


<b>Title</b>	Prehistoric burnt mound archaeology in Ireland
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<b>Publication date</b>	2014
<b>Original citation</b>	Hawkes, A. J. 2014. Prehistoric burnt mound archaeology in Ireland. PhD Thesis, University College Cork.
<b>Type of publication</b>	Doctoral thesis
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<b>Embargo information</b>	Indefinite embargo on full text e-thesis (Volume 1).
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# Prehistoric Burnt Mound Archaeology in Ireland

Volume 3 of 3

Catalogue 1 and 2: The excavated Burnt Mounds of Ireland  
1950–2010

By  
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May 2014

Thesis submitted for the qualification of PhD

Department of Archaeology

University College Cork

Head of Department: Professor William O'Brien

Supervisor: Professor William O'Brien

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Location:	Townland:	Drumsna	Six inch map no: 32
	Parish:	Annaduff	NGR: 200316, 297332
	Barony:	Leitrim	Altitude: NA
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Hilary Opie	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	1994	

Physical Setting: The site was located in a naturally low-lying, boggy area, liable to flooding.

Cultural Landscape: Recorded prehistoric archaeology in the area is limited to a few upstanding monuments which may date to any period of Irish archaeology however a prehistoric origin is possible. These consist of an enclosure located c. 150m to the west (LE 031-088) and another situated c. 600m to the south (RO 012-006002).

Adjacent excavated sites: None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to investigation. It was identified as a spread of burnt sandstone and charcoal.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-affected stone, an irregular trough cut and an associated hearth.

Burnt Mound: The spread of material or firing debris consisted of heat-affected sandstone, charcoal and black silty soil. No other details available.

Trough: The trough pit was irregular in shape with a flat base. It measured 1.6 by 1.1 with a maximum depth of 0.3m. Four deposits were noted in the trough fill. The basal layer consisted of pale grey sand, sandstone and charcoal. The next two fills composed of peaty material with charcoal inclusions. The upper fill consisted of heat-shattered sandstone, soil and charcoal.

Hearth: Opie states that a hearth was revealed directly to the north-east of the trough. No other details available.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Context unknown  
C14 (GRN- 21321) 3550±40 BP (2040–1750 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site consisted of a burnt mound and a potential trough feature used as a boiling receptacle for a pyrolithic technology. The shallow nature of the associated pit however may indicate that a dry heat was employed however this is difficult to determine with the available evidence.

**References**

Opie, H. 1995. Archaeological excavations at Drumsna, Co. Leitrim. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1994*, 52. Bray.

Ó Néill, J. 2009. *Burnt mounds in Northern and Western Europe: a Study of Prehistoric Technology and Society*. VDM Verlag, Germany.



Location:	Townland:	Kildorragh	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kiltoghert	NGR: 198596, 298618
	Barony:	Leitrim	Altitude: NA
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Hilary Opie	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	1994	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a naturally low-lying, boggy area, liable to flooding.		
Cultural Landscape:	Recorded prehistoric archaeology in the area is limited to a few upstanding monuments which may date to any period of Irish archaeology however a prehistoric origin is also possible. A possible <i>fulacht fia</i> is situated c. 400m to the west (LE 031-103). A mound is also recorded c. 650m to the west (LE 031-102).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible prehistoric roundhouse		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to investigation. It was identified as a spread of burnt sandstone and charcoal. A hut site was also revealed.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a shallow spread of heat-affected stone and an associated pit. A foundation trench for a roundhouse was also revealed that contained a number of prehistoric flint artefacts.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of material was uncovered immediately south-east of the hut. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone, charcoal and dark silty soil. No other details available.
Trough:	The trough pit was cut into the subsoil. No other details available.
Structure:	The structure was revealed as a circular ditch cut with an external diameter of 6.8m with an internal diameter of 5.5m. The fill of the ditch consisted of burnt mound material. A single post-hole was observed within the structure along with a compacted floor surface and a central hearth. In addition a large number of flint and chert tools were concentrated within and around the

house. O Néill states that a Medieval date was returned from the structure, however the context of this date is unknown (O Néill 2009, 290).

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Chert and flint tools from in an around the house structure. Flakes and waste chippings were also noted suggestive of flint manufacture at the site (Opie 1995).

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Context unknown  
C14 (GRN- 21323) 1030±50 BP (AD 892–1153)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

This site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of the Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass. Excavation revealed a house structure defined by a circular foundation trench that was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A large number of flint and chert tools were uncovered in the interior of the structure, which enclosed an area 5.5m in diameter. Burnt mound activity was revealed south of the hut structure and consisted of a pit and a shallow spread of heat-shattered stone (Opie 1995). The site was thought to have been late Neolithic/early Bronze Age in date based on the lithic material, but the radiocarbon date does not seem to support this. The context of this date is uncertain, however, and therefore a certain degree of caution must be exercised.

**References**

Opie, H. 1995. Kildorragh, Co. Leitrim. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1994*, 53. Bray.

Ó Néill, J. 2009. *Burnt Mounds in Northern and Western Europe: as study of Prehistoric Technology and Society*. VDM Verlag, Germany.

Location:	Townland:	Kiltycarney	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kiltoghert	NGR: 197132, 298261
	Barony:	Leitrim	Altitude: NA
	County :	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Hilary Opie	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	1994	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on low boggy ground near a stream and the trough tended to fill naturally with water.		
Cultural Landscape:	The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments. The prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are two recorded <i>fulachtaí fia</i> located east of this site (LE 031-098, LE 031-103).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to investigation. It was identified as a spread of burnt sandstone and charcoal.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-affected stone, an irregular trough cut and an associated hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of material or firing debris consisted of heat-affected sandstone, charcoal and black silty soil. No other details available.
Trough:	The trough pit was roughly rectangular in plan with a flat base. It measured 1.85m by 1m with a depth of 0.45m. Opie states that the trough was lined on all sides with timbers, except for the north-east portion. The fill of the trough consisted of pale grey silty sand with a high charcoal content that became stonier towards the base (Opie 1995). Animal bone was recovered adjacent to the trough along with a flint flake. The trough filled naturally with water.
Pit:	A roughly circular pit was uncovered directly to the north-east of the trough. No other details available. This may have functioned as a hearth.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	Flint flake found adjacent to the trough
Ecofacts:	Animal bone was recovered near the trough pit.

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Context unknown C14 (GRN- 21322) 3500±30 BP (1900–1720 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial deposit of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. The presence of a timber-lined trough would confirm this suggestion along with the identification of a formal hearth for heating stones. The presence of animal bone may indicate the site was used for cooking. Unfortunately, the context of the radiocarbon date is unknown but it confirms a Bronze Age date for the site.

**References**

- Opie, H. 1995. Kiltycarney, Co. Leitrim. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1994*, 53. Bray.
- Ó Néill, J. 2009. *Burnt Mounds in Northern and Western Europe: a Study of Prehistoric Technology and Society*. VDM Verlag, Germany.

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Location:	Townland:	Tully	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kiltoghert	NGR: 197780, 298320
	Barony:	Leitrim	Altitude: NA
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Hilary Opie	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	1994	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located on low boggy ground near a stream and the trough tended to fill naturally with water.

**Cultural Landscape:** The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are two recorded *fulachtaí fía* located east of this site (LE 031-102 and LE 031-103).

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed Drumsna to Jamestown Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to investigation. It was identified as a spread of burnt sandstone and charcoal.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-affected stone, trough and an associate hearth.

**Burnt Mound:** The spread of material or firing debris consisted of heat-affected sandstone, charcoal and black silty soil. No other details available.

**Trough:** The trough was bowl-shaped and measured 1.5m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.7m. It was sealed by the burnt spread. The trough fill consisted of grey gritty silt and clay with a high charcoal content (Opie 1995). Animal Bone was recovered from the base of the trough pit.

**Hearth:** A small hearth was revealed directly to the south of the trough. An area of intense burning was also noted to the west and contained heat-shattered sandstone. A similar area was excavated to the south. This contained a barbed and tanged arrowhead.

**Finds:**

- Artefacts: Barbed and tanged arrowhead from the burning area to the south.
- Ecofacts: Animal bone from the base of the trough pit. Pig teeth and jaw bone.

**Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial deposit of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. The presence of a timber-lined trough would confirm this suggestion along with the identification of a formal hearth for heating stones. The presence of animal bone may indicate the site was used for cooking. Unfortunately, at the time of writing, the site remained undated.

**References**

- Opie, H. 1995. Tully, Co. Leitrim. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1994*, 53. Bray.
- Ó Néill, J. 2009. *Burnt Mounds in Northern and Western Europe: a Study of Prehistoric Technology and Society*. VDM Verlag, Germany.

Location:	Townland:	Cloonturk	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Mohill	NGR: 205909, 290813
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 42m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass	
	Site Director:	Laurence McGowan	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in the southeast corner of a large field, bordered on it's southeast side with the road and on the southwest by a modern ditch which runs southwest-northeast. Towards northwest the terrain was gradually turning into drained bog land gently sloping down the same direction.		
Cultural Landscape:	The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are no recorded sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to investigation. It was identified as a spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed one large and two smaller deposits of heat-shattered stone. A single pit was identified.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of material (F3) or firing debris consisted of heat-affected limestone in a matrix of charcoal and dark brown sandy silt. It measured 8m by 6m with a depth of 0.30m. A struck piece of flint was uncovered in this deposit. An Early Bronze Age date was returned.
Pit:	This pit/ditch (F4) was revealed under the spread and extended beyond the area of excavation. This pit was deemed to be modern in date.
Burnt Spreads:	F7 was an oval shaped deposit and measured 1.9m by 1.3m. It consisted of material similar to that of F3. F8 was an irregular shaped burnt stone deposit with frequent charcoal inclusions. It measured 3m by 1.8m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. This produced an Early Bronze Age date.

## Finds:

Artefacts:	Struck flint flake from burnt mound F3
Ecofacts:	None

## Dating:

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal from burnt mound spread F8 C14 (WK- 22718) $3775 \pm 30$ BP (2300–2050 BC) Charcoal from burnt mound spread F3 C14 (WK- 22725) $3976 \pm 30$ BP (2580–2400 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

The excavation of Cloonturk 2 revealed the site to contain one large and two smaller burnt stone deposits of possible burnt mound material, a charcoal enriched spread, a stone deposit and a pit containing dumped stone. These have been dated to the Early Bronze Age. No definitive trough was revealed during excavation although it may lie outside the area of excavation. Alternatively, a dry heat may have been employed in the shallow pit. However this was deemed modern in date.

## References

McGowen, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonturk 2, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Plate 10.72 Burnt mound and trough pit at Cloonturk 2, Co. Leitrim.



Location:	Townland:	Georgia	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Mohill	NGR: 205863, 286990
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass	
	Site Director:	Matthew Seaver	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a low ridge which bordered raised bog to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are no recorded sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to investigation. It was identified as a spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a trough which may have been stone-lined in the past. Twenty-three stake-holes were also uncovered close to the trough.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of material consisted of two deposits F1 and F2. The main deposit (F2) measured 2.4m by 0.9m with a thickness of 0.2m. It consisted of dark silty sand, heat-shattered stone and high concentrations of charcoal. F1 overlay this material and Seaver suggests that this deposit was formed after the site went out of use (Seaver 2009, 19). It measured 5m by 4.1m with a thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of topsoil and burnt material composed of shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough:	The trough (F3) was situated 0.5m west of the main mound material. It was sealed by F1. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.3m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.5m. Seaver states that the stone lining had collapsed into the trough on the western side and was indistinguishable from the fill (Seaver 2009, 19). Some of the stones were scorched. The main fill consisted of large blocks of heat-affected stones in a matrix of charcoal and black

silty clay. Three stake-holes were uncovered on the western slope of the trough.

**Stake-Holes:** The three stake-holes mentioned above were part of cluster of twenty-three located on the south-eastern side of the trough. No clear pattern was observed therefore their function remains unclear.

**Pit 1:** This pit was located east of the trough and was sub-circular. It measured 0.8m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.2m. The pit was filled with material similar to the burnt mound.

**Pit 2:** This pit was sub-circular and measured 0.8m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.22. This pit also contained burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Single flint disc scraper was found in the topsoil.

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal from burnt mound deposit F2  
C14 (WK- 22716) 787±30 BP (AD 1205–1280)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

This site was revealed during archaeological testing. It consisted of a small spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal, a trough with a cluster of external stake-holes and a number of pits. The trough was sub-rectangular in shape, with the possible remains of a collapsed stone lining in its base. A sample of charcoal from the small spread was dated to the latter part of the medieval period. A single radiocarbon date was obtained from a site that contained numerous features. The excavator suggests that this radiocarbon result is likely to be contamination from vegetation growing over the mound surface, which may have been burnt in antiquity (Seaver 2009, 24). The recovery of a flint scraper from the spread may suggest a prehistoric date for the site.

### **References**

Seaver, M. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Georgia, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Moher	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Mohill	NGR: 205842, 287752
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass	
	Site Director:	Aisling Collins	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in an area which slopes down to the east from a natural ridge separating it from the River Shannon to the west. At the base of the slope the land is flat reclaimed bog, which gives way to raised bog further east. The site was located on the northern boundary of the field which sloped steeply to the east then levelled out on reclaimed bog.		
Cultural Landscape:	The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are no recorded sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two separate burnt mounds were excavated here under the same licence number.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass. The two mounds were masked by the presence of a nineteenth century limekiln which was also investigated.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two separate mounds of heat-shattered stone and associated troughs. A number of other features were also uncovered including a line of stake-holes and a brushwood platform.
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### **Site A**

Burnt Mound:	The mound of broken stone (F80) measured 7.2m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.25m. The mound was sub-oval in shape and spread around the trough F84. It consisted of light brown heat-affected stones in a matrix of charcoal and brown silty soil.
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Working surface?:	Collins suggests that a compacted layer (F104) of peat with charcoal, wood and bark may have acted as a working surface for activities carried out in the
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trough (Collins 2009, 61). This layer was located below the mound. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from this deposit.

**Brushwood surface:** At the eastern end of the trough, an area of brushwood (F108) was uncovered which Collins suggests may have acted as an entrance to the trough F84 (Collins 2009, 61).

**Trough 1:** The trough (F84) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.1m by 1.45m with a depth of 0.65m. The trough was partially lined with planks and split roundwoods. Twelve timbers lined the north, west and east sides and the northern half of the base was covered in five split planks. Five stakes were noted in the corners of the structure. Three fills were contained within the wooden trough; a black peat layer containing occasional timbers and cobbles, a fill of burnt stone and peat) and the primary fill, coarse sand with occasional charcoal and burnt stone dated to 1390BC – 1250BC. A deposit of sticky grey clay was noted along the inside and outside walls of the trough. Mossy organic material was also uncovered below the base planks. These may have been caulking agents used to caulk the trough and filter the water. A deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal was noted also below the basal timbers suggesting an earlier phase. This returned a slightly earlier Middle Bronze Age date.

**Stake Structure:** This arc of stakes was uncovered below a line of stones separated by 20cm of peat. It consisted of a sub-oval ring of twelve stakes with fragments of brushwood interwoven between them. None of the wood was worked.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** This burnt stone spread was located directly upslope from the mound F80 and consisted of two deposits (F51 and F75). F51 was sub-circular in shape and measured 8.6m by 7m. It consisted of black sandy silt rich in charcoal containing heat-affected stone. Below this was F75 which contained larger fire-cracked stones. A small chert flake was recovered from this deposit.

**Trough 2:** Trough F57 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.99m by 1.06m with a depth of 0.14m. Three sides of the trough were clearly cut into the natural with the fourth side open. The trough contained four wooden post holes inserted in the four corners. The fill of one of these posts produced a Late Bronze Age date. A deposit of large heat-affected sandstone was noted within the trough fill. Other deposits included a layer of re-deposited natural and charcoal rich black silt which may have washed out from the sandstone deposit.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** One piece of chert debitage was recovered from the burnt stone deposit F75. A possible rubbing stone was retrieved from the possible stake structure.

**Ecofacts:** None

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Ash) from possible surface F104  
C14 (WK-20194) 3208±51 BP (1610–1390 BC)  
Charcoal (Ash) from primary fill of trough F84  
C14 (WK-20195) 3038±43 BP (1420–1130 BC)  
Charcoal (Hazel) from deposit below base planks of trough F84  
C14 (WK20196) 3116±44 BP (1500–1260 BC)  
Charcoal (Hazel) from fill of post hole in trough F57  
C14 (WK- 20193) 2812±46 BP (1120–840 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed two *fulachtaí fia* situated on the edge of a peat bog which would have provided a water-source to fill the troughs. There is evidence of clear interaction with the bog at this time. The small ring of stakes and the presence of stones F131 shows some activity in the adjacent bog at this time in the Early Bronze Age Period. Unfortunately these features extended beyond the limit of excavation. The two sites at Moher have around 10cm of peat lying between them. This along with radio carbon dates confirm that there was somewhere around a hundred year gap between activities on each site. The later site was situated slightly up hill from the original site, and cut into the earlier mound. The trough was also timber lined, although the wood had been removed in antiquity.

## References

O'Connor, D. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Moher 1, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Plate 10.73 Burnt mound and remains of plank-lined trough at Moher 1, Co. Leitrim.

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Location:	Townland:	Moher	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Mohill	NGR: 205905, 287415
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass	
	Site Director:	Aisling Collins	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located in an area which slopes down to the east from a natural ridge separating it from the River Shannon to the west. At the base of the slope the land is flat reclaimed bog, which gives way to raised bog further east.

**Cultural Landscape:** The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are no recorded sites in the vicinity of the excavation.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to development works. The spreads continued beyond the limits of excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed two burnt stone spreads of shattered stone. No cut features were identified.

**Burnt Mound:** The spread of burnt mound material (F33) was only partly excavated as it lay beyond the CPO where a visible mound was evident. The excavated portion measured 4m by 3.7m with a maximum depth of 0.12m. It consisted of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-affected sandstone. It returned a Late Neolithic date.

**Burnt Spread:** Spread F40 was located south-west of F33. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 4m by 1.8m with a thickness of 0.06m. It consisted of burnt sandstone in a natural hollow. Several chert and flint tools were recovered from this deposit.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Several flint and chert tools were recovered from the spread F40. These consisted of a chert blade and a flake along with a flint chunk and a broken flint bladelet.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Ash) from burnt mound spread F33  
C14 (WK- 20192) 3916±82 BP (2620–2140 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site at Moher 5 may have been disturbed over time for agricultural reasons resulting in shallow archaeological deposits. Burnt Spread F40 may have been levelled (with the deposit only surviving as it lay in a natural depression). However no trough was discovered suggesting that it may in fact be related to Burnt Mound F33. Only the western edge of Burnt Mound F33 encroached into the CPO and was excavated. The feature clearly extended into a visible mound close by. Radiocarbon dating has placed the site in the Chalcolithic.

**References**

O'Connor, D. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Moher 5, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Aghamore	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Mohill	NGR: 205992, 286230
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass	
	Site Director:	Laurence McGowen	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** Aghamore was located in pasture land which sloped eastwards into an area of bog land. All archaeology was situated on the western 'hillside' and did not extend into the bog land to the east

**Cultural Landscape:** The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are no recorded sites in the vicinity of the excavation.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Several different spreads were identified here and excavated under the same licence.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to development works.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the area revealed several burnt stone spreads of heat-affected stone, some of which produced pits that may have functioned as troughs.

**Burnt Spread:** This spread of burnt mound material F140 measured 4m by 2.4m with a thickness of 0.25m. It was located within 7m of other burnt spreads which may in fact relate to the same spread F140 which was dispersed over a large area as a result of agricultural processes. F140 consisted of dark brown silty material which contained charcoal and heat-affected stone.

**Trough 1:** A possible trough pit was exposed under the spread F140. It was oval in shape with sloping sides. It measured 1.44m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.55m. It was filled with two deposits consisting of dark sandy silts, charcoal and fire-cracked sandstone.



Burnt Spreads:	Three spreads of heat-shattered stone were located 7m from the burnt spread F140. Together the spreads measured 8.2m by 12.5m. They were composed of a dark grey/black charcoal rich peat/silty clay with frequent inclusions of angular heat-affected sandstones. A series of pits/post-holes were uncovered under these spreads along with the troughs and further pits described below. Further spreads were located west of these which were probable associated with the same phase.
Trough 2:	Trough F160 was sub-rectangular in shape with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 2.8m by 2m with a depth of 0.54m. The trough was filled with layers of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and dark layers of sand. One of these layers was rich in charcoal suggesting the burnt remains of a timber lining (McGowen 2009, 22).
Pit 1:	Pit F147 was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.7m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.12m. It was filled with a black charcoal rich deposit.
Trough 3:	This pit/trough (F145) was located further to the east and was sub-triangular in shape. It measured 2.1m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.44m. It was filled with substantial deposits of burnt stone and charcoal.
Burnt Spreads:	Burnt Spread F3 was irregular in shape and quite disturbed. It consisted of a black deposit of silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stones and measured 5m by 2.5m with a depth of 0.10m. F9 was oval shaped deposit of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty material. It measured 7.5m by 4.5m with a thickness of 0.2m. Spread F117 was located in the centre of the site along with a series of pits (F46 and F29). F117 was thin deposit and highly disturbed.
Pit 2:	F46 was oval in shape and measured 2m by 1.45m 0.54m. The upper fills consisted of burnt stone and charcoal while the lower layers contained sandy material. This pit was associated with spread F117.
Pit 3:	This pit was sub-rectangular in shape and was very disturbed by root action. A barbed and tanged arrowhead came from the fill.
<b>Finds:</b>	
Artefacts:	A chert barbed and tanged arrowhead came from the fill of F29. A flint blade and a hammerstone were also recovered from the site.
Ecofacts:	None
<b>Dating:</b>	
Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	None

### Excavation Interpretation:

The archaeological evidence at Aghamore 2 has revealed activity on the margins of wetlands during prehistoric times. The site sloped down quite sharply to the margins of the bog, and clearly this was a deliberate attempt to access the resources of the bog itself. Not only are there several burnt spreads and associated troughs, but a curious feature of the site was a number of isolated pits which contained almost pure sand at the base. It is speculated that these pits could represent some form of water purification system, the sand acting as a filter to take any impurities out of the water. The depth of some of these pits would suggest that it was ground water that was being filtered. Indeed upon excavation water did seep up into the pits naturally, as surely it would have done in prehistoric times. The site was not scientifically dated but based on the recovery of a barbed and tanged arrowhead.

### References

McGowan, L. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Aghamore 2, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Plate 10.74 Chert barbed and tanged arrowhead and burnt stone deposit at Aghamore 2, Co. Leitrim.

