side. A low degree of cortical or woven bone was exposed.

Specimen 2 was a single moderately preserved partially complete fragment of right mandible (re-constructible with Specimen 1 & 3); containing permanent 4th premolar and permanent 1st, 2nd and 3rd molar teeth in wear. Dental wear stages were recorded for the teeth and then compared to Grant's 1982 wear stages laid down for cattle. Specimen 2 also fell within the Adult age category. Specimen 2 right mandible fragment weighed 231g. A moderate degree of cortical or woven bone was exposed.

Specimen 3 comprised 7 re-constructible moderately preserved fragments of right cow mandible diastema weighing 9.3g. No teeth were present. The surface of the bone fragments showed a high level of splitting and cracking.

Specimen 4 was 2 cracked and poorly preserved fragments of cow premolar crown weighing 0.8g.

SUMMARY

A single re-constructed moderately preserved adult cow mandible fragment was recovered within C119 the fill of a post-medieval pit feature C120. The 11 cow mandible bone fragments were uncovered articulated within charcoal rich fill C119.

This placement along with a distinct lack of further cranial and post cranial cattle bone within C119 may suggest a deliberate placement or deposition of the cattle mandible. Alternatively the fragments may simply represent fragments of discarded domestic debris. No definite interpretation can be provided due to the low number of faunal remains recovered within C119 at Phoenixtown 3.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS:

BOS: Latin term for Cow

TAPHONOMY: The study of the processes affecting an organism after death from the time of burial until collection.

CORTICAL BONE: Osseous tissues that fill the interior cavity of bones and resemble a sponge or honeycomb.

DIAPHYSIS: Bone shaft

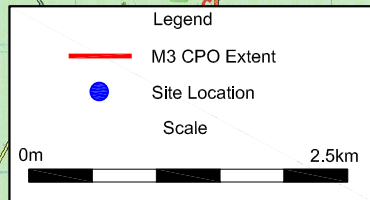
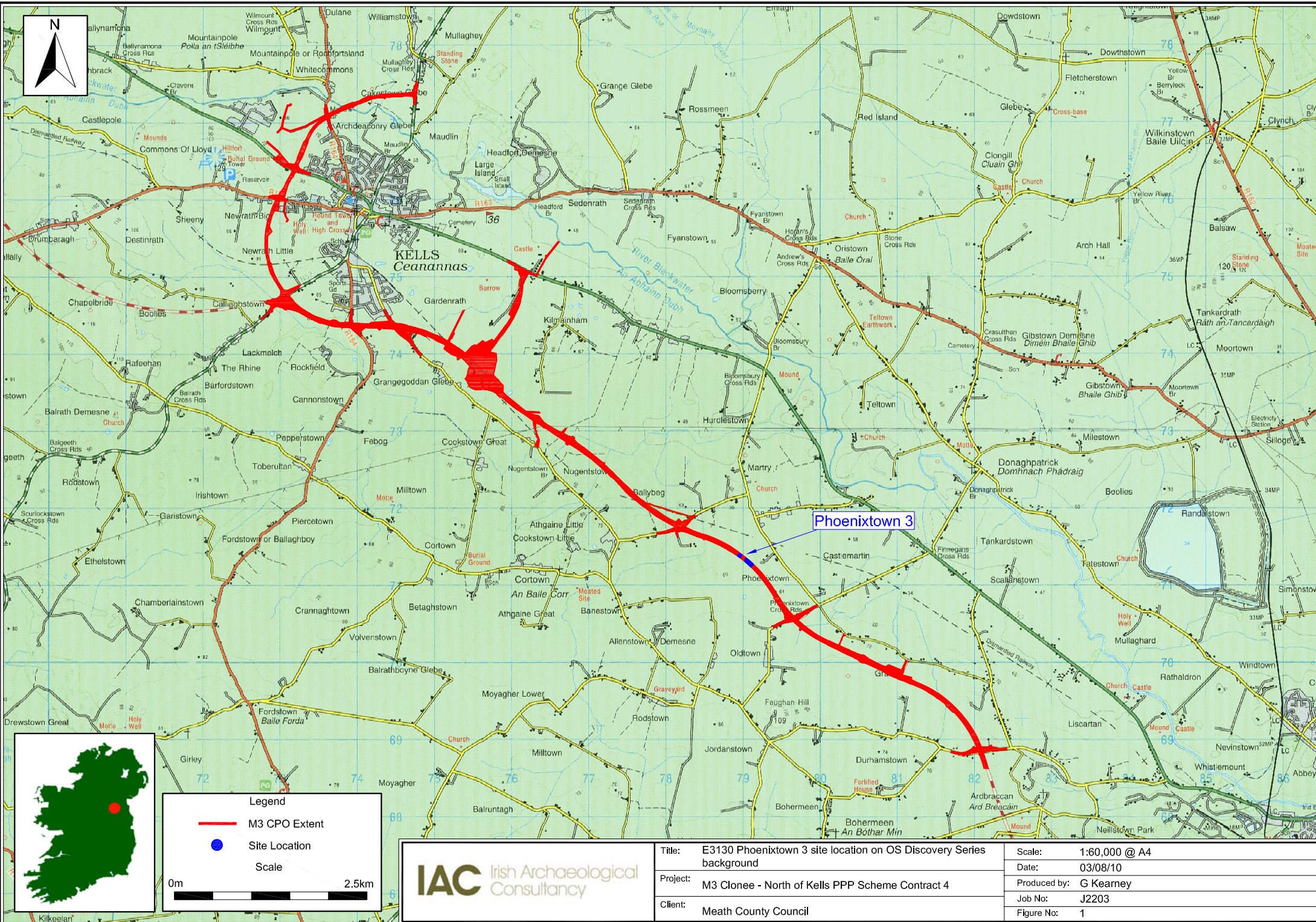
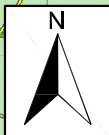
APPENDIX 3 LIST OF RMP SITES IN AREA

RMP No	Description
ME017:037	Church.
ME017:038	Cross base.
ME017:047	Holy well possible.
ME017:048	Rectangular enclosure.

See figure 2 for locations.

APPENDIX 4 LIST OF M3 CONTRACT 4 SITE NAMES

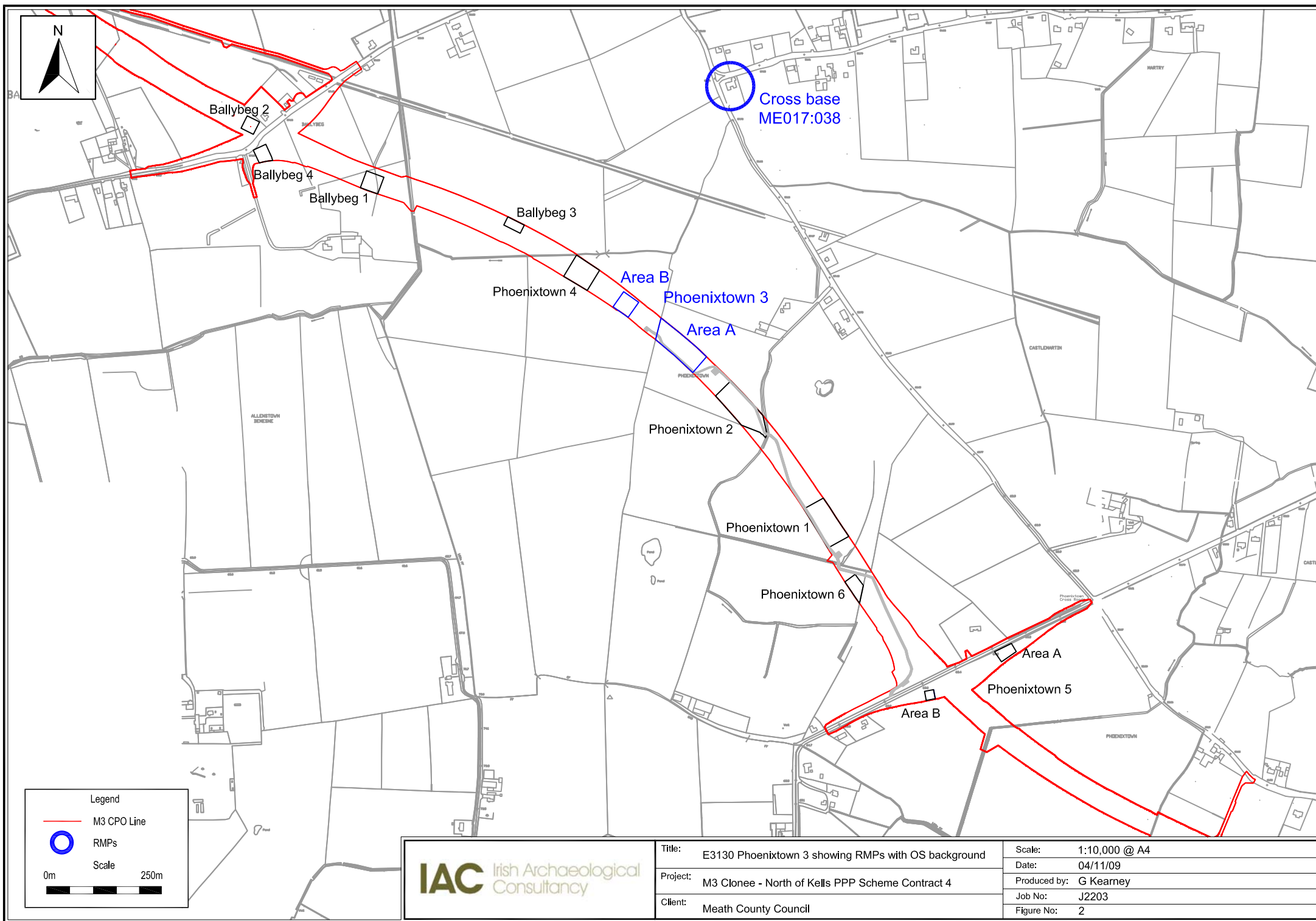
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Ardbraccan 5	Carmel Duffy	A029-001	E3119
Ardbraccan 6	Ciara MacManus	A029-002	E3120
Grange 5	Amanda Kelly	A029-003	E3121
Grange 4	Carmel Duffy	A029-004	E3122
Grange 3	Amanda Kelly	A029-005	E3123
Grange 2	Amanda Kelly	A029-006	E3124
Grange 1	Patricia Lynch	A029-007	E3125
Phoenixtown 5	Tim Coughlan	A029-008	E3126
Phoenixtown 6	Ed Lyne	A029-009	E3127
Phoenixtown 1	Ed Lyne	A029-010	E3128
Phoenixtown 2	Ed Lyne	A029-011	E3129
Phoenixtown 3	Ed Lyne	A029-012	E3130
Phoenixtown 4	Ed Lyne	A029-013	E3131
Ballybeg 1	Patricia Lynch	A029-014	E3132
Ballybeg 2	Patricia Lynch	A029-015	E3133
Nugentstown 3	Patricia Lynch	A029-016	E3134
Nugentstown 2	Patricia Lynch	A029-017	E3135
Nugentstown 1	Patricia Lynch	A029-018	E3136
Cookstown Great 1	Patricia Lynch	A029-019	E3137
Cookstown Great 2	Gill McLoughlin	A029-020	E3138
Cookstown Great 3	Gill McLoughlin	A029-021	E3139
Kilmainham 1A	Ed Lyne	A029-053	E3141
Kilmainham 1B	David Bayley	A029-054	E3142
Kilmainham 1C	Fintan Walsh	A029-022	E3140
Kilmainham 2	David Bayley	A029-023	E3143
Kilmainham 3	Yvonne Whitty	A029-024	E3144
Gardenrath 2	David Bayley	A029-025	E3145
Gardenrath 1	David Bayley	A029-026	E3146
Town Parks 1	Gill McLoughlin	A029-027	E3147
Town Parks 2	Catrina Gleeson	A029-028	E3148
Town Parks 3	Catrina Gleeson	A029-029	E3149
Town Parks 4	Yvonne Whitty	A029-030	E3150
Town Parks 5	Yvonne Whitty	A029-031	E3151
Town Parks 6	Yvonne Whitty	A029-032	E3152
Newrath Little 3	James Kyle	A029-033	E3153
Newrath Little 2	Yvonne Whitty	A029-034	E3154
Newrath Little 1	James Kyle	A029-035	E3155
Town Parks / Commons of Lloyd 1	David Bayley	A029-036	E3156
Commons of Lloyd 1	Yvonne Whitty	A029-037	E3157
Cakestown Glebe 2	Patricia Lynch	A029-038	E3158
Cakestown Glebe 1	Patricia Lynch	A029-039	E3159
Ballybeg 3	Tim Coughlan	A029-040	E3160
Ballybeg 4	Patricia Lynch	A029-041	E3162

