



## **Monitoring Report No. 114**

**280m west of 20 Cashel Road  
Cashel  
Co. Armagh**

**AE/07/16**

Ruth Logue

## Site Specific Information

*Site Name:* 280m west of 20 Cashel Road, Armagh

*Townland:* Cashel

*SMR No (if applicable):* cashel and souterrain – ARM 016:039

State Care                  Scheduled    ✓                  Other

*Grid Ref:* IH9024936596

*County:* Armagh

*Excavation Licence Number:* AE/07/16

*Planning Reference Number:* O/2004/1346/O

*Date of Monitoring:* 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007

*Archaeologist Present:* Ruth Logue

### *Brief Summary:*

Monitoring of seven 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:* Seven trenches each 25m long and 1.6m wide

*Current Land Use:* Rough grazing

*Intended Land Use:* Erection of private dwelling

## **Account of the monitoring**

The proposed development site is located in a field in the townland of Cashel in County Armagh. The application site is approximately 60m to the west of a cashel and souterrain which was reused as a killeen (ARM 016:039), and is close to the site of another souterrain (ARM 016:064). (Figure 2)

The wall of the cashel has been greatly reduced within living memory both in height and width, and the site has been used as a burial ground for stillborn children. There were originally four entrances, all of which are now closed, but are still visible on the south and west sides.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007. Seven test trenches were excavated (Figure 3) in the area requested by the Protecting Historic Monuments Casework Officer, Edith Gowdy.

The topsoil was uniform in all seven trenches, a mid-brown silty loam. The topsoil lay above the subsoil, a yellow silty clay mottled with grey clay and with stone inclusions. Five of the trenches were aligned roughly north-west to south-east (Trenches 1-5), the remaining two were aligned roughly north-east to south-west (Trenches 6 and 7).

Trench 1 was 25m long and 1.6m wide. Topsoil (Context 100) was an average of 0.24m deep along the trench. Topsoil lay above subsoil (Context 101).

Trench 2 was 25m long and 1.6m wide. The topsoil (Context 200) was an average of 0.27m deep in this trench. Topsoil lay above subsoil (Context 201).

Trench 3 was 25m long and 1.6m wide. The topsoil (Context 300) was an average of 0.31m deep. Topsoil lay above subsoil (Context 301).

Trench 4 was 25m long and 1.6m wide. The topsoil (Context 400) was an average of 0.29m deep. Topsoil lay above subsoil (Context 401).

Trench 5 was 25m long and 1.6m wide. The topsoil (Context 500) was an average of 0.37m deep in this trench. Topsoil lay above subsoil (Context 501).

Trench 6 was 25m long and 1.6m wide. The topsoil (Context 600) was an average of 0.26m deep. Topsoil lay above subsoil (Context 601).

Trench 7 was 25m long and 1.6m wide. The topsoil (Context 700) was an average of 0.27m deep. Topsoil lay above subsoil (Context 701).

Agricultural furrows, containing topsoil and running east to west, were cut into the subsoil in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 6. Bedrock ridges were running through Trenches 4, 5 and 7.

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

**Archive:**

*Finds: N/A*

*Photographs: 13 digital photos, held in Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork offices*