Location:	Townland:	Aghnahunshin	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Mohill	NGR: 206074, 285975
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass	
	Site Director:	Matthew Seaver	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The sites were situated on a narrow low north-east ridge overlooking bog, on pasture land approximately 5m from the eastern edge of peat growth.		
Cultural Landscape:	The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are no recorded sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered here, all excavated under the same licence number.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to development works.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed three burnt mounds and associated troughs and stake-holes. Pits relating to water management were also uncovered.

### Site A

Burnt Mound 1: The mound of burnt stone F69 covered an area measuring 10.5m by 9m with a thickness of 0.14m. It consisted of charcoal rich soil with heat-shattered stone. Troughs F71 and later re-cut F84 were associated with this low mound of firing debris.

Trough 1: This trough pit was sub-circular in plan and located on the eastern side of the burnt mound. It measured 2m by 1.92m with a depth of 0.7m. It contained four fills consisting of dark silty sands, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. This trough was cut by a later pit F84.

Trough 2: This trough F84 cut the previous trough F71 and was irregular in plan. It measured 4.52m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.32m. It had an elongated north-eastern edge which Seaver suggests may have provided access to the feature

(Seaver 2009, 28). It contained three fills which were a silty mix of sand and clay with large amounts of heat-shattered stone and charcoal inclusions.

## **Site B**

- Burnt Mound 2:** This mound of burnt material (F5) measured 8m by 5m with a thickness of 0.26m. It consisted of charcoal enriched soil with heat-shattered stone. It sealed a trough and a group of shallow pits interpreted as water collection features (Seaver 2009, 28). The mound returned an Early Bronze Age date.
- Trough 3:** The trough F40 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.36m. Its primary fill consisted of silty sand, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from this feature.
- Pit 1:** To the east and north of the trough, just at the crest of the hill, were three pits. F50 was the largest and was sub-circular in shape. It measured 2m in diameter with a depth of 0.22m. The primary fill consisted of light brown silty sand, stone and charcoal.
- Pit 2:** Pit F42 was located close to F50. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.19m in diameter with a depth of 0.12m. It was filled with a grey sandy clay.
- Pit 3:** F49 was located to the north and was sub-circular in shape. It measured 1m in diameter with a depth of 0.1m. The fill consisted of F5, burnt mound material.
- Spread:** This spread (F4) was located in the eastern half of the quadrant. It was composed of a mix of burnt mound material, hill wash and encroaching peat. A barbed and tanged flint arrowhead, a piece of worked flint, a chert scraper and a possible axe rough-out were uncovered from this deposit which surrounded a group of cut features.
- Pit 4:** A series of pits and curvilinear channels were located on a slope leading down to the bog. Pit 45 was oblong in shape and measured 2.05m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.5. The fill consisted of peaty material with mound material inclusions.
- Pit 5:** Pit F51 was oval in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.4m. The fill consisted of peaty material with mound material inclusions.
- Water Channel 1:** This channel (F41) was curvilinear in shape and measured 4m by 1.1m with a maximum depth of 0.8m. It was located on a slope leading down to the bog. The fill consisted of silty material with burn mound inclusions.
- Water Channel 2:** A second water channel (F46) was located to the north of F41. This had a section measuring 2.2m by 1.5m and varied from 0.2 to 0.5m deep which led down to a shallower section running 3.00m across the slope with a width of 2m and was 0.3m deep.

## **Site C**

Burnt Mound 3:	This mound (F14) was located 7m to the north of mound 2. This was a shallow deposit measuring 2.5m by 0.97m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 4:	This trough (F27) was associated with mound 3. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.75m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.27m. It was filled by sandy clay with a heavy concentration of fire cracked stone on its south-eastern side and occasional charcoal throughout. This trough produced an Early Medieval date. A second pit (F35) was cut into this trough.
Trough 5:	This pit/trough was cut into the trough F27. It measured 0.9m long with a depth of 0.14. This pit was only revealed in section. It contained two fills. The main deposit consisted of burnt mound material (F14).
Pit 6:	This pit (F55) was one of three located west and downslope of trough F27. The pit measured 2.5m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.33m. It was filled with a peaty layer containing charcoal and burnt stone.
Pit 7:	This pit (F56) measured 2.2m by 0.3m with a depth of 0.56m. It was filled with a peaty layer containing charcoal and burnt stone.
Pit 8:	This pit (F57) measured 2.1m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.35m. It was filled with a peaty layer containing charcoal and burnt stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Finds from the site included a barbed & tanged flint arrowhead, a piece of struck flint, a possible axe rough-out and a chert concave scraper. These finds were uncovered in a deposit (F4) at Site B.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) from fill of trough F40 (Site B)  
C14 (WK- 22722) 3864±30 BP (2470–2200 BC)  
Charcoal (Unknown) from burnt spread F5 (Site B)  
C14 (WK- 22723) 3803±30 BP (2350–2130 BC)  
Charcoal (elm) from fill of trough F40  
C14 (WK- 22724) 1066±30 BP (AD 890–1030)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

In Area A the Bronze Age features consisted of Mound 3 and its trough. The mound covered an extensive area with the trough (and its re-cut), on its eastern side. The trough was sub-circular containing silty fills with a high concentration of burnt stone and charcoal. The re-cut was a later use of a pre-existing trough which probably took place within the Bronze Age also. In Area B the Bronze Age features consisted of two burnt mounds, their troughs, a series of water collectors and several shallow pits (in Mound 1). The trough in Mound 2 was re-cut, but the extent of Mound 1 was greater. Both troughs were sub-circular. The water collectors were situated down slope from both troughs and were for the most part linear in shape. The shallow pits were only associated with Mound 1 and were probably used to hold round bottomed baskets. An Early Medieval date was obtained from Mound 2, 840-1030 Cal AD and may have resulted from the burning of scrub and woodland overlying the mound material.

## References

Seaver, M. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Aghnahunshin 1, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Plate 10.75 Burnt mound and unlined trough pit at Aghnahunshin, Co. Leitrim.

Location:	Townland:	Clooncolry	Six inch map no:
	Parish:	Mohill	NGR: 206234, 290246
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 53m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass	
	Site Director:	Laurence McGowen	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in pasture land which slopes eastwards into an area of bog land.		
Cultural Landscape:	The higher ground in the vicinity of the site is dense with upstanding Early Medieval monuments however the prehistoric landscape is harder to identify. There are no recorded sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Several burnt stone deposits were uncovered here, all excavated under the same licence number.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring along the line of the proposed N4 Dromod to Roosky Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to development works.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a series of burnt stone deposits which sealed a number of pits which may have functioned as troughs for water heating activities.
Burnt Spread 1:	The mound of burnt stone F3 covered an area measuring 6m in diameter. McGowen states that the spread was highly disturbed. The spread was circular in shape and consisted of charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone.
Burnt Spread 2:	This spread F4 was located in the north-east corner of the area and was roughly rectangular in shape. It measured 3m by 2.5m. It was also highly disturbed.
Pit 1:	The only pit possibly relating to the spreads in this area was F30. It was almost square in plan. It was filled with a stone deposit and brown peaty material. There is also the possibility that this feature is modern in date (McGowen 2009, 13).

Burnt Spread 3:	This was the largest spread excavated at this site. The spread (F8) was roughly rectangular in shape and measured 9m by 6.8m with a thickness of 0.2m. The deposit material consisted of large quantities of silty clay mixed with what is possibly burnt peat material, containing quite a large percentage of rough angular split sandstone and occasional granite stones.
Trough 1:	This trough pit (F31) was sealed by the spread F8. It was circular in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.6m. The pit contained four fills consisting mainly of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone. One grey clay layer may have acted as a lining to make the feature watertight (McGowen 2009, 13). A chert end scraper was retrieved from the fill.
Trough 2:	This trough (F42) was located immediately north of F31. It was D-shaped in plan and measured 2.4m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.6m. It contained three fills with one of these consisting of a grey clayey material possibly used as a lining substance similar to trough F31. The other fills consisted of heat-shattered stone with charcoal inclusions.
Trough 3:	Another trough was located in this area also. F49 was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.12m. The feature contained two fills with the upper deposit consisting mostly of heat-fractured stone and charcoal.
Burnt Spread 4:	This spread F8 was highly disturbed, so much so, the original dimensions could not be ascertained. It had a maximum depth of 0.2m and consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A shallow oval pit was associated with this spread.
Pit 2:	This pit F53 was sealed by the burnt spread F8. It was oval in shape. It contained two fills consisting of an upper sandy layer and a lower stone deposit. It measured 1.5m by 1.2m with a maximum depth of 0.24m.
<b>Finds</b>	A chert end scraper was recovered from trough F31 along with a struck flake. Another possible chert scraper was recovered from the spread F4.

**Dating:** None

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Investigations showed the site contained three burnt mounds, two of which had small associated troughs, a possible charcoal enriched burnt spread and a number of modern agricultural features. Clooncolry 1 had clearly suffered from modern disturbance, and the level of archaeological deposits had been reduced significantly in the past. The series of Burnt Mounds running in a linear direction along the margins of the wetland do not appear to show repeated multiple uses, but it is possible that adjacent new sites were utilised as each site became used up. During excavations adjacent private soil stripping work outside the CPO uncovered a further area of burnt stone activity.

#### **References**

McGowen, L. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Clooncolry 1, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Errew	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Cloone	NGR: 210830, 293430
	Barony:	Mohill	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Leitrim	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Golf Course Development	
	Site Director:	Tamás Péterváry	
	Consultants:	Dominic Delany and Associates Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The sites were uncovered some 30 m east of the River Errew at the base of a valley that opens northwards onto Lough Errew. The area would have been part of the lake that already had filled up with peat by the time the <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were constructed.		
Cultural Landscape:	The closest national monument, a possible megalithic structure (LE 036-009), lies 0.35 km east of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 50m of each other.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of a golf course development . No surface trace of the site existed prior to development works.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed four *fulachtaí fia* with associated troughs and clay platforms.

### Site A

Clay Platform: This oval shaped deposit (C3) consisted of a 0.15m thick layer of marl measuring 5.4m by 3.2m which rested on the bog surface. The burnt stone deposit over lay this and the trough was cut into it.

Burnt Spread: A crescent shaped spread of heat-shattered sandstone mixed with charcoal covered the surface of the clay platform. The deposit was quite shallow measuring 0.06m thick. This deposit also contained a large amount of grit - the result of stone degradation caused by heat . This burnt stone layer returned an Early Bronze Age date.

Trough: The trough (C30) was cut into the clay platform and was circular in shape. It measured 1.4m in diameter with a depth of 0.35m. The pit was lined at the

base with a large slab surrounded by smaller slabs of stone. No lining was noted at the sides of the feature. A grit layer was noted in the base of the trough overlying the stone lining. A deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal was noted over this grit layer.

Stakes: A series of stakes were noted driven into the bog surface at roughly regular intervals in an irregular east-west line some 1.5 m north of the clay-platform.

## **Site B**

Clay Platform: This deposit was located 35m south of Site A. The clay platform (C8) was oval in shape and measured 3.9m by 2.6m with a depth of 0.25m. A rectangular wood-lined trough was cut into this layer at its western side.

Burnt Spread: The spread of fired material (C7) was located on the clay platform in a series of small deposits next to the trough. It consisted of heat-shattered stone including many larger pieces waiting to be used, and charcoal. The larger concentration measured 1.2m by 0.8m with a thickness of 0.08m. A Late Bronze Age date was returned from this deposit.

Trough: The trough was rectangular in plan and measured 1.98m by 1.08m with a depth of 0.2m. The base and the sides of the trough were lined with longitudinally split roundwood and brushwood elements. The basal layer of the trough consisted of a deposit of grit, i.e. degraded stones, in the eastern half of the feature. A deposit of heat-shattered stones overlay this material.

## **Site C**

Clay Platform: This clay deposit was located 13m south of Site B. It was irregular in shape and measured 5.2m by 2.8m with a thickness of 0.5m. A circular, wattle-lined trough was cut into this clay platform.

Burnt Spread: The burnt spread (C20) accumulated to the south-east of the trough. It measured 1m by 0.5m with a thickness of 0.02m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone mixed with charcoal. Scatters of larger slabs and heat-shattered stones were identified to the east of the platform. These deposits (C14) were certainly related to the use of the site (Péterváry, 2007, 27).

Trough: The trough was located on the northern edge of the clay platform and was circular in shape. It measured 1.2m in diameter with a depth of 0.24m. The trough seemed to be wattle-lined which was best preserved along the north-western edge. It consisted of horizontal brushwood elements. The basal layer of the trough consisted of a 0.02 m thick accumulation of degraded sandstone grit. A layer of heat-effected sandstones with an average diameter of 0.20 m was placed along the southern edge of the trough.

Platform/Structure?: A deposit of roots, some brushwood and a worked stake some 5 m to the southwest of the platform may have been a foundation for a structure associated with the site (Péterváry 2007, 27).

## Site D

Clay Platform: This deposit of clay was located 8m south of Site C. The platform measured 4m by 2.1m with a thickness of 0.32m. Unlike the other platforms, no trough was found cut into this deposit.

Burnt Spread: A thin oblong deposit (C13) of heat-shattered-stones mixed with charcoal, measuring 1.4 m east-west by 0.45 m, was located in the eastern half of the platform. This returned a Late Bronze Age date.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) from burnt spread (Site A)  
C14 (WK- 23159) Unknown BP (2200–1960 BC)  
Charcoal (Unknown) from burnt spread (Site B)  
C14 (WK- 23160) Unknown BP (1000–830 BC)  
Charcoal (Unknown) from burnt spread (Site D)  
C14 (WK- 23161) Unknown BP (790–500 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The most noticeable feature at this location was a deposit of clay that acted as a platform in the bog and accommodated the functional area of the *fulacht fia*. Each of the four *fulachtaí fia* identified during the archaeological excavation in Errew contained small irregularly oblong deposits of heat-effected stones. The contiguous deposit in Cutting 1 covered almost the entire clay platform, while the deposits in the other cuttings were found in small clusters. The volume of stones found in burnt deposits is used to indicate the length and intensity of the site use. The thin deposits of burnt material in Errew, were not disturbed by recent ploughing and could, therefore, indicate a short period and/or relatively rare occasions of use. The four excavated *fulachta fia* in Errew were aligned on roughly the same contour line stretching in a North-South direction. This means that it was important to place these sites at the same distance from the dryland.

### References

Péterváry, T. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Errew, Co. Leitrim*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Dominic Delany and Associates Ltd.



Plate 10.76 Clay platforms, burnt stone deposits and different trough types at Sites A-D, Errew, Co. Leitrim.



Location:	Townland:	Raheen	Six inch map no: 49
	Parish:	Ballyscaddan	NGR: 174873, 128538
	Barony:	Coshlea	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Margaret Gowen	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	1986	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on the western bank of a fast-flowing stream in an area of generally flat ground. The stream feeds the rising Morningstar River c. 500m to the south-west.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several other burnt mound sites were revealed in advance of the pipeline scheme, at sites such as Ballycahane Upper and Cloghaclocka. The Raheen site was situated close to a ring-ditch.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and the remains of two timber-lined troughs along with a single pit.
Burnt Mound:	The mound measured 14m east-west and was exposed to an extent of 4m. It consisted of charcoal-rich clay and burnt and heat-shattered stones. The material was covered with an alluvial deposit of river clay and silt which may have resulted from flooding of the nearby river.
Trough 1:	This trough (F2) was rectangular in plan and measured 0.75m by 0.80m. The base of the pit was lined with four trimmed logs which were fitted closely together. Between these timbers, were deposits of sand and small stones. The eastern side of the pit was lined with a single plank which was held in place by a stake located in the south-eastern corner. No planks were noted in the southern side, however a series of stake-holes implied that they may have existed in the past. A broken plank was revealed on the western side. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone in a matrix of grey-black sandy clay.
Trough 2:	This trough (F3) was contained within an irregular cut which measured 1.45m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.24m. Finely worked planks were noted at the base of the feature. Three of the planks were neatly pointed at their ends and square mortices at the northern ends of the some timbers. Fragmentary side planks were noted on the eastern and southern sides of the trough.

Beneath the planks and between them were deposits of sand related to the use of pyrolithic technology. Seven stake-holes were revealed along the northern, eastern and southern sides of the pit. Another stake was noted driven between two of the basal planks. The trough was filled with burnt mound material.

Pit 1: This pit (F4) was revealed west of the trough F3. It was oval in plan and extended beyond the limits of the excavation. The excavated portion measured 0.73m by 0.22m with a depth of 0.32m. The fill of the pit consisted of soft black silty clay, with charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (stake) from trough F2  
C14 (GrN-13686) 3605±40 BP (2049–1878 BC)  
Wood from the trough F3  
C14 (GrN-15392) 3555±50 BP (2026–1753 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of two timber-lined troughs dated to the Early Bronze Age. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking.

**References**

Gowen, M. 1988. *Three Irish Gas Pipelines: new Archaeological Evidence in Munster*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Ballycahane Upper	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Ballycahane	NGR: 155110, 14480
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Margaret Gowen	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	1986	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated in a flat, low-lying, well drained area. There were, however, patches of wet ground owing to the presence of springs.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several other burnt mound sites were revealed in advance of the pipeline scheme, at sites such as Raheen and Cloghaclocka. The Ballycahane site was situated close to an enclosed cremation pit cemetery.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a single unlined trough which was revealed in section.
Burnt Mound:	The low mound measured 15m by 12m with a maximum thickness of 0.35m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of charcoal-stained black clay.
Trough:	The trough was revealed in section and measured 1.8m in length with a depth of 0.6m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone with a basal deposit of grey, sandy silt with charcoal inclusions. No evidence of a timber lining was noted.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
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**Dating:**

Absolute dating:	None
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**References**

Gowen, M. 1988. *Three Irish Gas Pipelines: new Archaeological Evidence in Munster*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Cloghacloka	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	Ballycahane	NGR: 153400, 150400
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Margaret Gowen	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	1986	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated in boggy, flat land which descended very gently. The site occurs beside a stream which now runs through a deep field boundary drain.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several other burnt mound sites were revealed in advance of the pipeline scheme, at sites such as Raheen and Cloghaclocka. The Ballycahane site was situated close to an enclosed cremation pit cemetery.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a single unlined trough which was revealed in section.
Burnt Mound:	The mound material measured 20m by 20m with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. It composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a compact, charcoal-rich marl matrix. Beneath the mound material was a layer of charcoal-flecked silty clay which contained twigs and root fragments. A fragment of red deer antler was recovered from this deposit.
Trough:	This possible trough consisted of three roughly hewn planks which lay on the stream side of the mound material. They were embedded into this material to a depth of 0.03m and were covered by a thin lens of charcoal-flecked sandy marl. All the timbers had been worked and each lay parallel to each other. The timbers extended back into the section face beyond the exposed area.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Wood (birch) from one of the planks C14 (GrN-15404) 4560±25 BP (3236–3110 BC)

### References

Gowen, M. 1988. *Three Irish Gas Pipelines: new Archaeological Evidence in Munster*. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Ballycahane Lower	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Ballycahane	NGR: 155110, 14480
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Margaret Gowen	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	1986	
Physical Setting:	This site lay at the base of two opposing slopes which led down to a stream which now runs through a field boundary. The topography is undulating with frequent outcrops of limestone.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several other burnt mound sites were revealed in advance of the pipeline scheme, at sites such as Raheen and Cloghaclocka. The Ballycahane site was situated close to an enclosed cremation pit cemetery which was located close to the summit of the northern slope some 400m away.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mitchelstown to Limerick Gas Pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone which overlay a peat deposit that contained.
Burnt Mound:	Only a portion of this burnt mound was revealed during topsoil removal. 7m of the spread was exposed in the pipeline corridor and it consisted of heat-shattered sandstone and isolated limestone blocks in a charcoal-rich clay matrix. No trough was revealed at the site, however, only limited excavation was undertaken. Numerous wild boar bones were uncovered in a peat layer below the spread.
<b>Finds:</b>	Wild boar bones were recovered from a peat layer below the burnt mound deposit.
<b>Dating:</b>	Wood fragments from a deposit of peat below the spread C14 (GrN-14903) 7880±60 BP (6863–6604 BC) Wood fragments from a deposit of peat below the spread C14 (GrN-14505) 6025±45 BP (5036–4798 BC)

### **References**

Gowen, M. 1988. *Three Irish Gas Pipelines: new Archaeological Evidence in Munster*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Ballylin	Six inch map no: 28
	Parish:	Rathronan	NGR: 126154, 139184
	Barony:	Shanid	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Rescue	
	Site Director:	Helena Feighan	
	Consultants:	Independant	
	Year:	1988	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on a south-facing slope in an area of marshy ground.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site is located at the base of a Late Bronze Age hillfort. Several recorded <i>fulachtaí fia</i> are also known in the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

No information available as to the sites physical condition prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Only limited information is available for the site as it is unpublished and not referred to in the excavations bulletin. Three troughs however were revealed, with one of these dating to the Bronze Age. The date came from a sample of charcoal located immediately above the base of the trough sealed by burnt stone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (unknown) from the base of the trough C14 (GrN-13153) 3400±60 BP (1880–1602 BC)

**References**

Brindley, A.L, Lanting, J.N. and Mook, W.G. 1989–90. Radiocarbon dates from Irish *fulachta fiadh* and other burnt mounds. *Journal of Irish Archaeology* **5**, 25–33.