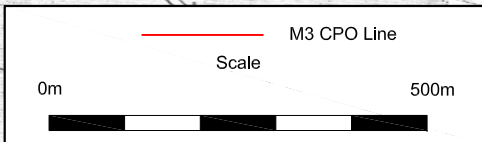
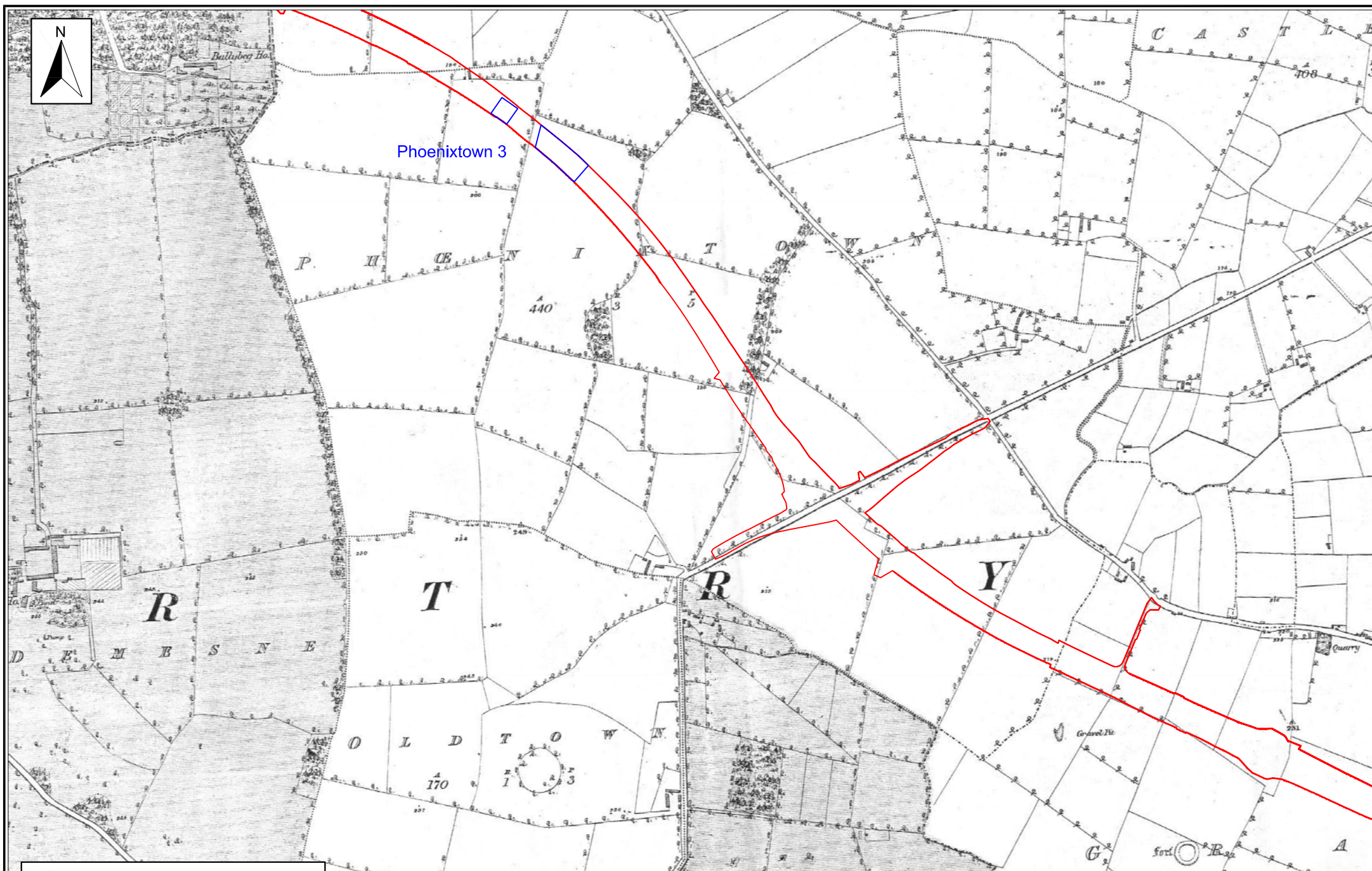


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Project: M3 Clonee - North of Kells PPP Scheme Contract 4
Client: Meath County Council

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Job No: J2203
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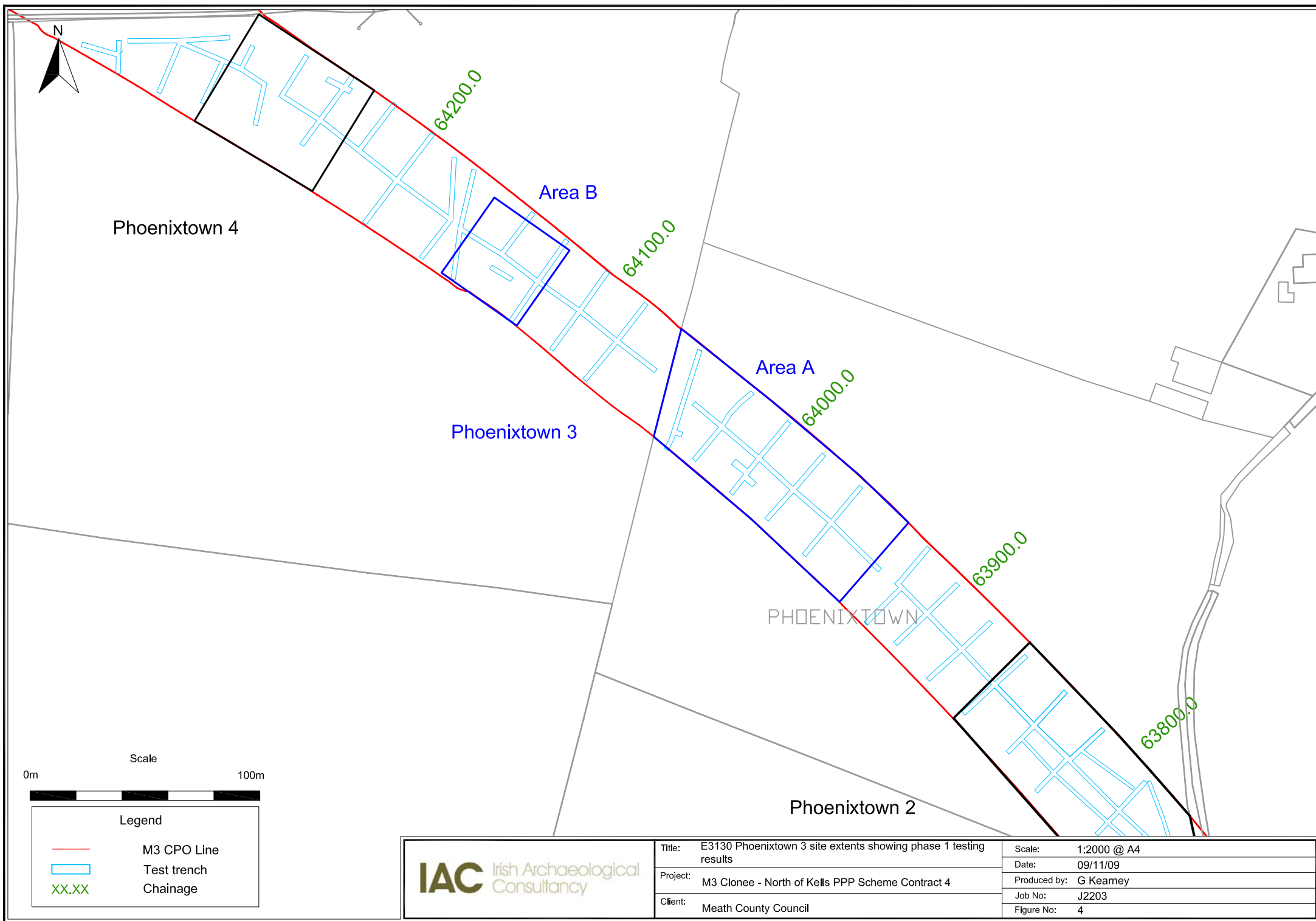