*Plans / Drawings: N/A*

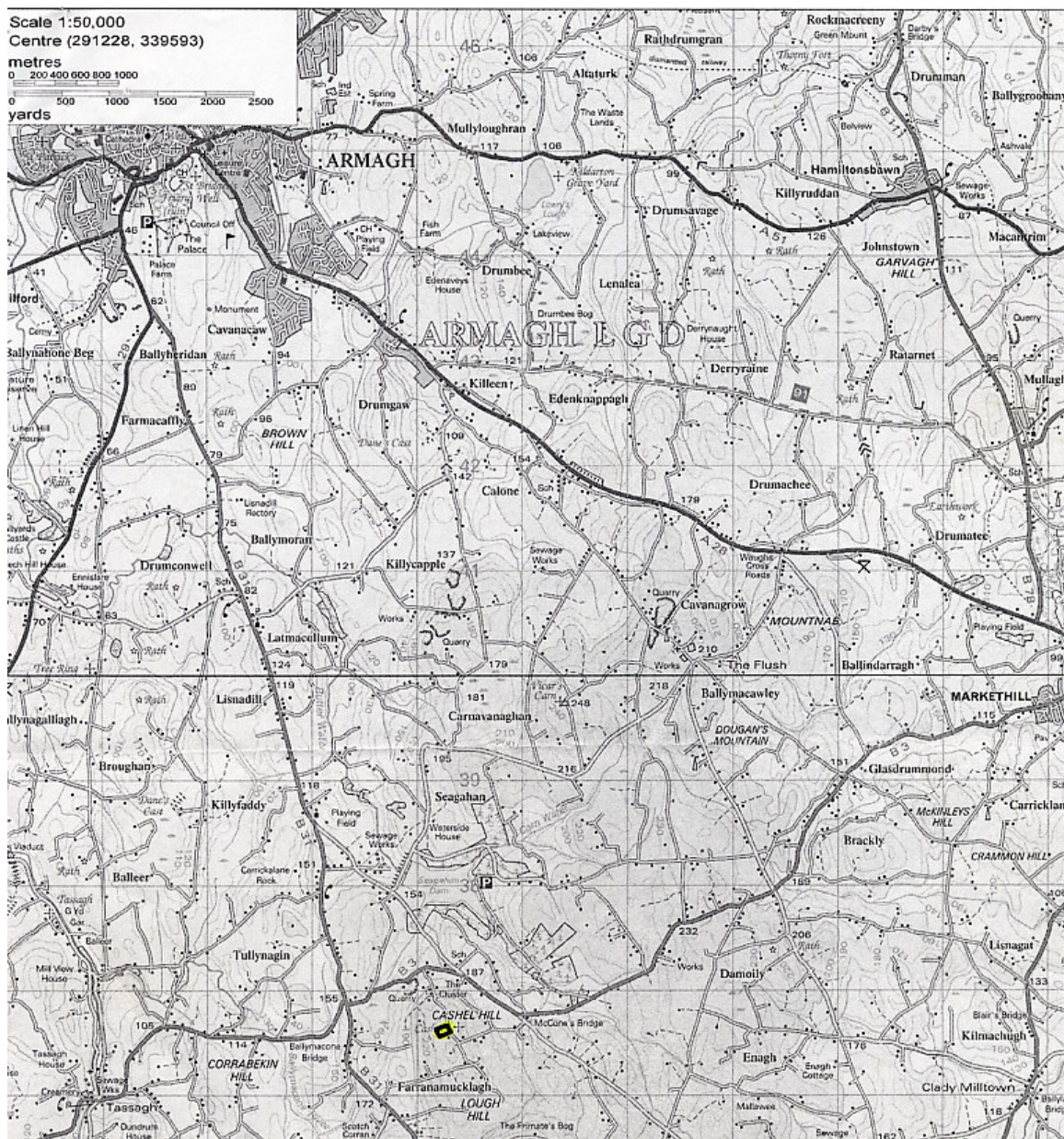


Figure 1: 1:50,000 map showing location of application site (highlighted in yellow).