Location:	Townland:	Attyflin	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Killonahan	NGR: 151824, 149143
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Realignment	
	Site Director:	Cia McConway	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a slight dip in the north-east corner of a field which was quite waterlogged. During recent land clearance a number of stones had been deposited in and around the mound.		
Cultural Landscape:	A triangular platform is visible immediately north-west of the mound and a discontinuous low grassy bank is visible along the western area of the site. A megalithic structure is recorded c. 150m south of the site (LI012-139) and several other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated along the same stretch of road.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> (LK06)		

### Pre-Excavation features

Prior to excavation the site survived as a low mound with a heavy coverage of young elm trees and scrub. Numerous stones from recent field clearance were deposited around the mound.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Limited excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a shallow pit along with a stone kerbing.
Burnt Mound:	Prior to excavation, the mound measured 25m by 31m with a height of 1.16m. The make-up of the mound consisted of loose heat-shattered stone in a matrix of black, charcoal-rich peaty soil. To the northern edge of the trench, the burnt mound material was overlain by a spread of larger unburned stones. This may represent an attempt to create a formal stone surface or cairn deposit around the perimeter of the mound material and may have been associated with the activity on the top of the mound (McConway, 1997).
Pit:	A shallow pit was uncovered during the excavation with a formalised stone kerbing. (No other information available).
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

McConway, C. 1998. Attyflin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1997*, 110. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Attyflin	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Killonahan	NGR: 151824, 149180
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Realignment	
	Site Director:	Cia McConway	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated close to a stream, which now forms part of a field boundary.		
Cultural Landscape:	A megalithic structure is recorded c. 200m south of the site (LI012-139) and several other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated along the same stretch of road.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> (LK05)		

**Pre-Excavation features**

Prior to excavation the site survived as an elongated mound with a heavy coverage of trees and scrub. Numerous stones from recent field clearance were deposited around the mound.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Limited excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered and a possible stone kerbing.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was elongated and measured 12m by 8m and was overgrown with a number of trees and scrub. Excavation revealed that the mound consisted of burnt and heat-shattered stones within a dark brown to black silty soil. On the north-western edge of the mound a series of kerbstones were revealed which may have served as a revetment for the material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

**Dating:**

Absolute dating:	None
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**References**

McConway, C. 1998. Attyflin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1997*, 111. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Dooradoyle	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	Mungret	NGR: 157279, 653596
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Adare to Annacotty Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Cia McConway	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a disused playing field which was bounded by the Ballnaclogh River to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	The excavated site was situated c. 110m west of a series of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated in the neighbouring townland of Rosbrien.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

Prior to excavation the site was heavily damaged by the construction of a rugby pitch, resulting in the site being levelled and compacted. As a result, the archaeological deposits were severely truncated.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound and two troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed in the form of two kidney-shaped 'arms'. The western portion measured 14.5m by 7m with a thickness of 0.15m while the eastern half measured 22.5m by 9m with a depth of 0.5m. The material consisted of black, charcoal-rich soil and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 1:	This trough was revealed between the arms of burnt material and was sub-rectangular in plan. It was clay-lined and measured 2.58m by 2m with a depth of 0.54m. The pit cut the natural sub-soil and was filled with blackened soil and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 2:	This trough was also sub-rectangular in shape and cut the natural sub-soil. It measured 1.96m by 1.42m with a depth of 0.36m. Four stake-holes cut the base of the pit, one in each of the corners which probably indicates the trough was timber-lined originally. It was filled with blackened soil and heat-shattered stone.
Finds:	None
Dating:	None

### References

Gahan, A. 1998. Dooradoyle. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1997*, 113. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Cloghacloka	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	Mungret	NGR: 153400, 150400
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Adare to Annacotty Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Paul Logue	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying, marshy area close to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

Prior to excavation the site survived as a low mound in a wet, marshy area. A subsequent excavation was undertaken in advance of road construction.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone, three troughs, a stone surface and two possible hearths.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 24m by 18m and consisted of heat-shattered stone in a grey-green, loam clay matrix.
Trough 1:	This trough was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.8m by 1.2m with a maximum depth of 0.2m. It was cut into the natural sub-soil and was lined with stones and clay subsoil. Nine large stake-holes cut the base of the trough suggesting that it was once timber-lined. A contemporary stone surface extended from the trough west to the stream.
Trough 2:	This trough was revealed 7.4m from the first trough. It was sub-rectangular and measured 3m by 1.35m by 0.5m and was lined with clay and stones. A series of stake-holes were also revealed in this pit suggesting again, the presence of an internal timber lining. This trough seemed to post-date the previous as a second stone surface was associated was noted overlying the first one associated with trough 1.
Hearths:	Two hearths were revealed at the north and eastern sides of trough 2. No other detail available.
Trough 3:	This trough was revealed immediately adjacent to the previous trough to the south-west. It was sub-rectangular and measured 1.58m by 1.6m with a maximum depth of 0.4m. The pit cut the stone surface associated with the second trough suggesting it was related to a third phase of activity. Seven

large stake-holes were revealed cutting the base of the trough suggest some form of timber-lining that no longer survives.

Hearth 3: Trough three was contemporary with a small hearth which was revealed to the north of the pit. (No other details available)

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of troughs that displayed evidence to suggest they were once timber-lined. The importance of water in the operation of the sites is also evidence in the stone surfaces associated with these features that extended to the location of the nearby stream. It also suggests that the location was waterlogged in prehistory, requiring the working areas of the site to be stabilised with cobbles. Several phases of activity were also noted with later troughs cut into this surface. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly for cooking.

**References**

Logue, P. 1998. Cloghacloka. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 131–32. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Attyflin	Six inch map no: 21
	Parish:	Killonahan	NGR: 151451, 148715
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Limerick Bypass	
	Site Director:	Ciara MacManus	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated c. 500m east of the N21 road, within the vicinity of number of known areas of archaeological activity.		
Cultural Landscape:	A megalithic structure is recorded in the area (LI012-139) along with several other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> which were excavated along the same stretch of road.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

Prior to excavation the site survived as an elongated mound of burnt material. The site was excavated in advance of the Limerick Bypass.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone, a small trough, a large pit and several stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was elongated in shape and measured 17m by 9m with a height of 0.35m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of charcoal-enriched soil.
Trough:	This pit was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.1m by 1m with a depth of 0.28m. It had steep sides and a flat base and was filled with burnt mound material.
Pit:	This pit was revealed 1.3m north of the trough. It was oval in plan and measured 0.14m by 2m with a depth of 1.2m. The southern half had a stepped profile. The fill consisted of a number of burnt stone deposit and silty clays which contained fragments of animal bone and wood.
Stake-holes:	Twelve stake-holes were revealed immediately to the east of the pit and no distinctive plan could be made of the concentration except for a possible line of double post-holes running north-south along the edge of the pit.

**Finds:** Animal bone fragments were recovered from the deep pit feature.

### References

MacManus, C. 2000. Attyflin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 158. Wordwell, Bray.



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Location:	Townland:	Barnakyle	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Mungret	NGR: 152700, 150160
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Limerick Bypass	
	Site Director:	Ciara MacManus	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	

Physical Setting: No information available

Cultural Landscape: There are a number of enclosures and earthworks recorded in the immediate vicinity of the excavated site which may date to any period of Irish archaeology, however one may assume the enclosures are possible early medieval in date. There are however a number of *fulachtaí fia* in the area with the site of Cloghacloka located 400m to the north-east (LIO13-213).

Adjacent excavated sites: None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

Prior to excavation the site survived as a low mound of burnt material. The site was subsequently excavated in advance of the N20/N21 Limerick Bypass.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone, several trough pits and a substantial hearth structure. A later beehive-shaped well was also uncovered sunk into the north-east end of the mound.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 18.94m by 14m with a maximum height of 0.5m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material.
Trough 1:	This trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.12m by 1.48m with a depth of 0.43m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich material. No lining was noted.
Trough 2:	This was another possible trough that lay to the north-east of the first. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.8m by 0.86m with a depth of 0.45m. This pit was also filled with burnt mound material.
Hearth:	This hearth was associated with a separate phase of activity on site as it partially overlay one of the earlier troughs. The hearth consisted of a substantial stone setting which measured 2.6m by 1.86m. It was composed of two large limestone slabs bounded by a ring of upright limestone blocks and divided in the middle more elongated slabs set on their sides. These slabs were heat-affected suggesting they were exposed to a considerable amount of heat.

Trough 3: The hearth structure above was associated with a large elongated trough which measured 4.85m by 3.18m with a depth of 0.99m. It was filled with a number of peat and clay deposits and was lined with a layer of small stones set into the edge.

Well: A beehive-shaped well was exposed sunk into the mound material and represented the latest phase of the site. The date of this feature is unknown.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of well-defined troughs and a stone-built hearth used to heat stones. The importance of water in the operation of the sites is also evidence in the location of an adjacent well probably used to the fill the troughs with water. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly for cooking.

**References**

MacManus, C. 2000. Barnakyle. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 162. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Derryknockane	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Knocknagaul	NGR: NA
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Limerick Bypass	
	Site Director:	Ciara MacManus	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a small ridge surrounded by marshy land, which sloped off to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is no information available as to the cultural landscape of the site		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N20/N21 Limerick Bypass. The site was heavily disturbed and survived as a small spread. There was no surface remains of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed spread of heat-shattered stone, a trough and a small pit.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was heavily disturbed by later agricultural processes and seemed to be deposited downslope from the trough. The spread material which was revealed had a maximum depth of 0.13m.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.4. It was located on a small ridge which sloped off to the west. It was filled with various deposits of charcoal-rich material and a large amount of heat-shattered stone.
Pit 1:	This linear pit measured 1.6m by 0.65m and lay to the east of the trough. (No other details available)
Pit 2:	This pit was situated 1.6m to the south-east of the trough and measured 1.2m in diameter. (No other details available)
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

MacManus, C. 2000. Barnakyle. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 165. Wordwell,

Location:	Townland:	Rathbane South	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	St. Nicholas	NGR: 158569, 154454
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Limerick Bypass	
	Site Director:	Catherine McLoughlin	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a small ridge surrounded by marshy land, which sloped off to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site was situated 70m south of another excavated <i>fulacht fia</i> . A cremation pit (LI013-216) and a prehistoric barrow (LI013-020) were also revealed during excavations c. 150m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N20/N21 Limerick Bypass. The site was heavily disturbed and survived as a small spread. There were no surface remains of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed spread of heat-shattered stone, a trough and a small pit. No finds were recovered and no scientific dates are available.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was heavily disturbed but survived as a roughly circular spread of charcoal-rich soil and heat-shattered stone that measured 7.5m by 8.5m with a depth of 0.2m.
Trough:	The trough was oval in shape and measured 2.6m by 1.9m with a maximum depth of 0.4m. It was filled with burnt mound debris.
Pit:	This pit was revealed 0.5m east of the trough. It measured 1.7m by 1.2m with a maximum depth of 0.35m. The base of the cut was filled with high amounts of charcoal and occasional burnt stone. It was interpreted as a fire pit.
Stake-Holes:	Twelve stake-holes ran between the trough and the fire pit and were interpreted as the remains of a windbreak structure.

### References

McLoughlin, C. 2000. Rathbane South. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 179. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Rathbane South	Six inch map no: 10
	Parish:	St. Nicholas	NGR: 158589, 154566
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Limerick Bypass	
	Site Director:	Catherine McLoughlin	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a small ridge surrounded by marshy land, which sloped off to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site was situated 70m north of another excavated <i>fulacht fia</i> . A cremation pit (LI013-216) and a prehistoric barrow (LI013-020) were also revealed during excavations c. 150m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N20/N21 Limerick Bypass. There were no surface remains of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed spread of heat-shattered stone, a trough, a large pit or cistern and gully feature.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a large spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-enriched soil. The deposit measured 14m by 28m.
Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape with straight sides and a flat base. It measured 2.75m by 1.8m with a maximum depth of 0.5m. <i>In situ</i> burning was noted in the pit and it was filled with charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit/Cistern:	This large pit was circular in shape and measured 3.9m in diameter with a maximum depth of 1.35m. It was lined with a layer of clay which the excavator suggests, may have held water and functioned as a cistern, supplying water to the adjacent trough. The pit did not fill naturally with water. Animal bones were recovered from the fill of the pit consisting of wild and domesticated animals.
Gully:	This linear feature ran across the site and fell steadily toward the north-west. It ran for a length of 15m and was also lined with clay similar to the cistern. It may have been related to the large pit however pre-excavation testing obscured their possible relationship.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:                      None

Ecofacts:                      Animal bone was recovered from the large pit/cistern.

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a large pit interpreted as a possible cistern or reservoir to hold water for the adjacent trough. The large channel, which was clay-lined may also have been used to direct water into the cistern from an adjacent water-source, such as a stream. Although a trough was identified on site, it may have later been used as an oven or roasting pit involving a dry heat, as in situ burning was recorded in the base of the feature.

**References**

McLoughlin, C and Stafford, E. 2000. Rathbane South. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 180. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Rossbrien	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	St. Michaels	NGR: 157397, 153550
	Barony:	Pubblebrien	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N20/N21 Limerick Bypass	
	Site Director:	Catherine McLoughlin	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on low-lying boggy ground.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site was situated within a cluster of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , one of which was excavated as part of the same project, in the neighbouring townland of Dooradoyle.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N20/N21 Limerick Bypass. There were no surface remains of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed spread of charcoal-enriched soil and heat-shattered stone.

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound survived as a large spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-enriched soil. It was mixed with topsoil deposits suggesting a certain amount of disturbance which is also attested to by the presence of modern pottery, glass and metal. The deposit measured 30m by 17m with a maximum depth of 0.3m. Limestone bedrock protruded through the whole area, and no other features were present.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Three stone beads were recovered from the deposit. Animal bone was also recovered however the presence of modern material such as metal and pottery suggests a certain level of disturbance.

### Dating:

Absolute dating: None

### References

McLoughlin, C and Stafford, E. 2000. Rathbane South. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 180. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Cappamore	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Doon	NGR: 7770, 5220
	Barony:	Coonagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mulkear River Flood Relief Scheme	
	Site Director:	Jacinta Kiely	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on low-lying boggy ground adjacent to the River Mulkear.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated area prior to investigation		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mulkear River Flood Relief Scheme. The site was not fully excavated and survived as low grass-covered mound to the north of the wayleave.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed several deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal and a large circular trough which was timber-lined.
Burnt Mound:	Only the southern section of the burnt mound was exposed and fully excavated. The portion revealed measured 4m by 19m while the remainder of the site survived as a low mound in the adjacent field. The excavation revealed nine separate deposits of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal-enriched soil.
Trough:	The trough was cut below the water-table and was circular in plan. It measured 2.08m by 4.41m with a depth of 1.32m. The pit contained ten fills consisting of dark sandy silts and heat-shattered stone. A number of timbers were found in the basal deposit.
<b>Finds:</b>	Animal bone was recovered from the basal fill of the trough along with hazelnuts and hazelnut shell fragments.
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### **References**

Keily, E. 2002. Cappamore. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Rathbane South	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Doon	NGR: 159226, 154404
	Barony:	Coonagh	Altitude: 13m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Limerick Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Edmond O’ Donovan	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on marshy ground below a natural ridge marking the townland boundary of Banemore to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several other prehistoric sites were revealed during archaeological testing, including a truncated <i>fulacht fia</i> and a Bronze Age settlement site identified 300m upslope.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Middle Bronze Age settlement site located 300m upslope from the <i>fulacht fia</i> .		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mulkear River Flood Relief Scheme. The site was not fully excavated and survived as low grass-covered mound to the north of the wayleave.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a substantial burnt mound and two troughs which produced evidence to suggest they were timber-lined.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 12m by 10.2m with a maximum depth of 0.2m. It consisted of a uniform deposit of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. Several similar deposits were noted on the periphery of the mound material, some of which were interpreted as possible areas of burning (O' Donovan 2002, 10). A chert hollow-based arrowhead was recovered from a deposit at the edge of the mound. This consisted of mid-grey clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 1:	This trough (C17) was the primary pit on site and was sub-circular in plan. It measured 1.45m by 1.25m with a maximum depth of 0.4m. The base of the trough was cut by thirty three evenly spaced stake-holes around its perimeter. Eight semi-circular hollows were identified in the side-walls of the pit and were identified as the remains of further supports for an internal lining. The trough had a sub-square extension which measured 0.93m by 0.9m with a maximum depth of 0.25m. A further five stake-holes cut the base of this feature. The primary fill of the trough consisted of light clay and heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

Stake-Holes:	A series of stake and post-holes were revealed on the western edge of the trough C17. Some of these post-holes may in fact be small pits.
Trough 2:	This trough (C18) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.9m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.4m. A series of three plank-holes cut the western end of the feature and one stake-hole and two plank-holes cut the eastern end of the trough pit. The trough was filled with lenses of clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. Two stake-holes were identified on the south-western side of the trough. Two deposits of upcast material from the initial digging of the troughs were noted also.
Pit 1:	This pit (C79) may have functioned as another trough. It was irregular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1m with a maximum depth of 0.5m. A series of clays filled the lower half of the pit while the upper deposits consisted of burnt mound material.
Pit 2:	Pit (C34) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.46m with a maximum depth of 0.25m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
Pit 3:	This pit (C76) was irregular in shape and measured 1.4m by 0.9m with a maximum depth of 0.25m. It was filled with light grey clay and frequent heat-shattered stone.
Pit 4:	Pit (C38) was oval in shape and measured 0.9m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.03m. It was filled with grey sandy clay and heat-shattered stone.
Stake-Holes:	A small number of isolated stake-holes were revealed around the site and did not appear to be associated with any of the features identified on site.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	Chert hollow-based arrowhead was recovered from a deposit at the edge of the burnt mound material (C3)
Ecofacts:	Fragmentary remains of animal bone were recovered from the fills of the trough C17.

### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (alder) from the primary fill of trough C17 C14 (GrN-26552) 3710±30 BP (2199–1983 BC) Charcoal (alder and hazel) from the burnt mound C3 C14 (GrN-18956) 3710±30 BP (1913–1527 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of two troughs which produced evidence to suggest they were timber-lined originally. The site can be interpreted as an Early Bronze Age boiling location possibly for cooking which is tentatively supported by the recovery of animal bone remains.

### **References**

O'Donovan, E. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Rathbane South, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

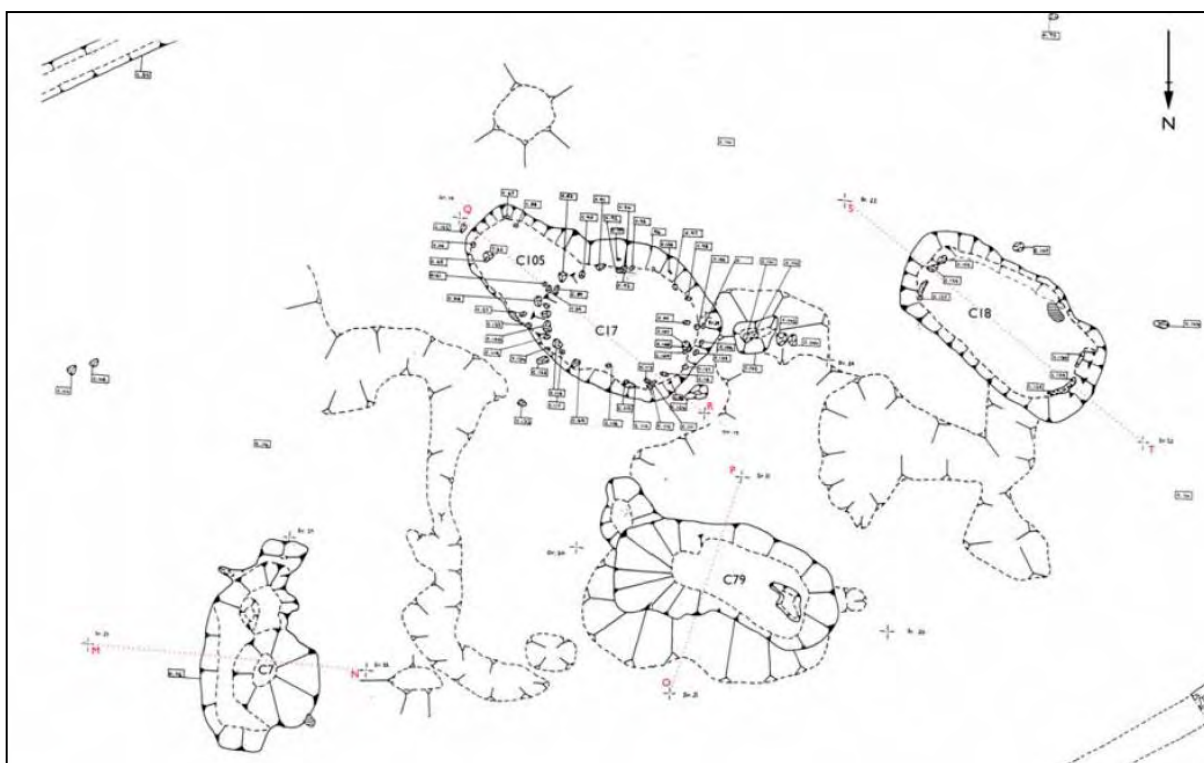
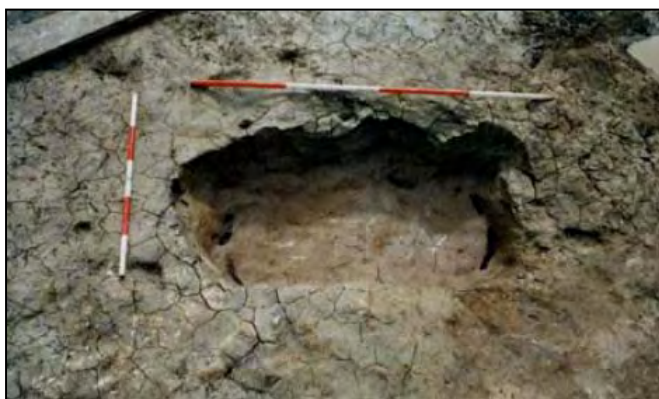


Fig. 10.90 Plan of trough pits with internal stake-holes at Rathbane South, Co. Limerick.



Location:	Townland:	Drominycarra	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Doon	NGR: 159711, 143029 158230, 142900
	Barony:	Coonagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Fedamore Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Sarah McCutcheon	
	Consultants:	Limerick County Council	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on low-lying marshy ground.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the excavated area prior to investigation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Fedamore Village Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity consisting of burnt stone spreads and several pit features that may have functioned as troughs.

##### **Site A**

Burnt Spread: This spread consisted of a compact layer of heat-shattered stone and charcoal within a blackened, carbonised clay. It measured 8m by 5m with an average thickness of 0.15m.

Trough: The possible trough was oval in plan and measured 2.3m by 2m with a depth of 0.15m. It cut into the natural clays and was unlined. A possibly gully extended from this trough and may have diverted the flow of ground water into the pit.

Pits: Two isolated pits were also revealed on site during excavations. (No details available).

##### **Site B**

Burnt Spread: This spread was irregular in plan and measured 9m by 8m with an average thickness of 0.15m. The spread extended beyond the limits of the excavation. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal-rich silty clay.

Trough: This pit was heavily truncated but may have functioned as a trough. It was oval in plan and measured 1.3m by 1m with a depth of 0.11m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: A piece of struck flint was recovered from the subsoil on site

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the sites revealed deposits of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of two troughs none of which produced evidence to suggest they were timber-lined. The trough at Site was cut into natural clays where it may have held water naturally. An associated water-inlet channel may have directed rainwater into the pit. The sites can be interpreted as pyrolithic boiling locations possibly for cooking.