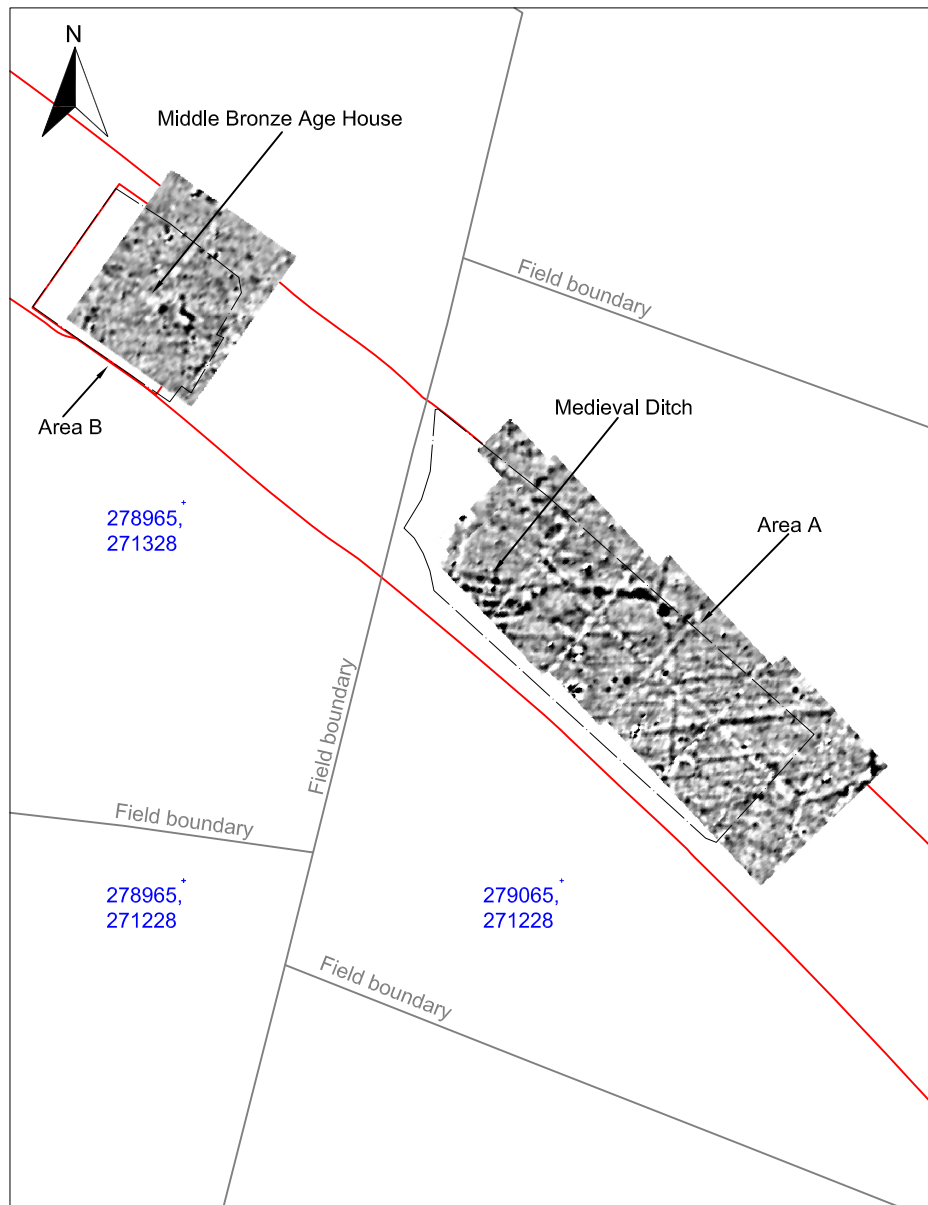
IAC Irish Archaeological
Consultancy

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Project: M3 Clonee - North of Kells PPP Scheme Contract 4
Client: Meath County Council

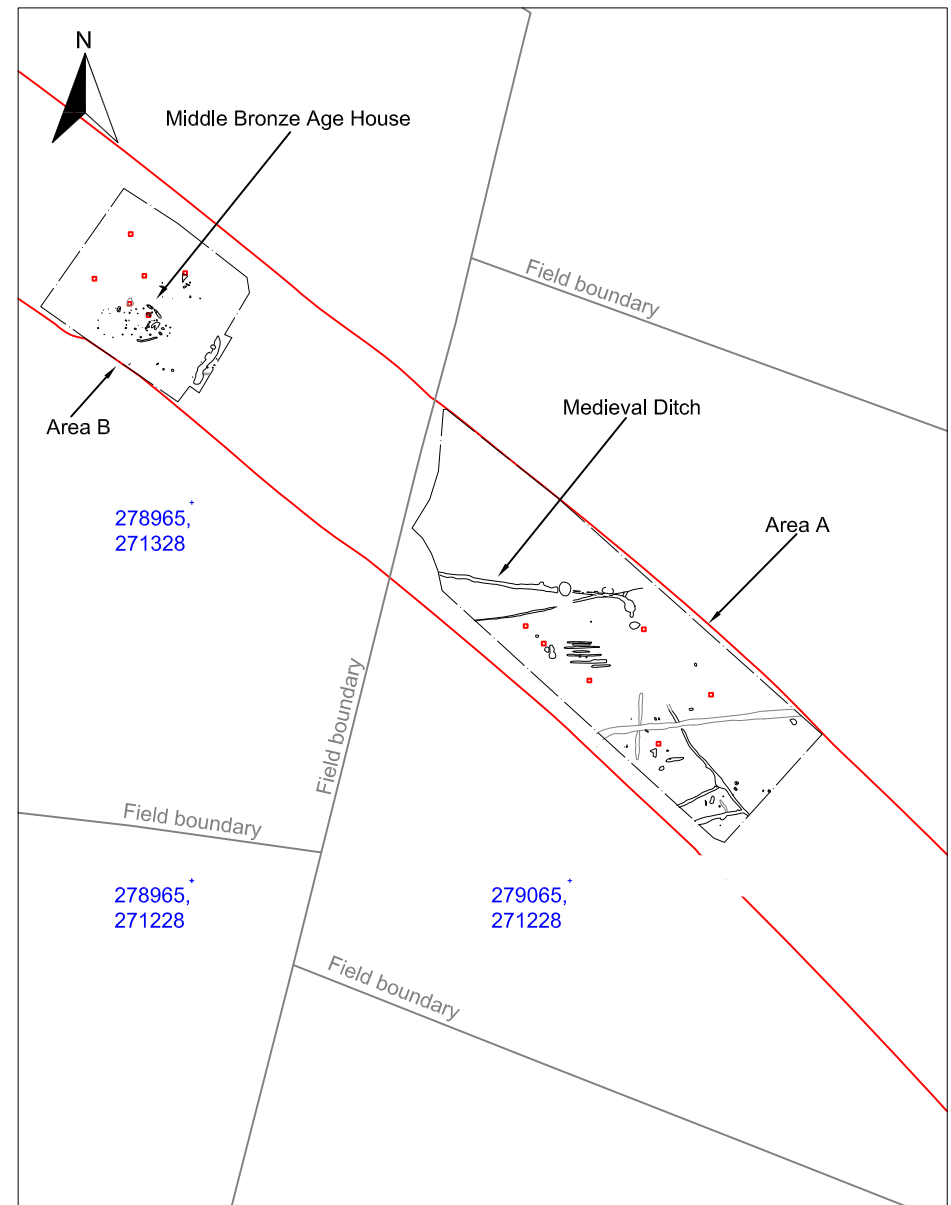
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Geophysical survey results