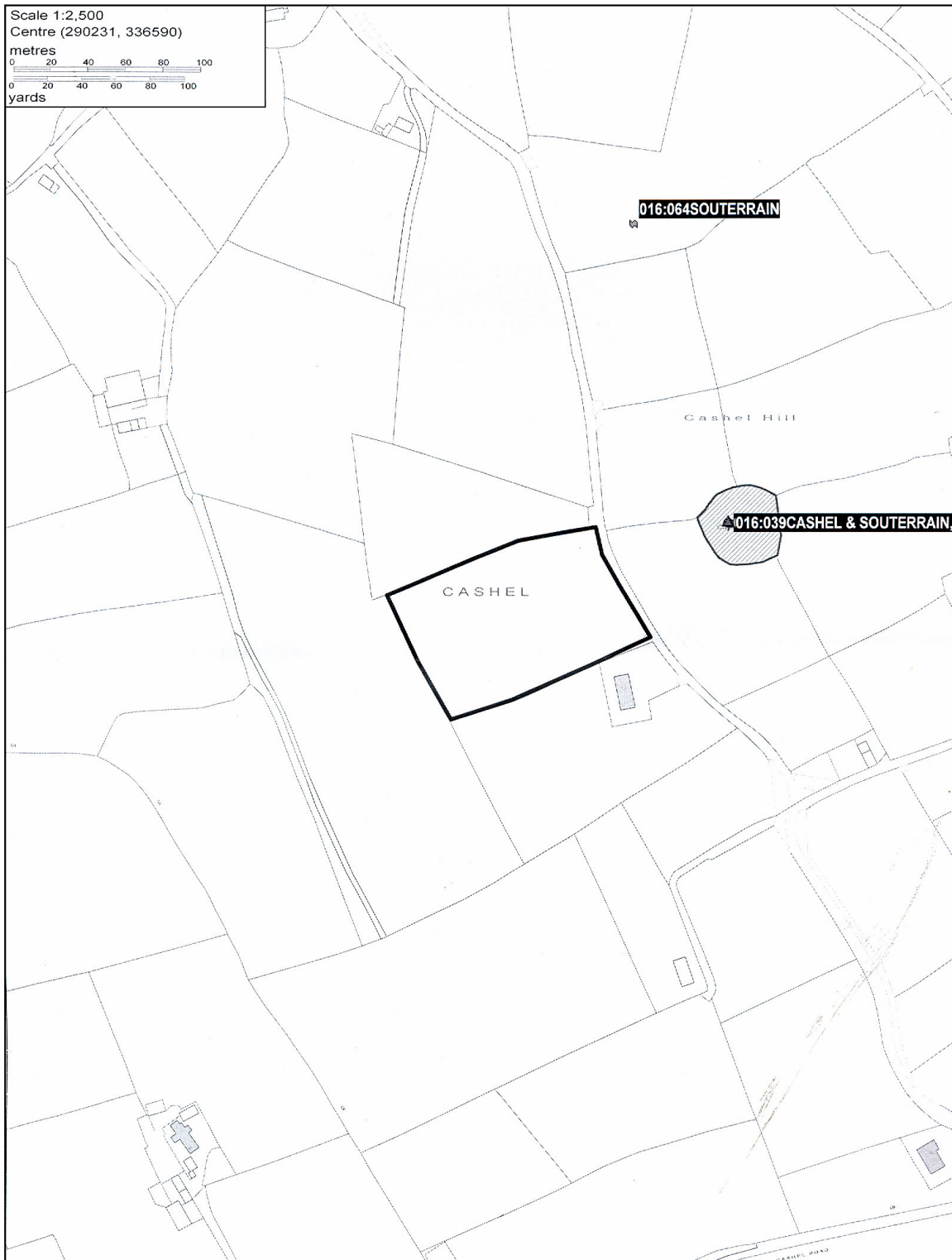


Figure 2: 1:2,500 map showing application site in relation to ARM 016:039 and ARM 016:064.

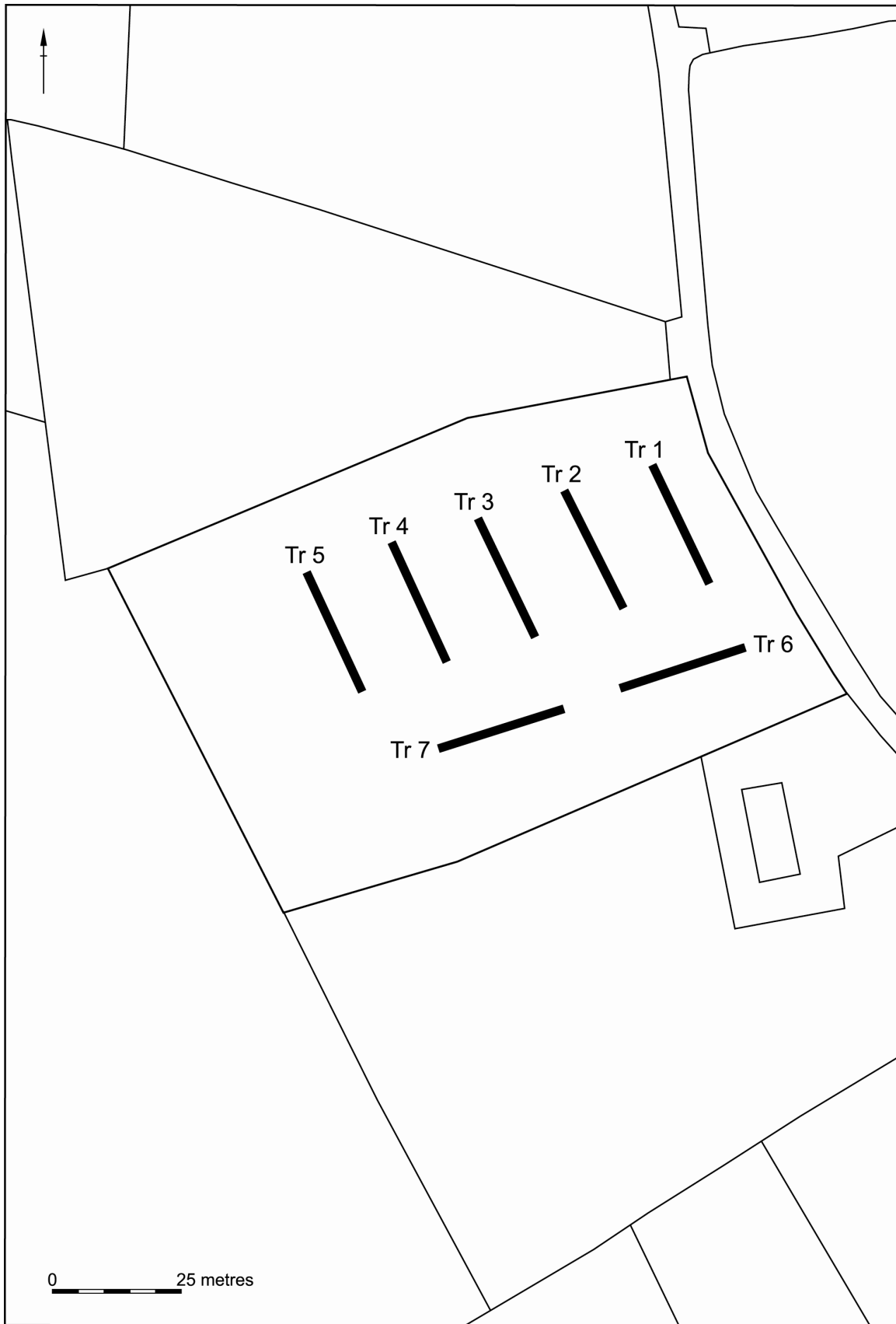


Figure 3: Plan of application site showing location of trenches.



Plate 1: Cashel, looking east from application site.



Plate 2: Trench 1, looking north-west, showing furrows.



Plate 3: Western side of cashel meeting field boundary wall, looking north-east.



Plate 4: Cashel, looking west.