



Westmeath County Council

In Partnership with
Meath County Council

&

Kildare County Council



KINNEGAD – ENFIELD - KILCOCK

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANCY SERVICES
CONTRACT 1**

Archaeological Excavation
At Rossan 1
Clonard
County Meath
Licence Number 02E0866



A.C.S Ltd

PROJECT DETAILS

Project	Archaeological Excavation
Archaeologist	Eoin Corcoran
Client	Westmeath County Council, County Buildings, Mullingar, County Westmeath
Site	K-E-K M4 Motorway, Contract 1, Rossan 1
Townland	Rossan
Parish	Clonard
County	Meath
Nat Grid Ref.	26055, 24358
RMP No.	N/A
Licence No.	02E0866
Planning Ref.	N/A
Project Start Date	10th June 2002
Report Date	14th January 2004

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The site at Rossan 1 was identified during the centreline testing of the M4 Kinnegad–Enfield–Kilcock Motorway. A number of potential archaeological features were identified on the site. No archaeological features were visible on the field surface prior to excavation. Excavation revealed the remains of a nineteenth-century structure with associated hedges and field boundaries that are present on the 1836–37 Ordnance Survey six-inch map. Only the base of structural walls survived. Also uncovered during excavation was a small area of prehistoric activity in the southeastern corner of the field that was represented by a series of pits and charcoal-rich deposits. Two features that resembled troughs were dated by radiocarbon analysis to Cal BC 1290-830 and Cal BC 1100-790, indicating that part of the site was Bronze Age in date.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report gives an account of the archaeological excavation of a site exposed at Rossan, County Meath (OS six-inch sheet 46, 625mm from the west margins and 509mm from the south margin, NGR 26055, 24385) during archaeological testing associated with the proposed M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway. The work was carried out on behalf of Westmeath County Council, County Buildings, Mullingar, County Westmeath out under licence number 02E0866 issued by *Dúchas* The Heritage Service, Department of the Environment and Local Government, to Eoin Corcoran.

2. THE DEVELOPMENT

2.1 The Site

The archaeological assessment of this site was carried out in advance of the construction of the M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway Scheme, Contract 1 on behalf of Westmeath County Council under licence 02E0108 from *Dúchas* The Heritage Service, Department of the Environment and Local Government issued to Ian Russell and took place between the 18th and 25th of February 2002. A number of archaeological features were identified during the assessment and full excavation was recommended. The excavation was carried out on behalf of Westmeath County Council under licence 02E0866 from *Dúchas* The Heritage Service issued to Eoin Corcoran and took place between the 10th of June and the 26th of July 2002.

2.2 Proposal

Rossan 1 is located along the proposed M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway. This scheme comprises approximately 35km of motorway commencing to the west of Kinnegad in County Westmeath and continuing in an easterly direction through counties Meath and Kildare and terminating at the western end of the existing motorway at Kilcock. The route shall include junctions and an interchange and other structures such as over bridges and under bridges as required to allow the continued flow of traffic on the existing road network. The proposed scheme ties into the existing N4 to the west of Kinnegad.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

3.1 Archaeological and Historical Background

The parish of Clonard in County Meath is bound on the north by Killyon parish, on the east by Castlerickard parish and County Kildare, on the south by Ballyboggan parish and on the west by County Westmeath. By 1837, there were 4,353 inhabitants in the parish with sixty-six of these living in the village which comprised only ten houses and a police station. The soil of the parish was described as “generally light and tolerably productive”. However, there were also areas of bog and Lewis remarked that hundred of acres were annually rendered useless by the flooding of the River Boyne and its five tributaries in the area. The Ordnance Survey engineers disagreed with Lewis slightly, noting that because of the beds of limestone gravel and the areas of bog in Clonard, the parish did not produce good crops. Referring to the antiquities of the area, Lewis mentions several sites and recalls that many spears, celts, querns, and other relics had been dug up from the Clonard River. He also states that “great quantities of scoriae and charcoal” had been uncovered which would indicate industrial and/or domestic activity in the area (Lewis 1837; Name Books).

The townland of Rossan in Clonard parish, Upper Moyfenrath barony, County Meath, is bound on the northeast by the town of Kinnegad and Hardwood townland, on the east by Ticroghan townland, on the southeast by Moydrum townland, and on the south and southwest by Killaskillen townland. The placename Rossan comes from *Rosán* which indicates an underwood or copse. In 1837, Rossan was the property of Sir George Rich and William Henry McGann Esq. who let it in farms of ten to fifty acres in size. Prior to Rich and McGann, in the eighteenth century, Rossan was the property of Henry Dudley Loftus Esq. In 1837, the townland comprised 638 statute acres, almost half of which lay uncultivated. The southern half of the townland comprised deep bog and the dwellings were all poor mud cabins. The Civil Survey recorded that there was a castle and a mill in Rossan in the mid-seventeenth century (Name Books).

Rossan contains an enclosure site (ME046:004) located *c.*100m from the road take. The enclosure, which was *c.*30m in diameter, was destroyed in the 1950s (Keeley *et al* 2000). The monument is marked on the first edition Ordnance Survey map as a ‘fort’ cut on the west by a laneway leading northwards. At that time, the area to be investigated by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd. contained a building with an L-shaped plan and some field boundaries. All that remains today of the enclosure is the probable scarped eastern end of a low prominent east–west ridge comprising sticky yellow clay. The dimensions of the ‘hillock’ were 40m northeast–southwest; 35m southeast–northwest; 5m in width and 2m in height. The site is situated on a low ridge in flat average pastureland with bogland to the south (RMP, *Dúchas*).

3.2 Cartographic Evidence

The 1836–37 Ordnance Survey six-inch map shows a number of field boundaries and an upstanding structure in the area that constitutes Rossan 1. In all, the map shows five boundaries (two northwest to southeast, two east northeast to west southwest and one east to west), a laneway and two structures. By the issue of the 1883–84 edition of the Ordnance survey six-inch map both the structure and the laneway are gone and only two field boundaries remain (one east-northeast by west-southwest and one northwest to southeast).

3.3 Stratigraphical Report

The topsoil was stripped from the site by machine. A large area was stripped of topsoil and the remainder of the field was intensively test trenched. There were two distinct areas of archaeological features on the site at Rossan 1. The first was an area at the southeast of the site of probable prehistoric activity consisting of deposits of burnt material and pits which had been intensively ploughed; the second was an area of nineteenth and twentieth-century remains. The entire site was covered by sod of 0.05m to 0.1m in depth and a layer of brown loam with inclusions of small stones for a further 0.1–0.4m. This sod and topsoil layer, designated **F17**, contained various finds of modern pottery, glass, metal and clay pipe. **F17** was removed onto yellow to orange natural sandy clay with inclusions of gravel, decaying stones, small to medium sized stones and grey silty clay (**F18**). **F18** covered the area of the entire site and all features were cut into it.

Southeastern Complex of Features

The southeastern complex of features consisted of two possible troughs, twenty-five possible stakeholes, eight possible pits, ten deposits, one linear feature and fourteen furrows.

Possible Troughs

Two possible troughs were discerned in the southeastern area of the site: cuts **F132** and **F138**, both of which were subrectangular. **F132** measured 1.98m north to south by 1.24m east to west and was 0.17m deep. It had a sudden break of slope at the top, near vertical sides and a sudden break of slope to an irregular flat base. Its primary fill, **F139**, consisted of moderately-compact dark-brownish/black clayey sand containing frequent charcoal inclusions. This fill only occupied the southern end of **F132**, measured 1.24m east to west by 0.95m north to south and had a maximum thickness of 0.3m. A radiocarbon date of Cal BC 1100-790 was returned for this context. The secondary fill (**F110**) of the trough was hard grey sandy clay with moderate inclusions of charcoal. **F132** was cut by two east to west orientated linear features, **F89** and **F177**.

The second possible trough, F138, was subrectangular in plan and had rounded corners. It measured 1.52m north to south by 1.95m east to west and had a maximum depth of 0.25m. The break of slope at the top was sudden at the east and west ends but was more gradual at the north and south ends; the sides of F138 were slightly concave. There was a slight annexe at the northwest corner of the pit which had dimensions of 0.37m north to south by 0.64m east to west and was 0.07m deep. F138 had two fills: **F111** and **F115**. F111 was the secondary fill of F138 and consisted of loose to moderately-compact mid-brown clayey sand with small pebble inclusions. It measured 1.52m north to south by 1.94m east to west and was 0.2m deep. F115 was the primary fill of F138 and consisted of moderately-compact dark-brown clayey sand with moderate charcoal inclusions. It measured 1.3m north to south by 1.95m east to west and had an average depth of 0.075m. A radiocarbon date of Cal BC 1290-830 was returned for this context. F138 was cut by two east–west orientated cultivation furrows: **F109** and **F112**.

Possible Stakeholes

Seven possible stakeholes (**F188**, **F189**, **F190**, **F191**, **F192**, **F193** and **F198**) were cut into the base of F132. F188 was a subcircular stakehole in the northwestern corner of F132 with a diameter of 0.08m and a depth of approximately 0.41m. The top of the stakehole was slightly east in relation to the base at an angle of 89°. The break of slope at the top of F188 was sharp to gradual. Its sides were concave with some gentle widening midway and then tapered to a rounded point. It was filled with loose moderately-compact brownish-grey sandy clay (**F182**).

F189 was a subcircular stakehole situated near the northeastern corner of F132. It had a diameter of approximately 0.1m and was approximately 0.4m deep. The top of F189 was north of the base with an inclination of axis of approximately 84°. The break of slope at the top of the stakehole was sharp, its sides were slightly concave and tapered to a rounded base. It was filled with brownish-grey sandy clay of medium compaction (**F183**).

Both F190 and F191 were stakeholes situated in the southeastern corner of F132. F190 was subcircular in plan, had a diameter of approximately 0.09m and was 0.3m deep. The break of slope at the top of the stakehole was gradual; the sides were concave and tapered down to a rounded base. The top of F190 was situated to the southeast of the base at an inclination of 87 degrees. F190 was filled with moderately-compact dark greyish brown sandy clay (**F184**). F191, 0.13m south of F190, was subcircular, had a diameter of 0.09m and was 0.32m deep. The break of slope was sharp to gradual at the top and the sides tapered gently to a rounded base. The top of the stakehole was situated to the west of the base at an inclination of axis of 77 degrees. It was filled with dark greyish brown clayey sand of medium compaction (**F185**). F192, F193 and F198 were stakeholes located in the southwest corner of F132. These three stakeholes formed a

north to south orientated line. F198 was the most northerly with F193 0.04m to the south and F192 a further 0.13m to the south.

F192 was subcircular in plan with a diameter of 0.09m and was 0.39m deep. The break of slope at the top was sharp to gradual, the sides were slightly concave and tapered to a rounded base. The top of F192 was located to the south of the base at an inclination of axis of 86° . It was filled with dark greyish brown clayey silt of medium compaction (**F186**). F193 was subcircular in plan with a diameter of 0.065m and was 0.28m deep. The break of slope at the top was sudden, the sides tapered to a rounded base. The top of F193 was situated west-northwest of the base at an inclination of axis of 83° . It was filled with moderately-compact mid-dark-brown clayey sand (**F187**). F198 was a subcircular stakehole with a diameter of 0.06m and a depth of 0.18m. The break of slope at the top was sharp to gradual; it had concave sides that tapered towards a rounded base. The top of F198 was angled at 80 degrees, westward from the base. F198 was filled with moderately-compact mid-brownish/grey sandy clay (**F197**).

Four possible stakeholes were discerned in the base of F138, one at each of the four corners: **F140**, **F141**, **F142** and **F143**. All of them contained the same fill which was moderately-compact dark-grey clayey sand (**F135**). F140, located in the southwest corner of F138, was subcircular with a diameter of 0.13m and a depth of 0.43m. F141, located at the northwest corner of F138, was subcircular with a diameter of 0.11m and a depth of 0.29m. F142, located at the northeastern corner of F138, was a subcircular stakehole with a diameter of 0.12m and a depth of 0.32m. F143, located in the southeast corner of F138, was subcircular with a diameter of 0.13m and a depth of 0.32m. These four stakeholes had straight sides which tapered to a rounded base. Their inclinations of axis varied from 75 degrees (F143) to 86 degrees (F140). Cut into the east end of the base of F138 was a collection of twelve very small stakeholes (**F96**) all filled with F115. They varied in size from 0.12m to 0.05m (east to west), 0.08m to 0.05m (north to south) and were all 0.07m in depth. The break of slope at the top of these stakeholes was sharp, their sides were vertical and their bases were rounded.

F195 represents two possible subcircular stakeholes adjacent to **F196**. They were both filled with soft mid-brown silty sand containing occasional inclusions of small stones (**F194**). These two stakeholes had straight sides that tapered to rounded bases and were approximately 0.13m deep with diameters of approximately 0.1m.

Pits

F131 was an oval pit which measured 0.96m north to south by 0.85m east to west and was 0.3m deep. There was a sudden break of slope at the north whilst it was more gradual elsewhere. It had straight sides with an imperceptible break of slope to a flat base. The dimensions of the base were

0.45m east to west by 0.28m north to south. It was filled with mid-greyish/brown clayey sand containing occasional inclusions of small stones (**F20**). A cultivation furrow F75 cut F131.

F88 was a subcircular pit; it had a diameter of 0.8m and a maximum depth of 0.22m. The break of slope at the top was sharp while the break of slope at the base was gradual. It contained two fills: **F80** and **F82**. F80 was the top fill and consisted of moderately-compact greyish/black clayey silt, 20% charcoal, 20% medium pebbles and moderate inclusions of small pebbles. The primary fill, F82, consisted of loose charcoal-rich dark-brown to black clayey silt containing frequent inclusions of medium pebbles and moderate inclusions of small pebbles and occasional fragments of burnt bone including one with an apparent butchery mark. A small piece of worked chert (02E0866: 82:1) was recovered from the primary fill of this pit.

F134 was a small oval pit, which measured 0.28m north to south by 0.18m east west and had a maximum depth of 0.06m. The break of slope at the northeast end of the pit was imperceptible but was gradual at the other points. The sides were gradually sloped, except on the west side where they were near vertical. The break of slope at the base was gradual. It was filled with dark-brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of small stones (**F106**). F134 was in a very heavily disturbed area of the site and it seems likely that it has been damaged by agricultural activity.

F124 was a small sub-oval pit measuring 0.5m north to south by 0.36m east to west by 0.15m deep. The break of slope at the top of the pit was sudden, with the sides sloping gently to a gradual break of slope to the rounded base. It was filled with medium compact greyish black silty soil consisting of 20% charcoal, 20% stone and containing occasional inclusions of small stone pebbles and a fragment of cremated bone (**F113**).

F196 was a subcircular pit that measured 0.7m north to south by 0.54m east to west and had a maximum depth of 0.14m. The break of the slope at the top was imperceptible at the north, gradual at the south and sharp at the east and the west. The sides were vertical at the east, west and south, while the north side had a very gradual slope. The break of slope at the base was sharp, excepting the northeast where the break was more gradual. The base was regular and raised slightly in the centre. F196 was filled with loose dark-brown silty sand (**F122**) and was cut by cultivation furrow F109.

Cut **F180** was a small oval pit that measured 0.78m north to south by 0.6m east to west and had a maximum depth of 0.28m. The break of slope at top was gradual with the sides to the northeast and east being vertical while the remaining sides were more gradually sloped. The break of slope at the base was imperceptible. F180 was filled with hard pinkish-grey sand with frequent inclusions of charcoal and occasional inclusions of small stones (**F127**).