**References**

McCutcheon, S. 2002. Drominycarra . *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Crabbsland	Six inch map no: 05
	Parish:	St. Nicholas	NGR: 160451, 155620
	Barony:	Coonagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Limerick Southern Ring Road	
	Site Director:	Frank Coyne	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	This site is situated in a level field, which is very marshy underfoot, and prone to localised flooding		
Cultural Landscape:	There are several prehistoric sites recorded in the vicinity of the site including two standing stones in the neighbouring townland of towlterton, c. 1km to the north east (LI005-074 and LI005-089). A <i>fulacht fia</i> is also recorded here (LI005-090).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Limerick Southern Ring Road. The site survived as a low grass-covered mound prior to investigations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed several phases of activity. The initial phase consisted of a burnt mound which lacked an associated trough. The site was returned to in the later Iron Age and again during the Medieval period for activities associated with iron working.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C7) was kidney-shaped and measured 6m by 10m with a maximum height of 0.7m. It consisted of loose friable dark blackish brown sandy stone with inclusions of yellow and orange silty clay containing frequent amounts of burnt stone and occasional charcoal inclusions. Charcoal from this mound was dated to the Early Bronze Age. The mound was covered by a clay deposit (C4) which was deliberately introduced to the site during a separate phase of activity.
Pit:	This pit (C12) was cut into the top of the mound through the clay deposit (C4). The pit was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.75m by 0.64m with a depth of 0.21m. The pit was lined at the sites and at the base with large flat stones and it was filled with deposits of ash, charcoal. The contexts surrounding C12 showed evidence of burning, therefore the pit may have functioned as a hearth or roasting pit. Charcoal from this feature was dated to the Late Iron Age.

Furnaces:	Two pits representing iron working furnaces were also revealed on the mound. Both contained large amounts of slag and charcoal and the pits were heavily fire reddened suggesting intense heat. Charcoal from one of these pits was dated to the latter part of the Early Medieval period.
Stone Setting:	A linear stone setting was revealed on the mound. A crutch headed stick pin and a metal tag end were found under two of these stones representing deliberate deposits. Both finds date to the Medieval period.
Other Features:	Several other shallow depressions were noted on the mound which contained charcoal, sandy deposits and heat-shattered stone. One roughly circular cut (C19) contained a fill consisting of charcoal and burnt and unburnt animal bone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A crutch headed stick pin and a metal tag end from a belt were found deliberately deposited under two stones on top of the mound. Metal slag was also recovered from the two furnaces on site.

Ecofacts: Burnt and unburnt animal bone was recovered from a shallow depression (C19) on the mound.

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound (C7)  
C14 (Beta-182302) 3910±80 BP (2585–2145 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit (C12)  
C14 (Beta-182301) 1600±70 BP (AD 265–615)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the furnace (C26)  
C14 (Beta-182304) 1050±60 BP (AD 880–1140)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

This site was discovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Limerick Southern Ring-Road. Excavation revealed a crescent-shaped mound of heat-shattered stone and charcoal, dated to the early Bronze Age. No trough or associated features were exposed relating to this phase of activity. A number of pits were revealed on top of the mound, cut into a clay mantle that was introduced onto the site at a later date. One of these small pits had a stone-lined base, which produced a charcoal sample dated to the late Iron Age/early medieval period. Two furnaces were also exposed on the mound and were dated to the medieval period. The medieval dates represent a phase of reuse at the site that began at the end of the Iron Age, when a quantity of clay was introduced in an attempt to further raise the ground level above the surrounding marshy environment (Coyne 2001, 27). The site was returned to in the latter part of the medieval period to carry out iron-working activity. The excavation evidence does not suggest that pyrolithic technology was practised at that time.

#### **Reference**

Coyne, F. 2001. *An archaeological excavation at Crabbsland, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

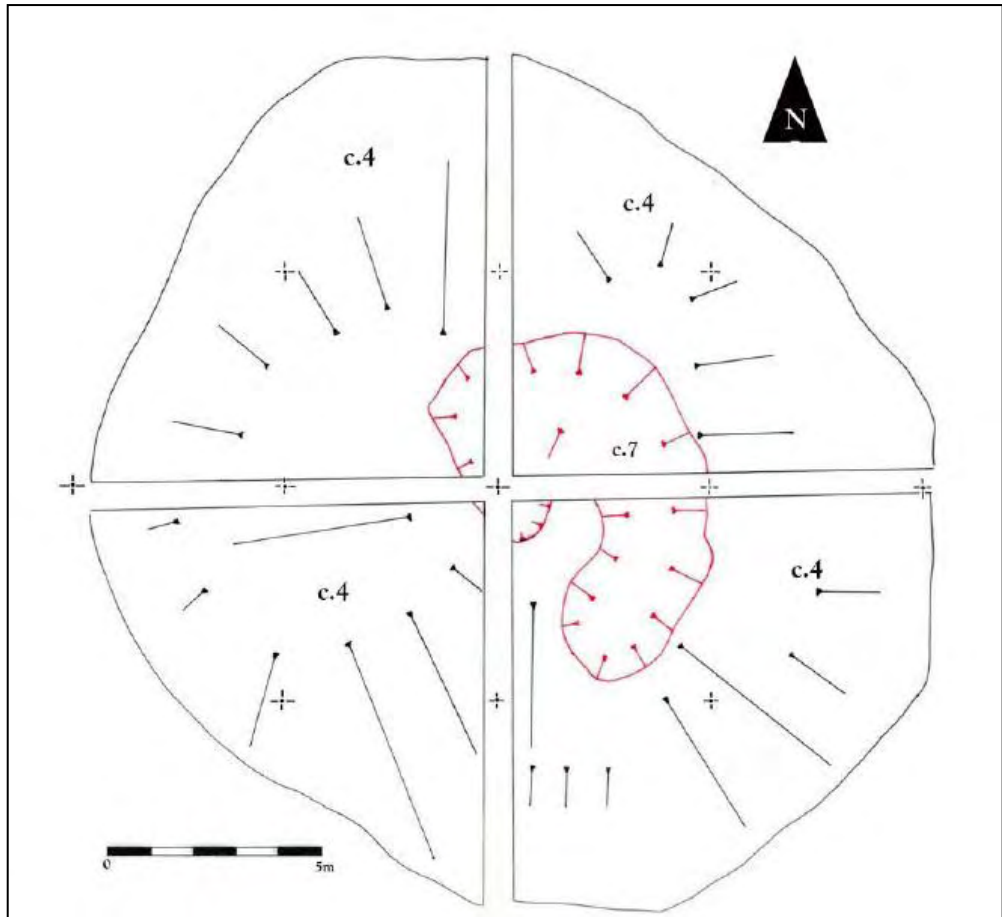


Fig. 10.91. Burnt mound (C7) overlain by clay deposit (C4) at Crabbsland, Co. Limerick.





Location:	Townland:	Peafield	Six inch map no: 05
	Parish:	Kilmurry	NGR: 162147, 155482
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Limerick Southern Ring Road	
	Site Director:	Tracy Collins	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on low-lying marshy ground in an area of carboniferous limestone of the upper group of dark, well bedded, clayey limestone.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several other sites were excavated as part of the same project, including a burial of unknown date situated c. 150m to the south-west (LI005-082002). A hut site and a corn-drying kiln were excavated in the neighbouring townland of Ballysimon c. 400m to the south (LI005-100 and LI005-101). A Bronze Age flat cemetery is recorded c. 300m to the south (LI005-083).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Limerick Southern Ring Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of mound material and a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a thin spread (C6) of black stony, charcoal-rich material with heat-shattered stone. It measured 15m by 10m by 0.15m.
Trough:	The trough (C12) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.15m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.6m. A smaller sub-rectangular pit feature was revealed in the in the base of the trough that measured 0.35m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. The fill of the trough consisted of dark, greyish clay, with frequent inclusions of charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Some timbers were recorded in the fill of the trough, resting on the eastern side.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (unknown) from the primary fill of trough C12 C14 (Beta-182306) 3730±90 BP (2030–1895 BC) Wood (timber) from the base of the trough C12 C14 (Beta-182307) 3590±40 BP (2030–1870 BC)

#### **References**

Collins, T. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Peafield, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

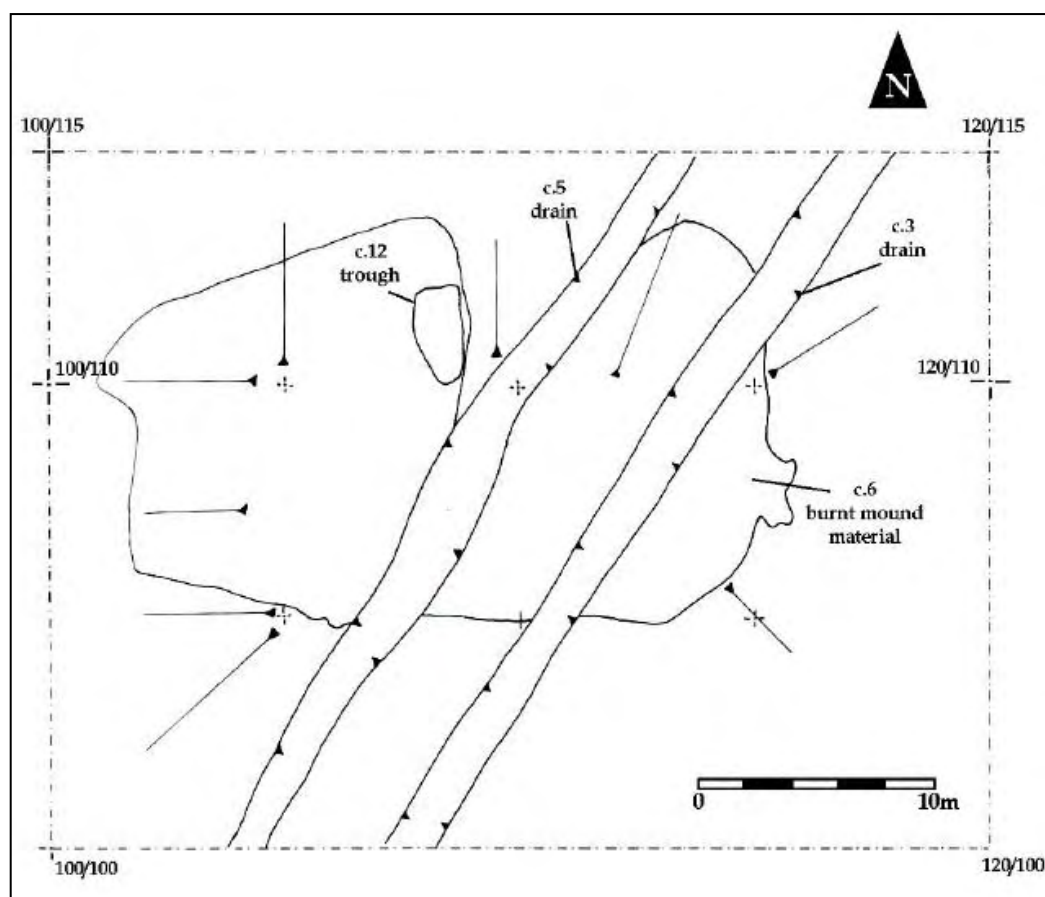


Fig. 10.92 Burnt mound deposit and single trough pit at Peafield, Co. Limerick.



Location:	Townland:	Hermitage	Six inch map no: 01
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 165260, 161540
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Castleconnel Rising Main project	
	Site Director:	Tracy Collins and Avril Hayes	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site itself is located adjacent to the left bank of the River Shannon. The topography of the area changed significantly with the construction of the hydroelectric power station at Ardnacrusha in 1929.		
Cultural Landscape:	The burnt mound was uncovered in one specific area of archaeological potential. The other areas of archaeological significance a group of potential huts and pits dating to the Mesolithic period and a number of potential cremation burials. A large number of stone axes and flints were also recovered during excavations, highlighting the importance of the location, on the banks of the River Shannon, in early prehistoric times.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible hut-sites and cremations burials dating to the Mesolithic period.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Castleconnel Rising Main Project. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a complex arrangement of features such as pits, possible hut structures and cremation pits, dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age. The evidence for hot-stone technology will be described here.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C2035) was revealed in Area C of the excavation and extended beyond the limits of area exposed. It consisted of loose black sandy clay with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The exposed spread measured 4.6m by 0.9m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. Charcoal from the spread deposit was dated to the Late Bronze Age.
Pit 1:	This pit (C2028) was sub-circular and measured 1.7m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.25m. The basal fill consisted of firm brown sand with contained small stones and charcoal flecks. The upper fill consisted of blackish grey silt with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Charcoal from this deposit was dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.
Pit 2:	This small pit (C2017) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.77m by 0.74m with a depth of 0.20m. It was filled with soft black silty sand with charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 3: This pit (C2026) was linear in shape and measured 1.8m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.12m. It was filled with black silt clay which contained charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound deposit (C2035)  
C14 (Beta-177378) 2820±70 BP (1190–820 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit (C2028)  
C14 (Beta-177375) 3010±90 BP (1440–990 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the sites revealed deposits of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic technology. This is supported by the presence of pits filled with similar material. As no definitive boiling troughs were identified, the pits may have functioned as pyrolithic ovens. The site can be interpreted as pyrolithic location possibly using a dry heat for cooking.

### References

Collins, T. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Hermitage, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

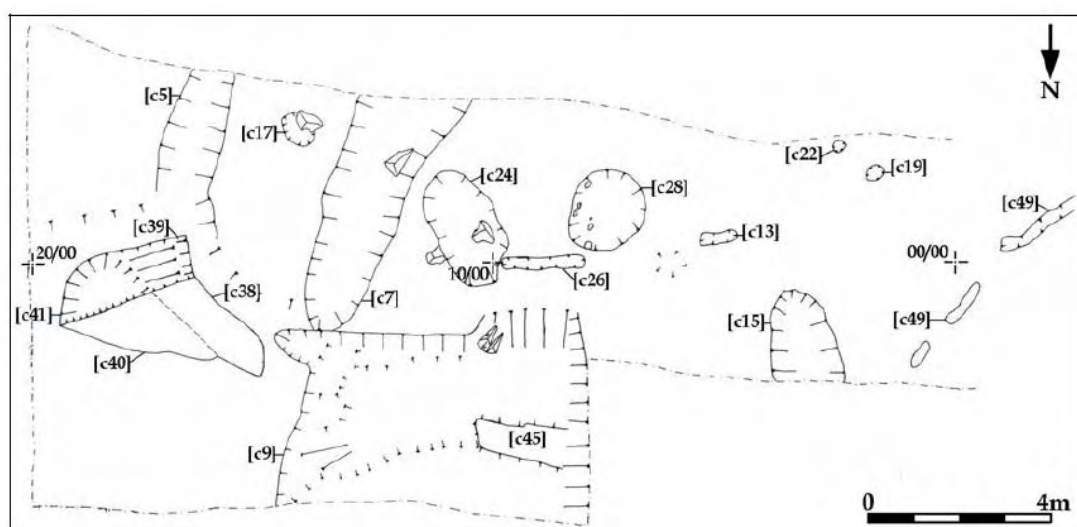


Fig. 10.93 Possible roasting pits at Hermitage, Co. Limerick.

Location:	Townland:	Newtown	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Inch St. Lawrence	NGR: 163423, 156412
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Limerick Southern Ring Road	
	Site Director:	Michael Connolly	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the gentle, eastern slope of a gradual rise with wide views to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in advance of the road project in neighbouring townlands, including Peafield and Crabbsland. Another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated in Newtown along with a structure.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Limerick Southern Ring Road. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled <i>fulacht fia</i> which included a spread of heat-shattered stone, a possible trough and a hearth that included several stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was crescent shaped in plan and measured 20m in diameter. It consisted of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. The mound had been levelled and dispersed across the site.
Hearth:	A possible hearth was revealed 3.6m south-west of the main burnt spread. It consisted of a circular area of fire-reddened subsoil, 2.5m in diameter. In addition, four post-holes were identified around the hearth, which were interpreted as the remains of a possible spit structure for cooking.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Connolly, M. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Newtown C, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Prospect	Six inch map no: 6
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 164201, 160987
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Clareville to Newcastle Rising Main	
	Site Director:	Tony Cummins	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying marshy area where the ground surface sloped gently downwards from east to west. The site was situated a few hundred meters from the Shannon River.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several Early Mesolithic features were revealed in the neighbouring townland of Hermitage to the west. A Late Bronze Age burnt mound was also excavated here. Two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated a few kilometres to the south of Prospect in the townland of Ballyvolane (LI006-089 and LI006-093).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Clareville to Newcastle Rising Main. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which overlay a number of post-holes, representing some form of structure.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a spread of firm, black silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It extended beyond the limits of the excavation, but the exposed deposit measured 13m by 5.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m.
Post-Holes:	Ten post/stake-holes were revealed under the spread of heat-shattered stone and were cut into the natural subsoil. These post-holes formed the foundation for a circular structure which the excavator suggest, pre-dated the formation of the burnt mound. Some of these post-holes contained burnt bone.
Pit:	An isolated pit was revealed to the south and extended under the western edge of the development area. The exposed pit measured 2.5m by 2.1m with a depth of 0.35m. The fill of the pit consisted of black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Some burnt bone was recovered from some of the post-holes.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

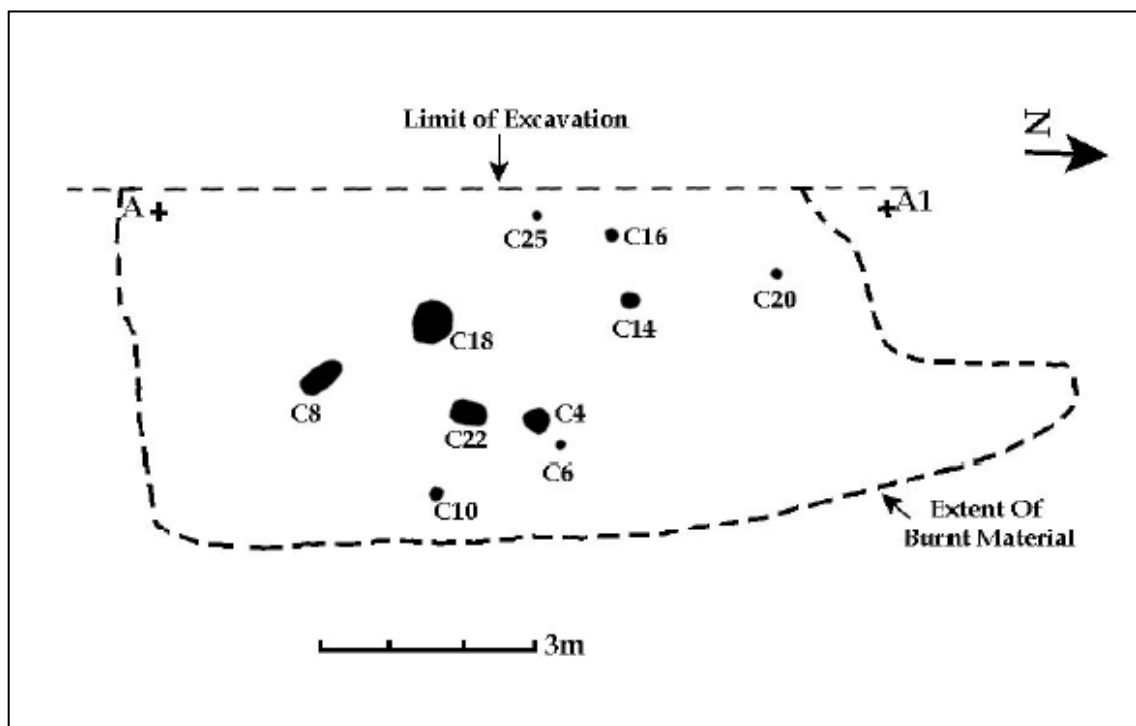
Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a large deposit of burnt stone that overlay an isolated pit and several post-holes. These post-holes may have been part of a larger structure associated with the use of pyrolithic technology, however, the site was not fully revealed, therefore the extent of this possible structure could not be ascertained. Pits relating to the use of this technology may also be outside the limits of excavation.

**References**

Cummins, T. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Prospect, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Ballyvollane	Six inch map no: 6
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 164068, 159882
	Barony :	Clanwilliam	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Clareville to Newcastle Rising Main	
	Site Director:	Frank Coyne	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a small marshy field, approximately 1km east of the River Shannon. The land slopes gently from east to the lower ground to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several Early Mesolithic features were revealed in the neighbouring townland of Hermitage to the north-east. A Late Bronze Age burnt mound was also excavated here. A <i>fulachtaí fia</i> was also excavated to the north in the townland of Prospect (LI006-090). Another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 1km to the south (LI006-093).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Clareville to Newcastle Rising Main. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which overlay a number of pit features, one of which contained a sherd of beaker pottey, while another pit contained the remains of a wooden shovel or scoop.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a spread (C9) of firm, black silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It extended beyond the limits of the excavation, but the exposed deposit measured 13m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m.
Pit 1:	This pit (C3) was rectangular in plan and measured 1.4m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.12m. The fill consisted of black sandy silt with heat-shattered stone. An animal tooth was recovered from this pit.
Pit 2:	Pit (C5) was rectangular in plan with rounded corners and measured 1.35m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with black sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Linear Feature:	C7 was a linear cut that measured 3.3m by 0.3m with a depth of 0.1m. It was filled with black sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.



- Pit 3: This pit (C11) was oval in shape and measured 1.27m by 1.75m with a maximum depth of 0.13m. It was filled with black sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 4: Pit (C14) was oval in shape and measured 1.3m by 1m with a maximum depth of 0.3m. The fill of this feature consisted of black sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It extended under the western baulk, therefore the full extent of the fill could not be traced. A sherd of beaker pottery was recovered from the fill.
- Pit 5: This pit (C18) was irregular in plan and measured 1.27m by 1.52m with a depth of 0.17m. The fill of the feature consisted of yellowish, sandy clay which contained charcoal flecks and heat-shattered stone. The fill contained a wooden implement interpreted as a possible scoop or shovel.
- Pit 6: This pit (C19) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.6m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.26m. It was filled with black sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A sherd of beaker pottery was recovered from the fill of pit (C14). A wooden shovel or scoop was retrieved from pit (C18).

Ecofacts: An animal tooth was uncovered from the fill of pit (C3).

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and several pits, some of which may have functioned as boiling pits associated with a pyrolithic technology. The fill of one pit produced a possible timber shovel or spade which may have been used in the transportation of hot stones to these pits. The site was not scientifically dated however the recovery of a possible sherd of Beaker potter may suggest that the site is Early Bronze Age in date.

### **References**

Hayes, A. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyvolane, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.