Test pit layout and archaeology found

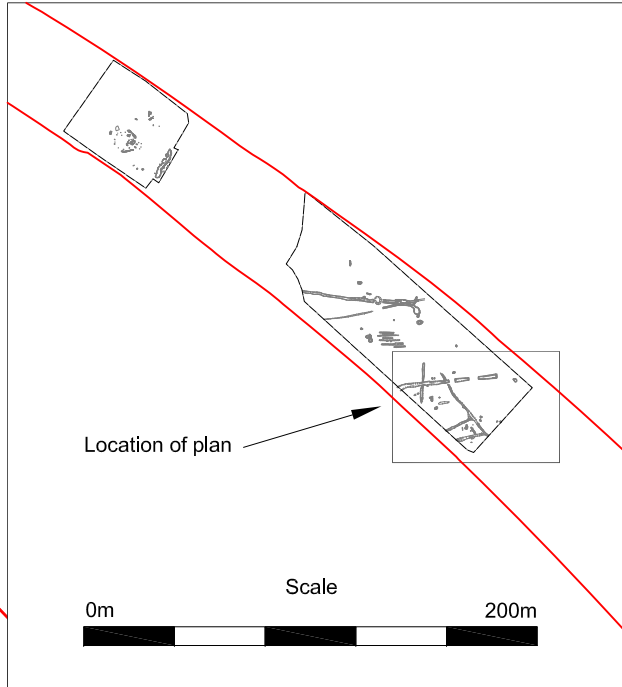
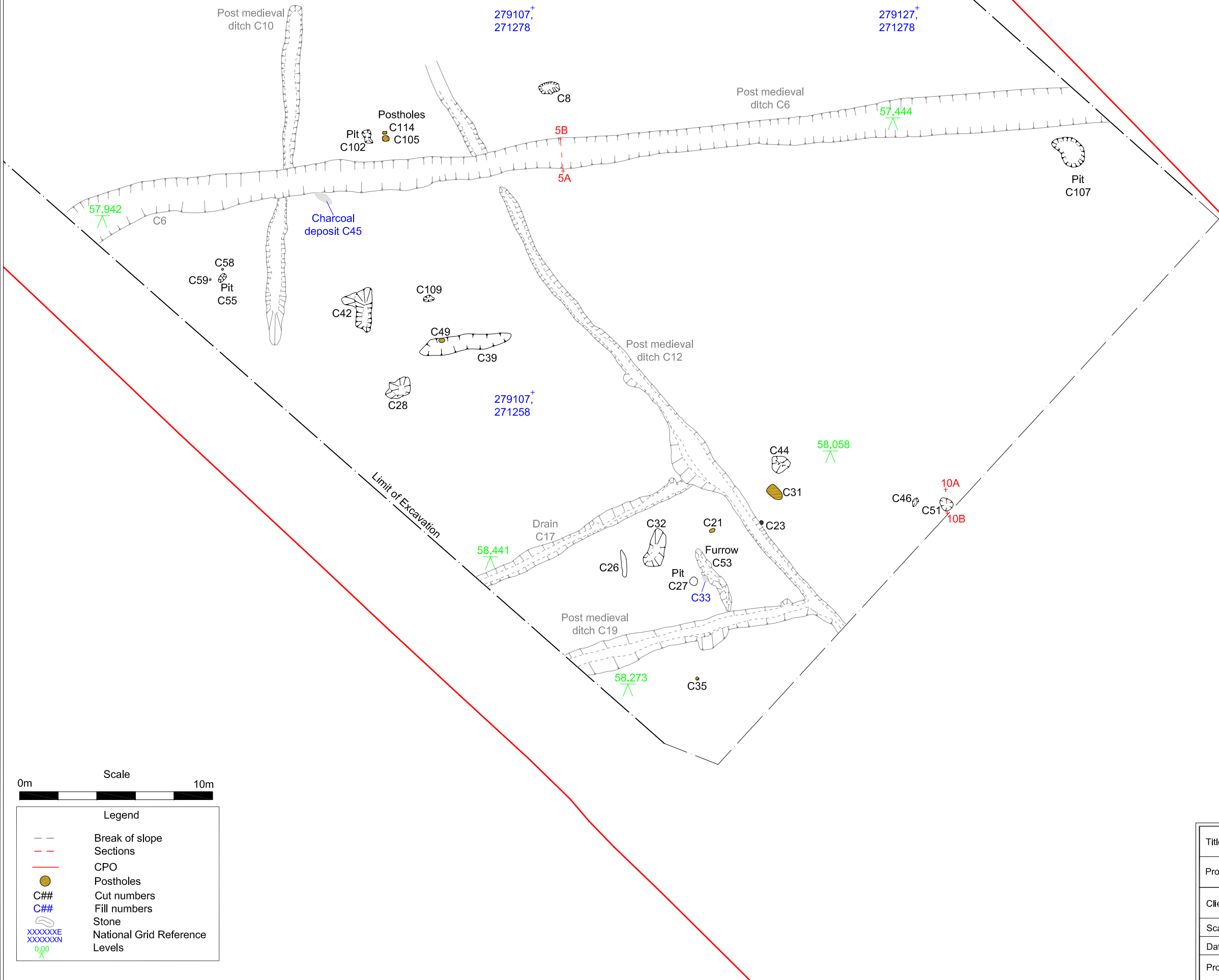



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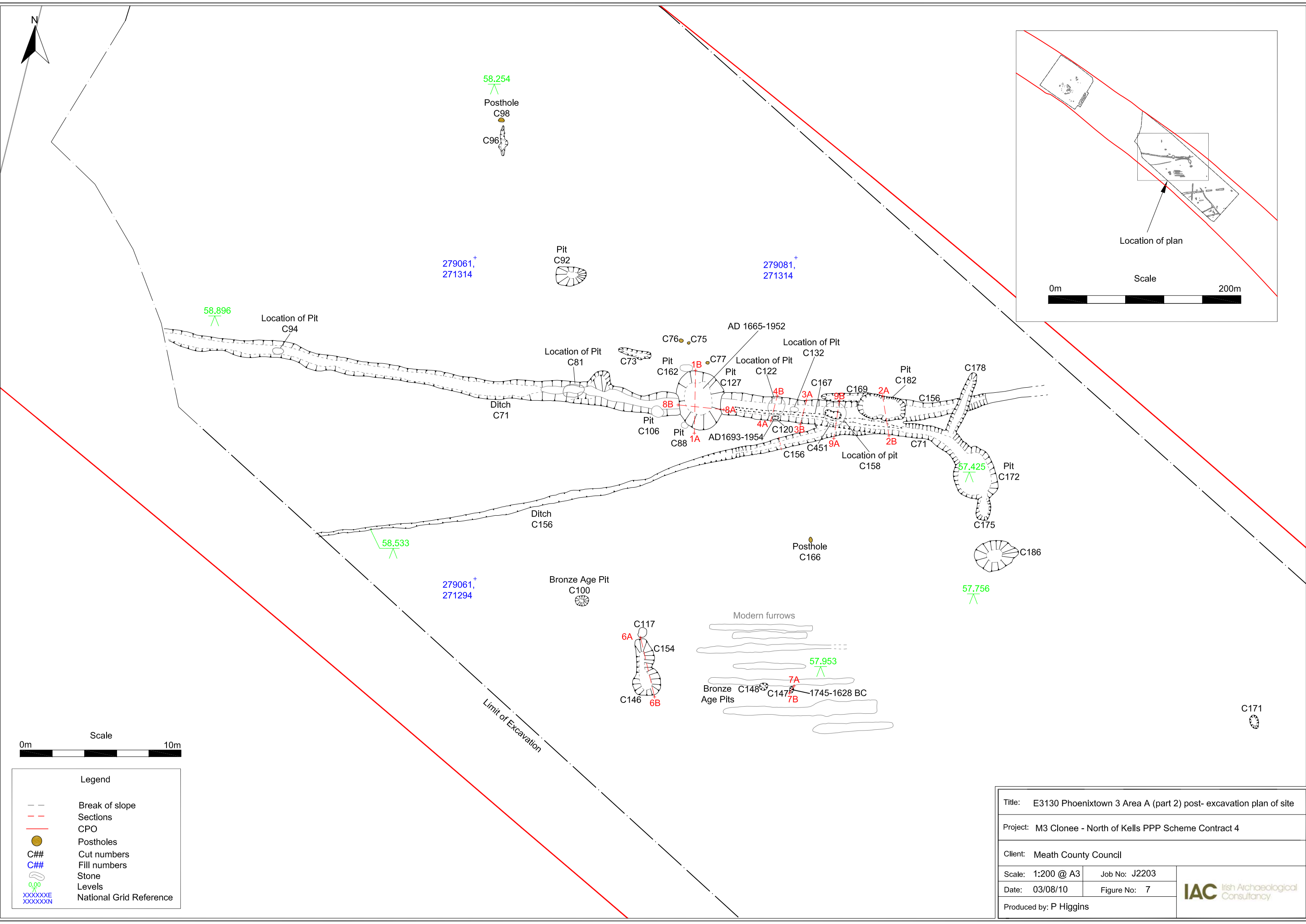
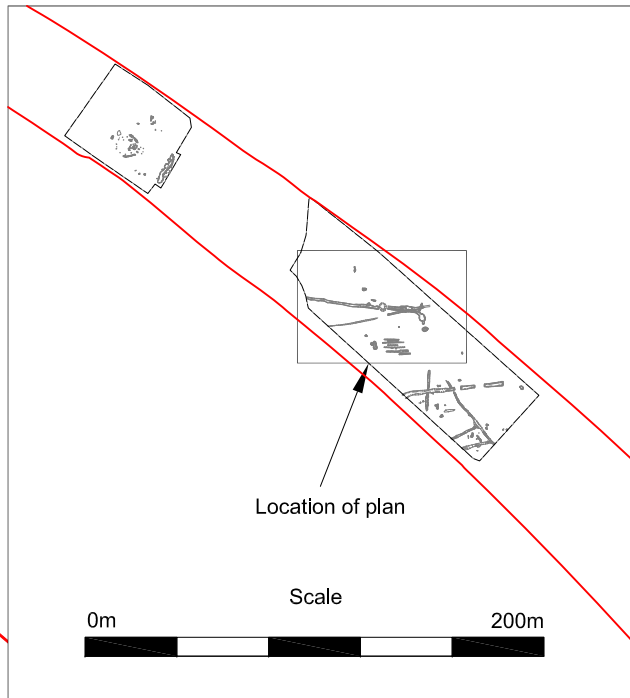
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	CPO
	Test Pits
	National Grid Reference