F181 was a subcircular pit filled with dark-brown silty clay and 20% large stones containing occasional inclusions of charcoal and frequent inclusions of small stones (**F174**). This pit had a sharp break of slope at the top to gradually sloped concave sides which broke imperceptibly to a flat base. It measured 1.1m north to south by 0.65m east to west and was approximately 0.3m deep. F181 was partially cut to the north by the cultivation furrow F107.

F202 was a suboval pit that measured 1.8m east to west by 1.23m north to south and was 0.24m deep. It had a gradual break of slope at the top to the north and east while it was imperceptible on the other sides. The west side was vertical while the other sides were gradually sloping. The break of the slope at the base was imperceptible and base was irregular with numerous depressions. F202 was filled with loose mid-brownish grey clayey silt with moderate inclusions of charcoal flecks and frequent inclusions of small to medium sub-angular stones (**F203**). Two pieces of worked flint (02E0866: 203:1 and 02E0866: 203:2) were recovered from this fill.

Deposits

F123 was a suboval deposit of firm black medium sand with moderate inclusions of charcoal. It measured 0.35m east to west by 0.72m north to south and had a maximum thickness of 0.16m.

F125 was a subcircular deposit of moderately-compact mid-brown sandy clay measuring approximately 0.24m in diameter and was approximately 0.08m thick.

F128 was a suboval deposit of moderately-compact mid-brown silty sand measuring 0.28m north to south by 0.44m east to west by 0.14m thick.

F129 was a suboval deposit of firm mid- to dark-brown silty sand consisting of 20% small to medium stones containing moderate inclusions of large pebbles and occasional inclusions of charcoal; it measured 0.77m north to south by 0.55 east to west and was 0.05 thick.

F130 was a subrectangular charcoal-rich deposit of loose mid-brownish black sandy clay with frequent inclusions of charcoal and angular to sub-angular mid-sized stones; it measured 1.6m east to west by 1.3m north to south at its maximum and was 0.04m thick.

F173 was a subcircular deposit of loose light-brownish/black clayey sand containing occasional inclusions of small pebbles. It measured 0.46m north to south by 0.38m east to west and was approximately 0.08m thick.

Adjacent to F130 to the east, west and south respectively were three deposits: **F215**, **F216** and **F217**.

F215 was an irregularly-shaped deposit consisting of firm greyish brown medium sand containing frequent inclusions of small pebbles and moderate inclusions of both medium pebbles and charcoal flecks; it measured 4.0m north to south by 1.3m east to west and was 0.15 thick.

F216 was a deposit of friable greyish brown clayey sand consisting of 20% medium to large pebbles and containing frequent inclusions of charcoal; it measured 1.4m north to south by 1m east to west and was 0.33 deep.

F217 was a deposit in a U-shaped channel composed of a firm brownish black silty sandy; it measured 1.4m north to south by 2.1m east to west and was 0.25m deep.

F145 was a deposit of brownish black silty sand measuring 0.39m north to south by 0.41m east to west and was 0.11m deep.

Linear Feature

F133 was an irregular linear cut orientated east to west. It measured 2.4m east to west by 0.6m north to south and was 0.12m deep at its maximum. It had an imperceptible break of slope at the top and bottom. The sides were gradually sloped and the base was very irregular. It was filled with dark-brown peaty sand of medium compaction with occasional inclusions of charcoal (**F105**). F133 was also cut and heavily disturbed by the east–west orientated cultivation furrow, **F121**.

Cultivation Furrows

F107, F116, 117, 118, 119 120 and **F121**, along with **F63, F78, F75** were all east–west orientated cultivation furrows.

F107 consisted of loose mid-brown fine sand with moderate inclusions of medium pebbles and occasional inclusions of small pebbles. It measured 0.64m in width and was 0.09m deep.

F116, 117, 118, 119, 120 and 121 were all adjacent to each other. F116 consisted of compact mid-to dark-brown medium sand containing moderate inclusions of small and medium pebbles; it was 0.37m in width and 0.14 in depth.

F117 consisted of firm light to mid-brown medium sand containing moderate inclusions of small pebbles; it was 0.41m in width and 0.09m deep.

F118 consisted of firm light greyish brown medium sand containing moderate inclusions of small pebbles; it was 0.07m deep with a width of 0.37m.

F75 was an east–west orientated cultivation furrow composed of mid greyish-brown sand with occasional inclusions of rotten stone and medium pebbles. It was 0.15m deep and 0.32m wide.

F119 consisted of firm mid-brown silty sand with moderate inclusions of small pebbles; it was 0.21m deep and it was 0.46m wide.

F120 consisted of loose mid to dark-brown medium sand with frequent inclusions of very small pebbles and moderate inclusions of medium-sized pebbles; it was 0.46m wide and 0.13m deep.

F121 consisted of loose light-brown clayey silt with occasional inclusions of very small pebbles; it was 0.32m wide and 0.09m deep.

F63 was an east–west orientated cultivation furrow. It was filled with greyish-brown sand and contained occasional inclusions of medium pebbles. It measured 0.3m wide and was 0.11m deep.

F78 was another cultivation furrow with a depth of 0.15m and a width of 0.4m. It contained the same fill as F63 and it cut the pit F88.

F89 was a cultivation furrow filled with mid-brown sand containing occasional inclusions of small stones. This furrow measured 0.34m wide by 0.11m deep; it ran along the northern edge of the trough cutting it at the northwest and northeast corners.

F109 cut across the southern edge of F138 and consisted of mid-brown clayey sand with frequent inclusions of small stones. It was exposed in the area of excavation for a length of 62m, was 0.31m in width and was 0.16m deep.

F112 was composed of loose mid-brown sand with frequent inclusions of small stones (<0.03m). It was exposed in the area of excavation for a length of 21m, was 0.38 wide and 0.17m deep.

F177 was a cultivation furrow measuring 0.69 wide by 0.06 deep that ran along the southern edge of F132, cutting it at both the southwest and southeast corners. It was filled with F108 which was mid-brown clayey sand with moderate inclusions of small stones.

The Remaining Area of Rossan 1

Ditches

F91, F10 and F45 were substantial ditches whose terminals met in such a way as to form a sub-triangular shape.

F91 was the cut of a substantial ditch orientated from north to south. At its northern end it cut the eastern end of F10 and ran under the northern baulk; at its southern end it cut the east to west orientated feature, **F104**. F91 was 2.2m wide and 0.4m deep. The break of slope was sharp at both the top and the base; the sides were reasonably smooth and regular as was the base which was 0.7m wide. F91 was filled with soft friable greyish-brown clayey sand with inclusions of gravel, rotten stone and occasional medium-sized angular and sub-angular stones (**F1**).

F10 was the cut of a field boundary orientated from east to west roughly parallel with the northern baulk, intersecting F91 to the east and F45 to the west. It was 1.15m wide and 0.4m deep with a sharp break of slope at top and bottom. The sides and base were smooth and regular and the base was 0.55m wide. The ditch was filled with moderately-compact light-brown clayey sand (**F2**).

The ditch F45 was orientated north to south. It measured on average 2.3m wide and it had a maximum depth of 0.6m. The west edge of the ditch had irregular sides and a sharp break of slope at top and bottom whilst the east edge had smoother sides and the break of slope was more gradual. The base was 0.7m wide and irregular. F45 was filled with soft orange/brown sandy clay containing occasional inclusions of small stones (**F16**).

F83 was an east-northeast to west-southwest orientated linear ditch. It had an average width of 1.6m and an average depth of 0.15m. The break of slope was gradual at both the top and base. The sides were smooth and regular as was the base which was 0.95m in width. The ditch was filled with moderately-compact mid-brown sandy clay containing frequent inclusions of stones of all sizes and occasional inclusions of charcoal (**F3**). Three pieces of modern pottery (02E0866: 3:1) were recovered from the fill.

F86 was the cut of a small ditch orientated from north to south. It was 1m wide and 0.3m deep. The break of slope was sudden at both the top and the base and the western side descended 0.30m over 0.45m, while the eastern side dropped 0.3m over 0.25m. The sides and base were smooth and regular. The base had a width of 0.35–0.4m and was slightly sloping, being fractionally higher to the east. It was filled with friable greyish brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of small stones (10–50mm) and occasional larger stones (50–100mm) (**F26**).

F11 was a possible ditch fill consisting of mid-brown clayey sand with frequent inclusions of stones. F11 was contained within **F87** which was orientated from northwest to southeast and

measured approximately 5m in length by 1.4m wide by 0.08m deep. It had a sharp break of slope at the top and at the base. The southwest side was almost vertical while the northeast side dropped 0.08m over 0.3m. The northeast side was smooth with the base and the southwest side being irregular. The base was 0.9m wide. F87 was cut by F26, **F9** and **F12**.

F58 was a possible ditch orientated from northeast to southwest; it measured 0.88m wide by 0.14m deep. There was a sudden break of slope at the top. The sides were gradual to the west but were steeper to the east side. The break of slope at the base was sudden on the east and imperceptible to the west. The base was slightly concave. It was filled with loose mid–dark-brown sandy clay containing occasional inclusions of small stones (**F102**).

F61 was a similar ditch to F58 with a northeast to southwest orientation; it measured 0.62m wide by 0.22m deep. The break of slope at the top was sudden, the sides were gradual and concave and dropped to an imperceptible break of slope at a concave base. It was filled with loose mid–dark-brown sandy clay with occasional inclusions of small stones (**F101**). It is possible that it was a continuation of the ditch F26.

F213 was ditch that ran east to west for approximately 10m and then turned to run north to south for 8m within the limits of excavation. It had three fills: **F41**, **F42** and **F214**. F213 was an average of 1.8m and had an average depth of 0.35m. It had sudden breaks of slope and a smooth level base 1.1m wide. F214 was the primary fill and consisted of slightly yellowish-brown sandy silt with occasional inclusions of small stones (5–60mm); it measured 1.0m wide by 0.14m deep. This fill covered only the steeper half of the cut. The secondary fill (F41) consisted of loose yellowish-brown sandy clay with frequent inclusions of small stones (5–80mm) and measured 1.8m wide and 0.32m deep. As well as these two main fills there was a deposit of burnt organic material (F42) overlying an area of oxidised clay measuring 0.97m east to west by 0.58m north to south by 0.07m deep at the east end of the ditch. The organic material was sooty black and spongy while the oxidised clay itself was brick red.

F37 was a north–south orientated ditch measuring 0.85m wide by 20.0m long. It was filled with loose mid-brown sandy clay containing occasional inclusions of small stones.

Pits

F34 was an oval pit measuring 0.7m northeast to southwest by 0.55 northwest to southeast and was 0.18 deep. The break of slope at the top was sharp while it was gradual at the base and the sides and base were smooth and regular. F34 had two fills: **F4** and **F35**. F4, the secondary fill, consisted of hard greyish-black silty sand and charcoal and was c.0.09m thick. F35, the primary fill, consisted of compact orangey-brown sandy clay containing occasional inclusions of small subangular stones and charcoal and was c.0.09m thick.

F77 was the cut of a subrectangular pit with rounded corners. It measured 1.8m east to west by 1.95m north to south by 0.7m deep. The break of the slope at the top was sudden at both the top and the base and the sides were regular, smooth and near vertical. The base measured 0.29m east to west by 0.47m north to south. **F84** was the primary fill of F77 and consisted of firm bluish-grey clayey sand with frequent inclusions of small stones (20–40mm) and some large chunks of charcoal; it was 0.4m thick. **F7** was a deposit of highly organic loose mid-brown friable sandy clay lying on top of the pit F77 and was 0.3m thick. It was cut by F6 and F8 and contained occasional inclusions of charcoal lumps and small stones.

F65 was irregular in shape, almost triangular in plan, with rounded unclear corners. It measured 0.68m north to south by 0.68m east to west and was 0.25m deep. There was a sharp break of slope at the top except to the north where it was imperceptible. The sides were irregular and slightly concave and tapered to a rounded point. **F64** was the primary fill of F65, and consisted of loose blackish-brown clayey silt containing occasional inclusions of very small stones, a few large stones and rare flecks charcoal; it measured 0.1m deep by 0.65 wide. The top fill, **F23**, was loosely-compacted spongy reddish-brown sandy silt containing occasional inclusions of small stones (2–7mm). There were also three or four large stones of approximately 0.1m in diameter. F23 had a maximum thickness of 0.08m. Between the two fills, there was a lens of yellow/brown material, probably organic and approximately 0.01 to 0.02m in thickness. In the eastern-most area of the top fill, there was a small subcircular area rich in charcoal and with noticeably darker soil. This was approximately 0.2m in diameter and 0.02m in depth.

F178 was a subcircular pit, 0.6m north to south by 0.52m east to west by 0.19m deep. The break of slope at the top was sharp, the sides were smooth, near vertical and the break of slope at the bottom was gradual. The base was smooth, slightly hollowed and its dimensions were 0.42m east to west by 0.5m north to south. The sides and base had been oxidised by the intense heat, turning the clay into various shades of bright red/orange and charcoal was present on the northern and eastern sides. The burning was not as marked on the southern edge. The pit was filled with soft yellowish-brown sandy clay with moderate inclusions of small stones (5–30mm) (**F30**).

F97 was a pit sub-square in plan with rounded corners. It measured 0.73m east to west by 0.84m north to south and was 0.16m deep. The break of the slope at the top was sharp and the sides were gradual except the north side which was vertical. The base of the pit was irregular. F97 was filled with **F236** and **F237**. The secondary fill, F236, consisted of light yellowish brown clayey sand and was 0.08m thick. The primary fill, F237, was charcoal-rich silty sand with inclusions of small stones and was approximately 0.08m thick.

Remains of the 1836–37 Structure

F233 was an east to west orientated linear ditch that measured approximately 0.7m wide and was approximately 0.22m deep. The ditch had a sharp break of slope at the top, gently sloping sides and an imperceptible break of slope to a concave base. F233 was filled with loose greyish-brown silty clay mixed with small to medium-sized stones (**F103**). F233 formed the southern edge of a laneway leading to the house.

F230 was an east to west orientated linear ditch parallel to F233. It measured approximately 1.9m wide and was 0.42m deep. The ditch had a sharp break of slope at the top, gradually-sloping sides, an imperceptible break of slope at the bottom and a slightly uneven concave base. F230 was filled with friable greyish-brown sandy silt containing occasional inclusions of small to medium-sized stones and re-deposited natural boulder clay (**F104**). F230 formed the northern edge of a laneway leading to the house.

Between and parallel to F230 and F233 was **F232** which consisted of a mixture of friable greyish-brown silty clay and stones (c.0.15m diameter) in three courses containing occasional inclusions of small stones (**F231**). It measured 5m east to west by 0.4m north to south and was 0.3m deep.

F147 was the remains of a well-built mortared wall which was approximately 0.6m wide. It consisted of large angular stones and white lime mortar. It survived to a height of 0.3m and formed a right angle. It measured 4m north to south by 2.1m east to west with a corner formed in the southwest. It was abutted by **F150** and **F148**.

F148 was the remains of a possible garden wall which abutted the southwest corner of F147. It consisted of a mortared wall of medium-sized angular to sub-angular stones and occasional larger sub-rounded stones; it survived to a height of 0.35m and measured 14.7m east to west by 0.2m north to south. It lay in a U-shaped cut (**F210**). It joined **F149** at the west and was abutted to the north by **F154**.

F223 was a stone drain with straight sides and a concave base. It was filled with three courses of large stones lying in a yellowish-brown silty clay containing frequent small stones (F149). It measured 3.2m north to south by 0.4m east to west and was 0.4m deep. It joined a covered drain at its west end (**F152**).

F150 represented a section of robbed out wall. Combined with F147 it forms three sides of a possible small room. F150 was 0.5m wide and consisted of dark-brown sandy clay with inclusions of mortar and small stones. It forms a right angle 2.1m east to west by 4m east to west.

