



## **Monitoring Report No. 208**

**85m east of 18 St Dympna's Road  
Dromore  
Dromore td  
County Tyrone**

**AE/10/148**

Ruth Logue

## Site Specific Information

*Site Location:* c. 85m east of 18 St Dymphna's Road, Dromore

*Townland:* Dromore

*SMR Number:* Church – TYR 050:021  
Abbey – TYR 050:019

State Care                      Scheduled                       Other

*Grid Reference:* IH3481462787

*County:* Tyrone

*Excavation Licence Number:* AE/10/148

*Planning Reference Number:* K/2006/1565/F

*Date of Monitoring:* 22 September 2010

*Archaeologist Present:* Ruth Logue

### *Brief Summary:*

Monitoring of stump removal and topsoil stripping 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:* Maximum 37m long and 13m wide

*Current Land Use:* Woodland

*Intended Land Use:* Domestic dwelling and garage

## Account of the monitoring

The application site was located c. 85m east of 18 St Dympna's Road, Dromore, in Dromore townland, County Tyrone (Figures 1 and 3). It was an area that had been planted with larch trees, though the trees had been felled in the application site area, with only the stumps remaining. The ground sloped down to the south, quite steeply in the southern half of the site.

The site was located adjacent to a recorded and scheduled post-medieval church, TYR 050:021 (Plate 1). This ecclesiastical site has a substantial ruined church, dating to the post-Plantation period. The church is surrounded by a disused grave yard, the western boundary wall of which is also the eastern boundary of the application site (Plates 2 and 4). Also in the vicinity is TYR 050:019, an early Christian abbey, of which there are no visible remains. OS maps from 1834 and 1857 depict a ruin designated "site of Abbey"; later maps, 1906 and 1938, do not show a ruin but mark "Abbey (site of)". It was therefore possible that the abbey could have potentially been located within the application site.

An archaeological evaluation was requested to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on any hidden archaeological remains. Monitoring of tree stump removal and topsoil stripping took place on 22 September 2010. This work took place in the area requested by the Protecting Historic Monuments Caseworker, Paul Devlin.

The development area and surrounding area had been planted with larch trees some years ago. The area monitored had had the trees in it cut down to stump level, the trees were left standing in the surrounding area to the south and west of the site. The tree stumps were removed with a toothed bucket, but topsoil stripping was done with a toothless bucket. The area monitored was a maximum of 37m long (east/west) and a maximum of 13m wide (north/south). Topsoil was a dark brown silty loam, lying directly about the subsoil, an orange clay with stone inclusions. The only area not monitored was the area below the spoil heap of tree stumps and topsoil (Plate 6).

As the application site lay adjacent and to the west of a grave yard a test pit was dug beside the boundary wall between the two to ascertain if there were any burials outside that boundary (Plate 7). The test pit measured 2m by 3.5m and was 1m deep. It contained no evidence of human remains.

No features or finds of archaeological significance were found during the monitoring.

### Archive:

*Finds:* N/A

*Photographs:* 7 digital photos, held in Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork offices