IAC Irish Archaeological Consultancy


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Project:	M3 Clonee - North of Kells PPP Scheme Contract 4	Date:	22/03/10
Client:	Meath County Council	Produced by:	P Higgins
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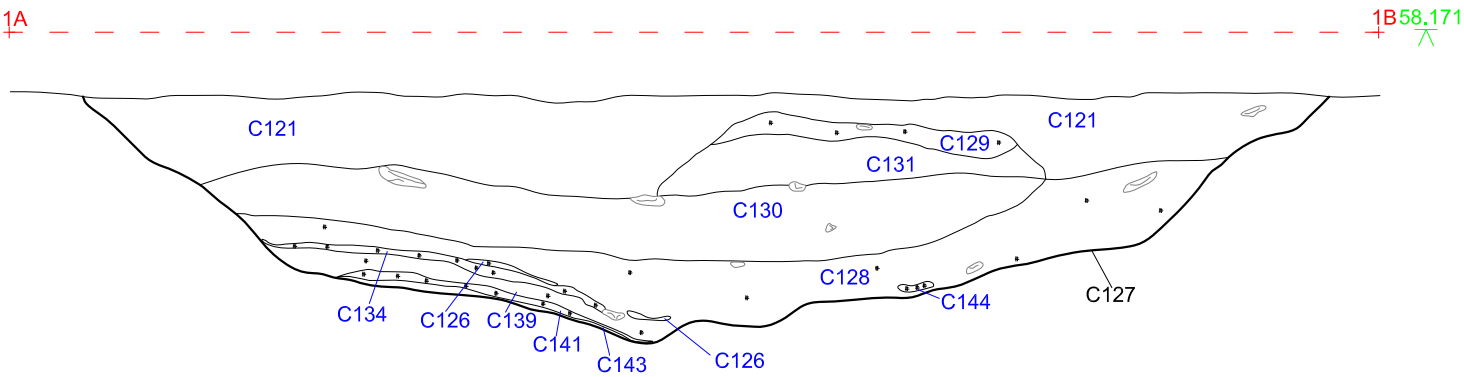
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Date: 03/08/10	Figure No: 6	
Produced by: P Higgins		



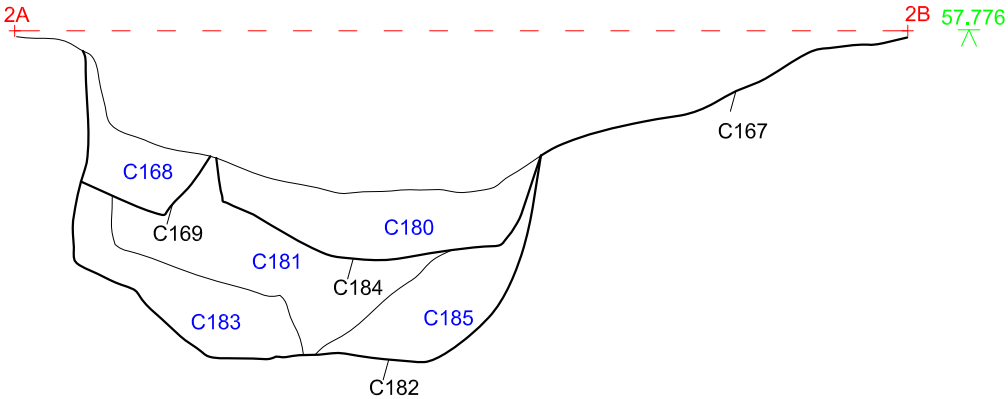
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---	Sections
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●	Postholes
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○	Stone
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XXXXXXE	National Grid Reference
XXXXXXN	

Title: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 Area A (part 2) post- excavation plan of site		
Project: M3 Clonee - North of Kells PPP Scheme Contract 4		
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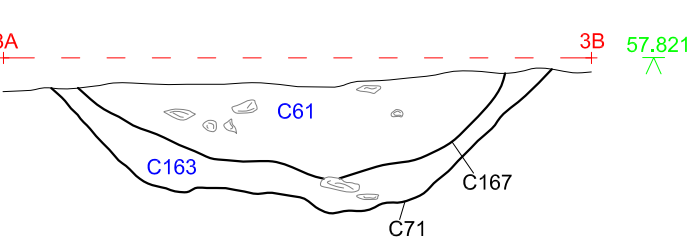
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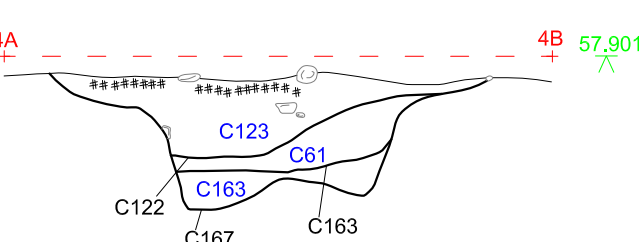
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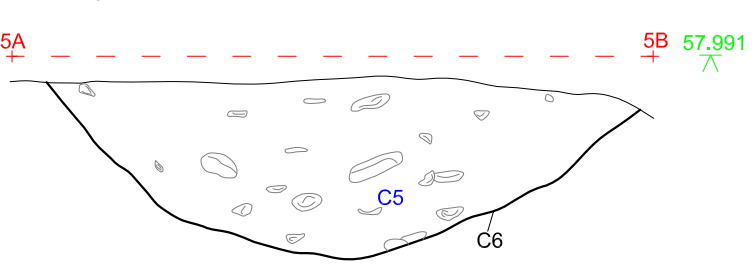
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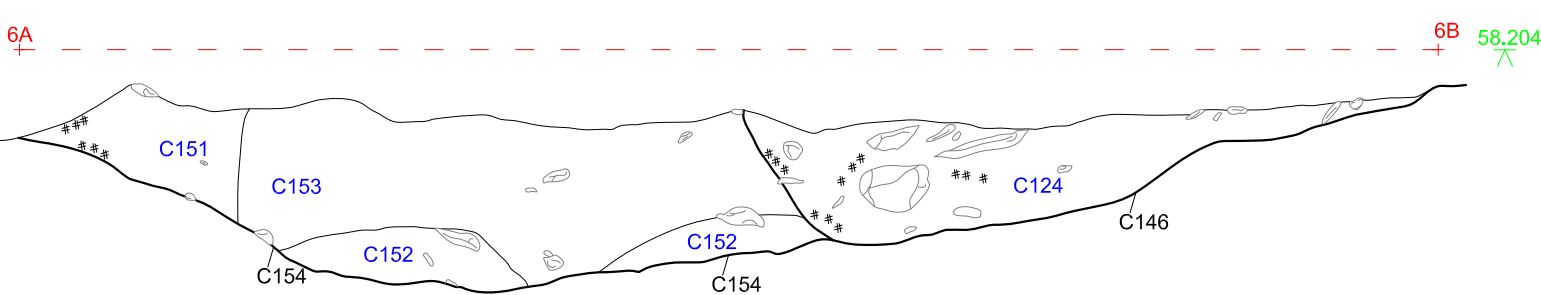
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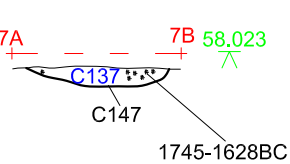
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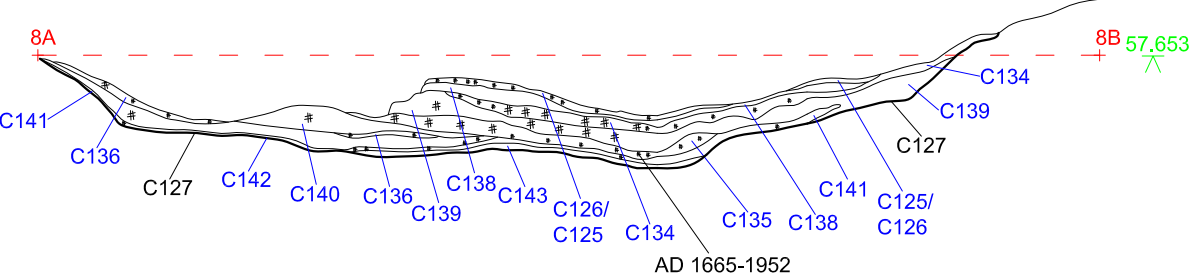
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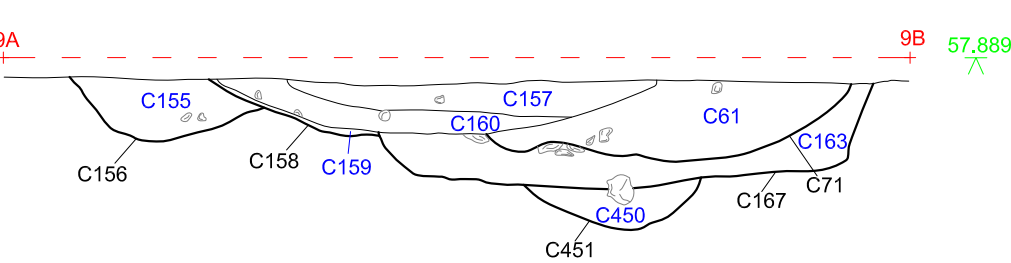
Northwest facing section of C147