Plate 10.77 Beaker potter and wooden paddle/shovel from Ballyvolane, Co. Limerick.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyvollane	Six inch map no: 6
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 163838, 158910
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Clareville to Newcastle Rising Main	
	Site Director:	Avril Hayes	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying marshy area, 30m from a stream and 500m east of the River Shannon.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several Early Mesolithic features were revealed in the neighbouring townland of Hermitage to the north-east. A Late Bronze Age burnt mound was also excavated here. A <i>fulachtaí fia</i> was also excavated to the north in the townland of Prospect (LI006-090). Another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 1km to the north (LI006-089). Enclosures are also a feature of this landscape, with several sites recorded in the vicinity. Theses may represent ringforts, suggesting an Early Medieval focus here also.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Clareville to Newcastle Rising Main. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone which overlay a single pit which may have functioned as a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) survived as a circular deposit of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 9.5m by 10m with a maximum thickness of 0.5m. The mound was truncated by several agricultural furrows.
Pit:	This pit (C8) was revealed under the southern portion of the spread and was oval in plan. It measured 1.5m by 1.1m and had a depth of 0.4m. The feature had a gradual break of slope with concave sides and an undulating base. The pit was filled with burnt mound material.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

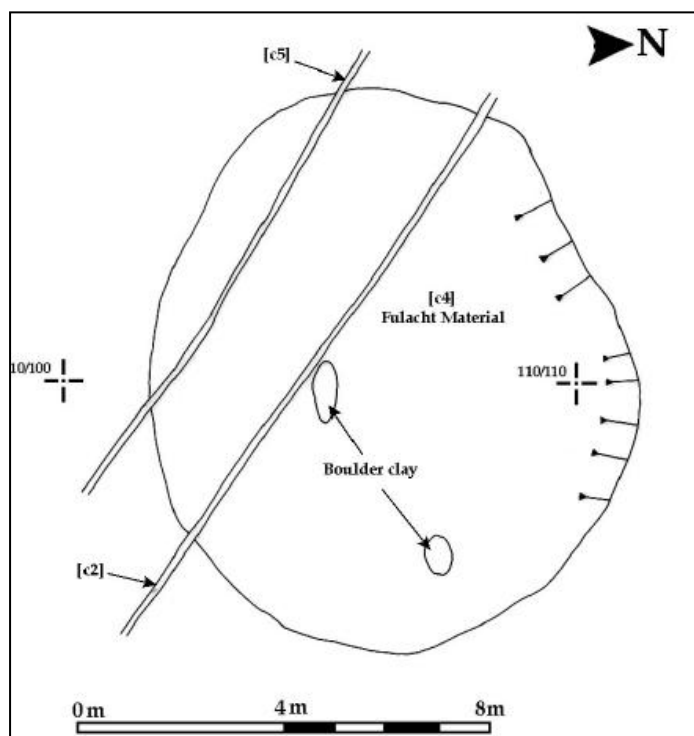
Absolute dating: None

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a single pit which may have function as a trough for pyrolithic water-boiling. Although no lining was evident in the base of the feature, it may have existed originally. Alternatively, the feature was unlined and was able to retain water naturally for boiling. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic location possible for cooking.

## References

Hayes, A. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyvollane, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.



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Location:	Townland:	Adamswood	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Croagh	NGR: 141373, 142906
	Barony:	Connellow Lower	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Croagh Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Sarah McCutcheon	
	Consultants:	Limerick County Council	
	Year:	2002	

Physical Setting: The site was located in a greenfield site to the south-east of Croagh Village.

Cultural Landscape: This area of Limerick was investigated archaeologically in 2002 during the Board Gás Pipeline to the West. Several prehistoric sites were revealed including *fulachtaí fia*, one of which was revealed in this townland (LI020-160). A Bronze Age house structure was revealed in the neighbouring townland of Kiltenan, 2km to the south-east (LI030-163). A barrow or ring-ditch was revealed to the west of Adamswood (LI021-069).

Adjacent excavated sites: Site (LK21)

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Croagh Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a number of burnt stone spreads and numerous cut features, some of which were interpreted as troughs. This site was excavated under two separate licence numbers. No finds were recovered and the site was not scientifically dated.
Burnt Mound:	The mound survived as scattered spreads of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone which covered a total area measured 8m by 9m. The site was heavily damaged by later agricultural processes.
Trough 1-2:	This trough was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.2m by 1m with a depth of 0.38m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. This trough was cut by a later pit which was oval in plan. It measured 1.8m by 1m with a depth of 0.4m.
Hearth:	A possible hearth was revealed abutting these pits to the south. It consisted of an oxidised depression in the boulder clay suggesting intense heat.

### References

McCutcheon, S. 2004. Adamswood. Burnt Spread. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, 291. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Adamswood	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Croagh	NGR: 141225, 142900
	Barony:	Connellow Lower	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Croagh Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Sarah McCutcheon	
	Consultants:	Limerick County Council	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a greenfield site to the south-east of Croagh Village.		
Cultural Landscape:	This area of Limerick was investigated archaeologically in 2002 during the Board Gás Pipeline to the West. Several prehistoric sites were revealed including <i>fulachtaí fía</i> , one of which was revealed in this townland (LI020-160). A Bronze Age house structure was revealed in the neighbouring townland of Kiltenan, 2km to the south-east (LI030-163).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Site (LK20)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Croagh Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a number of burnt stone spreads and numerous cut features, some of which were interpreted as troughs. This site was excavated under two separate licence numbers. Five burnt stone spreads and a number of pit features were excavated under this licence number. No finds were recovered and the site was not scientifically dated.
Burnt Spreads:	Five burnt spreads were excavated here. The largest spread measured 10.5m by 9.6m with a thickness of 0.21m. Another deposit measured 9m by 3.6m with a thickness of 0.34m and continued beyond the limits of the excavation. At the southern extent of the site, a similar deposit was excavated measuring 4.1m by 4.6m with a thickness of 0.03m. North-west of this spread, was a similar deposit that measured 4m by 5.6m with a thickness of 0.08m. All of these spreads consisted of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	Associated with the largest spread on site, was an oval trough that measured 1.63m by 0.77m with a depth of 0.22m. The base of this feature was lined with timber planks. The pit was filled with burnt mound material.

### References

McCutcheon, S. 2004. Adamswood. Burnt Spread. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, 291. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Adamswood	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Croagh	NGR: 142393, 142646
	Barony:	Connellow Lower	Altitude: 22m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emer Dennehy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on the bank of the River Clonshire, at the foot of a gentle east-facing slope with good views to the north, south and east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Four prehistoric sites were revealed in the vicinity of Adamswood during this project Previous to these investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the towland. A <i>fulacht fia</i> , roundhouse, cremation cemetery and a corn-drying kiln were excavated in the neighbouring townland of Kiltenan South, while in Adamstown, several pits with <i>in-situ</i> burning were excavated.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, two troughs, several pits and a number of stake-holes.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C50) consisted of black, sitly clay, charcoal and heat shattered sandstone and limestone. The deposit measured 15.2m by 12.5m with a thickness of 0.13m. Most of the charcoal from the mound survived in the lower deposits due to leaching of material.		
Trough:	The trough (C8) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.5m by 1.6m with a deeper circular pit at the south end which measured 1.6m by 1.6m by 0.52m. The primary fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered limestone and charcoal-rich material. This material was disturbed when the trough was later re-cut with the insertion of a large triangular stone. This re-cut measured 2.5m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.47m and contained a fill consisting of heat-shattered sandstone and limestone with charcoal-rich material.		
Pit 1:	This pit (C39) was revealed south-west of the trough and was very shallow. It measured 0.66m by 0.45m with a depth of 0.07m. Seven stake-holes cut the base of the feature, with three inwardly angled suggesting a supporting function.		

- Pit 2: This pit (C18) was irregular in shape and revealed west of the trough. It measured 0.92m by 0.74m. Five stake-holes cut the base of the feature and two of these were inserted at an angle. The fill of the pit consisted of heat-shattered limestone in a grey clay matrix.
- Pit 3: This pit (C12) was situated to the north-west. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 0.6m by 1.45m with a depth of 0.1m. Two fills were noted in the pit with basal deposit consisting of heat-shattered limestone while the upper fill composed of burnt sandstone and limestone in a rich brown silty clay.
- Pit 4: Pit (C16) was situated immediately south of the pit C12. It was irregular in shape and measured 1.05m by 1.68m with a depth of 0.21m. Four fills were noted in the pit which consisted of silty clays and heat-shattered limestone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough (C8)  
C14 (Beta-179174) 3900±40 BP (2480–2200 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of two possible troughs, both of which provided evidence to suggest they were originally lined. At least two phases of activity were noted during the excavation as trough 1 was re-cut at a later stage. It is unknown whether this was done during the Chalcolithic period or later in the Bronze Age. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic boiling location possibly for cooking.

#### **References**

Dennehy, E. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Adamswood, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Ballincurra	Six inch map no: 39
	Parish:	Athlacca	NGR: 158790, 134681
	Barony:	Coshma	Altitude: 62m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor and Liam McKinstry	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in pastureland, 95m north of and uphill from a small stream that functioned as a field boundary.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several enclosures of unknown date are located within 1km of the excavated site. A highly visible hillfort lies 650m to the south (LI039-29). During the pipeline project numerous prehistoric sites were uncovered, including a <i>fulacht fía</i> , cremation pit and two structures which were all located 80m to the west of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fía</i> , cremation pit and structures (LK24)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two small spreads of heat-shattered stone and several pit features.
Spreads:	Two small spreads (C7 and C9) of heat-shattered stone were revealed between the pit features. C7 was oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.26m by 0.15m. It consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. C9 was an oval shaped deposit and measured 0.74m by 0.42m with a thickness of 0.12.
Trough:	This pit (C4) was the largest feature on site and was sub-rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.5m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.45m. The feature may have been stone-lined as there were several stones lining the southern side of the cut. Three fills were noted in the pit which consisted of a primary deposit of black sandy silt with heat-shattered sandstone. Several pieces of animal bone were uncovered from this deposit. The upper fills consisted of similar material with larger deposits of heat-shattered stone.
Pit 1:	This pit (C2) was situated in the north-west corner of the site. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.52m by 0.72m with a depth of 0.27m. The fill consisted of dark silty sand with occasional heat-shattered stone.



Pit 2: This pit (C6) was oval in shape and measured 2.84m by 0.94m with a depth of 0.3m. The fill consisted of dark silty sand with charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone, some of which produced evidence for butchery marks, was recovered from the pit (C4).

**Dating:**

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed two small spreads of burnt stone, a trough and two pits. While the burnt mound may have been removed by later agricultural processes, it is equally possible that the site was a small-scale pyrolithic site used only for a short period of time before being abandoned. The recovery of butchered animal bone from the site may indicate these pyrolithic processes involved cooking.

**References**

Taylor, K and McKinstry, L. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Ballincurra, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Ballincurra	Six inch map no: 39
	Parish:	Athlacca	NGR: 159477, 134512
	Barony:	Coshma	Altitude: 60 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This complex consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> towards the east near a small stream, with two large pits and a cremation burial 20m to the east and upslope of this; two small structures occurred further east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several enclosures of unknown date are located within 1km of the excavated site. A highly visible hillfort lies c. 700m to the south (LI039-29). During the pipeline project numerous prehistoric sites were uncovered in the area, including a <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , cremation pit and two structures. Further <i>fulacht fia</i> activity was also noted 80m to the east (LI039-165).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Bronze Age cremation and Late Bronze Age structures		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a complex of features which included both ritual and domestic Bronze Age activity. The burnt mound and associated features will be discussed here.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound consisted of two overlapping deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich silty clay. It measured 10m by 9m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m.
Trough 1:	The trough (C32) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.56m by 1.16m with a depth of 0.42m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. Charcoal from this pit was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 1:	This shallow pit (C25) was linear in shape and measured 2.05m by 0.74m with a depth of 0.11m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
Pit 2:	C5 was circular in shape and measured 1.9m in diameter with a depth of 1.4m. It contained four fills consisting of charcoal and silty clays. A small flint scraper was obtained from one of these deposit which had been re-cut.

Trough 2: This possible trough (C7) was situated 1m from the large pit. It was sub-rectangular in shape with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 2.62m by 1.08m with a depth of 0.56m. It contained six fills with the basal deposit consisting of a thin lense of charcoal-rich material. The upper fills consisted of silty clays.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Crescent-shaped flint scraper was recovered from the pit (C5)

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough (C32)  
C14 (UB-6131) 3644±31 BP (2135–1934 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of two possible troughs, none of which provided evidence to suggest they were originally lined. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic boiling location possibly used for cooking during the Early Bronze Age.

**References**

Taylor, K. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Ballincurra, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Ballingarrane	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Nantinan	NGR: 137002, 144869
	Barony:	Conellow Lower	Altitude: 35 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on the eastern slope of a slight rise, in a landscape that is dominated by gently rolling hills. A small stream, which flows in a northerly direction, is located 60m to the east of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	The only recorded site in the vicinity of Ballingarrane, is a burnt mound situated in the neighbouring townland of Ballyadam to the east. The Early Medieval period is well represented by several recorded ringforts in the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal which extended beyond the limits of excavation. No cut features were revealed in the exposed area.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound consisted of an irregular spread of heat-shattered sandstone and limestone in a matrix of charcoal-rich black silty clay. The deposit measured 8.5m by 9.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.13m
Possible Hearth:	A deposit of charcoal-rich material was noted on the site with no heat-shattered stone. This was interpreted as the remains of an informal hearth.

### References

Halpin, B. 2003. Archaeological excavations at Ballingarrane, Co. Limerick. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballymackeamore	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 147204, 139664
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 32m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in a relatively flat area within a landscape of undulating pastureland.		
Cultural Landscape:	Numerous prehistoric sites were unearthed as part of the pipeline project within 1km of the site. A burnt deposit interpreted as a Medieval <i>fulacht fia</i> was identified and excavated 250m to the north-west (LI030-146). Other features excavated in the locality included, pits, post-holes and further <i>fulacht fia</i> related technology.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two large troughs and a deposit of heat-shattered stone which extended beyond the limits of the excavation.
Burnt Mound:	The full extent of this site was not revealed during the excavation, however two deposits of heat-shattered stone were exposed. Spread (C1) was irregular in plan and measured 7.2m by 1.14m with a maximum thickness of 0.12m. A similar deposit was revealed at the southern extent of the site. C3 was also irregular in plan and measured 4.4m by 3.76m with a maximum depth of 0.14m.
Trough 1:	The portions of two large troughs were revealed next to each other with approximately half of each trough falling within the limits of excavation. Trough (C15) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.35m by 1.15m with a depth of 0.54m. Three fills were noted in the trough with the primary deposit consisting of black, charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone. A fragment of charred wood was recovered from this trough.
Trough 2:	The second trough (C2) was situated immediately east of the previous pit. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.78m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.6m. Three fills were also revealed in this pit with the main deposit consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material. Charcoal from this trough

was dated to the Early Bronze Age. A stake-hole was situated 0.4m south of the trough at an angle of 50 degrees.

**Pit 1:** This pit (C7) was circular in plan and measured 0.37m in diameter with a depth of 0.3m. It was interpreted as a possible post-hole or storage pit. Charred hazelnuts were recovered from this feature. Charcoal from this feature was dated to the Iron Age.

**Metalled Surface:** An irregular metalled surface covered roughly half of the site. It measured 6m by 4m and was composed of loosely compacted stones.

**Finds:** Charred hazelnuts were recovered from the feature C7

**Dating:** Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough (C2)  
C14 (Beta-170169)  $3690 \pm 40$  BP (2200–1950 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit (C7)  
C14 (UB-6132)  $1884 \pm 40$  BP (AD 62–212)

### Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation revealed a burnt mound site which was not fully revealed during excavation. That said, two large troughs were partially exposed and have been interpreted as water-boiling troughs. A metalled surface was also exposed indicated that the site was once waterlogged. There is some confusion as the context of the radiocarbon samples from the site, however, the unpublished excavation report indicates that the Early Bronze Age date was returned from the fill of the trough and not the adjacent pit feature which returned a Mid-to-Late Iron Age date. The site can be interpreted as an Early Bronze Age water-boiling located with limited activity at the site during the Iron Age. It is unknown whether this later activity involved pyrolithic technology.

### References

Halpin, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Ballymackeamore, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

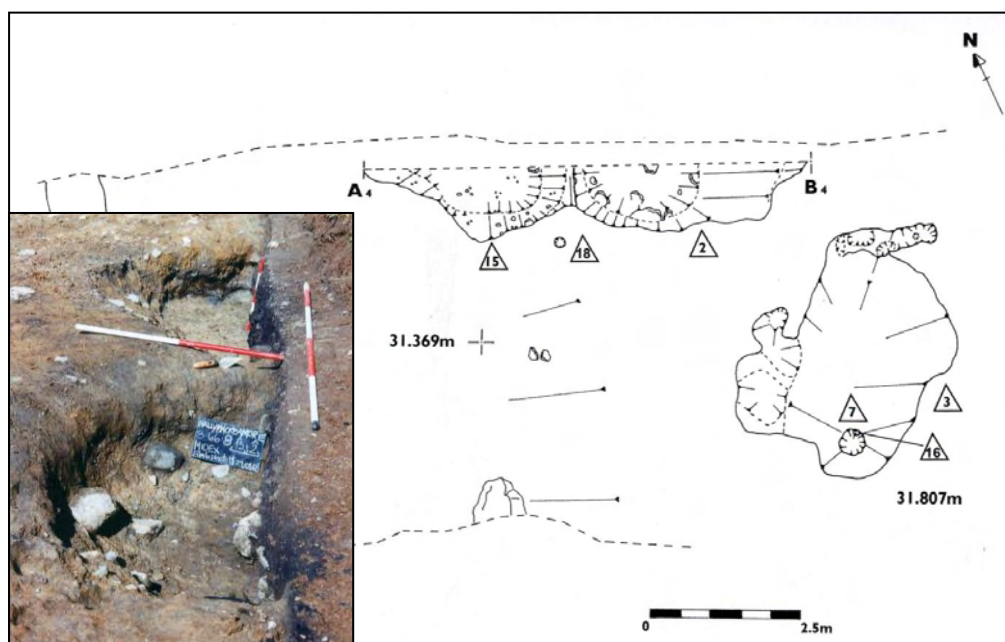


Fig. 10.94 Trough pits at Ballymackeamore, Co. Limerick

Location:	Townland:	Ballymackeamore	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 147078, 139716
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 31m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a natural hollow with the land rising moderately steeply to the east and gently to the west. A natural spring was also evident near the site and flows through a buried concrete pipe.		
Cultural Landscape:	Numerous prehistoric sites were unearthed as part of the pipeline project within 1km of the site. A burnt deposit interpreted as a Medieval <i>fulacht fia</i> was identified and excavated 250m to the north-west (LI030-146). Other features excavated in the locality included, pits, post-holes and <i>fulacht fia</i> related technology.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Medieval burnt deposit (LK34)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed spreads of heat-shattered stone, a possible stone surface and several pits, some of which may have functioned as troughs. A Medieval pit was also excavated on the site that contained large amounts of charcoal.
Burnt Mound:	A large spread of degraded stones and charcoal (C49) was revealed on site which was interpreted as a possible surface. Alternatively it may represent a levelled burnt mound, spread across the hollow to serve as a dry surface. It measured 11m by 10m with a thickness of 0.1m. Two other spreads of burnt mound material were revealed on site. C1 and C2 formed an oval deposit that measured 2.6m by 0.9m. Spread (C13) measured 0.7m by 0.67m with a thickness of 0.04m. Fragments of burnt and unburnt bone were recovered from this deposit.
Trough:	Pit (C9) was located east of the stone spread and was sub-oval in plan. It measured 1.6m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.25m. Fourteen stake-holes cut the base of the trough, forming a rough circle around the inner edge of the pit. The fill of the trough consisted of black clayey silt with frequent charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

- Pit 1: This pit (C32) was situated immediately adjacent to the trough C9 and partly truncated the edge. It measured 1.36m by 1.07m with a depth of 0.21m. The fill was identical to that of the trough C9. A sample of charcoal was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Pit 2: This pit (C5) was elongated in shape and measured 2.95m by 0.96m with a depth of 0.16m. Three fills were noted in the pit. The primary fill, which was only noted in the northern end of the pit, consisted of light grey clay with charcoal fragments. The secondary deposit composed of black silty clay with a large charcoal component, while the upper deposit consisted of brown silty clays. A sample of charcoal from this pit was dated to the Early Medieval period.
- Pit 3: This pit (C52) was oval in shape and measured 1.3m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.26m. It was filled with light silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: A possible flint scraper was recovered from the topsoil.
- Ecofacts: Fragments of burnt and unburnt animal bone was recovered from the spread (C13). Several other animal bones were recovered from an alluvial layer.

### **Dating:**

Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit (C32)  
 C14 (UB-6049) 3850±30 BP (2461–2204 BC)  
 Charcoal (willow) from the fill of the pit (C5)  
 C14 (Beat-179186) 1150±40 BP (AD 780–990)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

This site was revealed during archaeological testing in advance of the Bord Gáis 'Pipeline to the West'. It consisted of a large spread of charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Several trough pits were also revealed, one of which was dated to the early Bronze Age. One large pit contained a fill consisting mainly of charcoal and no heat-affected stone. It was situated west of the burnt spread and its relationship to the other features on site is unknown. This was dated to the early medieval period. The high charcoal content of the pit and the lack of heat-shattered stone suggest a process unrelated to pyrolithic technology. It is possible that this feature may have functioned as a charcoal production pit.

### **References**

Halpin, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Ballymackeamore, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.



Plate 10.78 Burnt stone deposit and double trough features at Ballymackeamore.



Location:	Townland:	Ballymackeamore	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 147061, 139722
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 32 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a natural hollow with the land rising moderately steeply to the east and gently to the west. A natural spring was also evident near the site to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Numerous prehistoric sites were unearthed as part of the pipeline project within 1km of the site. An Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 150m to the south-east of this site (LI030-174) and a similar site was revealed 10m to the east (LI030-145).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> and early medieval pit (LK27)		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small deposit of charcoal with occasional heat-shattered stone. No other features were revealed.
Burnt Spread:	Deposit (C1) was an oval spread of burnt material which occupied a shallow depression. It measured 1.5m by 0.8m with a maximum thickness of 0.09m. The material consisted of black silty clay with a large charcoal component and a moderate amount of heat-shattered stone. A few fragments of burnt and unburnt animal bone were recovered from the deposit.

#### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Fragments of burnt and unburnt animal bone were recovered from the deposit.

#### Dating:

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt deposit (C1) C14 (UB-6148) 416±37 BP (AD 1420–1630)

### Excavation Interpretation:

This site was revealed during archaeological testing in advance of the Bord Gáis 'Pipeline to the West'. A small, isolated spread of charcoal and heat-affected stone was identified in a small natural hollow. Several animal bone fragments were also retrieved. No burnt mound, water trough or other *fulacht fia* features were identified at the site. This deposit may represent a small burning event in the medieval period related to scrub clearance. Alternatively, the presence of animal bone may suggest an isolated fire relating to cooking.