F220 was a north to south orientated field drain. It consisted of dark-brown silty sand and small to large sub-angular stones (**F151**). It measures 0.3m north to south by 7.7m north to south and was 0.13m deep.

F152 was a stone-built covered field drain or culvert. It consisted of a U-shaped cut (**F153**) lined with large stones and covered with larger flat stones. It was 0.5m wide by 0.25m deep and was exposed for a length of 3.5m. It was orientated east to west and emerged from below F149.

F154 consisted of a deposit of large and small angular and rounded stones in a matrix of friable grey/brown silty clay with occasional inclusions of natural boulder clay adjacent to F148 (on its north side). It extended along the 14.7m length of F148 and was 1.5m wide at its maximum and 0.3m deep.

F155 was the surface of the possible room defined by F147 and F150. It consisted of friable orangey-brown sandy silt and 20% medium-sized stones with moderate inclusions of small stones. It measured 2.5m east to west by 3.8m north to south and was 0.3m thick. Below F155 was **F221** which consisted of a compact mixture of grey sandy clay and gravel with a maximum thickness of 0.09m. Below F221 was **F222** which consisted of yellowish-brown sandy silt moderate inclusions of small stones and a maximum thickness of 0.14m. These three layers (F155, F221 and F222) were contained within **F226**. F226 was a subrectangular area defined by F147 and F150 measuring 2.5m east to west by 3.8m north to south by 0.33m deep. The sides of F226 were steep and its base was smooth and flat.

F156 was an irregularly-shaped deposit of burnt material abutting the middle of the east wall of the possible room defined by F147 and F150. It consisted of charcoal and oxidised clay and measured 1.5m east to west by 1.55m north to south and was approximately 0.04m thick. It was above F155.

F158 was a large irregular pit measuring 10m north to south by approximately 19m east to west and had a maximum depth of 0.52m. The sides of the pit were long and gently sloped. The south edge abutted the foundation of F148; the break of slope at the top and the base was imperceptible. The base of the pit was very irregular. F158 had two fills: **F159** and **F157**. F159 was the secondary fill and consisted of 40% topsoil and 60% cobbles (<0.15m diameter) and had a maximum thickness of 0.5m. It contained four large squared-off stones of approximately 0.4m diameter. F157 was the primary fill and consisted of a fine layer of a mixture of gravel and mortar. It measured approximately 18m east to west by 4.7m north to south and was only 0.02m deep. This layer was not continuous and was quite patchy on the base of F158.

F160 was an oval deposit of friable yellowish-brown sandy silt containing occasional inclusions of small stones. It measured 1m east to west by 0.65m north to south and was 0.09m thick. It lay above another deposit, **F162**.

F161 was a compacted gravel surface laid directly onto the natural boulder clay; the gravel consisted of stones between 0.005 and 0.03m in diameter. F161 measured 9.7m east to west by 5m north to south and was approximately 0.04m deep.

F162 was an oval deposit of soft orangey-yellow sandy clay below F160 and above F154. It measured 1m east to west by 0.7m north to south and was approximately 0.05m deep.

F163 was an oval pit with vertical sides, a sharp break of slope at the top and the base and a flat base. It measured 0.14m wide by 0.27m long and was approximately 0.12m deep. It was filled with friable yellowish-brown sandy silt with inclusions of charcoal, small stones and oxidised clay (**F166**). It abuts **F167**.

F164 was a compacted gravel surface laid directly onto the natural boulder clay; the gravel consisted of stones between 0.005 and 0.03m in diameter. F164 measured 2m east to west by 1.7m north to south and had a maximum depth of 0.08m.

F165 was a compacted gravel surface laid directly onto the natural boulder clay; the gravel consisted of stones between 0.005 and 0.08m in diameter. F165 measured 3.5m east to west by 1.4m north to south and was approximately 0.02m deep.

F167 was a rubble wall consisting of three large stones (one squared) at the south end and a number of smaller stones lying across the base of a north to south orientated hollow. This feature also contained a large piece of highly concreted mortar. It measured 2.1m north to south by 0.5m east to west (maximum). The depression in which it lay (**F168**) also contained some topsoil and was approximately 0.15m deep.

F169 was a short irregular arrangement of large stones (0.4 x 0.2m) resting on top of the natural boulder clay (F18). This feature measured 2.5m north to south by 0.5m east to west. F169 may be a continuation of **F170**.

F170 was a short linear arrangement of stones forming the base of a possible wall. It measured 3.24m north to south by 0.75m east to west and was 0.45m thick. It was composed of three courses of large stones mortared together and sitting in a cut, **F212**. F212 consisted of a linear cut orientated from north to south. It measured approximately 3.3m north to south by 1.1m east to west and was 0.45m deep; the cut was U-shaped.

F171 was a curvilinear arrangement of stones approximately 4.5m to the south of **F172**. It consisted of medium to large stones and compact orange brown sandy clay. F171 ran from north to south for 2.2m and then turned and ran east to west for 1.9m. It was on average 0.2m wide and was contained within **F225**. F225 was an irregular L-shaped feature approximately 0.06m deep

that contained F171. Both the sides and the base were very irregular; it was hard to discern a definite cut.

F172 was a linear deposit of stones lying in a natural depression with F161 to either side. It consisted of large stones, loose blackish-brown silty sand, mortar and small stones. F172 measured 0.5m east to west by 1.8m north to south and had a maximum depth of 0.15m.

F209 was a small drainage channel at the southwestern exterior corner of the possible room defined by F147 and F150. It was filled with stones (0.2–0.3m in diameter) (**F199**). The drain had a U-shaped cut; it measured 0.5m east to west by 0.45m north to south and was 0.2m deep. The east end of this drain runs under F147.

F208 was a drain below the floor layers (F155, F221 and F222) of the possible room formed by F147 and F150. It was orientated from east to west and was located in the southwest interior corner of the possible room defined by F147 and F150. It had a U-shaped cut measuring 0.41m north to south by 0.55m east to west and was 0.21m deep; it was lined with stone (0.2–0.3m in diameter) and flat stones had been placed on top to form a covered drain (**F207**). This may be a continuation of F209.

F224 was a subrectangular cut, orientated east to west, in the floor of the room defined by F147 and F150 and it abutted the north end of F150 to the west. It was filled with loose light yellowish-brown sandy silt mixed with gravel (**F211**). F211 measured 1.75m east to west by 0.45m north to south and was 0.1m deep.

F228 was a posthole adjacent to F147. It was filled with friable orange-brown sandy silt containing occasional inclusions of small stones (**F229**). F228 had steep sides that dropped to a flat base; it measured 0.21m north to south by 0.12m east to west and was 0.11m deep.

F206 was a subcircular possible posthole with vertical sides and a concave base. It measured approximately 0.18m in diameter and was approximately 0.22m deep. It was filled with soft dark-brown silty clay with no inclusions (F204).

Deposits

F76 was a deposit of hard and brittle greyish-white clay containing occasional inclusions of small stones (<0.02m diameter) and a 0.02m thick lens of charcoal flecks. The deposit was oval with its long axis running northeast to southwest; it was 0.16m deep and lay in a shallow natural depression.

F22 was an irregular deposit of oxidised clay. It consisted of bright reddish-orange oxidised natural boulder clay with occasional inclusions of medium-sized subangular stones and flecks of

charcoal on the surface. It measured 0.6m north to south by 0.35m east to west by 0.07m at its maximum depth.

F49 was a deposit of loose mid-brown sandy clay containing occasional inclusions of small stones (2–20mm) and flecks of charcoal. It measured 0.56m north to south by 0.57m east to west and was 0.05m thick.

F56 was a subcircular deposit of friable greyish-brown sandy silt with practically no inclusions. The few inclusions that were present included very occasional tiny stones (2mm in size) and occasional small stones of (10–20mm). The deposit measured 0.45m in diameter and had a maximum thickness of 0.02m.

F46 was an irregular deposit of moderately-compact mid- to dark-brown sandy clay with moderate inclusions of charcoal and occasional inclusions of small stones. It measured 0.09m thick by 0.36m north to south by 0.4m east to west.

F93 was an irregular patch of oxidised clay consisting of yellowish-brown sandy clay and pinkish-orange medium-fine sand with isolated flecks of charcoal and occasional inclusions of small stones. It measured 0.93m north to south by 0.63m east to west and the clay had been oxidised to a depth of 0.13m.

F95 was an irregular deposit of oxidised friable silty clay including occasional small stones (1–150mm); it measured 0.95m north to south by 0.64m east to west and was oxidised to a depth of 0.047m.

F32 was a deposit of friable orange-red oxidised clay with frequent inclusions of small stones and flecks of charcoal. The feature measured 1.44m north to south by 0.76m east to west and was oxidised to a depth of 0.12m.

F245 was an oval deposit of charcoal-rich oxidised clay. It measured 0.44m north to south by 0.19m east to west and was approximately 0.01m thick.

F246 was an oval deposit of blackish-brown sandy clay with occasional inclusions of stones (c.0.01m diameter). It measured 0.62m north to south by 0.29m east to west and was 0.06m thick.

Field Drains

F5 was a field drain filled with stones and soft medium greyish-brown loam; it was 0.31m wide and was orientated from north to south.

F6 was a field drain filled with 50% stone and 50% loose mid-brown silty clay and was approximately 0.3m wide; it was orientated from north to south and ran into F77.

F8 was a narrow east to west orientated modern field drain. It had straight sides, was 0.18m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.22m as an orange plastic pipe was discerned at that depth. It was filled with soft mid-brown silty clay.

F15 was a field drain filled with light yellowish-brown clayey sand and medium-sized stones; it approximately 0.31m wide and was orientated from north to south.

F57 was a modern field drain; it had straight sides and a rounded base and was approximately 0.4m wide by 0.22m deep. It was filled with mid-brown loam mixed with 70% sub-rounded to subangular stones (F98) and was orientated from north to south.

F90 was a field drain orientated from east to west; it was 0.25m wide and 0.15m deep. The cut of the drain was U-shaped in profile with a sharp break of slope at the top and smooth vertical sides. There was gradual break of slope to the concave base. It was filled with a mixture of medium-sized stones (100–150mm) (50%); redeposited natural (15%) and grey-brown silt (35%).

F244 was a field drain cut into the ditch fill F16 and orientated north to south. It was filled with subangular stones (0.1m diameter) and mid-brown silty clay (F243). F244 measured 3.7m north to south by 0.4m east to west and was 0.44m deep.

Cultivation Furrows

F9, F12, F13, F14, F27, F28, F38, F39, F40, F47, F51, F52, F53, F54, F59, F60, F70, F99, F238, F239, F240, F241 and F242 were all north to south orientated cultivation furrows and **F19** and **F71** were east to west aligned cultivation furrows.

F9 consisted of hard to medium orangey-grey sandy clay containing frequent inclusions of pebbles; it was 0.06m thick by 0.35m wide. **F12** consisted of medium speckled orange-brown sandy clay with occasional inclusions of very small stones; it was 0.06m deep and 0.28m wide.

F13 and **F14** were composed of a medium mid-brown clayey sand with moderate inclusions of small stones. They were 0.26m wide and approximately 0.08m deep. **F19** consisted of loose mid-brown sandy clay with occasional inclusions of small stones. It was 0.35m wide by 0.11m deep.

F27 and **F28** were friable greyish-brown sandy silt with some orange staining especially in the latter. Both were 0.3m wide by 0.08m deep. **F38, F39** and **F40** were all filled with loose mid-brown sandy clay containing inclusions of small stones. All three were 0.35m wide and were 0.11m, 0.12m and 0.13m deep respectively. **F47** consisted friable reddish-brown silty clay with occasional inclusions of very small pebbles (1–4mm). It was 0.38m wide and 0.04m deep.

F51 was friable orangey brown sandy silt with the inclusion of one large white boulder at its southern end and very small pebbles throughout. **F52** and **F53** were friable orangey-brown sandy silt with no inclusions. F52 was 0.8m long, 0.16m wide and 0.04m deep while F53 was 1.3m long

and 0.2m wide. **F54** was friable orangey-brown silty clay, 1.72m long, 0.4m wide and 0.06m deep. It had frequent inclusions of small stones (5–70mm). **F59** and **F60** were friable orangey-brown silty clay. **F59** was 2.0m long, 0.21m wide and 0.04m deep with no inclusions present while **F60** was 3.28m long, 0.18m wide and 0.03m deep; it also contained moderate inclusions of small stones of 0.01m to 0.03m.

F70 was composed of disturbed natural. It was 0.53m in width and 0.23m deep. **F71** was composed of disturbed natural and was 0.3m wide and 0.04m deep. **F238**, **F239**, **F240**, **F241** and **F242** consisted of disturbed natural. **F238** was 0.52m wide and 0.17m deep. **F239** was 0.32m wide and 0.12m deep. **F240** was 0.4m wide and 0.16m deep. **F241** was 0.22m wide by 0.12m deep and **F242** was 0.37m wide and 0.18m deep.

Tree Boles, Root Systems and Other Non-Archaeological Features

F24 was a tree root system with friable orange-brown sandy clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal flecks. It also had an interface of light-brown silty clay, also with occasional flecks of charcoal. This feature was of no archaeological significance. **F25** was another tree bole composed of mid-brown loamy clay containing occasional small subangular stones, frequent roots and two pieces of rusted barbed wire (02:E0866: 25:1). It was not fully excavated as it proved to be of no archaeological significance.

F126 was a subcircular feature measuring 0.98m east to west by 0.82m north to south by 0.17m deep. It contained loose mid-brownish black clayey sand with 45% inclusions of angular and subangular small cobbles and stones in an advanced state of decay. **F126** appeared to be a non-archaeological decayed stone socket as the surrounding soil was stained by leaching. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

Another tree-bole was recorded as **F36**; it had dimensions of 1.5m north–south by 1.48m east–west. The fill of **F36** was loose brown organic loam. The channels were very uneven with root channels running off in various directions. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

F43 was a spread of soft mid-brown silty sand. It was 2.2m east–west by 0.49m north–south by 0.21m deep. It had frequent inclusions of decaying root, indicating it was most probably a root system. Immediately below **F43** was a thin layer of firm light yellowish-brown silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal. It was 0.78m north–south by 0.38m east–west by 0.04m deep. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

F44 was soft mid-brown silty sand. It had an inclusion, **F79**, of firm light yellowish-brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of charcoal flecks which was in a small cluster to the southwest. **F44** was 1.45m east–west and 0.92m north–south and a depth of 0.14m. It is likely that **F44** is

associated with F43 as they are adjacent to each other. Lying under F44 was soft dark-brown silty sand. Its dimensions were 1.15m east–west by 0.76m north–south by 0.1m deep. **F55** was recorded to have been a root channel. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

F29 was an alignment of large stones (200–350mm) placed in a double row and with a sharp 90-degree bend towards the east at the northern end. The stones were lying on **F94**, the natural subsoil. There was no evidence of a cut for a foundation trench. Its dimensions were 1.9m north–south along its axis and 0.3–0.35m wide. There was a scatter of similar stones to the north and east which may have been demolition rubble. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

F94 was a subsoil consisting of brownish-orange clayey silt with practically no inclusions. It was 0.3–0.4m deep, 15m north–south and 5m east–west. This feature was of no archaeological significance. **F31** was a scatter of large stones (10m–20mm) in an east–west alignment. The stones lay on the surface of F94. There was no evidence for a cut. This was not a wall so may have been demolition rubble. The stones extended 2.2m wide east to west and formed a band 0.5m wide. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

F33 was a stone socket. This feature was of no archaeological significance. **F62** was a modern rubbish dump with a width of 4m and a depth of 1.6m. This feature was of no archaeological significance. **F36** consisted of loose brown organic loam containing frequent inclusions of roots and occasional inclusions of small stones. This feature had a very uneven cut with root channels running off from it. It measured 1.5m north to south by 1.48m east to west and was of no archaeological significance.