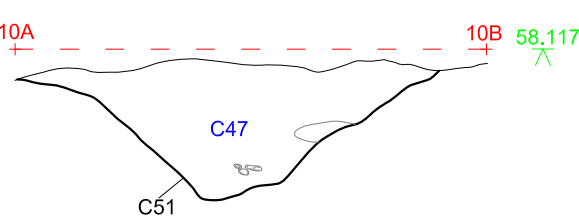
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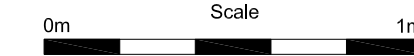
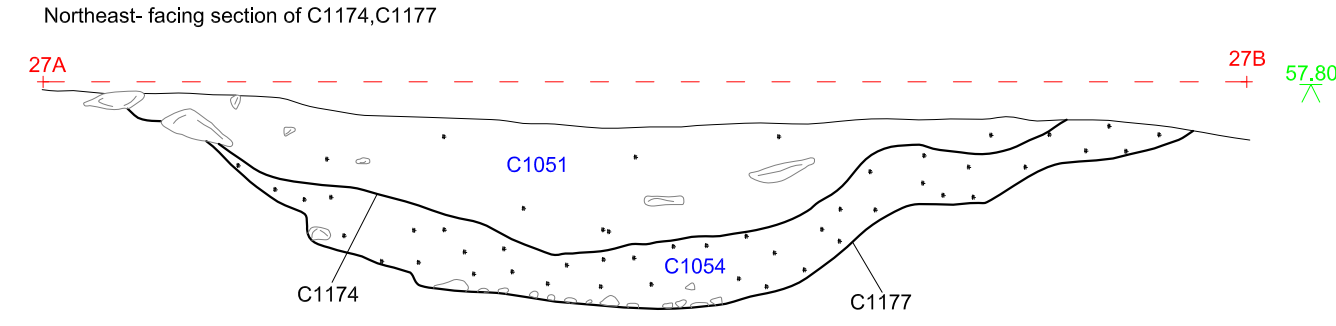
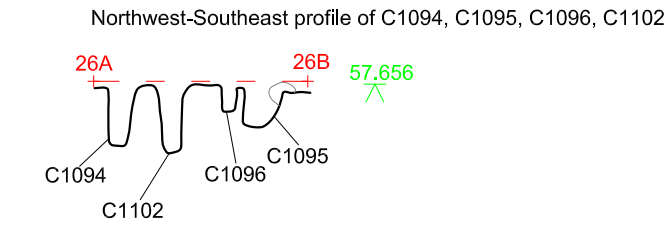
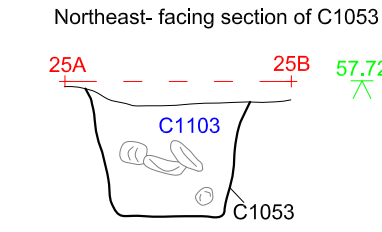
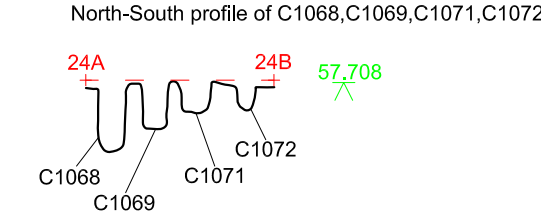
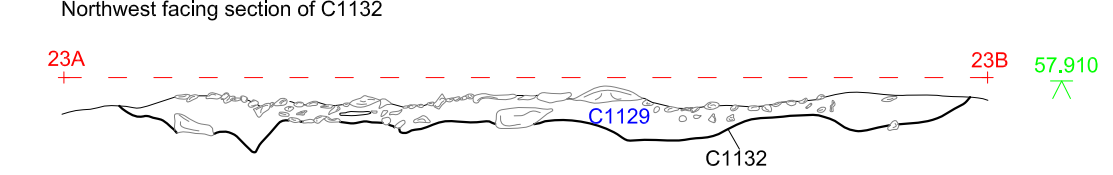
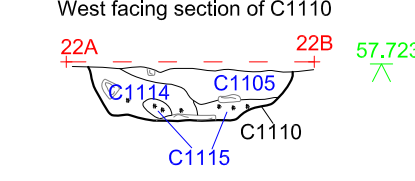
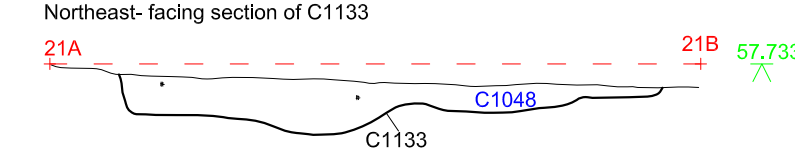
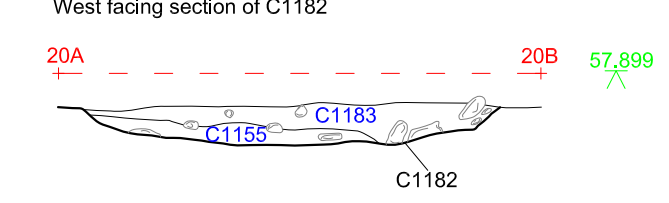
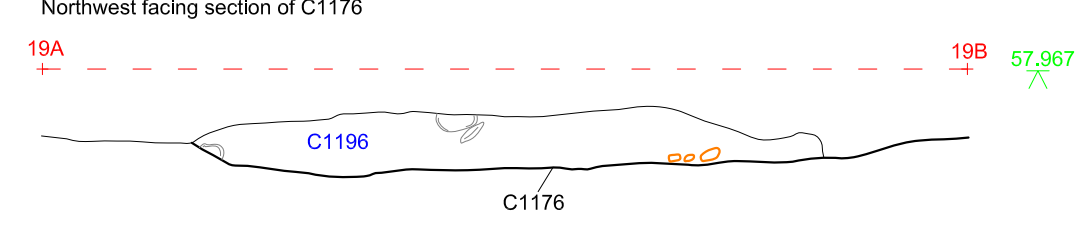
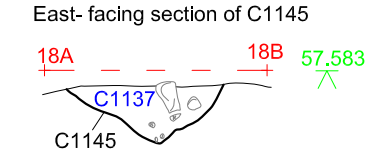
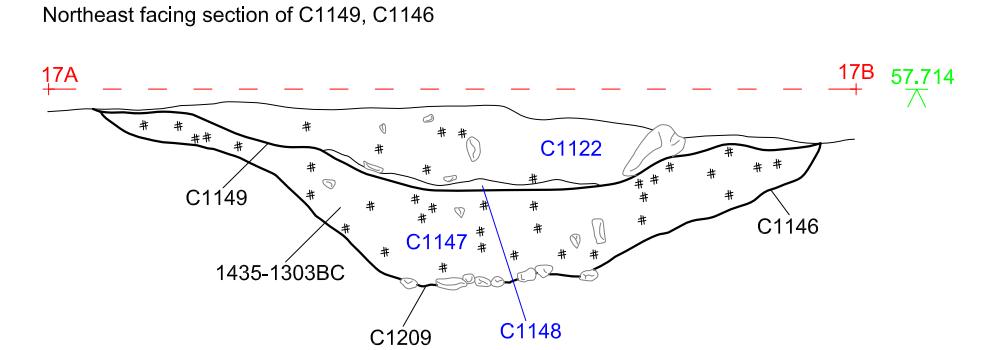
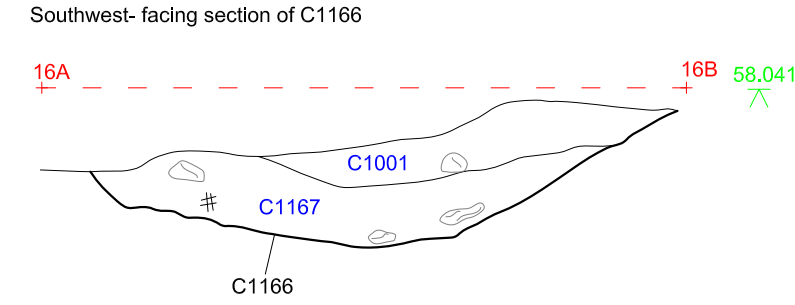
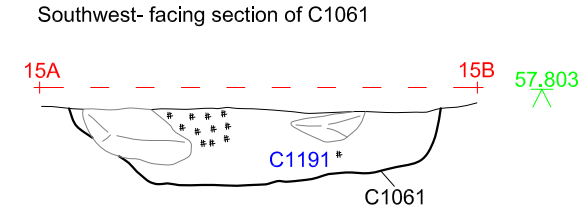
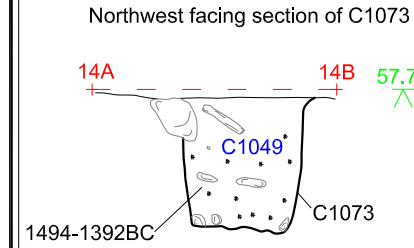
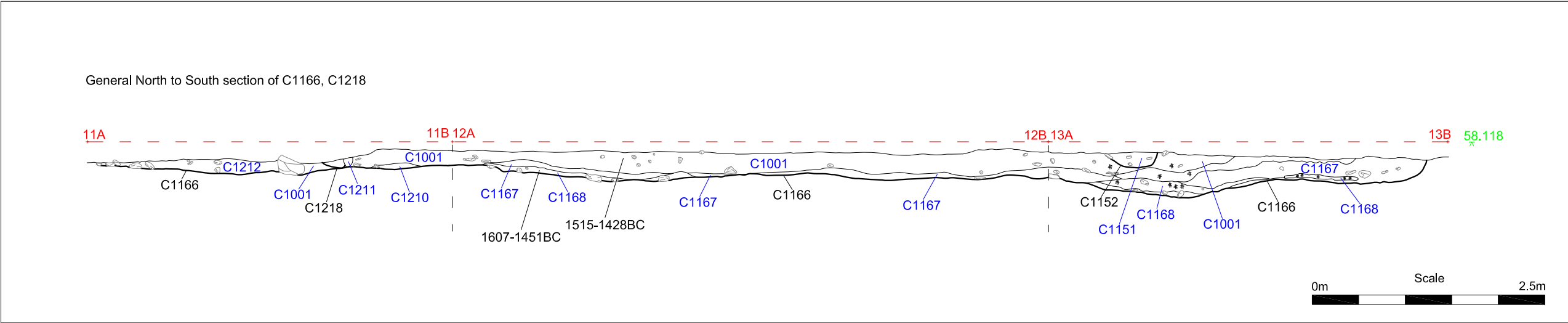