### References

Taylor, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Ballymackeamore, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.



Plate 10.79 Burnt deposit at Ballymackeamore, Co. Limerick.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynacragga	Six inch map no: 10
	Parish:	Shanagolden	NGR: 124530, 150671
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 108m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Tony Bartlett and Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in rough pastureland that sloped gently SE-NW. At the base of the slope, 10m to the north-west, there is a rectified stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	Medieval activity in the area is attested to by the presence of Knockpatrick (LI10-58) 850m to the south at the summit of the hill. Several circular enclosures of unknown date lie within 350m of the site (LI10-2-5). Other prehistoric sites were excavated in the area as part of the same project. These include a <i>fulacht fia</i> revealed 40m to the north-west and a similar multiphase site 480m in the same direction.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. A significant portion of the site extended beyond the limits of the excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal, several cut features which may have functioned as roasting pits and a hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound consisted of six layers of charcoal rich silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone. These deposits measured 12.5m by 9.5m with a maximum height of 0.47m. One of these deposits (C5) was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
Trough 1:	Trough (C9) was revealed under the mound material and was sub-oval in plan. It measured 1.86m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.8m. The pit filled naturally with water and was backfilled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich material. A small charcoal spread was revealed in the vicinity of the trough.
Roasting Pit:	This pit (C11) was revealed adjacent to the trough and was also sub-oval in plan. It was lined at the base with several sandstone slabs, beneath which was a deposit of charcoal and scorched earth. This was dated to the Middle Bronze Age. The north-west side of the pit was cut into the natural sandstone which the excavators suggested may have functioned as a working or sitting

platform (Grogan *et al.* 2007, 254). The fill of the pit consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material.

**Hearth:** A possible hearth (C16) measured 1.6m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.1m. It was sub-oval in plan and delineated by bedrock. There was evidence of *in situ* burning at the base of the hearth.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the base of the pit C11  
C14 (UB-6047) 3175±28 BP (1517–1413 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound deposit C5  
C14 (UB-6046) 3032±31 BP (1406–1218 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the sites revealed deposits of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic technology. This is supported by the presence of pits filled with similar material. As no definitive boiling troughs were identified, the pits may have functioned as pyrolithic ovens. This can be supported by their relative size and evidence of scorching in one of the pits. The site can be interpreted as pyrolithic location possibly using a dry heat for cooking.

**References**

Bartlett, T and Taylor, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Ballynacragga, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.



Plate 10.80 Burnt stone deposit and stone-lined pit at Ballynacragga, Co. Limerick.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyveloge	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Kilkeedy	NGR: 15271, 15151
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 7 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Ken Wiggins	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in flat, low-lying pastureland with a stream located 20m to the south.		
Cultural Landscape:	A megalithic structure (LI012-127) is recorded in the townland c. 150m north of the site, while a mound (LI012-128) and an enclosure (LI012-055) are located 180m and 250m from the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. A significant portion of the site extended beyond the limits of the excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of heat-shattered stone and three pits, one of which may have functioned as a trough.
Burnt Spread:	The spread occupied a slight depression and measured 3.6m by 1.9m with a thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	The trough (F10) was circular in shape and measured 1.6m in diameter with a depth of 0.35m. It was sealed beneath the burnt stone spread and was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich clay.
Pit 1:	This pit (F1) was oval in shape and measured 0.83m by 0.48m with a depth of 0.16m. It was filled with brown clay material similar to the topsoil.
Pit 2:	This pit (F3) was also oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.68m by 0.38m deep. It was filled with brown clay material similar to the topsoil.
Dating:	None

**References:**

Wiggins K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyveloge, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Castlemungret	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	Mungret	NGR: 15379, 15403
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 2m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Ken Wiggins	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a low-lying field that sloped gently to the north just above the edge of an existing bog. There was a stream 8m north-east of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	A standing stone is recorded 290m north-west of the site (LI013-147).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. The full extent of the site was not recorded during investigation as it lay outside the limits of excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of heat-shattered stone, a curving channel feature and several pits. No finds were recovered and the site was not dated.
Burnt Spread:	The exposed portion of the spread measured 8.5m by 5.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.25. It consisted of charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit:	This pit (F1) was oval in shape and was situated near the western edge of the spread. It measured 1.17m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.45m. Two fills were noted in the pit with the lower deposit consisting of brown silty clay, sandstone blocks and burnt stone fragments. The upper fill contained dark grey silt, charcoal, ash and burnt stone.
Channel:	This curving channel (F11) was revealed beneath the spread deposit. It measured 2.7m by 1m with a maximum depth of 0.5m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

### References

Wiggins, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Castlemungret, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Castlemungret	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	Mungret	NGR: 15379, 15403
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 2m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Ken Wiggins	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low, gently sloping field near the edge of bogland. A stream was situated 30m to the south-west.		
Cultural Landscape:	A standing stone is recorded 250m north-west of the site (LI013-147). A similar <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated as part of the same project 230m south-west of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. The full extent of the site was not recorded during investigation as it lay outside the limits of excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed three pits and a thin spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. No finds were recovered and it was not dated.
Burnt Spread:	The spread was amorphous in shape and measured 3.3m by 1.8m with a maximum thickness of 0.06m. It consisted of dark-charcoal-rich clay and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 1:	This pit was circular in shape and measured 3.3m in diameter with a depth of 0.22m. The fill consisted of dark charcoal rich clay and burnt stone.
Pit 2:	This pit measured 2m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.24m. The fill consisted of dark charcoal rich clay and burnt stone.
Pit 3:	This pit measured 1.5m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.25m. The fill consisted of dark charcoal rich clay and burnt stone.

**References**

Wiggins, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Castlemungret, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.



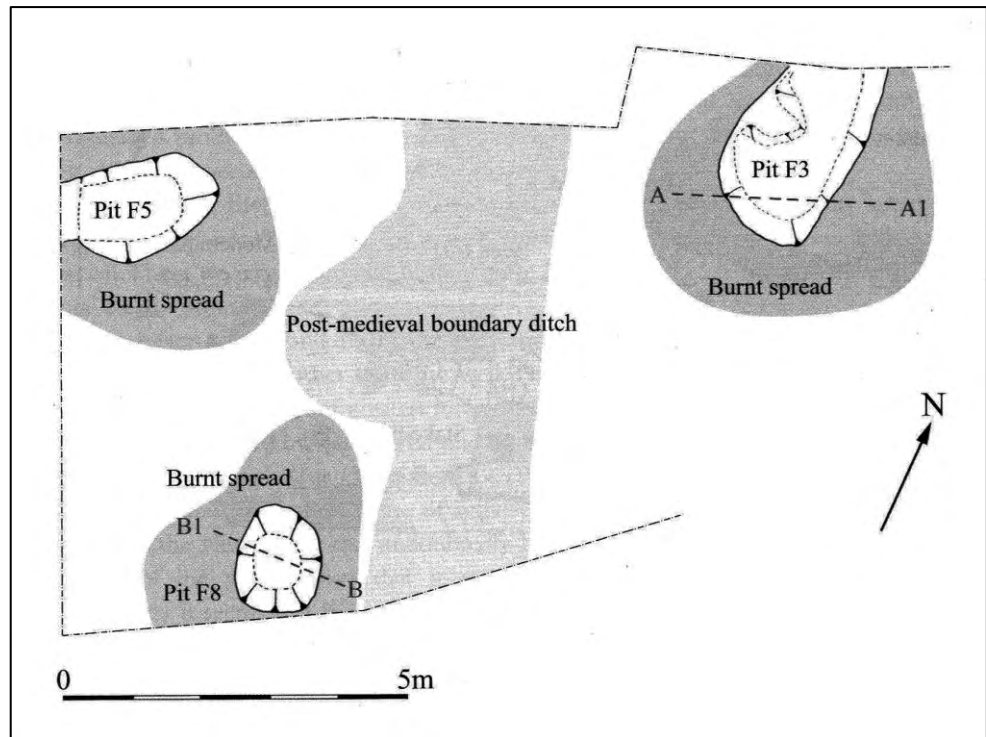


Fig. 10.95 Burnt spreads and possible roasting pits at Castlemungret, Co. Limerick.





Location:	Townland:	Clogh East	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Croagh	NGR: 139862, 144047
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 34 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site lay on gently sloping pastureland that rose to the south. There were no watercourses in the vicinity of the site although the large well on site would have provided water for use in the <i>fulacht fia</i> .		
Cultural Landscape:	No recorded prehistoric sites were situated in the vicinity of the site prior to the pipeline project, however a Middle Bronze Age cremation cemetery with marker posts was excavated 130m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt stone spread, a large well, eleven pits, nineteen post-holes and twenty-two stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was exposed as eleven spreads of heat-shattered stone and charcoal which covered most of the cut features on site. The total area covered by the spreads was approximately 165m <sup>2</sup> . Taylor also suggests that the deposit continued into the adjacent field for 10–20m (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 265).
Well:	The large well pit (C31) was irregular in shape and measured 8.5m in diameter with a depth of 3.5m. It had concave step features in sides possibly to facilitate access. The base was cut into the bedrock which reached the water-table and formed a square shape measuring 1.5m by 1.5m. Several stake-holes identified in the sides of the pit and near the base were interpreted as possible supports for handrails. The pit contained nineteen fills consisting of dark silty clays with frequent inclusions of burnt and unburnt limestone and sandstone. One of these fills was dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age. A chert flake was recovered from the well along with a copper-alloy crutch-headed stick-pin. Several pieces of animal bone were also recovered from the well.
Shelter and Platform:	A small platform cut into the south-side of the well was defined by five stake-holes that may have formed a shelter.

Hearth:	This hearth (C41) was located west of the well and was truncated by the trough C35.
Trough 1:	The trough (C35) truncated the hearth and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2.6m by 2m with a depth of 0.63m. A stake-hole was recorded in each of the corners. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal which was dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.
Post-Holes/Shelter:	This possible shelter or windbreak surrounded the trough (C35) and hearth (C41) in an arch formation. It may have served as a windbreak to shelter the hearth. One of these post-holes was dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.
Trough 2:	This trough (C71) was revealed immediately south of the well. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.45m. A single stake-hole was identified in each of the four corners. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Pit 1:	This pit was truncated by the later trough C71. It was elongated in shape and had post-holes on either side of the narrower end and another in its base.
Pit 2:	Pit (C23) was revealed to the north-east of the well. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 4m by 3.8 with a depth of 0.7m. It had a bowl-shaped profile and was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	A chert flake was recovered from the topsoil while another was retrieved from the well (C31). A crutch-headed stick-pin was also recovered from the well.
Ecofacts:	Animal bone was recovered from the well (C31)

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the well C31 C14 (UB-6592) 2910±32 BP (1253–1007 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of post-hole C20 C14 (UB-6050) 2801±27 BP (1020–902 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough C35 C14 (UB-6051) 2872±30 BP (1157–942 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation revealed extensive evidence for pyrolithic water-boiling activities. This is evident from the very large deposits of burnt mound material and several troughs which showed evidence to suggest they were originally timber-lined. These troughs lay adjacent to the largest feature on site, a well that provided water for the troughs during the process. This well feature was accessed via step features and a possible rail. Animal bone recovered from this feature may indicate that the boiling activities involved the cooking of animal meat during the Late Bronze Age.

#### **Reference**

Taylor, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Clogh East, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

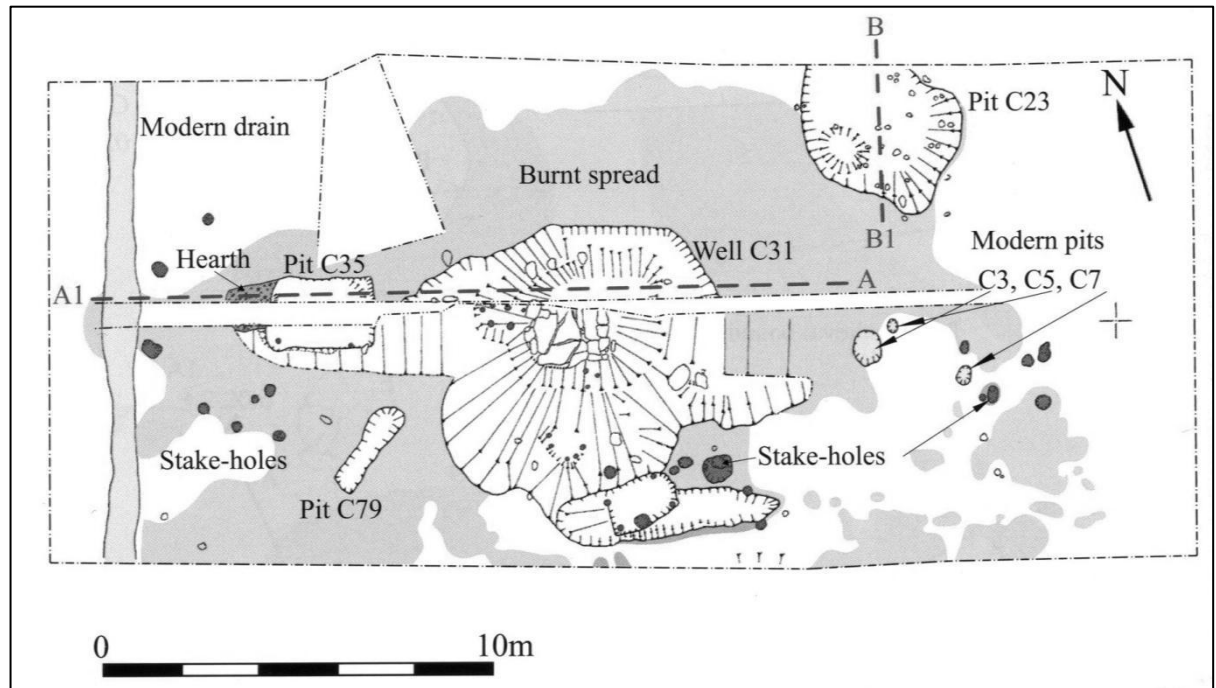


Fig. 10.96 Well and associated pits and stake-structures at Clogh East, Co. Limerick.



Location:	Townland:	Commons	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 145144, 140831
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 37 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on relatively flat, well-drained pastureland bordering bogland.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however a number of similar <i>fulachtaí fia</i> related site-types were revealed close to the site during the pipeline project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt spreads and pits 25m to the south (LK35)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a number of pits filled with heat-shattered stone, one of which may have served a roasting function.
Roasting Pit:	This pit (C2) was revealed south of the pit (C10). It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.19m by 1.36m with a depth of 0.39m. Four fills were noted in the pit consisting of deposits of sand and fragmented stone, black silty clay with burnt stone and charcoal. There was no evidence of <i>in situ</i> burning.
Pits:	Pit (C8) was the most northerly and was roughly sub-rectangular in shape. The exposed portion of the pit measured 1.6m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.34m. The fill of the pit consisted of orange clay and a small amount of sandstone and limestone. Pit (C12) was revealed west of the pit (C8). It was irregular in plan and cut in the natural boulder clay. The excavation portion of the pit measured 2.75m by 2m with a depth of 0.32m. The cut contained two fills consisting of dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone. Pit (C4) was revealed east of the pit C2. It was irregular in plan and measured 2.5m by 1.25m with a maximum depth of 0.2m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of heat-shattered stone, dark silty clay and charcoal.

### Reference

Halpin, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Commons, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Commons	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 145145, 140832
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 37 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Marie Dowling and Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	

Physical Setting: The site was situated on generally level pastureland.

Cultural Landscape: There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however a number of similar *fulachtaí fia* related site-types were revealed close to the site during the pipeline project. A series of pits containing burnt stone were revealed 25m north of the site (Site LK34), while 55m to the east, a large pit or well was revealed filled with heat-shattered stone (LK 36).

Adjacent excavated sites: Burnt spreads and pits 25m to the north (LK34)

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a number of burnt stone spreads and pits filled with similar material.
Burnt Mound:	A large spread of burnt mound material was revealed during archaeological testing however this was inadvertently damaged by pipeline construction prior to excavation. A small burnt spread survived to the south-east which measured 1.9m in diameter with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone, charcoal and black silty clay.
Pits:	Three sub-circular pits cut the burnt spread (no further details available)
Trough:	This pit (C28) may have functioned as a trough. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.1m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.2m. A stake-hole cut the base of the pit while a small pit was revealed in the corner. The fill of the pit consisted of dark silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

### References

Dowling, M and Taylor, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Commons, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Commons	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 145091, 140838
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 37 m OD
	County:	Limerick	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West
	Site Director:	Tony Bartlett and Kate Taylor
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.
	Year:	2002

Physical Setting:	The site was located on flat pastureland
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Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however a number of similar <i>fulachtaí fia</i> related site-types were revealed close to the site during the pipeline project. A series of pits containing burnt stone were revealed 80m north of the site (Site LK34), while 55m to the west, a number of pits and spreads were revealed (LK35).
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large pit or well containing heat-shattered stone. A gully or water-channel was also associated with the pit.
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Burnt Mound:	A low mound of heat-shattered stone was revealed during archaeological monitoring however this was damaged by construction machinery.
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Pit/Well:	The pit (C15) was sub-oval in plan with a concave profile and a relatively flat base. It measured 6.45m by 5.95m with a depth of 1.35m. The pit filled naturally with water. The fill consisted of a single phase of backfilled material consisting of charcoal-rich silty clay, heat-shattered stone, seeds, hazelnuts and twigs.
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Water-channel:	A shallow-linear gully (C14) extended from the south-eastern end of the large pit to a length of 6m. It had a depth of 0.2m. It was cut by a modern field drain. Bartlett and Taylor suggest that it may have served as an overflow channel for the pit or a gully for directing water into the feature.
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#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
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Ecofacts:	Hazelnuts, seeds and twigs were recovered from the pit (No other information available).
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## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a large pit filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone. It filled naturally with water suggesting it functioned as a well to supply water to adjacent trough features that most likely lie outside the area of excavation. The associated water-channel probably supplied water to these troughs or alternatively functioned as an overflow outlet directing access water away from the well pit.

## References

Dowling, M and Taylor, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Commons, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

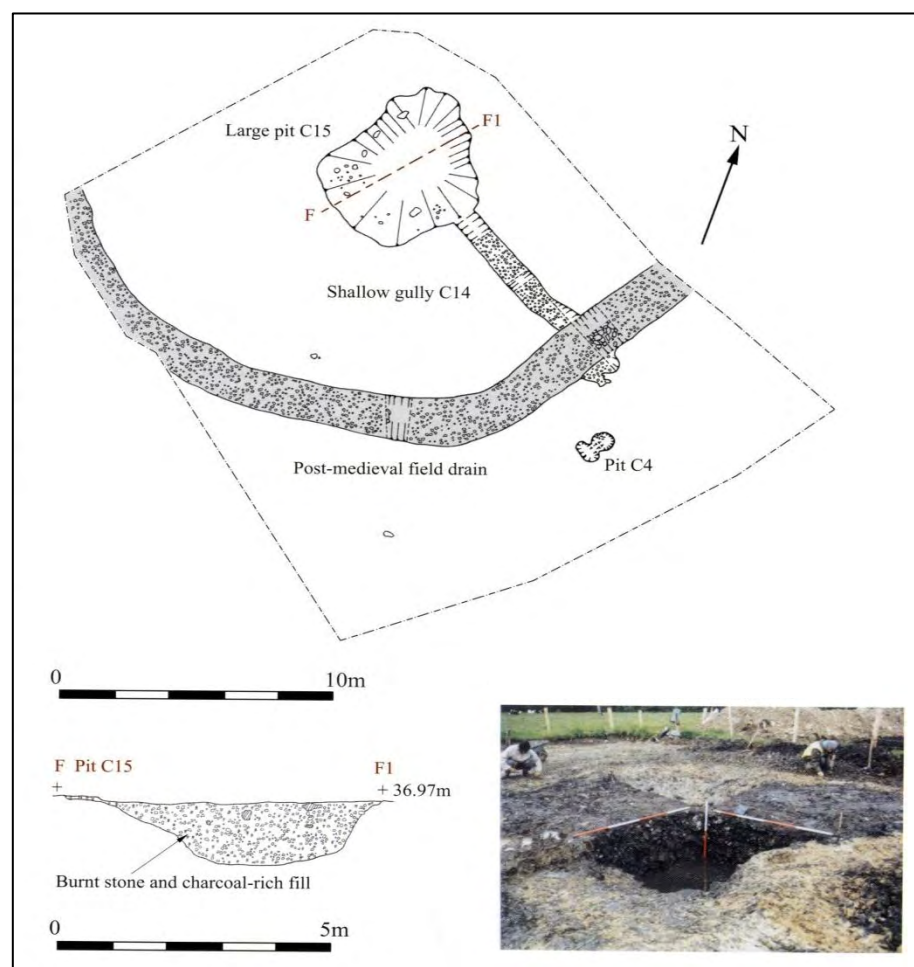


Fig. 10.97 Large pit and water-channel at Commons, Co. Limerick.