*Plans / Drawings:* N/A

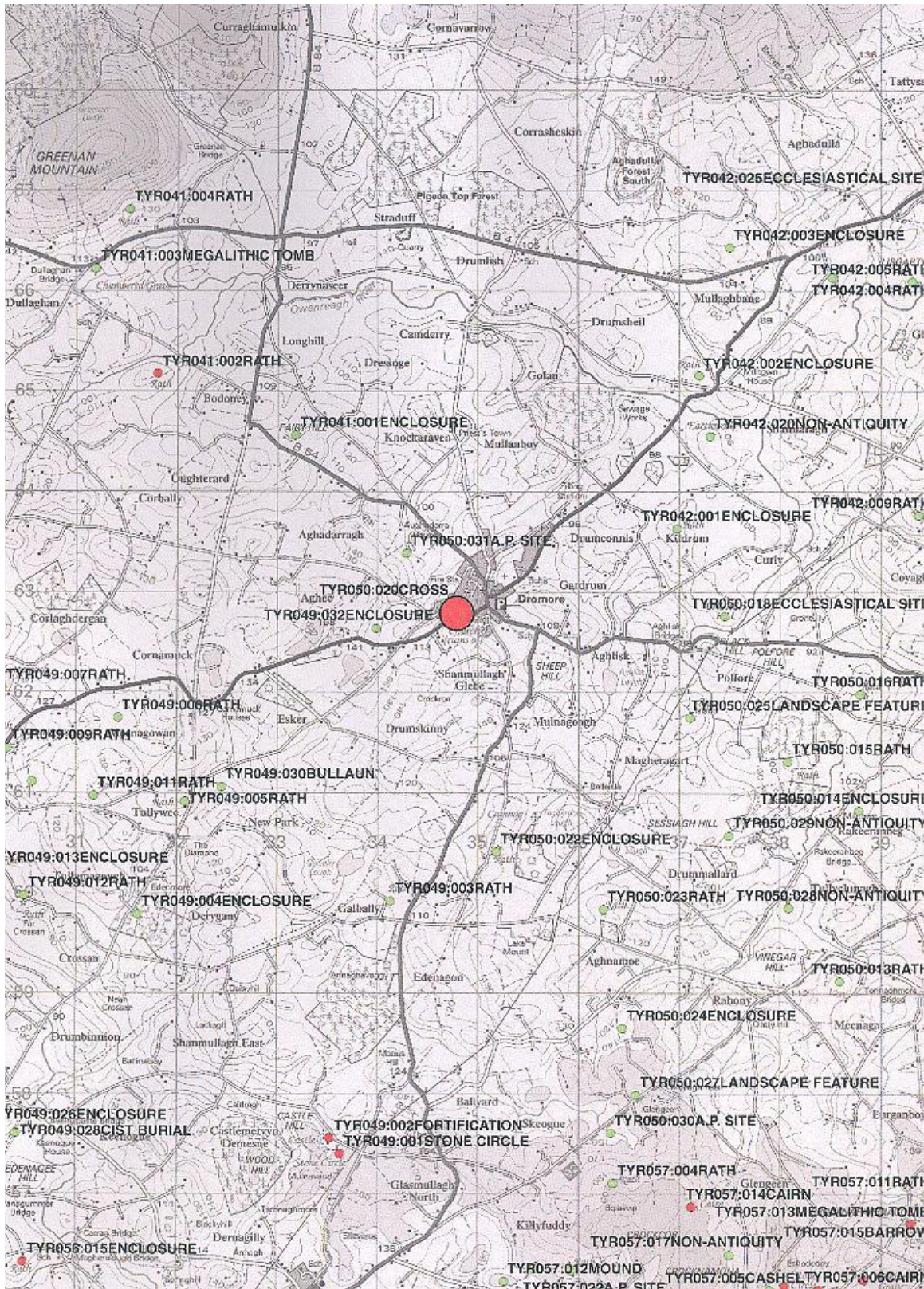


Figure 1: 1:50,000 map showing location of application site (highlighted).



Figure 2: 1:10,000 map showing location of application site and archaeological sites in the immediate vicinity (Church denoted by the red dot).

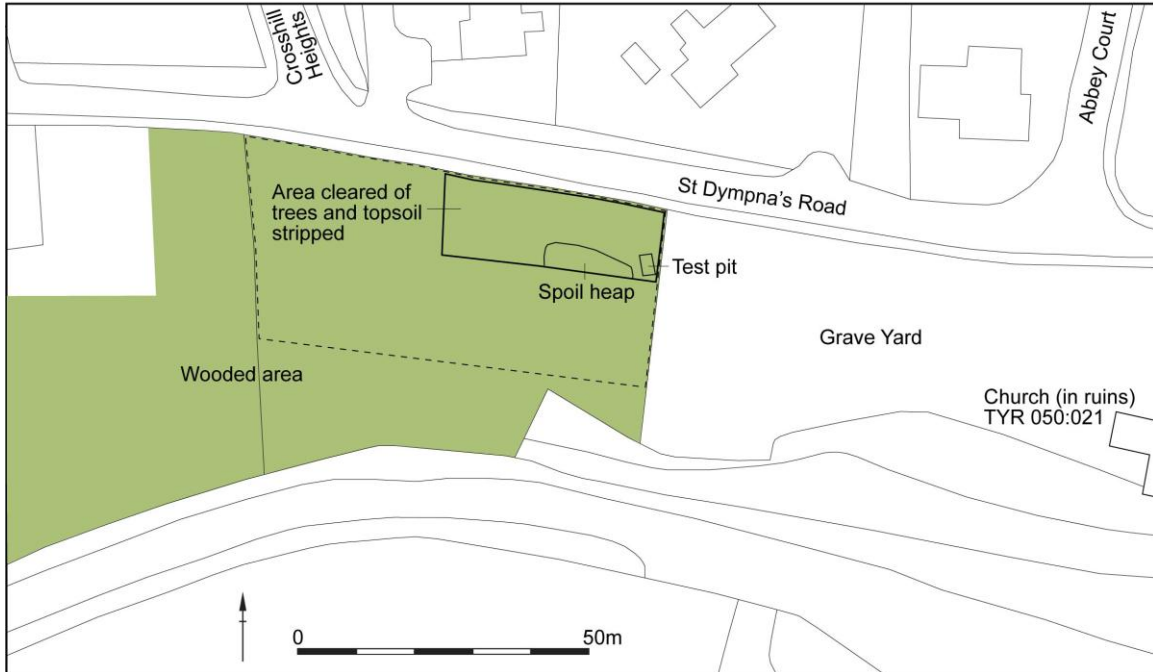


Figure 3: Plan of application site and immediate vicinity, the green shading represents the area planted with trees.



Plate 1: TYR 050:021, church and surrounding grave yard, looking south-east.



Plate 2: looking north-west from grave yard towards wall which divided it from the application site.



Plate 3: Vegetation cover over site prior to stump removal, looking west.



Plate 4: Church viewed from just inside application site, with wall dividing site from grave yard in foreground, looking c. south-east.



Plate 5: Site after removal of tree stumps and vegetation, looking south-east, (also showing spoil heap).



Plate 6: Site after topsoil stripping, looking south-east, (also showing spoil heap).



Plate 7: Test pit beside grave yard wall, looking north.