West facing section of C51




Legend	
C##	Cut numbers
C##	Fill Numbers
○	Stone
#	Charcoal
XX.XXX	Levels - metres OD

Title: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 Sections 1-10		
Project: M3 Clonee - North of Kells PPP Scheme Contract 4		
Client: Meath County Council		
Scale: 1:20 @ A3	Job No: J2203	
Date: 03/08/10	Figure No: 9	
Produced by: P Higgins		

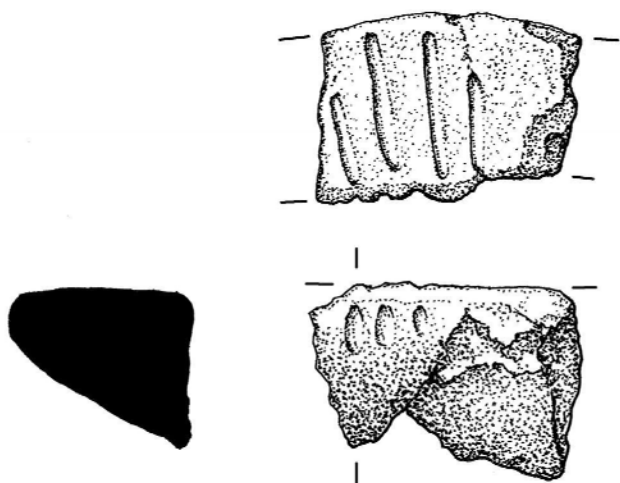


Legend	
	Pottery
	Cut Numbers
	Fill Numbers
	Stone
	Charcoal
	Levels - metres OD

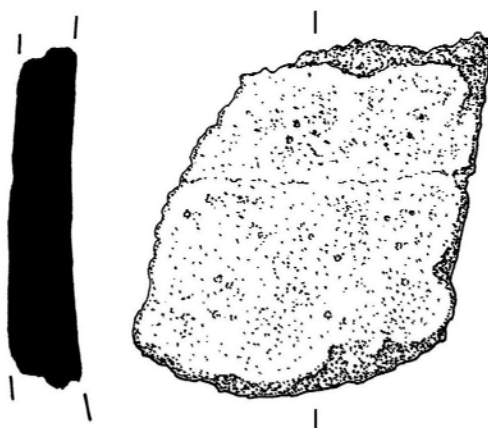
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Project: M3 Clonee - North of Kells PPP Scheme Contract 4		
Client: Meath County Council		
Scale: 1:20 @ A3	Job No: J2203	
Date: 22/03/10	Figure No: 10	
Produced by: P Higgins		



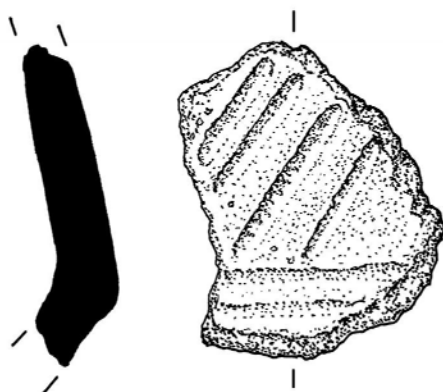
V1
E3130: 1:[71-72]



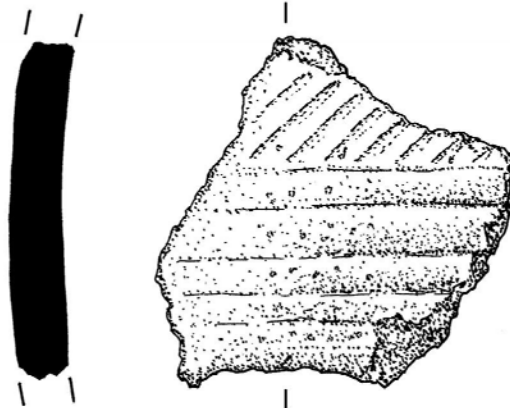
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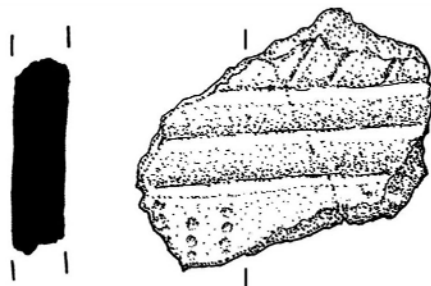
V9
E3130: 149:1



V9
E3130: 149:3



V9
E3130: 149:[5+8]



Scale
0mm 50mm

V2 1001:177



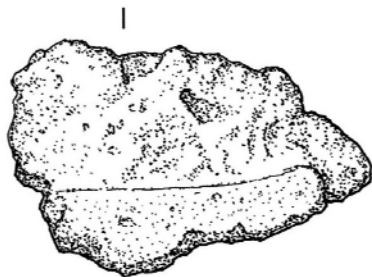
V4 1196:75



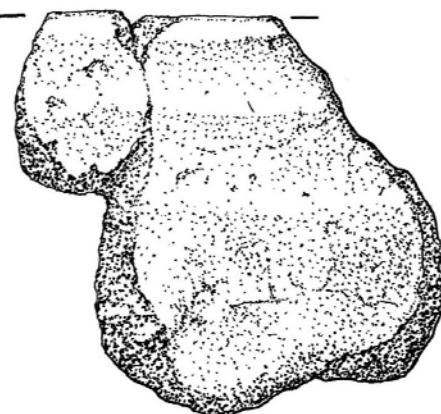
V4 1196:79



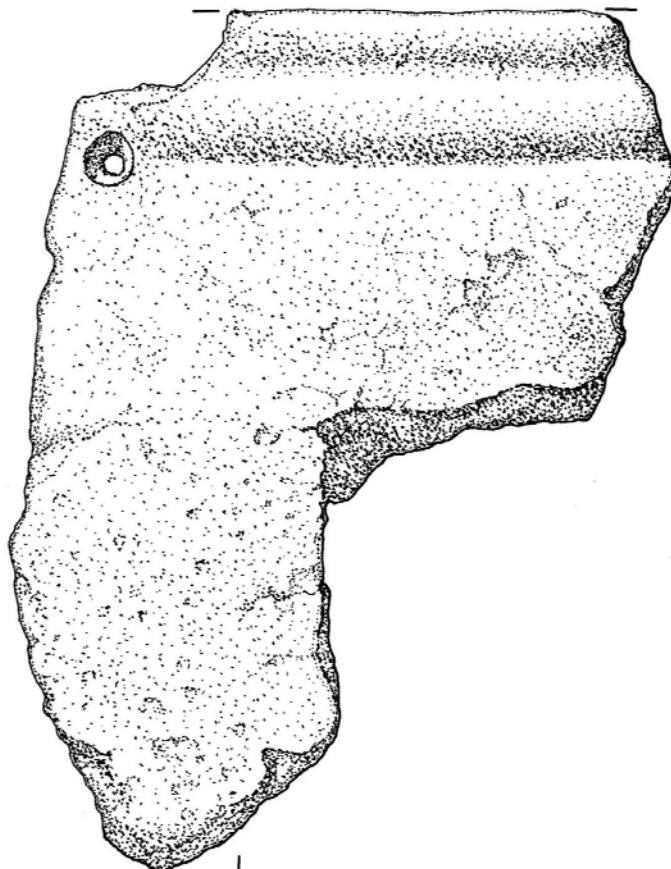
V4 1196:111



V6 1001:228+241



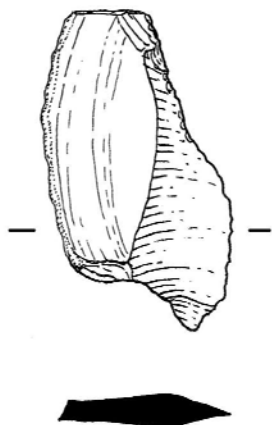
V7 1194:[1+9]



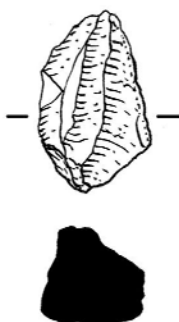
0mm Scale 50mm



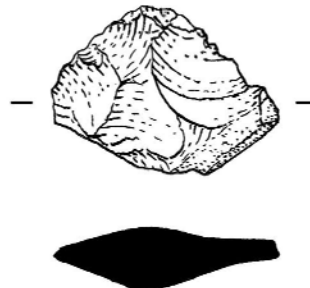
E3130:99:1



E3130:1:16



E3130:1:13



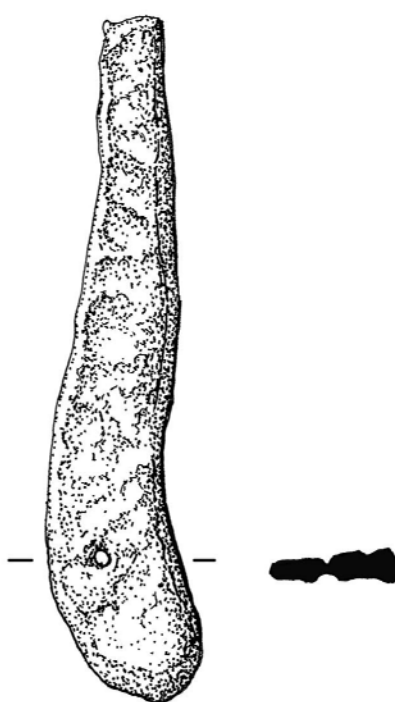
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E3130:121:1

