



Monitoring Report No. 103

**80 metres north-west of 195 Lurgan Road, Dromore
Lisnasure
Co. Down**

AE/06/268

Ruth Logue

Site Specific Information

Site Name: 80m north-west of 195 Lurgan Road, Dromore

Townland: Lisnasure

SMR No (if applicable): rath – DOW 020:018

State Care Scheduled Other

Grid Ref: J14935430

County: Down

Excavation Licence Number: AE/06/268

Planning Reference Number: N/2006/0729/RM

Date of Monitoring: 16th November 2006

Archaeologist Present: Ruth Logue

Brief Summary:

Monitoring of three test trenches excavated to subsoil to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed development on any previously unrecorded below-ground remains. Nothing of archaeological significance found.

Type of monitoring: Mechanical back-acting digger

Size of area opened: Three trenches: 24m x 1m, 20m x 1m, 16m x 1m

Current Land Use: Rough grazing

Intended Land Use: Erection of dwelling and garage

Account of the monitoring

The proposed development site is located 80m north-west of 195 Lurgan Road, Dromore, County Down and adjacent to the site of a rath. The rath, DOW 020:018, is featured on the 1834 and 1860 OS 6" maps as an undesignated curve of a farm road. On later editions it has a possible ditch on the opposite side of the road. Both sides of the laneway curve and there is no trace of the ditch, though the bank is approximately 0.5m above the exterior. Both sides of the laneway are very overgrown, and no other features are discernable.

An archaeological evaluation was requested to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on any hidden archaeological remains. Monitoring of test trench excavation took place on 16th November 2006, the Protecting Historic Monuments Casework Officer for the site was Gina Baban.

The topsoil was uniform in all three trenches, a mid-brown silty loam. The topsoil lay above the subsoil, an orange silty clay with some stone inclusions. All three trenches were aligned north-east to south-west (Figure 2).

Trench 1 was 24m long and 1m wide (Plate 1). Topsoil (Context 100) was an average of 0.41m deep along the trench. Topsoil lay on subsoil (Context 101).

Trench 2 was 20m long and 1m wide (Plate 2). The topsoil (Context 200) was an average of 0.40m deep. Topsoil lay on subsoil (Context 201).

Trench 3 was 16m long and 1m wide (Plate 3). The topsoil (Context 300) was an average of 0.25m deep. Topsoil lay on subsoil (Context 301).

No features, or finds, of archaeological significance were found in any of the test trenches.

Archive:

Finds: N/A

Photographs: 6 digital photos, held in Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork offices