F50 consisted of soft orange-brown sandy silt containing occasional inclusions of small stones. It measured 1.6m east to west by 0.67m north to south and had a maximum depth of 0.27m. It was contained within a very uneven cut containing frequent root holes. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

F100 consisted of mid-brown organic loam contained within an irregular cut with frequent root holes in it. This feature was of no archaeological significance.

F219 was an oval uneven bowl shaped feature. It measured 1.5m north to south by 0.32m east to west. It was filled with moderately-compact dark-brownish/black clayey sand (F218) below moderately-compact mid-brown clayey sand containing frequent inclusions of small stones (F146). F219 had frequent root holes in its base running off into the natural boulder clay (F18). This feature was of no archaeological significance.

3.4 List of Contexts

F1	Fill of hedge boundary northeast by southwest F91
F2	Fill of east–west ditch/hedge boundary F10
F3	Fill of north–south ditch
F4	Fill of pit F34
F5	Field drain
F6	Field drain
F7	Fill of sump F77
F8	Field drain
F9	Cultivation furrow
F10	Ditch filled by F2
F11	Fill of east–west ditch F87
F12	Cultivation furrow
F13	Cultivation furrow
F14	Cultivation furrow
F15	Field drain
F16	Fill of north–south ditch F45
F17	Sod and Topsoil
F18	Natural Boulder clay
F19	Cultivation furrow
F20	Fill of F92 cut by F75
F21	Mid-brown fill of possible pit
F22	Subcircular area of oxidised clay
F23	Secondary fill of F65
F24	Tree bole
F25	Tree bole
F26	Fill of ditch F86
F27	Cultivation furrow
F28	Cultivation furrow
F29	Linear alignment of stones; no archaeological significance
F30	Fill of pit F178
F31	Linear alignment of stone NE–SW; no archaeological significance
F32	Possible hearth
F33	Stone socket
F34	Pit filled by F4
F35	Primary fill of F34

F36	Tree bole
F37	Cultivation furrow
F38	Cultivation furrow
F39	Cultivation furrow
F40	Cultivation furrow
F41	West to east ditch
F42	Fill of F213
F43	Tree bole
F44	Tree bole
F45	North–south ditch filled with F16
F46	Deposit of mid–dark-brown sandy clay with charcoal
F47	Cultivation furrow
F48	Unused feature number
F49	Mid-brown sandy deposit
F50	Deposit of mid–light-brown loam
F51	Cultivation furrow
F52	Cultivation furrow
F53	Cultivation furrow
F54	Cultivation furrow
F55	Root channel
F56	Deposit
F57	Cut of field drain filled by F98
F58	Cut of north–south ditch filled with F102
F59	Cultivation furrow
F60	Cultivation furrow
F61	Ditch filled with F101
F62	Ditch filled with F2
F63	Cultivation furrow
F64	Primary fill of pit F65
F65	Pit filled by F23 and F64
F66	Deposit under F43 tree bole
F67	Deposit under F44 tree bole
F68	Unused feature number
F69	Unused feature number
F70	Cultivation furrow
F71	Cultivation furrow

F72	The same as F76
F73	Unused feature number
F74	Unused feature number
F75	Cultivation furrow
F76	Pit
F77	Cut of pit filled by F7 and F84
F78	Cultivation furrow
F79	Inclusion in F44 tree bole
F80	Secondary fill of pit F88
F81	Unused feature number
F82	Primary fill of F88
F83	Ditch cut filled by F3
F84	Primary fill of F77
F86	Ditch cut filled by F26
F87	Ditch cut filled by F11
F88	Pit filled by F80 and F82
F89	Cultivation furrow
F90	Field drain
F91	Ditch cut filled by F1
F92	Cut filled by F20, duplicate of F131
F93	Oxidised clay
F94	Orange subsoil
F95	Oxidised clay
F96	Collection of small stakeholes in base of F138
F97	Cut filled by F236 and F237
F98	Field drain
F99	Field drain
F100	Tree bole
F101	Possible ditch fill of F61
F102	Fill of F58
F103	Fill of F233
F104	Fill of F230
F105	Fill of F133
F106	Fill of F134
F107	Cultivation furrow
F108	Cultivation furrow

F109	Cultivation furrow cuts F110
F110	Secondary fill of pit F133
F111	Fill of pit F138
F112	Cultivation furrow
F113	Fill of F124
F114	Same as F138
F115	Primary fill of F138
F116	Cultivation furrow
F117	Cultivation furrow
F118	Cultivation furrow
F119	Cultivation furrow
F120	Cultivation furrow
F121	Cultivation furrow
F122	Fill of F196
F123	Deposit
F124	Small pit
F125	Deposit
F126	Decayed stone
F127	Fill of F180
F128	Deposit
F129	Deposit
F130	Deposit
F131	Pit
F132	Possible trough
F133	Linear feature
F134	Small pit
F135	Fill of F140, F141, F142, F143
F136	Same as 123
F137	Unused feature number
F138	Possible trough
F139	Primary fill of F132
F140	Stakehole in base of F138
F141	Stakehole in base of F138
F142	Stakehole in base of F138
F143	Stakehole in base of F138
F144	Unused feature number

F145	Deposit
F146	Secondary fill of F219 tree bole
F147	House wall
F148	Garden Wall
F149	Un-mortared garden wall
F150	Robber trench for house wall
F151	Field drain
F152	Covered drain
F153	Cut of covered drain
F154	Demolition rubble from F148
F155	Floor of room, top layer
F156	Burnt spread in room
F157	Mortar ditch layer in bottom of pit F158
F158	Pit filled with F158
F159	Fill of F158
F160	Field drain
F161	Deposit of gravel
F162	Deposit of gravel
F163	Deposit of gravel
F164	Deposit of gravel
F165	Deposit of gravel
F166	Fill of F163
F167	Small rubble wall
F168	Natural depression
F169	Line of large stones; possible wall
F170	Small mortared wall
F171	Curvilinear arrangement of stones
F172	Line of stones
F173	Deposit
F174	Fill of F181
F175	Same as F126
F176	Same as F139
F177	Cut of F108, cultivation furrow
F178	Pit filled by F30
F179	Same as F129
F180	Pit

F181	Pit
F182	Fill of F188
F183	Fill of F189
F184	Fill of F190
F185	Fill of F191
F186	Fill of F192
F187	Fill of F193
F188	Stakehole in F132
F189	Stakehole in F132
F190	Stakehole in F132
F191	Stakehole in F132
F192	Stakehole in F132
F193	Stakehole in F132
F194	Fill of F195
F195	Two stakeholes
F196	Pit
F197	Fill of F198
F198	Stakehole
F199	Drain
F200	Unused feature number
F201	Unused feature number
F202	Cut of F203
F203	Fill of F202
F204	Fill of F206
F205	Unused feature number
F206	Possible posthole
F207	Drain under F155
F208	Cut of F207
F209	Cut of F199
F210	Cut of F148
F211	Small trench east to west
F212	Cut of F170
F213	Cut filled by F41 and F214
F214	Primary fill of F213
F215	Fill of F48
F216	Fill of F48

F217	Fill of F48
F218	Primary fill of F219
F219	Tree bole filled by F146 and F218
F220	Cut of F151
F221	Floor of room middle layer
F222	Floor of room lower layer
F223	Cut of F149
F224	Cut of F211
F225	Cut of F171
F226	Cut of floor F155, F221, F222
F227	Drainage feature
F228	Posthole
F229	Fill of F228
F230	Cut of F104
F231	Small wall
F232	Cut of F231
F233	Cut of F103
F234	Pit
F235	Fill of F234
F236	Secondary fill of F97
F237	Primary fill of F97
F238	Cultivation furrow
F239	Cultivation furrow
F240	Cultivation furrow
F241	Cultivation furrow
F242	Cultivation furrow
F243	Field drain fill in F16
F244	Cut of F243
F245	Deposit of oxidised clay
F246	Deposit

3.5 List of Finds

02E0866: 1:1	Clay ball
02E0866: 1:2	Assorted twentieth and nineteenth-century pottery
02E0866: 1:3	Two iron nails
02E0866: 1:4	Iron horseshoe
02E0866: 1:5	Four fragments of clay pipe
02E0866: 1:6	Eleven fragments of modern pottery
02E0866: 2:1	Two pieces modern pottery
02E0866: 2:2	Piece of green glass
02E0866: 2:3	Possible tile, two pieces
02E0866: 2:4	Twenty-five fragments of iron
02E0866: 3:1	Three pieces post-medieval pottery
02E0866: 4:1	Slag
02E0866: 16:1	Six pieces of modern pottery
02E0866: 16:2	Glass fragment
02E0866: 16:3	Iron fragment
02E0866: 17:1	Possible flint scraper
02E0866: 17:2	Assorted post-medieval and modern pottery
02E0866: 17:3	Fragments of clay pipe stem
02E0866: 17:4	Assorted metal
02E0866: 17:5	Assorted glass fragments
02E0866: 17:6	Clay ball
02E0866: 17:7	Clay ball
02E0866: 17:8	Three pieces of metal
02E0866: 17:9	Fragment of modern pottery
02E0866: 17:10	Twenty-nine fragments of assorted modern pottery
02E0866: 17:11	Metal fragments
02E0866: 17:12	Four modern pottery fragments
02E0866: 17:13	Metal buttons
02E0866: 17:14	Modern pottery
02E0866: 17:15	Two pieces of slag
02E0866: 25:1	Two pieces of barbed wire
02E0866: 31:1	Two pieces of clay pipe bowl
02E0866: 31:2	Two pieces of metal
02E0866: 31:3	Piece of green glass
02E0866: 31:4	Two pieces modern pottery

02E0866: 32:1	Clay pipe stem
02E0866: 40:1	Piece of blue and white ceramic
02E0866: 41:1	Clay pipe fragment
02E0866: 41:2	Modern ceramic
02E0866: 41:3	Two metal fragments
02E0866: 41:4	Four fragments of clay pipe
02E0866: 41:5	Modern ceramic
02E0866: 41:6	Two fragments of modern ceramic
02E0866: 41:7	Three ceramic fragments
02E0866: 41:8	Two fragments of modern pottery
02E0866: 46:1	Chert fragment
02E0866: 82:1	Worked chert
02E0866: 89:1	Piece of modern pottery
02E0866: 104:1	Metal fragment
02E0866: 104:2	Metal fragments
02E0866: 104:3	Modern pottery fragments
02E0866: 108:1	Clay pipe fragment
02E0866: 108:2	Metal fragment
02E0866: 109:1	Piece of metal
02E0866: 109:2	Clay pipe fragment
02E0866: 156: 1	Clay pipe fragment
02E0866: 159:1	Twenty-four fragments of metal
02E0866: 159:2	Assorted fragments of modern pottery
02E0866: 159:3	Assorted fragments of modern pottery
02E0866: 159:4	Four fragments of clay pipe
02E0866: 159:5	Fragment of metal
02E0866: 203:1	Flint flake
02E0866: 203:2	Flint flake

4. CONCLUSION

At Rossan 1, the only area of the site that yielded significant archaeological remains was an area that had not been tested at all. This area consisted of a series of charcoal-rich deposits, pits and two possible troughs that had been heavily disturbed by agricultural activity. Although the troughs are consistent with those associated with a burnt mound or *fulacht fiadh*, the complete lack of burnt stone from the site precludes this identification.

The two possible troughs were subrectangular in shape and had postholes/stakeholes in their bases, giving the appearance that they had once been wood-lined or possibly that they supported some sort of superstructure. Given that neither showed a propensity to naturally fill with water, it may be that they supported drying racks rather than being boiling pits. However, it is possible that the intense drainage of the land around the area in modern times may have lowered the natural water table in this part of the field.

The almost complete lack of finds or animal bone makes it difficult to draw any firm conclusions about this site. The only finds from this area of the site were very small amounts of burnt bone (including one with a butchery mark, Appendix 3), two struck flints and one piece of worked chert. Such finds are not diagnostic of any specific use for the site. The large amounts of charcoal-rich soil combined with the lack of any definite hearth and no burnt stone is perplexing, as is the fact that the possible troughs would be perfectly at home below a burnt mound. The site may relate to an industrial activity that required burning but not the heating of stones. Dates received for charcoal samples through Radiocarbon Dating provided a Bronze Age date range for the two possible troughs (Cal BC 1290-83- and Cal BC 1100-790) and this could be considered a fairly typical date for *fulachta fiadh*.

The area tested exposed many potential archaeological features but through excavation the majority were found to be modern in character. The features found in this area of Rossan 1 tie in with the structures, the laneway and the field boundaries marked on the 1836–37 Ordnance Survey map.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), formerly the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), of Dúchas The Heritage Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, 7 Ely Place Upper, Dublin 2.

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

Signed:

Eoin Corcoran, Archaeologist.

14th January 2004

M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway Scheme

Rossan 1 (02E0866)

The Animal Bones

By Catherine Boner

29 August 2003

1. Introduction

A small quantity of animal bone was submitted for osteological analysis following archaeological excavations of three sites situated along the route of the Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock motorway. The bones were retrieved entirely by hand.

2. Methodology

Where possible, bone fragments were identified to species and skeletal element using the Queen's University of Belfast comparative skeletal collection. Differentiation between sheep and goat could not be achieved and the remains of these species were categorized as sheep/goat.

Epiphyseal fusion data is based on Silver (1969). Measurements of complete bones elements were taken (Table 2), following the recommendations of von den Driesch (1976). Estimation of shoulder height for horse is based on Kiesewalter (von den Driesch & Boessneck 1974, 333).

3. Analysis

A summary of the results of analysis is presented in Table 1. Overall, the material was found to be quite well-preserved. Of the sixteen fragments examined from the entire road scheme eleven could be identified to species and skeletal element. Species include cattle (*Bos taurus*), horse (*Equus caballus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis Capra*), and cat (*Felis sylvestris catus*). The remains of bird and fish are absent from the samples.

3.1 Rossan 1 (02E0866)

Fragments of animal bone were retrieved from three contexts from Rossan 1 (F41, F104, and F159). Feature 41, the secondary fill of ditch F213, produced part of a right cat mandible. This specimen, which retained its two innermost teeth (M1 and P3), showed possible evidence of canine gnawing.

A metacarpal IV of horse (in two fragments) was retrieved from Feature 104 (the fill of ditch F230). There was no evidence for butchery on this bone.

A single sheep/goat tooth was recovered from Feature 159, the fill of pit F158.

Site	Feature No.	No. frag	Species	Anatomy	Details
Rossan 1 (02E0866)	41	1	Cat	Mandible	R, (M1,P4) gnawing
	104	1	Horse	Metacarpal IV	2 frags.
	159	1	S/G	Tooth	-
Rossan III (02E0920)	3	1	Cattle	Metatarsal	R, PF, flaking
	15	1	Cattle	Scapula	RF, CM
Towlaght 1 (02E1145)	121	3	Cattle	Scapula	1 RF
		2	Unid.	-	-
	126	2	Unid.	-	-
	143	1	S/G	Skull	-
		1	Unid.	-	-
	209	1	Horse	Radius	R, PF, DF, flaking
	216	1	Cattle	Tooth	Maxillary Molar

Key: LM=large mammal; MM=medium mammal; S/G=Sheep or goat; Unid.=unidentified; LB=longbone; L=left; R=right; P=proximal; D=distal; S=shaft; FU=fused; Un=unfused; CM=cut marks; B=burnt bone.