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Location:	Townland:	Dollas Upper	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 149068, 139089
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.
	Year:	2002

Physical Setting:	The site was located in poorly drained pastureland covered with peat.
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Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however a number of similar <i>fulachtaí fia</i> related site-types were revealed close to the site during the pipeline project. A series of pits containing burnt stone were revealed 80m north of the site (Site LK34), while 55m to the west, a number of pits and spreads were revealed (LK35).
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A rough stone platform and a small pit were also excavated.
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Burnt Mound:	A low mound consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal was the main deposit revealed on site. It measured 11.5m by 8m with a thickness of 0.23m. Numerous peat deposits occurred above and below the mound. Charcoal from the mound was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
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Pit:	An oval pit (C14) was the only cut feature identified during the excavation. It was roughly oval in shape and measured 2m by 1m and contained a fill consisting of black sandy silt, charcoal and burnt stone. Animal bone was retrieved from the pit.
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Stone Surface:	An area of stones measuring 5.5m by 2.4m was revealed south of the mound built up on a natural limestone outcrop. Animal bone was retrieved from this surface.
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### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
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Ecofacts:	Animal bone was retrieved from the pit (C14) and the stone surface.
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## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound  
C14 (Beta-179168)  $3810 \pm 40$  BP (2360–2140 BC)

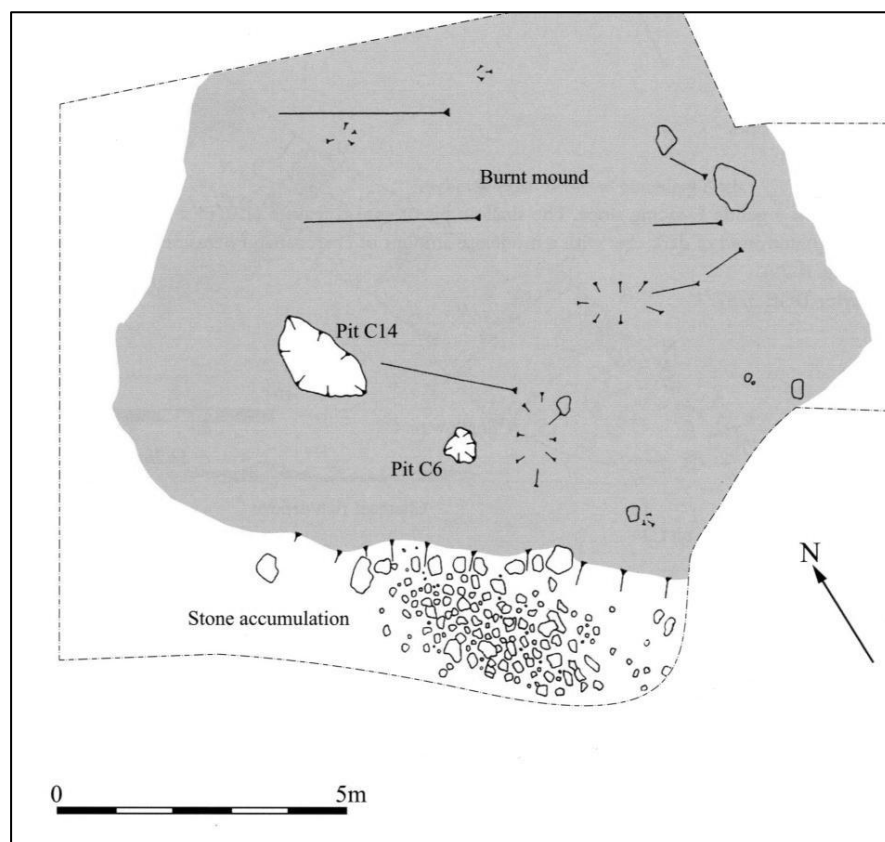
## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a large pit that probably functioned as a boiling trough. The stone surface on site may have been the remnants of a stockpile of unburnt stone ready to be used in the pyrolithic process. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly for cooking. This is supported by the recovery of animal bone from the pit and the surface.

## References

Halpin, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Dollas Upper, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray



Location:	Townland:	Finniterstown	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Adare	NGR: 144128, 141395
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 30 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Graham Hull	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on flattish ground that had formerly been used as pasture. The site and surrounding fields were relatively dry. A rectified stream was situated 100m to the south-west.		
Cultural Landscape:	A cremation cemetery was excavated 650m to the north-west while a smelting pit was revealed 525m in the same direction.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread, a well and two pits.
Burnt Mound:	The mound survived as a large spread of heat-shattered limestone and charcoal during archaeological monitoring, however the deposit was destroyed by unauthorised groundworks prior to excavation. Before the spread was destroyed it measured 15m by 9m with a thickness of 0.12m.
Pit 1:	This pit (C10) was oval and measured 1.6m by 0.44m with a depth of 0.34m. The pit was located at the eastern extent of the burnt spread. A large cache of grains were noted in the fill of the pit with a high proportion of oats. It was thought that this was a spoiled grain store due to the presence of pest boreholes that had to be burnt in order to destroy the pests and prevent them from spreading (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 279). Oat from this deposit was dated to the medieval period.
Pit 2:	Pit (C11) was located 0.9m north-east of the pit C10. It was oval in plan and measured 0.76m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.23m. The fill of the pit consisted of silty clay, burnt stone and charcoal.
Pit 2:	This pit (C12) was sub-circular in plan with a gradual brake of slope that steepened towards the base. It cut through the natural bedrock. It measured 2.8m in diameter with a depth of 1.2m. Thirteen fills were noted in the pit with the primary deposit consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. This fill was re-cut and filled with more deposits of silty clays containing

animal bone. Decayed wood and one large piece of dumped and waterlogged tree root was also found in the pit.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the well (C12) and was identified as pig tibia. Oat grains were retrieved from the pit (C10)

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Grain (oats) from the fill of the pit (C10)  
C14 (UB-6147) 909±27 BP (AD 1029–1166)

**Excavation Interpretation**

This site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of the Bord Gáis ‘Pipeline to the West’. It consisted of a spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal, subsequently destroyed by machine before the site was excavated. It overlay two small pits and a larger pit that may have functioned as a well associated with the use of pyrolithic technology. The smaller pits were filled with material similar to the spread. One of these, however, contained a large cache of grains (oats). A seed from this fill was dated to the early medieval period. The cereals bore insect damage and it is thought that this was a spoiled grain store that had to be burned in order to destroy the pests and prevent them from spreading to other crop storage facilities (Grogan *et al.* 2007, 208). The pit was situated at the edge of the burnt spread c. 12m east of the well feature, which remained undated. It may be unrelated to the spread and the well feature, representing isolated medieval activity related to grain storage.

**References**

Hull, G. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Finniterstown, Co. Limerick*. Preliminary excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray

Location:	Townland:	Inchagreenoge	Six inch map no: 10
	Parish:	Roberstown	NGR: 126737, 149291
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 6 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site lay on the western edge of a low-lying area of bog at the base of a steep hill. To the east, the site was bounded by a stream and several springs, including one which was revealed during excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several undated circular enclosures are recorded in the vicinity of the site including one which was located 300m to the south-west (LI010-67).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A burnt spread was excavated 25m to the east during this scheme.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. A small amount of damage was noted during excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two *fulachtaí fia* with wood-lined troughs, a spring with a human skull deposit, several layers of peat containing wooden artefacts and a possible wooden trackway.

### Site A

Burnt Mound: This western mound (C20/21) measured 16.8m by 19.2m with a thickness of 0.26m. It consisted of two overlapping spreads of heat-shattered limestone and charcoal. These deposits extended beyond the limits of the excavation into the adjacent field.

Trough: The trough (C69) was revealed under the mound and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 1.45m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.4m and consisted of a timber lined structure composed of alder planks. No stakes were noted and the trough which was considerably damaged. Two fills were recorded in the structure with the primary deposit consisting of brown silt peat and heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A charcoal deposit was dated to Early Bronze Age. A large amount of cattle bone was also recovered from this fill with the majority consisting of butchered limb bones. Two vase sherds of prehistoric pottery were also recovered.

**Spring:** At the southern edge of the mound (C20/21) was a spring (C22). This was a natural feature which was surrounded by large natural limestone pieces and was 0.6m deep. The fill of the spring consisted of grey-brown silt and peat. A human skull was deposit against the edge of the spring in a thin deposit of peat above the burnt stone. It was overlain by a series of thin limestone slabs which capped the spring. The skull was of an adult male and dated to the Middle-Late Bronze Age.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** This mound (C14) was revealed c. 5m to the west of Site A. It measured 9.5m in diameter with a thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered limestone and sealed a well preserved timber trough.

**Trough:** The trough (C28) was revealed under the burnt mound and consisted of a sub-rectangular timber-lined structure that measured 2.2m by 1.28m with a depth of 0.4m. The trough was composed of alder and ash planks held in place by sixteen hazel and four alder stakes. One of these alder stakes was dated to the Middle Bronze Age. Four fills were recorded in the trough with the primary deposit consisting of burnt stone material and charcoal. The third fill was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Trackway:** A possible wooden trackway was revealed between the two burnt mound sites with a deposit of peat. It consisted of a few large pieces of timber and smaller branches lying horizontally in the peat with three hazel stakes driven in to support the structure. A small assemblage of animal bone and a rim sherd of an encrusted urn were recovered from this feature.

**Peat Layer:** A layer of peat covered both sites which contained a large amount of wood, branches, twigs, seeds and hazelnuts. Large quantities of worked wood and animal bone were recovered. In addition, part of a saddle quern and a stone weight were found.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Worked wood and animal bone. A wooden mallet, flint flakes and scrapers and three sherds of prehistoric pottery. A saddle quern and a stone weight were also found.

**Ecofacts:** The animal bone assemblage included cattle, horse, sheep/goat, deer, dog and bird. Some of these animal bones were worked including the base of an antler with a hole drilled through it.

## **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (unknown) from the primary fill of trough (C69)  
C14 (UB-6015) 3686±39 BP 2198–1967 BC  
Wood (alder stake) from the primary fill of trough (C69)  
C14 (GrN-28199) 3686±39 BP 1740–1500 BC  
Charcoal (unknown) from the third fill of trough (C28)  
C14 (UB-6016) 3518±41 BP 1966–1744 BC

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed two separate burnt mound sites dating to the Early Bronze Age. Both pits relating to each mound of burnt stone were plank-lined suggesting that they functioned as boiling troughs associated with a pyrolithic technology. This process was most likely associated with cooking which is supported by the recovery of a large amount of animal bone with many fragments showing evidence of butchery. The spring on site may have provided water for the troughs, the importance of this commodity is evident in the deliberate deposition of a human skull in the base of the feature during the Middle Bronze Age, when the site may have been abandoned.

## References

Taylor, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Inchagreenoge, Co. Limerick*. Preliminary excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

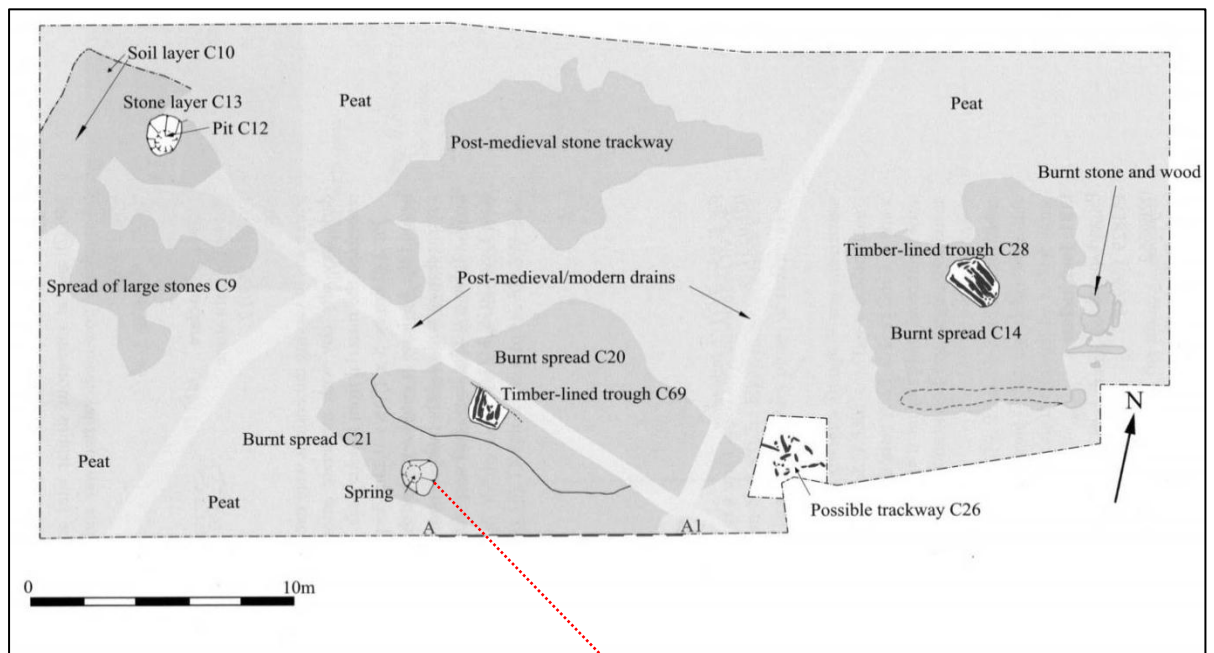


Fig. 10.98 Burnt mounds and timber-lined troughs at Inchagreenoge, Co. Limerick.



Location:	Townland:	Inchinclare	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Roberstown	NGR: 153829, 136934
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	

Physical Setting: There is no information available as to the locational setting of the site.

Cultural Landscape: There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area

Adjacent excavated sites: None

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small pit containing heat-shattered stone.
Spread:	The spread was situated 6m to the east of the pit and measured 1.2m by 0.5m with a thickness of 0.03m. It consisted of an irregular shaped patch of charcoal and oxidised silty clay representing <i>in situ</i> burning.
Pit:	The pit was circular in shape with sharp edges, steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.8m in diameter with a depth of 0.28m. The fill consisted of brown silty clay with charcoal and occasional heat-shattered stones. Eight fragments of burnt bone were recovered from the pit.
Dating:	Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit C14 (UB-6053) 1612±27 BP AD 389–534

### Excavation Interpretation

Taylor suggests that the care taken in the cutting of the pit indicates a specialised function possibly associated with cremation. The bone, which was unidentifiable, was fully burnt adding further evidence that this pit may have functioned as a burial site. This site cannot be interpreted as a *fulacht fia* due to the absence of a burnt mound and boiling pits. The presence of a small quantity of heat-shattered stone may have been a result of burning in the vicinity where a number of stones became heat-affected as a result.

### References

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Kilfinny	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 146579, 140100
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emer Dennehy and Ross MacLeod	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a gentle slope on the base of a small raised area of land. The site itself is dry and well drained, although the area surrounding this small hillock is dominated by extensive bogland.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although the Early Medieval period is well represented. Numerous <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were encountered during the project with one located 200m to the north-west.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a low burnt mound, three possible troughs and a number of pits interpreted as pot-boilers.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was sub-circular in shape and measured 21m by 15m with a maximum thickness of 0.21m. It consisted of black silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered limestone.
Trough 1:	This trough (C17) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.48m. Three fills were noted in the trough consisting of silty clays and heat-shattered limestone.
Trough 2:	Trough (C20) was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.53m by 0.96m with a depth of 0.53m. It had a U-shaped profile and an uneven base and the fill consisted of heat-shattered limestone. It had a fill consisted of heat-shattered limestone and grey sandy clay.
Pit 1:	This pit (C11) was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.3m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.32m and had a concave profile. It contained two fills consisting of dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone which included sandstone and limestone. Dennehy suggests that there was some evidence to suggest that three stake-holes were present in the base of the pit.



- Pit 2: Pit (C4) was situated to the south-west and was sub-circular in plan. It measured 0.82m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. A stake-hole was noted in the north of the pit. Two fills were noted consisting of charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 3: This pit (C8) was irregular in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.08. Three truncated stake-holes cut the base of the pit which was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered limestone.
- Trough 3: This trough (C30) belonged to a second phase of activity on the site and was oblong in shape. It measured 2.5m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.34m. The pit contained four fills consisting of dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a number of troughs, some of which may have originally been timber-lined. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking.

#### **References**

Dennehy, E and MacLeod, R. *Archaeological excavations at Kilfinny, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Kilfinny	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 146482, 140152
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 27m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Graham Hull	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on pasturland on a gentle incline. A stream located immediately to the south-east had been rectified to facilitate relatively modern agriculture.		
Cultural Landscape:	Numerous <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were encountered during the project with one located 175m to the south-west (Site41), while another was situated 850m to the south-east (Site27).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation as it lay beyond the wayleave constraints.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remnants of a badly disturbed <i>fulacht fia</i> . Patches of burnt mound material were identified along with a pit which may have functioned as a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was heavily disturbed but survived as discrete patches of heat-shattered stone and charcoal over an area measuring 20m by 20m. It seems that the site had been damaged by later agricultural activity.
Trough:	A single pit (C7) was identified which may have functioned as a trough. It was oval in plan and measured 2.05m by 1.6m with a maximum depth of 0.45m. Five fills were noted in the trough consisting of laminated deposits of heat-shattered limestone and charcoal.
<b>Finds:</b>	A possible flint scraper was found in the disturbed burnt stone spread while a piece of flint debitage was recovered from one of the trough fills.
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (unknown) from the lower fill of the trough (C7) C14 (UB-6086) 3692±35 BP (2200–1950 BC)

### References

Hull, G. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Kilfinny, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Knockuregare	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 161316, 134119
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on level pastureland 100m south-east of a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although the medieval period is well represented.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone, an oval pit or trough and a possible hearth.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread was amorphous in shape and measured 11m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of dark silty clay with charcoal and frequent amounts of heat-shattered limestone. An animal tooth fragment came from the spread.
Trough:	The trough (C5) was oval in shape and measured 1.62m by 1.52m with a depth of 0.3m. It was located north of the hearth and contained a fill consisting of black silty clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Hearth:	At the western edge of the spread was a patch of charcoal rich silty clay (C1) which was interpreted as the remains of a possible hearth. It measured 2.8m by 1m.
<b>Finds:</b>	An animal tooth fragment was retrieved from the burnt stone spread.
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### **References**

Taylor, K. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Knockuregare, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Leahys	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilfinny	NGR: 124487, 150683
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 108m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor and Martin Jones	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located near the summit of a low rise on the upper slopes of Knockpatrick, in poor undulating pasture with a small bog nearby.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although the medieval period is well represented.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. The full extent of the site was not revealed as it lay beyond the limits of the excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which extended beyond the pipeline wayleave and a possible pit that may have functioned as a trough.
Burnt Mound:	Only a portion of the mound was revealed during excavation. The exposed area measured 9.85m by 9.25m with a maximum thickness of 0.75m. It consisted of burnt clay and heat-shattered mudstone and shale in a matrix of dark silty clay and charcoal.
Possible trough:	A possible trough (C15) was revealed cut into earlier layers of burnt mound material. It was oval in shape and measured 0.94m wide with a depth of 0.17m. It had steep sides and a flat base and contained a fill consisting of black clay and burnt stone. Above the trough there was a thin deposit of dark clay, burnt shape and mudstone. This was dated to the Late Bronze Age.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (unknown) from a deposit above the trough (C15) C14 (UB-6045) 2887±31 BP (1212–994 BC)

### References

Taylor, K and Jones, M. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Leahys, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Leahys	Six inch map no: 10
	Parish:	Robertstown	NGR: 124330, 151108
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 79 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emer Dennehy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the north-facing crusp of a steep hill on the southern shores of the Shannon Estuary.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although the Early medieval period is well represented. Three other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> related sites were revealed on the summit of this hill during the pipeline project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	There were three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated at the summit of this hill.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone, three inter-cutting troughs, a number of small pits and four hearths.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3 and C12) was sub-oval in shape and measured 12m by 9.2m with a thickness of 0.35m. It consisted of two layers of charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough 1:	Trough (C5) was rectangular in shape with a U-shaped profile and was situated centrally in the site. It measured 3.5m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.5m. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a matrix of black charcoal rich material. A series of large flat stones were noted in the fill which may have been the remains of a displaced lining. The upper fill of the trough was dated to the Middle Bronze Age. This trough filled naturally with water.
Hearth 1:	This hearth (C32) was situated 0.4m to the immediate south of the trough (C5). It was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.67m in width and a depth of 0.37m. Two fills were recorded in the pit consisting of charcoal and unburnt sandstone. The upper deposit consisted of burnt sandstone and charcoal enriched soil.
Hearth 2:	This shallow hearth (C43) was sub-rectangular in plan and was situated close to the trough C5. It measured 0.9m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.19m. The fill

consisted of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal rich material in a matrix of dark-red sandy silt.

- Hearth 3: C46 was sub-circular in plan and was located north-west of the trough. It measured 0.86m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.03m. The fill of the hearth consisted of leached iron-pan which was orange in colour and the upper deposit consisted of burnt sandstone and brown silt. This was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
- Revetment: A possible revetment was located to the north of the trough (C5). It consisted of a loose arrangement of sandstone and was interpreted as the remains of a revetment for the mound material.
- Trough 2: This trough (C42) was related to a second phase of activity and was sub-circular in shape. It measured 1.6m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.43m and contained a fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. This trough was situated above the water table.
- Hearth 4: This hearth (C21) was associated with the trough C42 and it overlay the earlier hearth site C32. It consisted of *in situ* burnt subsoil and sandstones measuring 2.4m by 1.8m.
- Pit 1 and 2: Two pits (C9 and C40) were also assigned to this phase of activity. C9 was oval in shape and measured 1.14m by 1.04m with a depth of 0.13m. A stake-hole was noted cut into the eastern side of this pit. The fill of the pit consisted of heat-shattered stone and black silty clay. Pit (C40) was circular in plan and measured 0.51m by 0.32m with a depth of 0.09m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and dark silty clay.
- Trough 3: Trough (C23) represented a third phase of activity on the site. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 2.43m by 2.5m with a depth of 0.6m. The pit contained six fills and had a natural spring in its base. The fills consisted of varying degrees of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and dark silty clays.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: A small amount of burnt bone was recovered from one of the hearth sites (C21).

### **Dating:**

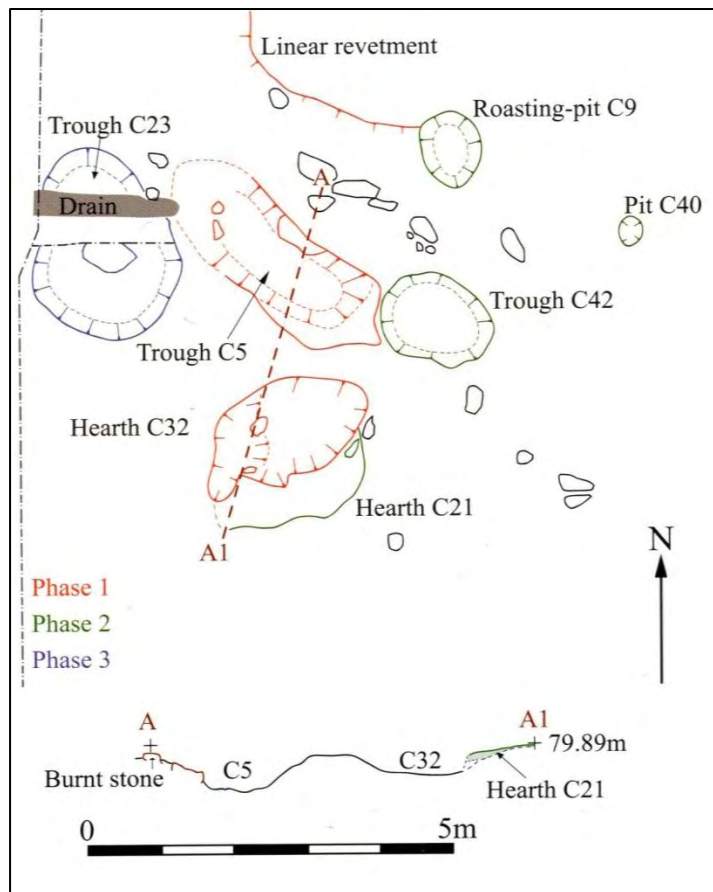
Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the upper fill of the trough (C5)  
C14 (UB-6091) 3162±28 BP (1520–1390 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the upper fill of the hearth (C46)  
C14 (UB-6225) 3042±34 BP (1410–1210 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a number of troughs with associated formal hearths. A number of different use phases were established during excavation suggesting the site was returned to sporadically over time. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking. This may be supported by the recovery of burnt bone from the site.