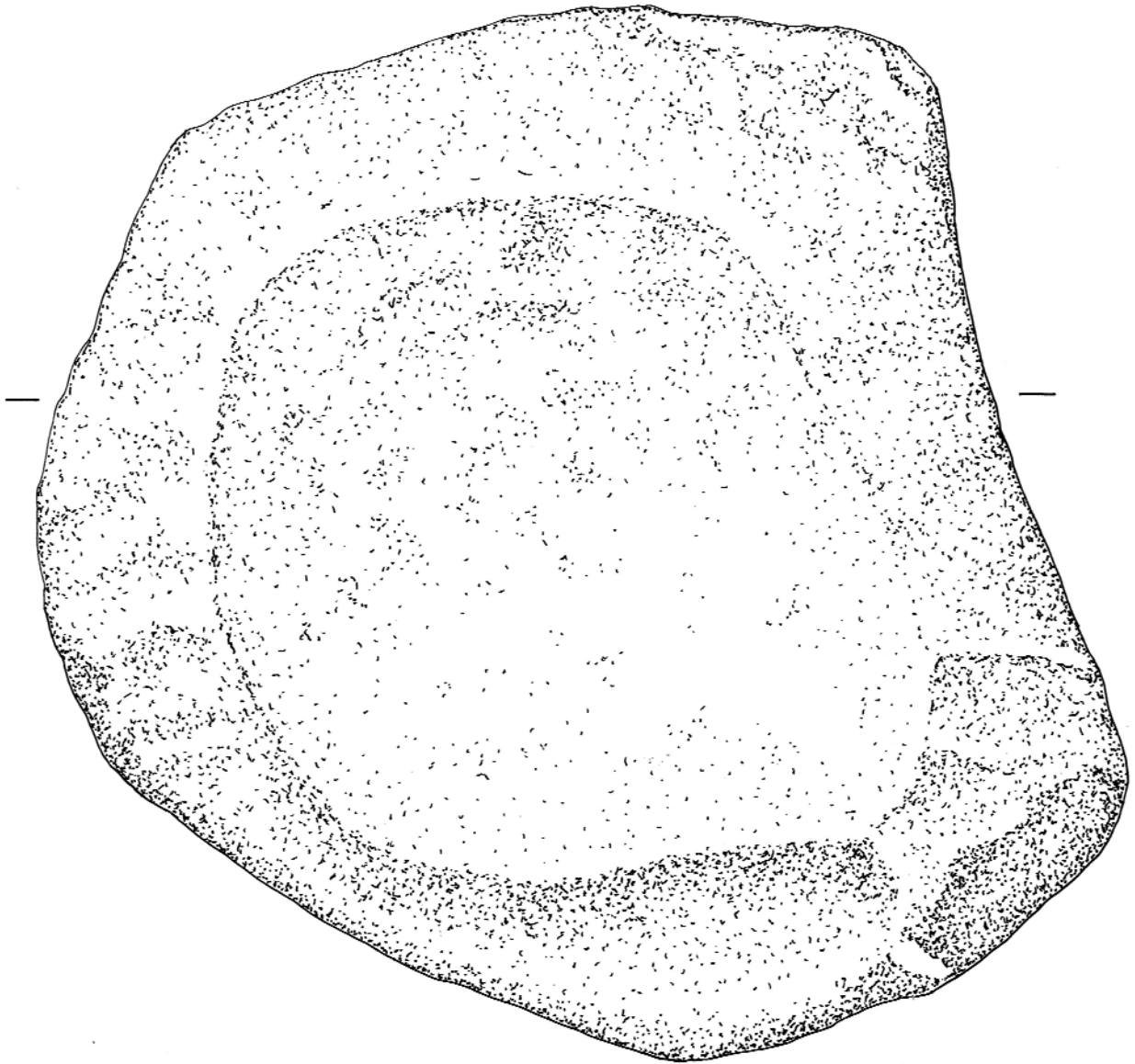


E3130:1:48



0mm 50mm

Scale



E3130:1048:1





Plate 1: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 Area A, facing east (Studio Lab).



Plate 2: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 Area B, facing north (Studio Lab).

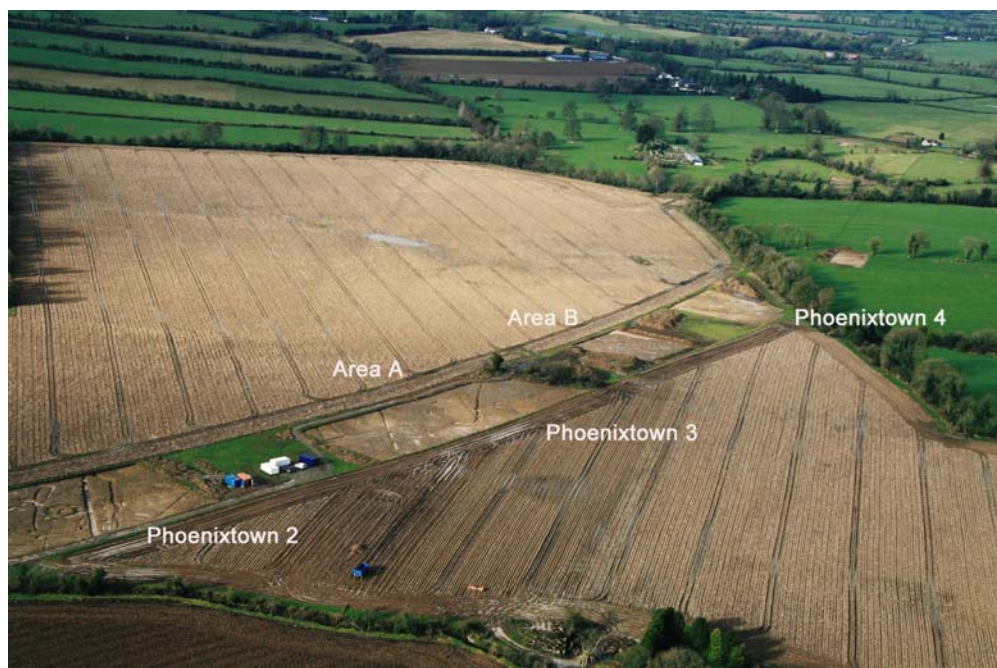


Plate 3: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 and nearby sites Phoenixtown 2 E3126 and Phoenixtown 4 E3134, facing west (Studio Lab).



Plate 4: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pit C147 mid-excavation, facing east.



Plate 5: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 ditch C71, mid-excavation, facing east.



Plate 6: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pit C127, mid-excavation, facing north.



Plate 7: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pit C120, cattle skull during excavation.



Plate 8: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 ditch C6, post-excavation, facing west.



Plate 9: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 Area B, circular structure, facing NNW (with a ranging rod standing in each main posthole).



Plate 10: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 posthole C1116, mid-excavation.



Plate 11: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 posthole C1053, mid-excavation



Plate 12: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 posthole C1073, post-excavation.



Plate 13: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 posthole C1055, post-excitation



Plate 14: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 Area B, structure with entrance annexe in the foreground, facing north-west.



Plate 15: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pit C1061, mid-excavation with pottery *in situ* (between stones over scale).



Plate 16: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pit C1177 mid-excavation with stony layer C1200 visible at base, facing NNW.



Plate 17: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pit C1133 post-excavation, facing south-east.



Plate 18: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 stakeholes in interior of structure, post-excavation, facing north-east.



Plate 19: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 linear pit C1166, mid-excavation, facing north-east.



Plate 20: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 mid-excavation of pit C1166 and pre-excavation of pit C1176 (foreground), facing south-east.

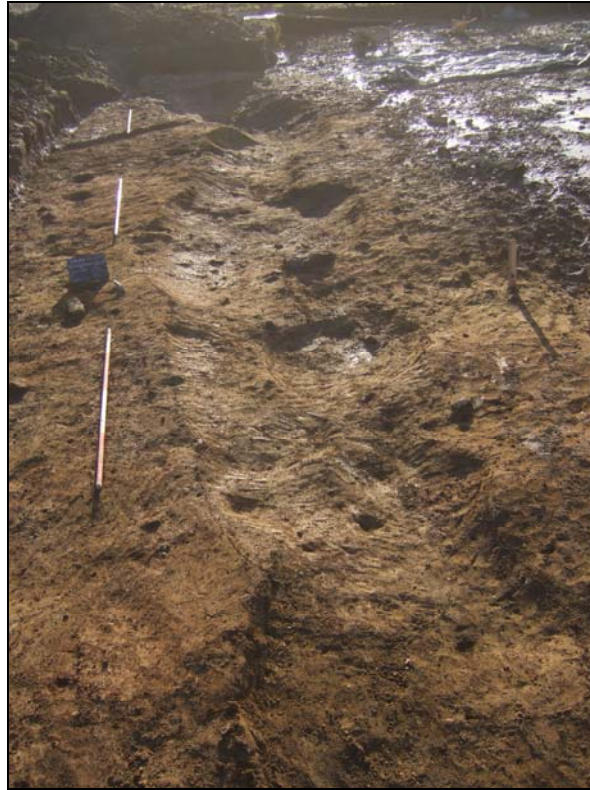


Plate 21: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pit C1166 post-excavation, facing south-west.



Plate 22: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 pottery *in situ* in pit C1176.



Plate 23: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 circular structure with ranging rods giving 3D effect, facing NNW.



Plate 24: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 circular structure with 16 'inhabitants', facing NNW.



Plate 25: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 circular structure with crew standing within, facing NNW.



Plate 26: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 glass bead E3130:1:62.



Plate 27: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 middle Bronze Age domestic pottery Vessel 4 (E3130:1001:249, 1196:75, 1196:79, 1196:111).



Plate 28: E3130 Phoenixtown 3 middle Bronze Age domestic pottery Vessel 6 (E3130:1194:1, 9).