Table 1. M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway (excluding Johnstown 1). Summary of results of osteological analysis.

Site	Feature No.	Species	Anatomy	Measurement	mm	ESH (m)
Rossan 1 (02E0866)	41	Cat	Mandible	Length of carnassial alveolus (7)	7.0	-
Rossan III (02E0920)	3	Cattle	Scapula	GLP	65.9	-
				LG	56.7	-
Towlaght 1 (02E1145)	209	Horse	Radius	L1	319.6	138.7
				Bd	73.0	-
				BFd	62.0	-

Table 2. M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway (excluding Johnstown 1). Measurements of complete bone elements (after von den Driesch 1976), and estimated shoulder height for horse (after Kiesewalter in von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974, 333).

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Plate 1: F1 from south.

(01_80:Rossan 1:CP2:14)



Plate 2: Cultivation furrows and
field drain from southwest.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP2:26)



Plate 3: F11 and cultivation furrows from east-
southeast.

(01_80:Rossan 1:CP3:2)



Plate 4: F2 from west-southwest.

(01_80:Rossan 1:CP3:20)



Plate 5: F103 and F104 from east.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP4:8)



Plate 6: F16 from east.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP4:16)



Plate 7: General view of south eastern area of site, from east.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP4:25)

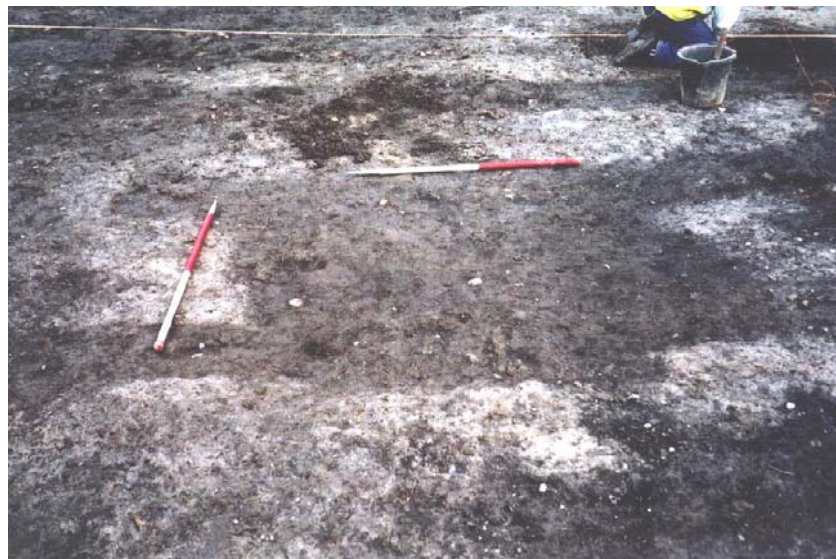


Plate 8: Pre-ex view of F110 from south.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP5:7)



Plate 9: F148 from east.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP6:11)



Plate 10: F148 from west.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP6:17)



Plate 11: F152 from west.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP6:26)



Plate 12: F207 covered drain from
northwest.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP9:18)



Plate 13: Remains of 1836-7 structure from northeast.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP9:12)



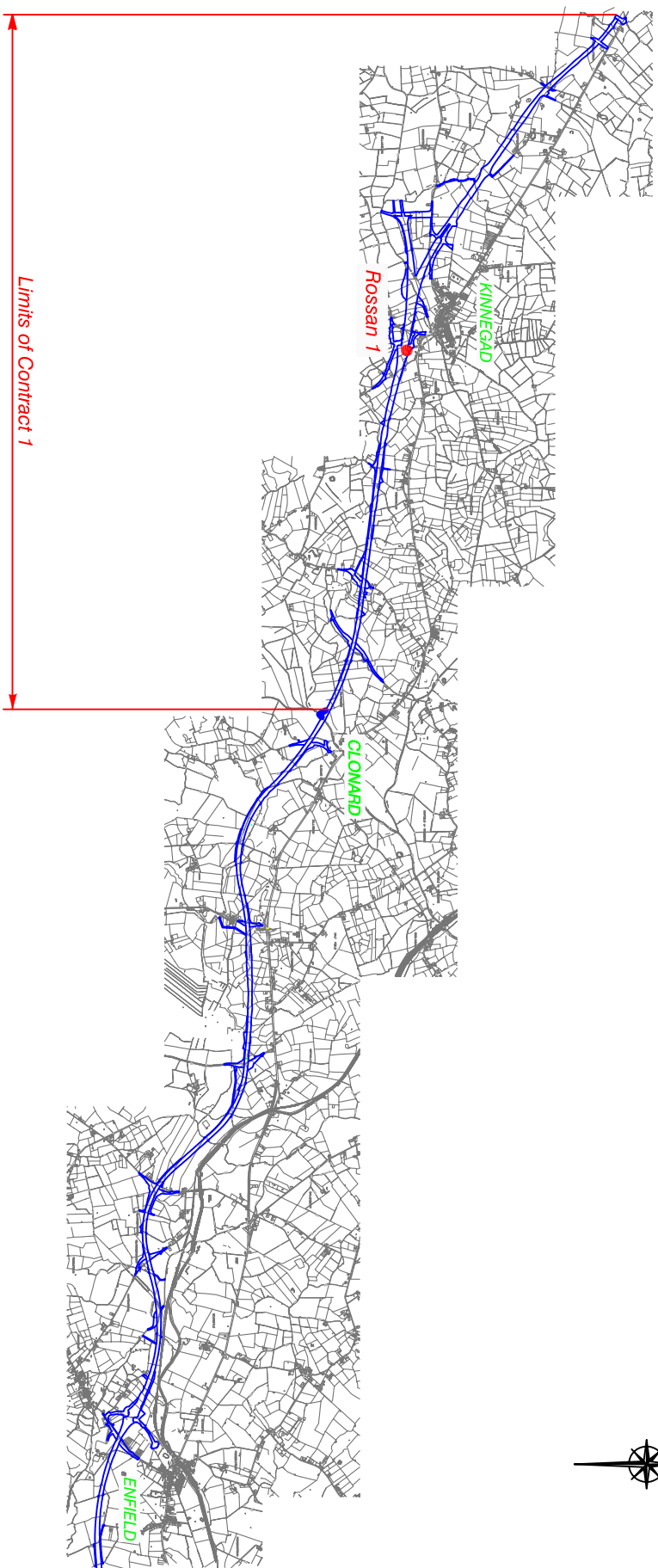
Plate 14: F132 from west, showing stakeholes.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP7:28)



Plate 15: Detail of F132 showing small stakeholes in base.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP7:8)



Plate 16: F138 from north.
(01_80:Rossan 1:CP8:20)

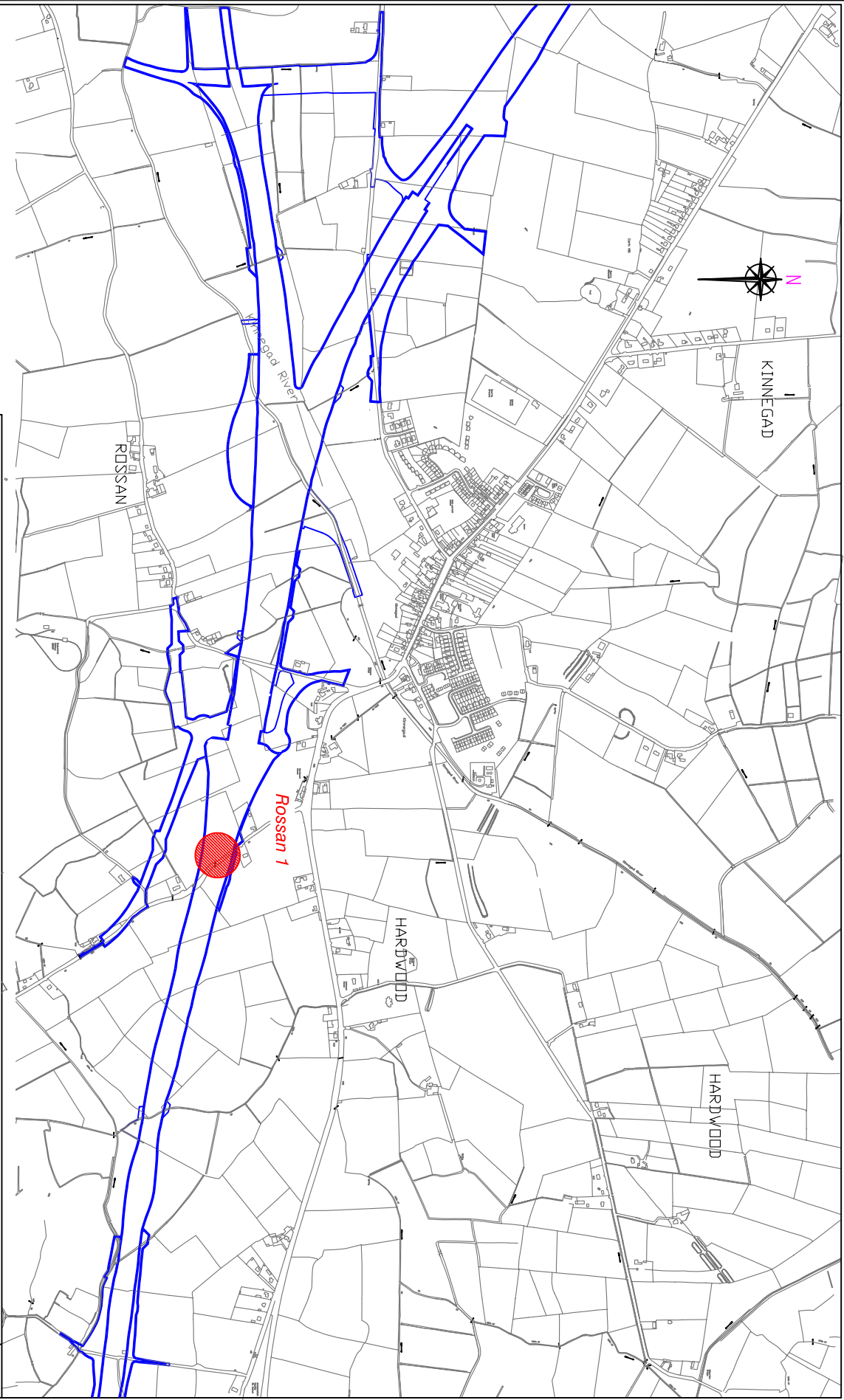


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Site Location:	Scale:	Drawn By:
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Client:	Date:	Drawing No.:
Westmeath County Council	09 Jan 03	01_80_C444