Plans/Drawings: N/A

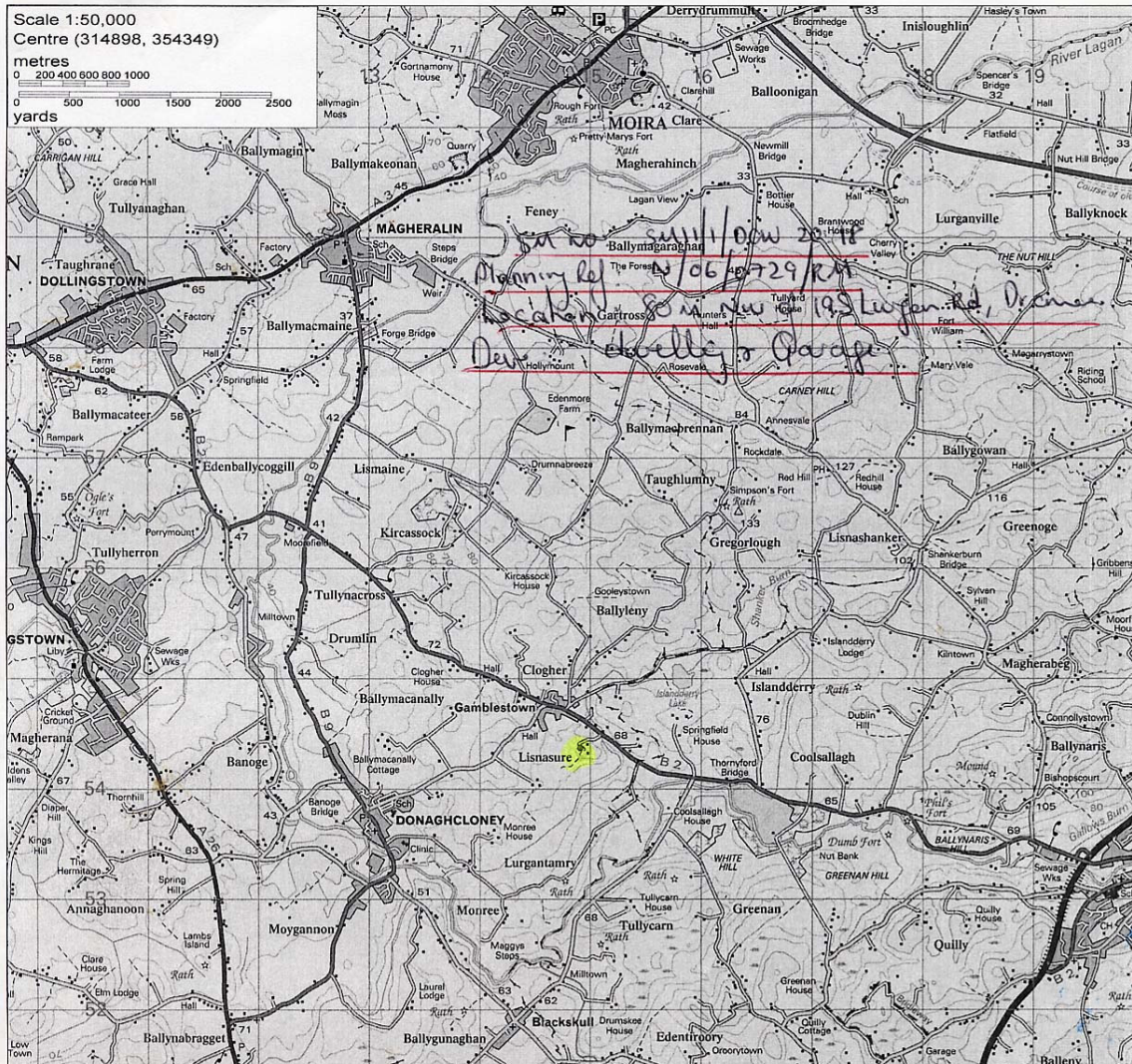


Figure 1: 1:50,000 map showing location of site (highlighted in yellow).

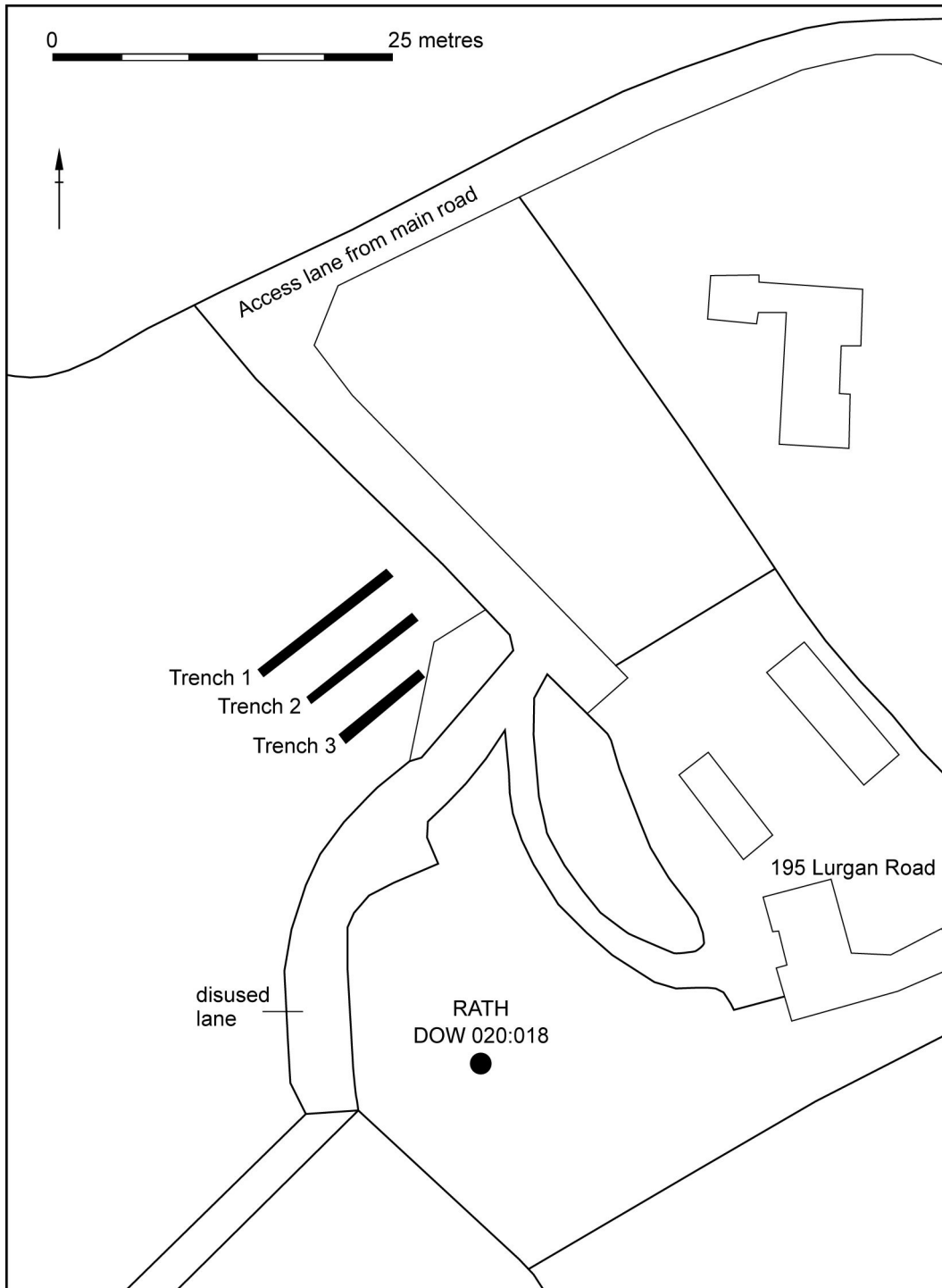


Figure 2: Plan showing application site and location of trenches.

(The position of the sun on the day of the evaluation caused problems with shadow in the photographs).



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking north-east.



Plate 2: Trench 2 looking north-east.



Plate 3: Trench 3 looking north-east.



Plate 4: View of site and curving lane boundary, looking east.



Plate 5: Trench 1 and curving lane boundary, looking south-south-west.



Plate 6: Curving lane boundary from the interior of the lane, looking north.