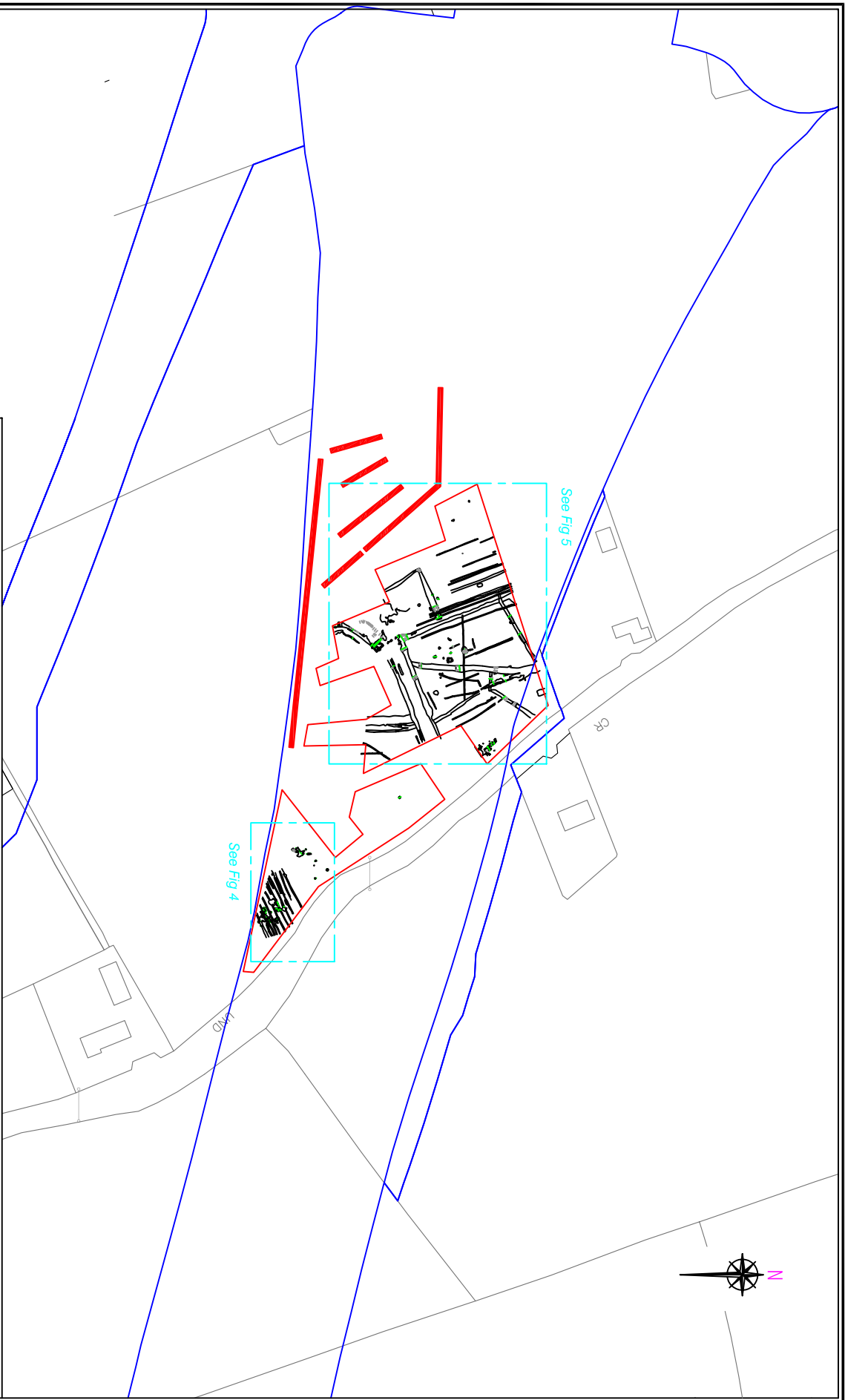
Figure 1: Location of Rossan 1



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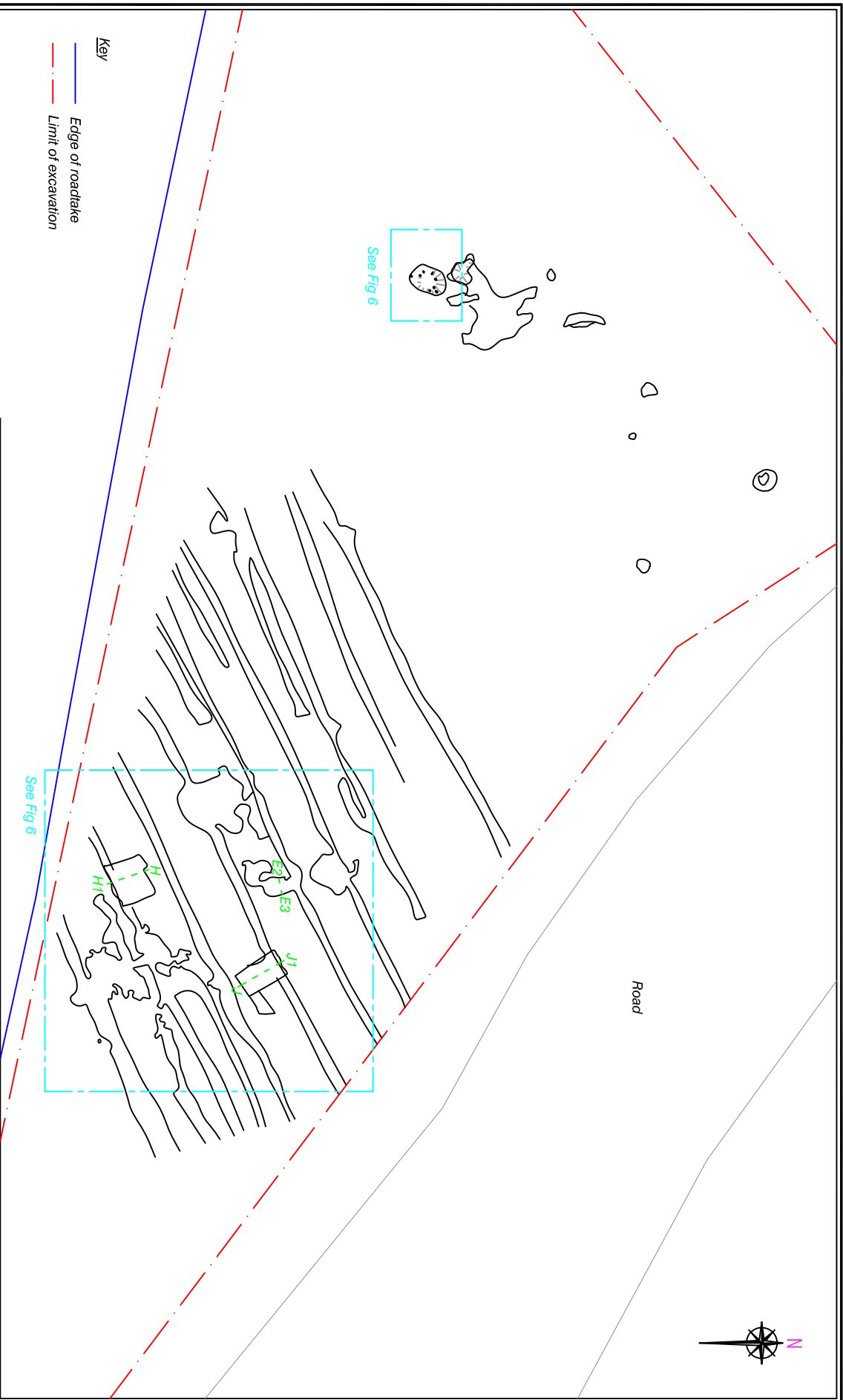
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Westmeath County Council	09 Jan 03	01_80_C445

Figure 2: Location of site within route



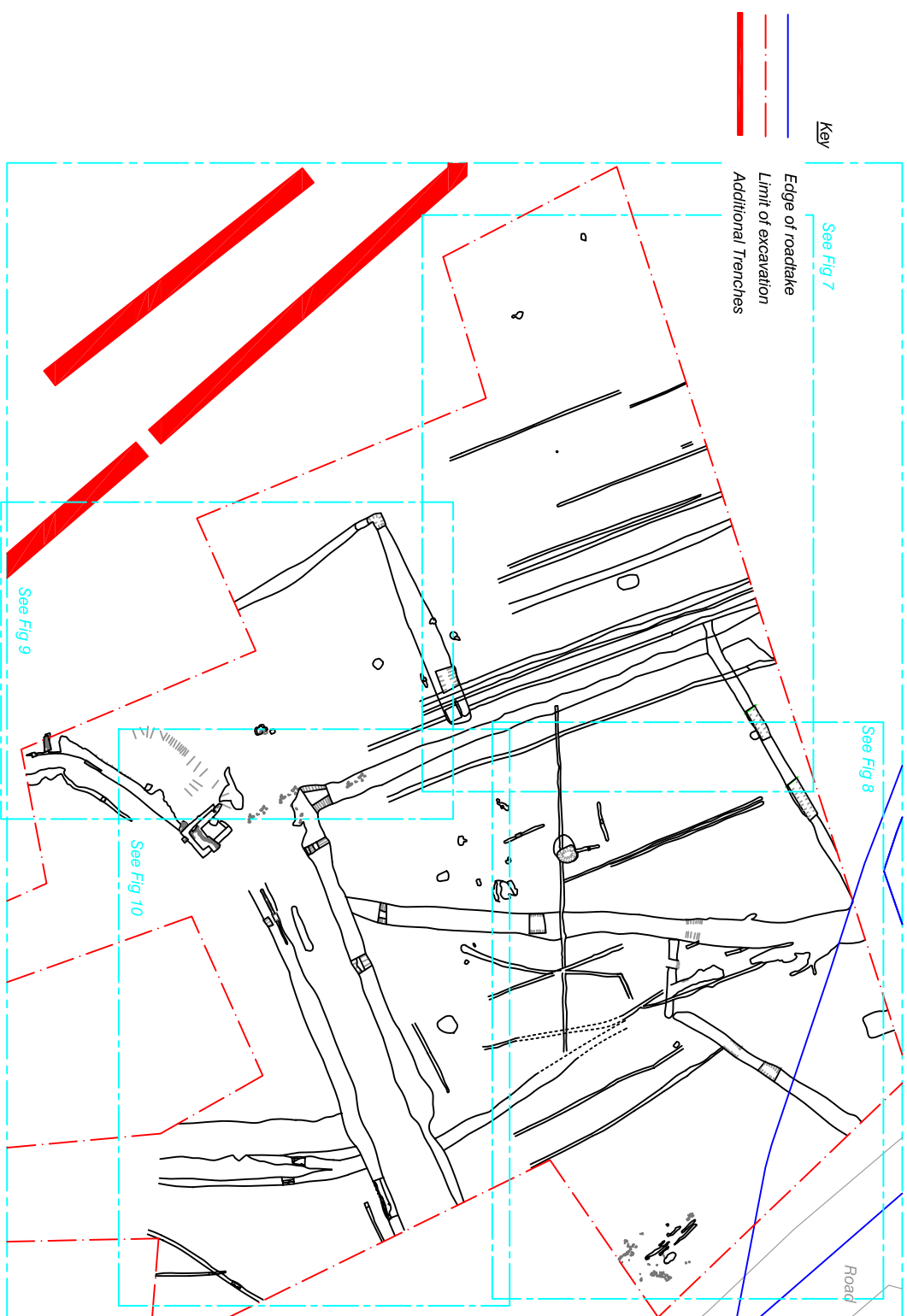
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Client:		West Meath County Council	Date:	Drawing No.:
			09 Jan 03	01_80_C446

Figure 3 : Rossan 1 - Area of Excavation



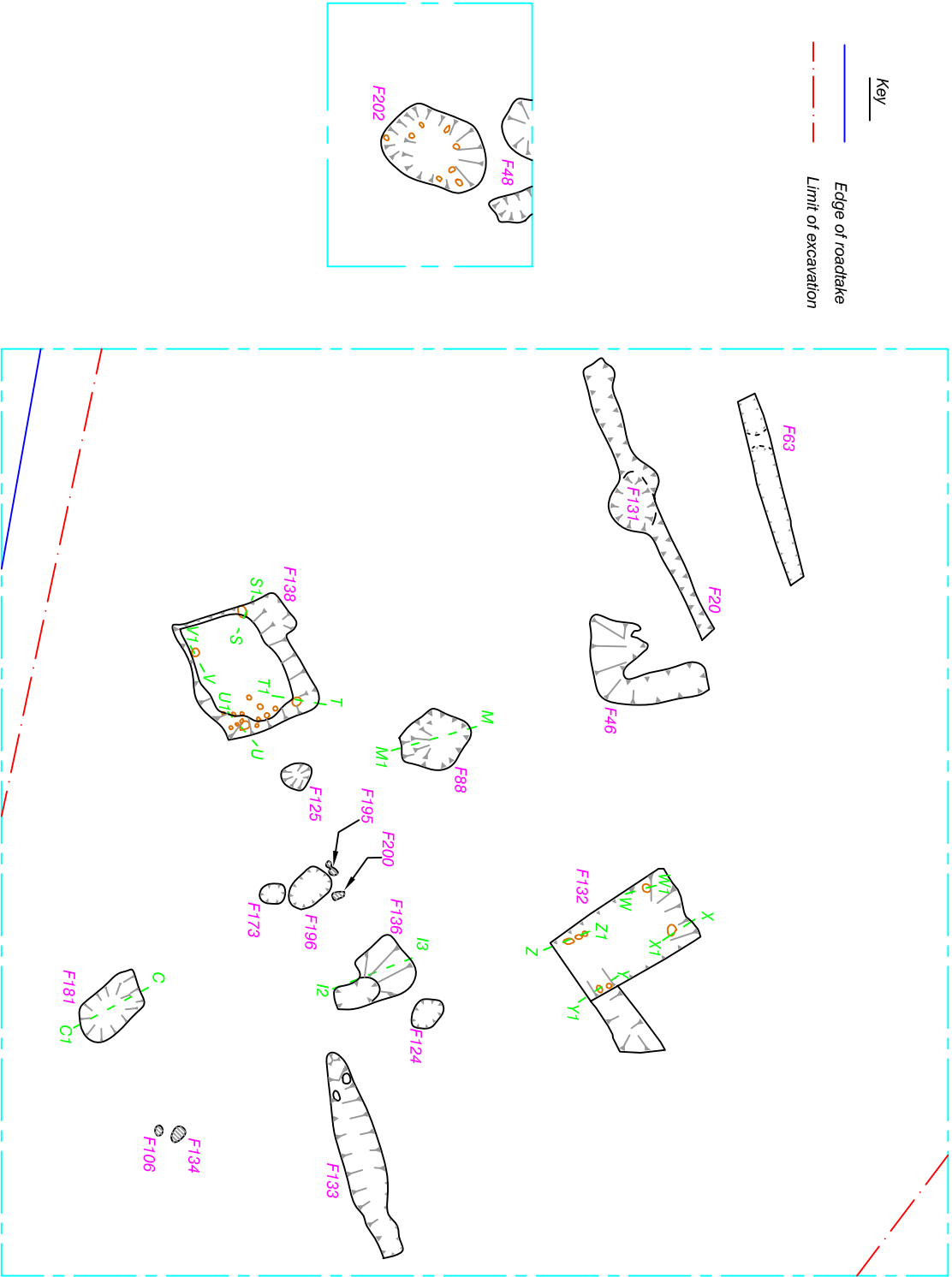
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		Scale:	1:250 A4
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		Drawing No.:	01_80_C447

Figure 4: Detail of south eastern section of Rossan 1



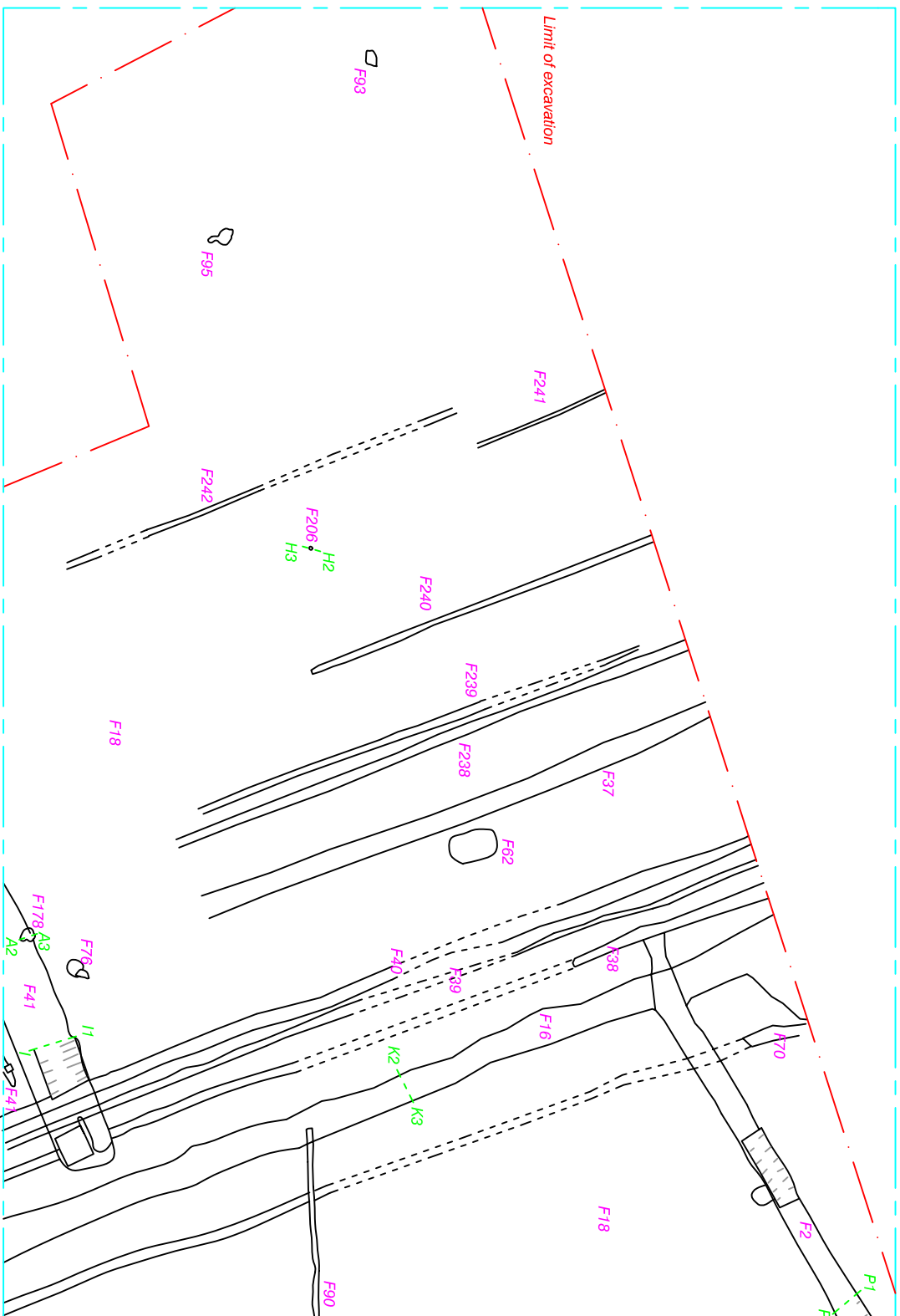
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		Client: Westmeath County Council	Date: 07 Nov '02	Drawing No.: 01_80_C448

Figure 5: Detail of north-western section of site



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Figure 6: Detail of site post excavation



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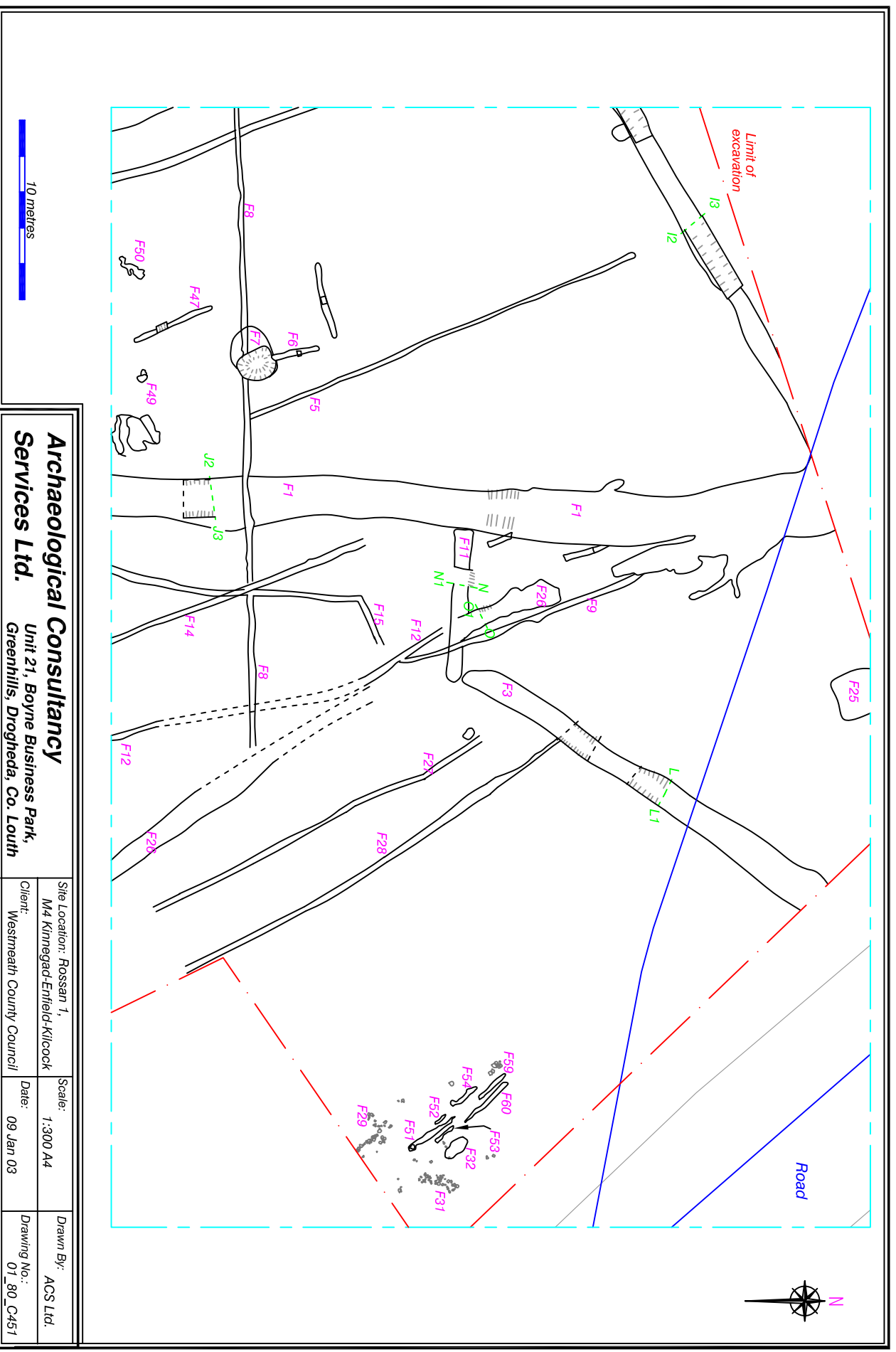
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Date: 09 Jan 03

Drawn By: ACS Ltd.

Drawing No.: 01_80_C450

Figure 7: Detail of north-western section of site.



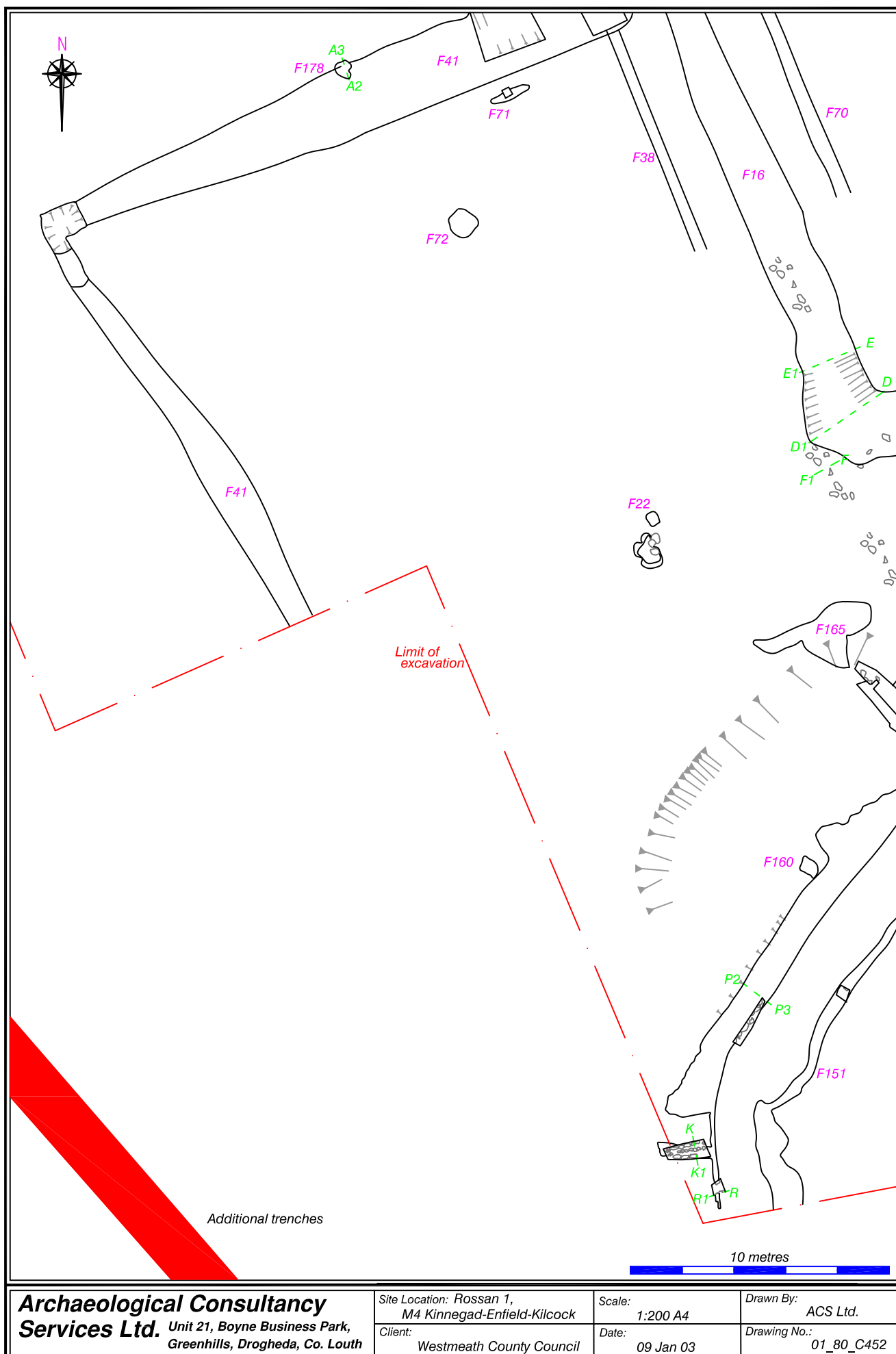
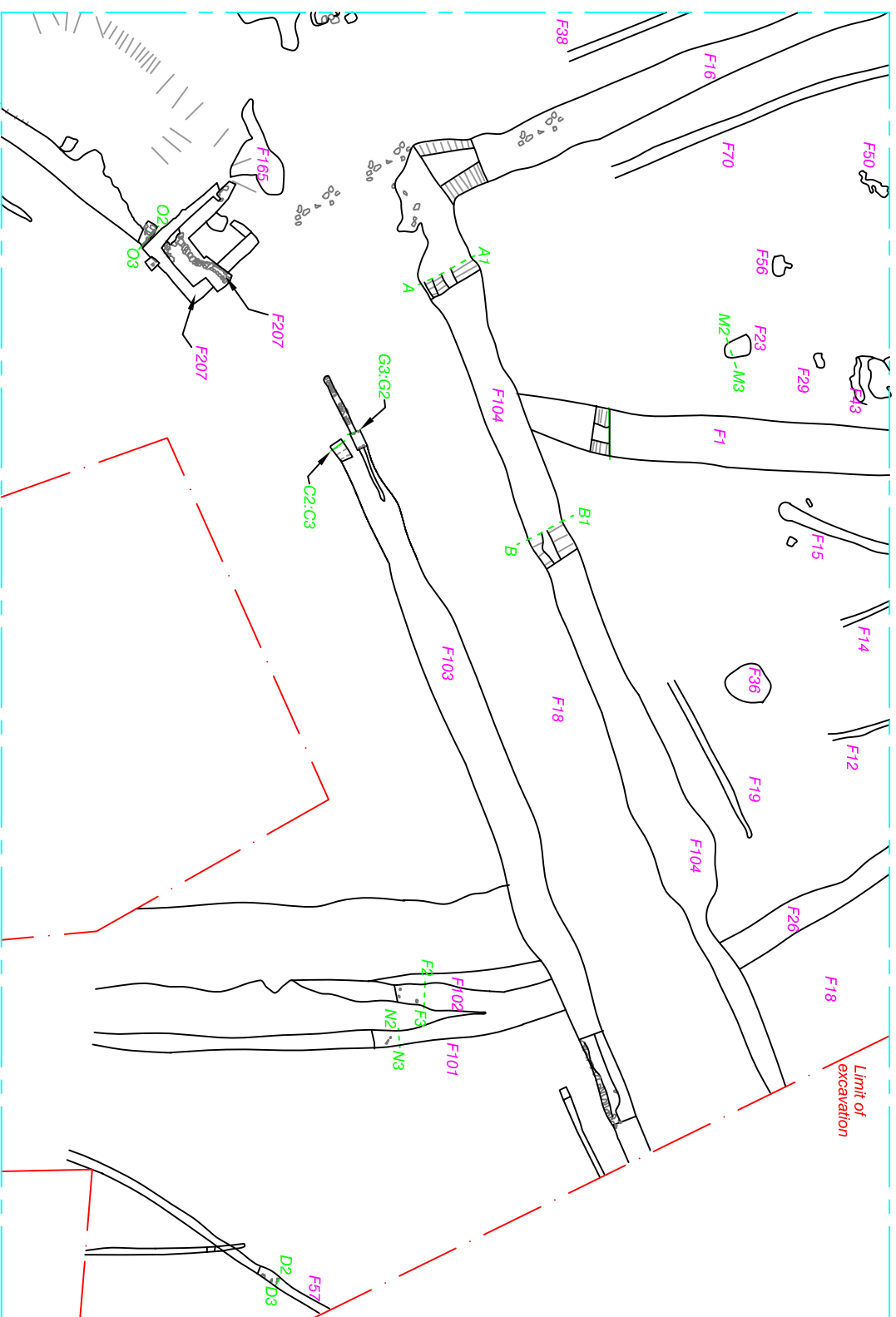


Figure 9: Detail of north-western section of site.



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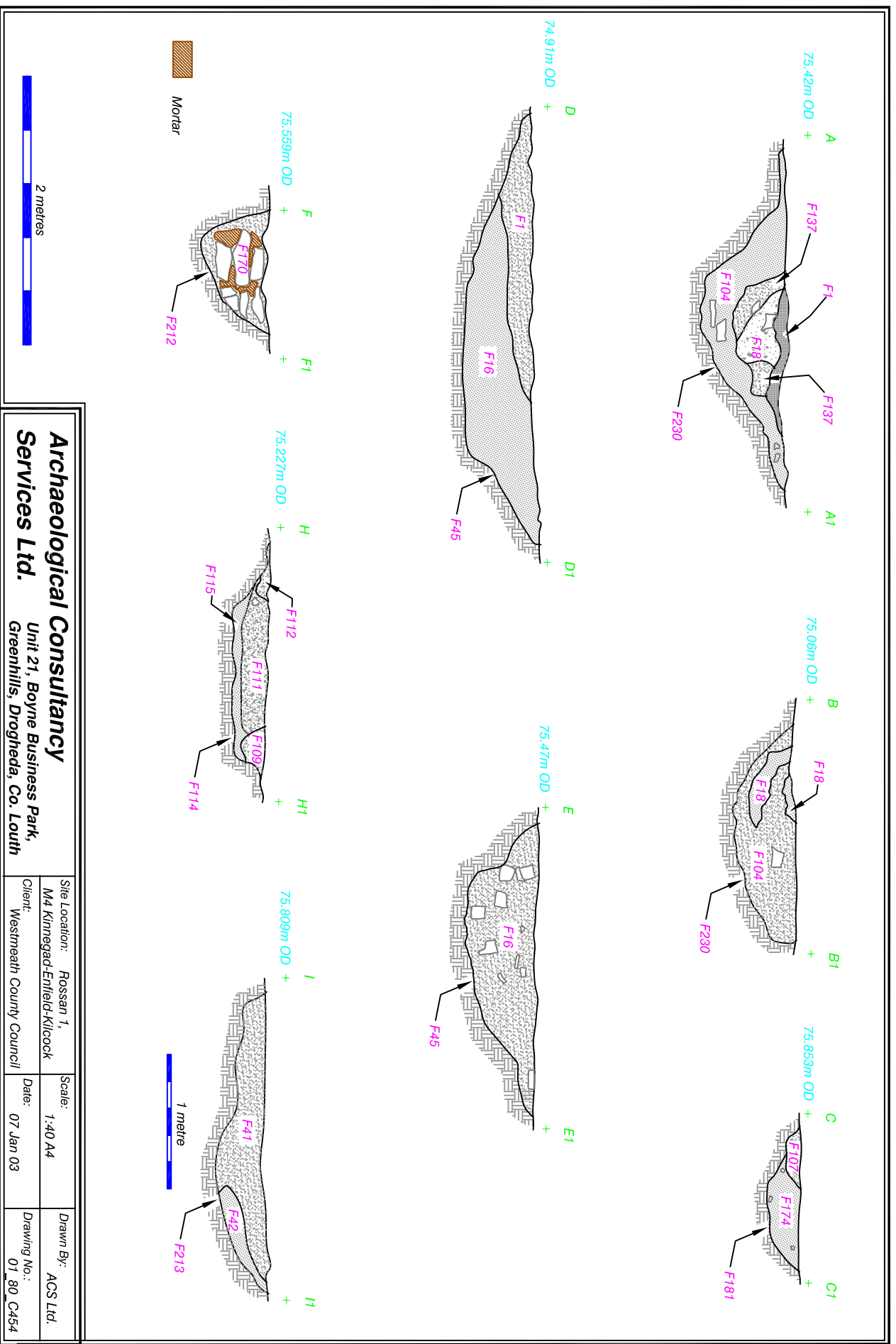
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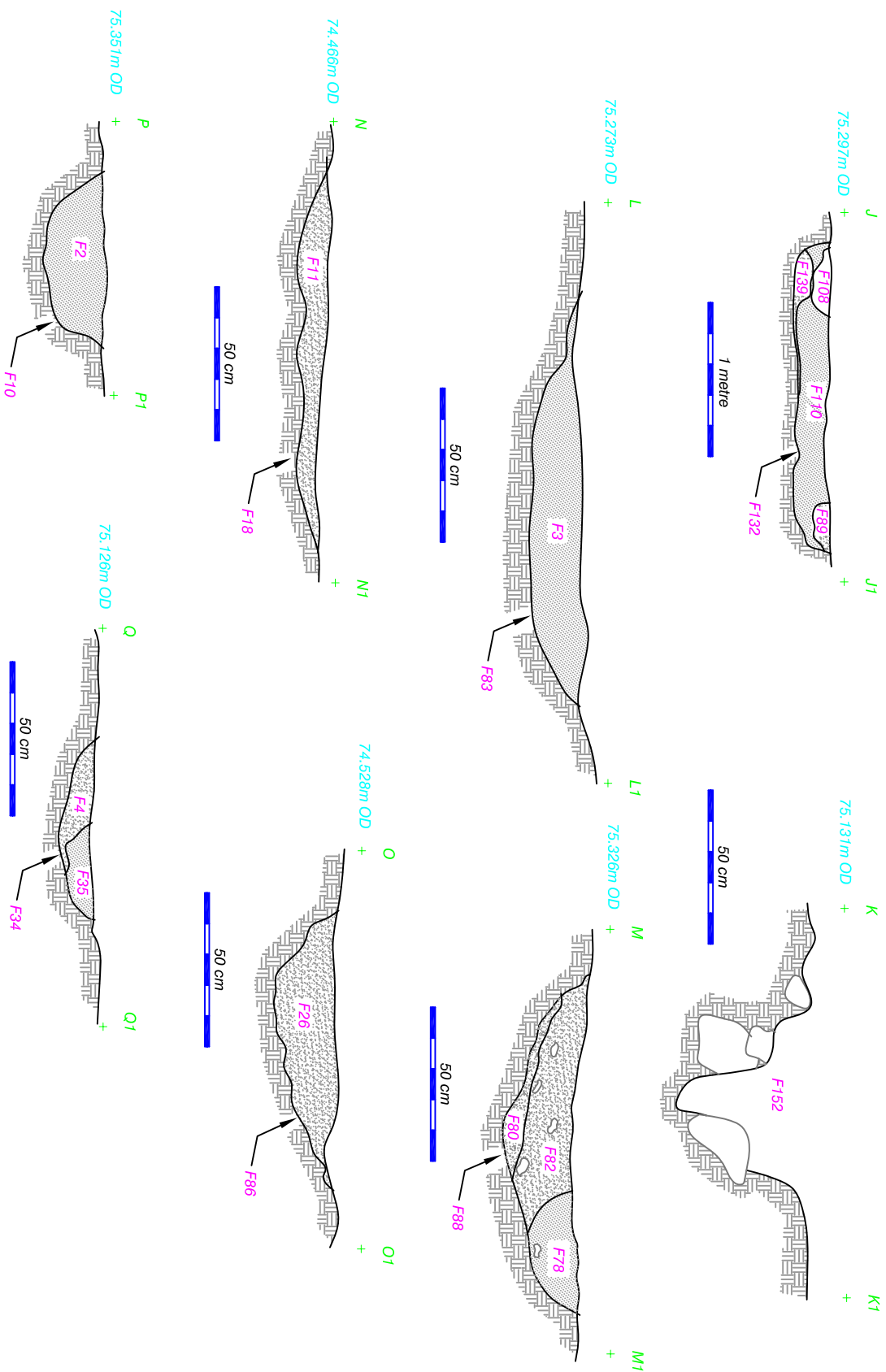
Date:
09 Jan 03

Drawn By:
ACS Ltd.

Drawing No.:
01_80_C453

Figure 10: Detail of north-western section of site.

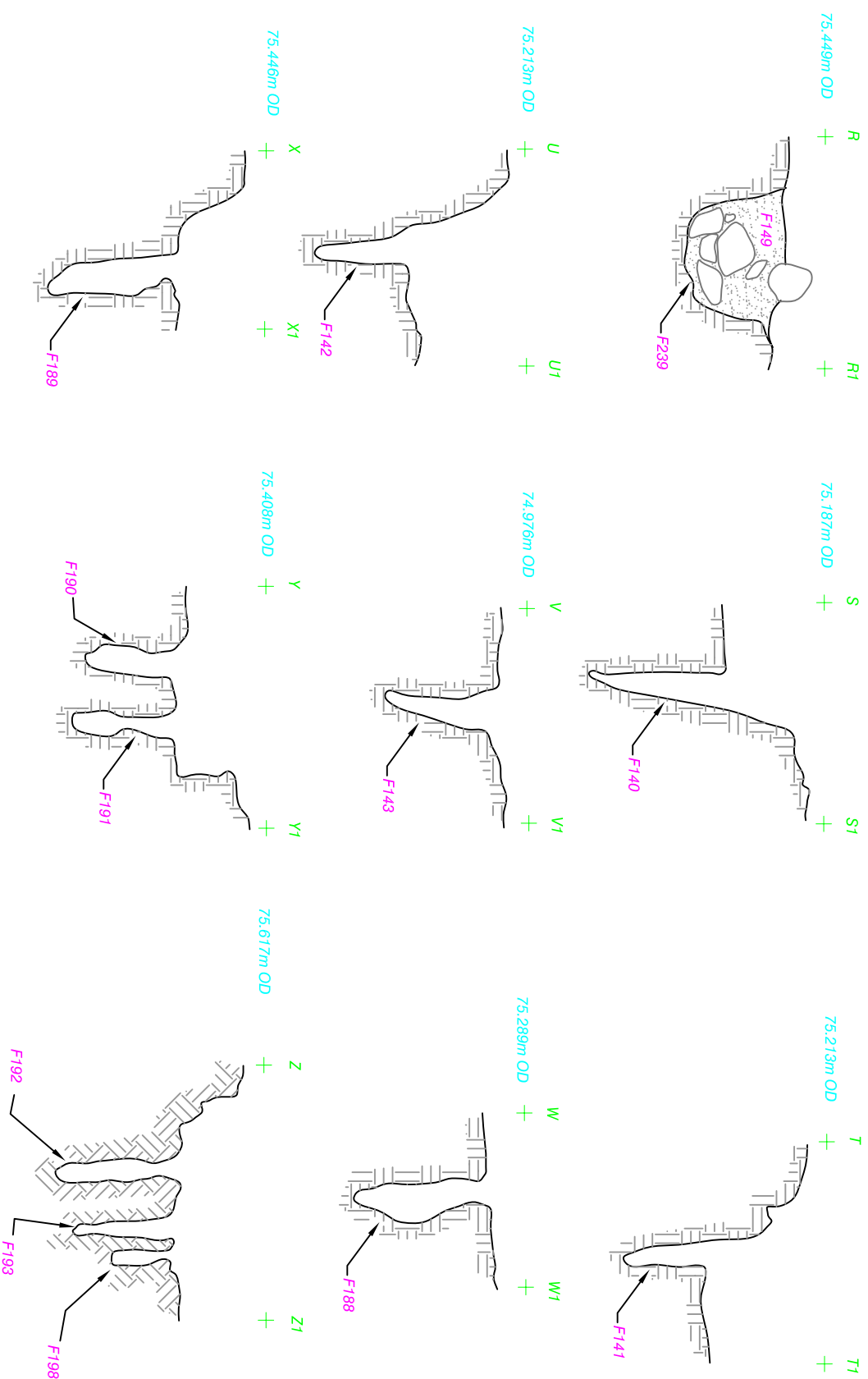




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Site Location: Rossan 1, M4 Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock	Scale: As scalebars	Drawn By: ACS Ltd.
Client: Westmeath County Council	Date: 07 Jan 03	Drawing No.: 01_80_C455

Figure 12: Sections J-J1 - Q:Q1

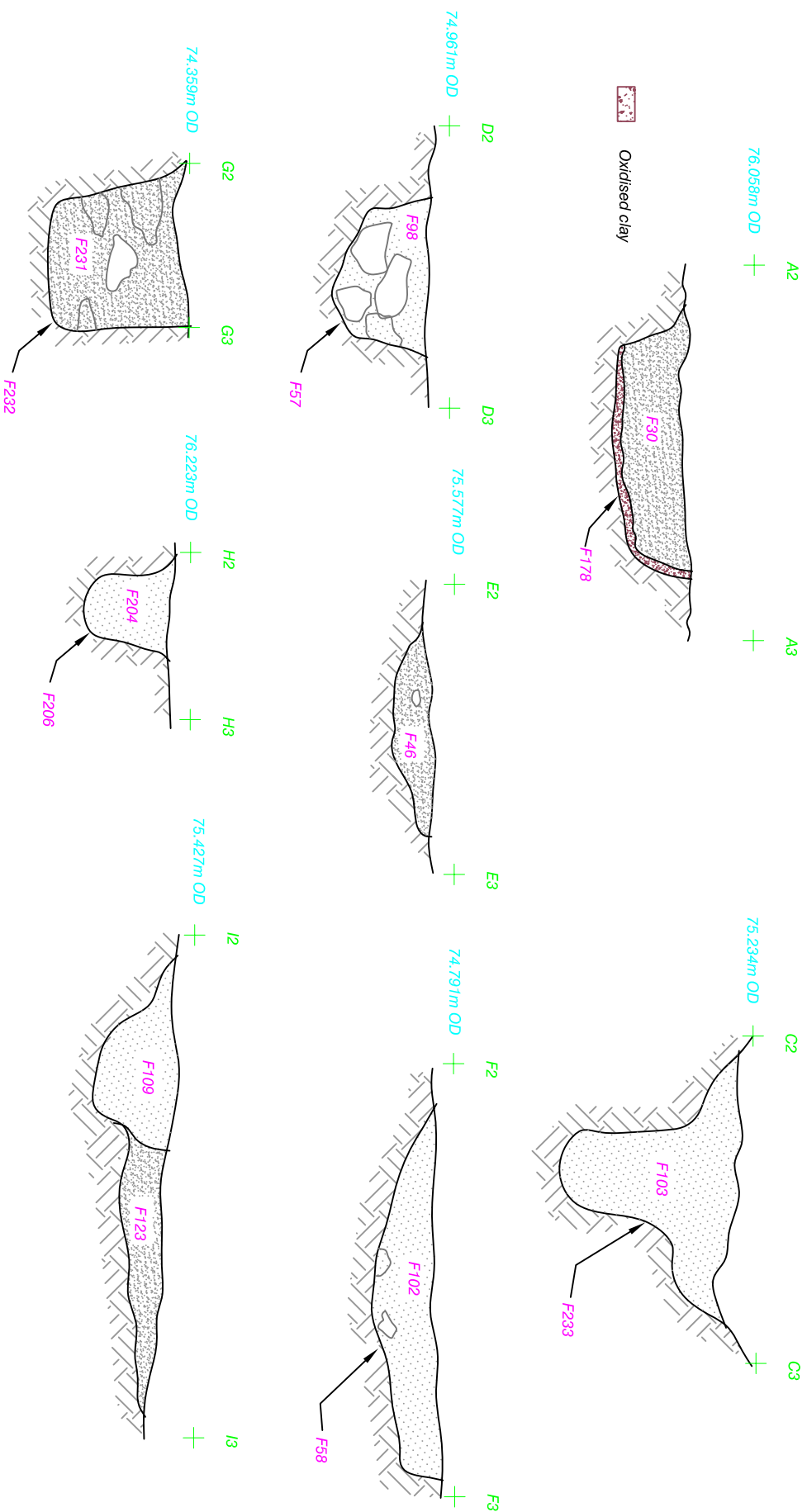


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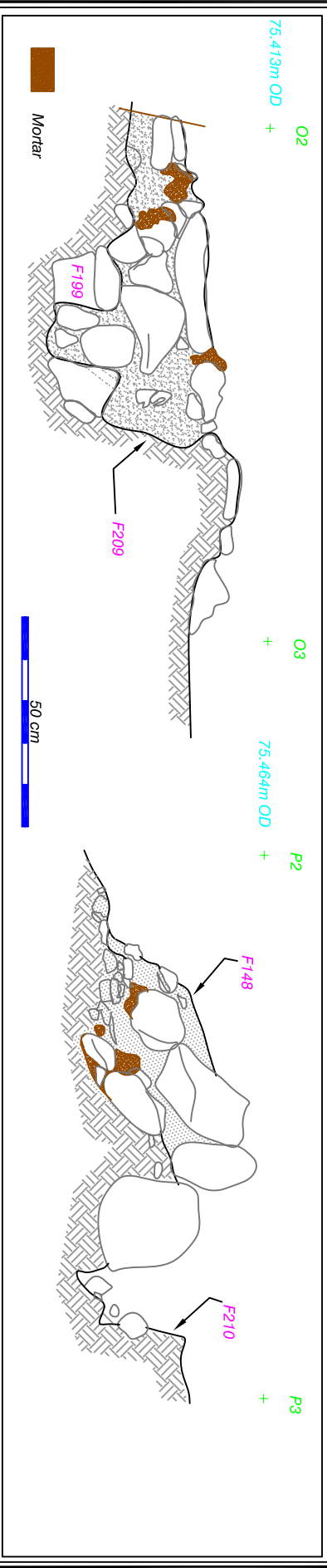
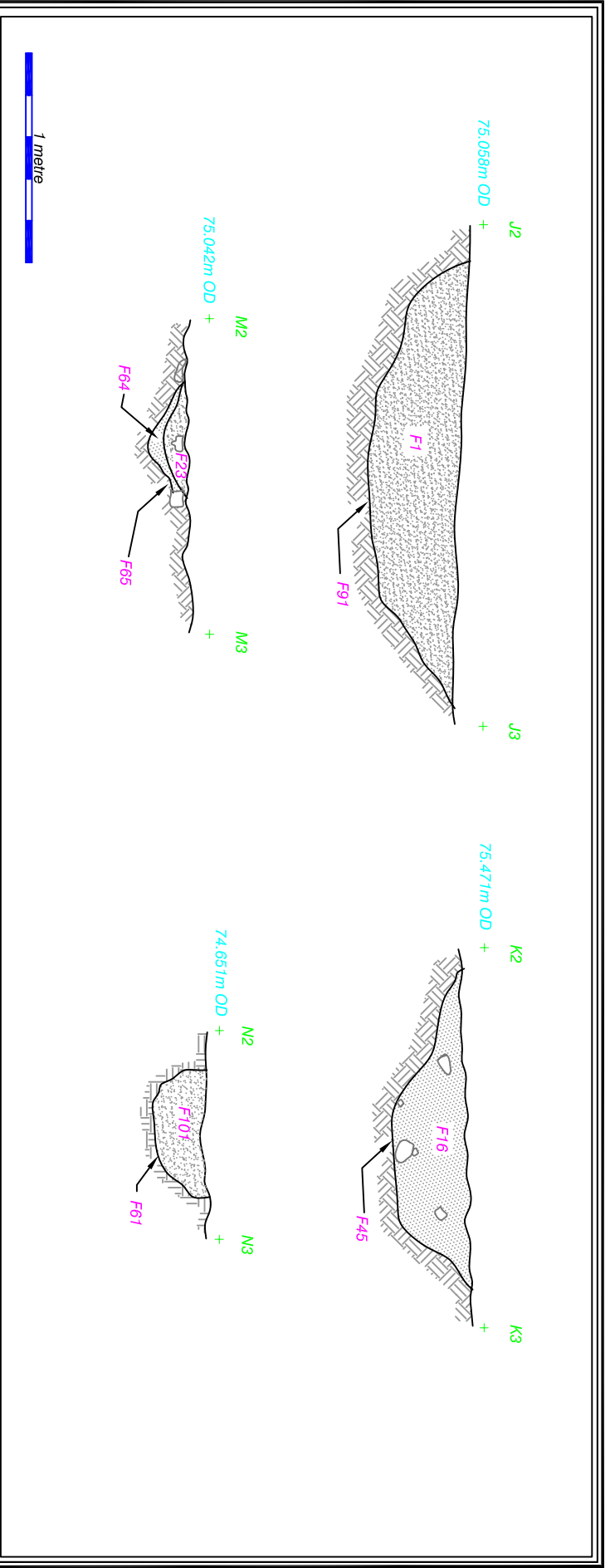
Figure 13: Sections R:R1 - Z:Z1



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Site Location: Rossan 1, M4 Kinneagad-Enfield-Kilcock	Scale: 1:15 A4	Drawn By: ACOS Ltd.
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Figure 14: Sections A2:A3 - I2:I3



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Date: 07 Jan 03

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Figure 15: Sections J2:J3 - P2:P3