## References

Dennehy, E. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Leahys, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Milltown North	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Lismakeery	NGR: 133849, 147673
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 19m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in an area of very flat well-drained pastureland with views in all directions of very gentle rolling hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although the Early medieval period is well represented.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. The full extent of the site was not revealed during investigation as it lay beyond the limits of excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a very disturbed burnt mound and several cut features which may have functioned as troughs. No burnt mound was in the exposed area however burnt mound material was noted in the baulk section at the limit of the excavation to the south. The site was not dated.
Trough 1:	This trough (C2) was revealed at the eastern area of the site and was sub-oval in plan. It measured 2.3m by 1.86m with a depth of 0.36m. The fill of this feature contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material.
Trough 2:	This trough (C58) was a large irregular pit which extended beyond the excavated area. It measured 3.63m by 4.34m with a depth of 0.38m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Possible Water-Channel:	This linear feature (C6) extended 10m from the pit C58. It contained a similar fill to the pits and may have served as an overflow channel for the pit or may have directed water into it.

**Finds:** Two fragments of animal bone were recovered from the upper fills of C6.

#### **References**

Halpin, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Milltown North, Co. Cork*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Robertstown	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Lismakeery	NGR: 126820, 149314
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emer Dennehy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying bogland on the bank of a small stream beyond which was the extensive <i>fulacht fia</i> at Inchagreenoge (LK45).		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although an extensive <i>fulacht fia</i> was revealed during this project on the opposite side of the stream.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulachtaí fia</i> on opposite side of the stream (LK45)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of burnt mound material. No cut features were exposed.
Burnt Spread:	This deposit was irregular in shape and measured 4.1m by 3.3m with a thickness of 0.05m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a charcoal rich matrix.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

### Dating:

Absolute dating:	None
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### References

Dennehy, E. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Milltown North, Co. Cork*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Rincullia	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Lismakeery	NGR: 128507, 149549
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 46m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emer Dennehy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a level basin of land at the base of a steeply rising hill on the bank of a tributary of the Robertstown River.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation as it lay beyond pipeline constraints.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a trough, a stone platform and several features interpreted as roasting pits. No finds were recovered.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was circular in shape and measured 16m in diameter with a maximum thickness of 0.84m. Six different phases of activity were noted in the make-up of the mound which consisted of heat-shattered limestone.
Trough:	The trough was revealed at the base of the mound and was rectangular in shape. It measured 4.3m by 2.45m and was filled with burnt mound material.
Trackway:	The trackway linked the burnt mound with the series of roasting pits. It measured 10m by 15.5m and composed of two courses of fractured limestone bedrock. The excavator states that it would have provided a secure and level footing in an otherwise wet location.
Pits:	A series of six pits were exposed to the west of the site which were connected to the mound by the stone trackway. They were all sub-circular in shape and filled with heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a charcoal-rich matrix. These pits may have functioned as roasting ovens.

### References

Dennehy, E. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Milltown North, Co. Cork*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Tullerboy	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Athlacca	NGR: 156065, 149549
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 46m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emer Dennehy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the locational setting of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although an extensive <i>fulacht fia</i> was revealed during this project on the opposite side of the stream.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of heat-shattered stone and two pits.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread was amorphous in shape and measured 1.25m by 1.1m with a thickness of 0.08m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone and a moderate amount of charcoal.
Pit 1:	This pit (C2) was irregular in shape and measured 1.51m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.14m. It had a concave centre and shallower, shelved edges. The fill consisted of sandy clay and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 2:	The pit (C6) was oval in shape and measured 1.32m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.2m. It had steep sides and an uneven base and was filled with dark sandy clay and heat-shattered stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	A crescent flint scraper and a chert scraper were recovered from the surface of the site.
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### References

Dennehy, E. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Tullerboy, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Tullerboy	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Athlacca	NGR: 155806, 136178
	Barony:	Connellow Upper	Altitude: 53m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Board Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was identified in a relatively flat area within a landscape of gently undulating pastureland.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to the pipeline project there were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site although several sites were revealed in the area during the pipeline project. A number of pits and a small spread were excavated 210m to the east (LK48).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Board Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation as it lay beyond the pipeline constraints.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed numerous pit features which were interpreted as roasting its using pyrolithic technology. The site may be associated with, or be the remains of a <i>fulacht fíá</i> .
Burnt Mound:	There was no burnt mound identified during the excavation however Halpin notes the presence of a thin spread of burnt material over the site. The burnt mound may also be located outside the area of excavation.
Pit 1/Trough:	This feature (C12) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.28m. It contained fourteen stake-holes in the base, set principally along the bottom edge. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone, charcoal and a fragment of burnt bone. No evidence of <i>in situ</i> burning was revealed.
Pit 2:	This pit (C14) was excavated to the north-west of the possible trough. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.3m by 2.1m with a depth of 0.4m. Three fills were noted in the trough consisting of silty clays, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Pit 3:	Pit (C16) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.55m. Four fills were noted in the pit consisting of varying degrees of

silty clays, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The upper fill contained fragments of unworked chert and burnt bone.

Other features: Several other pits were revealed during excavation however these were possibly natural in origin.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Four pieces of worked chert came from the pits C16 and C14.

Ecofacts: Small fragments of burnt bone were identified in some of the pit fills.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a number of pits filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone. No associated mound of similar material was noted during excavation. It may be located outside the limits of excavation it the site may have functioned as a small-scale pyrolithic site for roasting activities. This may be supported by the recovery of animal bone fragments from the site.

**References**

Halpin, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Tullerboy, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbane	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Castletroy	NGR: 162010, 156100
	Barony:	Castletroy	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Development project	
	Site Director:	Niamh O' Callaghan	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was identified in a relatively flat area within a landscape of gently undulating pastureland.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Bronze Age flat cemetery consisting of several cremation burials was also excavated in this area during the project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Cremation burials		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. No surface trace of the sites was evident prior to investigations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a cremation cemetery and two burnt mound sites, one of which overlay a trough and a number of pits. No finds were recovered and the sites were not scientifically dated.

#### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: This site was revealed as a spread of black silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 10.5m by 8.5m with a thickness of 0.2m.

Trough: Two large shallow rectangular features were identified beneath the spread which were interpreted as possible trough features (No other details available).

Pits: Five small circular pits were also revealed in this area (No other details available).

#### **Site B**

Burnt Mound: This site consisted of a single deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. It measured 6m by 5m with a thickness of 0.3m. No cut features were recorded associated with this deposit.

#### **References**

O'Callaghan, N. 2006. Kilbane, Castletroy. Bronze Age flat cemetery and *fulachta fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*, 309. Worwdwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Ballybrown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Clarina	NGR: 15060, 15400
	Barony:	Clarina	Altitude: NA
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Residential development project	
	Site Director:	Ken Wiggins	
	Consultants:	Judith Carroll and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on flat ground near the corner of a field, on the northern side of the N69 Limerick to Foynes road.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. No surface trace of the sites was evident prior to investigations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled <i>fulacht fia</i> consisting of a spread of burnt mound material and a trough that may have originally been timber-lined.
Burnt Mound:	the burnt mound survived as a dispersed circular spread of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal-rich material. It was revealed in an area measuring 30m by 20m.
Trough:	The trough was cut into the subsoil and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 4.72m by 3.22m with a depth of 1.04m. Two fills were noted in the pit with the primary deposit consisting of black silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone. The second fill contained two wooden stakes and fragments of worked wood.
Pit:	This pit was revealed adjacent to the trough. It was circular in shape and measured 1.32m by 1.32m with a depth of 0.4m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of heat-shattered stone and wood fragments
<b>Finds:</b>	Worked wood from the trough
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### References

Wiggins, K. 2006. Ballybrown, Clarina. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*, 310 Worwdwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Coonagh West	Six inch map no: 05
	Parish:	Killeely	NGR: 152975, 157055
	Barony:	North Liberties	Altitude: 2m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Limerick Southern Ring Road	
	Site Director:	Fiona Reilly	
	Consultants:	TVAS Ireland	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The general topography of the area is flat pasture with reeds, intersected by deep ditches draining into the River Shannon. The site lay at the interface of the deep alluvium and the glacial till, i.e. the edge of the ancient channel of the Shannon estuary.		
Cultural Landscape:	Evidence for Late Bronze Age activity was found in the study area to the north of the Shannon in Clonmacken, where a fragmented Bronze Age sword was found during the construction of the Ennis Road. An isolated Late Bronze Age cremation burial was excavated at Clonmacken during this road project also (E2109). A number of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were also excavated as part of this project including one which was excavated 60m to the south (LK 61).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. No surface trace of the sites was evident prior to investigations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a possible well with an access area.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound consisted of two deposits (255 and 262) of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone with a high charcoal content. The spread measured 13m by 7.3m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. The lower deposit is dated to the Middle Bronze Age while the upper deposit dates to the Late Bronze Age.		
Pit/ Well:	This pit (C200) was circular in shape and measured 1.06m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.41m. The pit filled naturally with water and contained two fills consisting of stone and silty clay.		
Stone Surface:	A possible stone surface was revealed adjacent to the pit. It consisted of crushed sandstone embedded into the natural clay.		



## Finds:

- Artefacts: Several chert artefacts were recovered from below the burnt spread and from above it. Several others were recovered during monitoring. These have been dated to the Neolithic period and suggest that the site is considerably disturbed.
- Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the burnt spread. These consisted of a cattle humerus, large mammal tibia, cattle skull fragment and tibia fragment from a wild goose.

## Dating:

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread (C255)  
C14 (UBA-13624) 2936±23 BP (1258–1051 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread (C262)  
C14 (UBA-13625) 3134±25 BP (1491–1319 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound consisting of at least two phases of activity. A pit was also associated with this deposit and probably functioned as a trough for water-boiling as it filled naturally with water and did not require an internal lining. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location possibly used for cooking. This may be supported by the recovery of animal bone from the site.

## References

Reilly, F. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Coonagh West 5, Co. Limerick*. Final excavation report prepared for TVAS Ireland Ltd.



Plate 10.81 Burnt spread and unlined trough at Coonagh West, Co. Limerick.

Location:	Townland:	Coonagh West	Six inch map no: 05
	Parish:	Killeely	NGR: 152919, 157094
	Barony:	North Liberties	Altitude: 2m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Limerick Southern Ring Road	
	Site Director:	Fiona Reilly	
	Consultants:	TVAS Ireland	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The general topography of the area is flat pasture with reeds, intersected by deep ditches draining into the River Shannon. Coonagh West Site 6 (E2093) was located on flat pasture with reeds. The burnt mounds were found at the southern margin of a large rectangular field. A prehistoric stream bed bisected both mounds.		
Cultural Landscape:	Evidence for Late Bronze Age activity was found in the study area to the north of the Shannon in Clonmacken, where a fragmented Bronze Age sword was found during the construction of the Ennis Road. An isolated Late Bronze Age cremation burial was excavated at Clonmacken during this road project also (E2109). A number of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were also excavated as part of this project including one which was excavated 250m to the south-east (LK 61).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. No surface trace of the sites was evident prior to investigations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mounds, one of which sealed a well-preserved wood-lined trough and a possible hearth. An ancient stream bed was also revealed.
Burnt Mound 1:	This mound (276) measured 10.2m by 9.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.55m. It was made up of several deposits of heat-shattered sandstone and situated on slightly higher ground than that of the later burnt mound. The upper levels of the burnt stone mound were truncated on the southern and south-eastern sides by a large ditch (201). A large Y-shaped worked ash artefact was retrieved from one of these burnt mound deposits. The artefact appeared to have been discarded on the surface of the stone spread and may have been used to manoeuvre hot stones from the fire to the trough or as a tool for extracting something from the hot water. It was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Trough:	The trough (C224) was situated centrally within the burnt mound adjacent to the stream bed. It was trapezoidal in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.7-1m with a depth of 0.3m. The trough was plank-lined at all sides with alder timbers. The base was lined with ten flat stones and a single stake was present in each of the four corners. One of the timbers is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Bark was evident on all four lower timbers. Moss was found stuffed into the triangular gap between two timbers. A coarse sand material was present between the base slabs and overlying them. The trough was filled with charcoal rich material, black silty sand and occasional heat-shattered stone. Preserved grass or reeds were found at the base of the interface layer and immediately above the large flat stones.
Hearth:	This area (C452) was exposed immediately north-west of the natural depression close to the trough. It was revealed as an area of oxidation that measured 1m by 0.75m.
Burnt Mound 2:	This mound was smaller and was roughly circular in shape. It measured 6.7m by 4.5m and had a maximum thickness of 0.26m. The material was made of two deposits consisting of heat-shattered sandstone and dark silty clay. A linear cut below the mound is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
Stream:	On its eastern and northern sides the burnt stone spread of Mound 2 sloped downwards into a stream bed (222). This stream bed meandered away to the south and north-west and was on average 2.50 m wide and approximately 0.60 m deep. From beetle analysis it was possible to determine that before the stones from Mound 2 found their way into the channel it was a slow running stream. In the southern area of the south-eastern quadrant of Mound 2, a clay layer (267) was found below the burnt stone and over a deposit with a high organic component (268/367). This clay layer suggests that the stream bed was at this level during the use of the trough.
<b>Finds:</b>	
Artefacts:	A large Y-shaped artefact was recovered from burnt mound 1. It was identified as ash.
Ecofacts:	Nine fragments of animal bone identified to species were recovered by hand from Bronze Age contexts. Cattle was the most common species, but pig and red deer were also recovered. Human bone was also identified with a mid-shaft fragment from a left tibia recovered from the ditch.
<b>Dating:</b>	
Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Wood (ash) Y-shaped artefact from the burnt mound 1 C14 (UBA-13267) 3782±28 BP (2295–2064 BC) Wood (alder) plank from the trough lining C14 (UBA-13268) 3840±26 BP (2457–2203 BC) Charcoal (alder) from fill of linear feature C14 (UBA-13266) 3231±24 BP (1604–1434 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed two mounds of burnt stone that were not contemporary in date. The larger of the two overlay a well-preserved timber and stone-lined trough and associated hearth. The site lay adjacent to an ancient stream bed which produced a human bone fragment and some animal bone. Other

animal bone recovered from Bronze Age contexts suggests the site may have functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling location for cooking. The excavator however, interpreted the site as a possible textile processing area due to the environmental evidence recovered from the trough (see Chapter 7 for further discussion).

## References

Reilly, F and Brown, T. 2013. Possible evidence of textile-processing from a burnt stone mound at Coonagh West, Co. Limerick. *The Journal of Irish Archaeology* **21**, 57–84.

Reilly, F. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Coonagh West, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for TVAS Ireland.

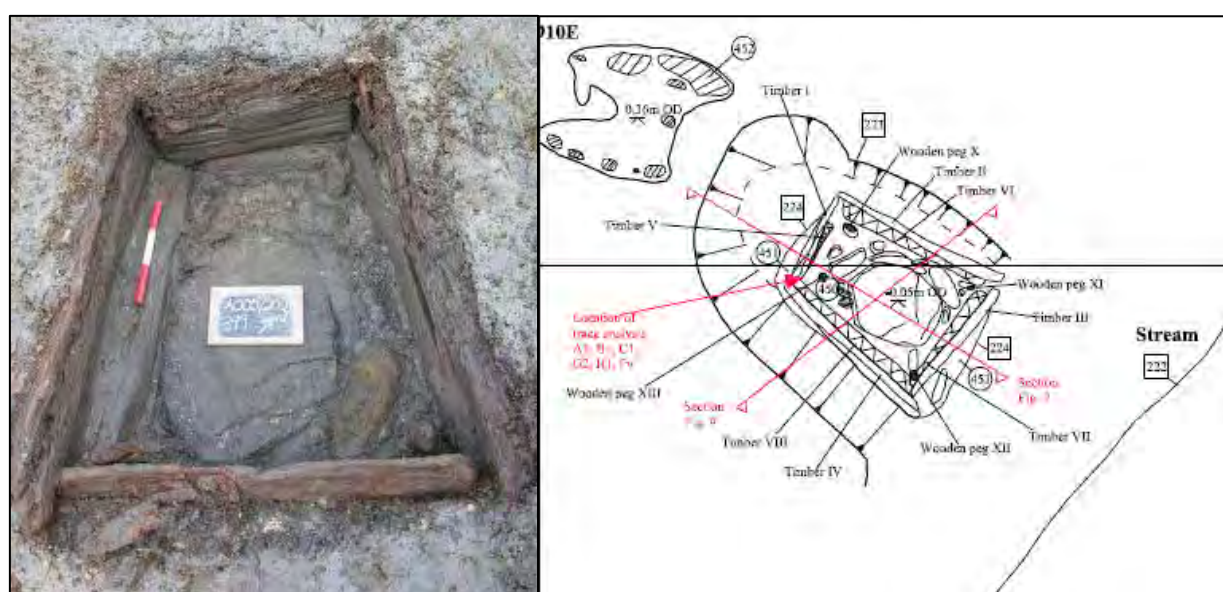


Fig. 10.99 Plank and stone-lined trough and associated hearth at Coonagh West, Co. Limerick.

Location:	Townland:	Brackbaun	Six inch map no: 75
	Parish:	Kilbeheny	NGR: 188390, 116830
	Barony:	Kilbeheny	Altitude: 115 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Melanie McQuade	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on the southern foothills of the Galtee Mountains on pastureland drained by the River Funshion. It was situated 11m east of the current river channel.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic portal tomb (TI075-045) lies on the lower slopes of the Galtee Mountains to the north of this site at Lissava, Co. Tipperary. The Galtee Mountains are capped by a series of prehistoric sites most of which date to the Bronze Age. These include 23 Cairns, 2 standing stones, 5 enclosures and a hilltop enclosure. Other Bronze Age sites in the general area include a ‘flat’ cemetery sited on the Limerick/Tipperary border, northwest of the Galtee Mountains and a <i>fulacht fia</i> c. 6km to the southeast at Ballyporeen. There was an Early Bronze Age cremation burial 80m to the east (E2338). An Iron Age <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated downstream, 160m to the south (E2306).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval kiln		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Improvement Scheme. No surface trace of the sites was evident prior to investigations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound deposit, a substantial trough and hearth and a number of small pits.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a dispersed spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of black silty clay. The deposit measured 19m by 13.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.55m. Several other separated phases of burnt mound activity were noted on site in the form of small spreads of heat-shattered stone.		
Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 5m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.4m. It was located immediately adjacent to the former river channel. Several large stones located along the sides of the pit and a number of timber pieces suggests that the trough may have been lined. Three fills were identified in the pit consisting of charcoal enrich silts and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from one of these fills is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.		



**Hearth:** A large formal hearth was revealed immediately adjacent to the west end of the trough. It measured 2.6m by 1.4m and consisted of an area of fire-reddened earth.

**Pits:** Two small conjoined pits were identified north of the trough and hearth. The smaller pit measured 0.99m in diameter with a depth of 0.38m. The larger pit measured 1.04m by 0.72m with a depth of 0.32m. Both pits contained fills consisting of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. Small quantities of charred cereal grains and hazelnut shells were recovered also.

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A Neolithic polished stone axe was recovered from the topsoil.

**Ecofacts:** Cereal grains were recovered from the two pit features.

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the trough  
C14 (UB-7387) 3276±35 BP (1634–1454 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a formal hearth and trough which displayed evidence to suggest it may have been timber-lined. A number of different use phases were evident within the make-up of the mound suggesting that the area was used episodically. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking.

**References**

McQuade, M., Molloy., B and Moriarty, C. 2009. *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological Excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. NRA Scheme Monographs 4. National Roads Authority, Dublin



Plate 10.82 Burnt mound and rectangular trough at Brackbaun, Co. Limerick.



Location:	Townland:	Brackbaun	Six inch map no: 75
	Parish:	Kilbeheny	NGR: 188384, 116647
	Barony:	Kilbeheny	Altitude: 115 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the base of a north-east facing slope on the eastern bank of a small tributary of the River Funshion.		
Cultural Landscape:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> was identified 190m upstream to the north E2339. This site was dated to the Middle Bronze Age. A disturbed cremation burial, dating to the Early Bronze Age was identified 220m to the northeast E2238. A spread of burnt stone, dating to Iron Age was identified 440m to the northeast E2340. Two sites were identified upslope from. Site 47001A (E2341), which consisted of a ring barrow dating to the Iron Age, was located <i>circa</i> 590m to the southwest and Site 47001B (E2342), a metal-working/production site was identified <i>circa</i> 720m to the southwest.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Improvement Scheme. No surface trace of the sites was evident prior to investigations. The full extent of the site was not revealed during investigations as it lay outside the area of excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two phases of burnt mound activity separated by an episode of flooding. Features exposed include two troughs, a hearth and a stockpile of unburnt stones.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 17.5m by 12m with a maximum thickness of 0.35m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-enriched silts. Seven separated burnt stone deposits were identified in the make-up of the mound. A layer of alluvial deposits overlay the mound material and the trough. This layer was truncated by the second trough suggesting a separate phase of activity.		
Trough 1:	The trough was located adjacent to the stream and was not fully exposed during the excavation. The excavated portion was rectangular in shape and measured 2.8m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.6m. It was truncated on the northern side by a second trough. A sandstone lining was evident along the sides of the trough and partially along the base. The primary fill consisted of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.		

Hearth:	A large hearth was revealed immediately adjacent to the trough on its eastern side. It measured 2.8m by 1.8m and consisted of an area of fire-reddened subsoil. Several stake-holes were exposed cutting into and surrounding this hearth. A small area of fire-reddened soil was revealed to the north of the trough. It measured 0.7m by 0.5m.
Stone Stockpile:	A stockpile of rounded unburnt stone was identified north of the trough. The stones consisted of sandstone and the excavator suggests they were gathered from the adjacent stream and stored for use in the trough.
Trough 2:	This second trough was only partly exposed. It cut the first trough and the alluvial deposit. It measured 1.6m in width and had a depth of 0.5m. The trough was filled with two deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich silts. It was dated to the Early Iron Age.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough 2 C14 (UB-7238) 2500±34 BP (789–425 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a formal hearth and two troughs which displayed evidence to suggest they may have been lined. A number of different use phases were evident within the make-up of the mound suggesting that the area was used episodically. This is further supported by the fact that the second trough, dating to the Early Iron Age, cut the earlier example. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking.

#### **References**

McQuade, M., Molloy, B and Moriarty, C. 2009. *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological Excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. NRA Scheme Monographs 4. National Roads Authority, Dublin.



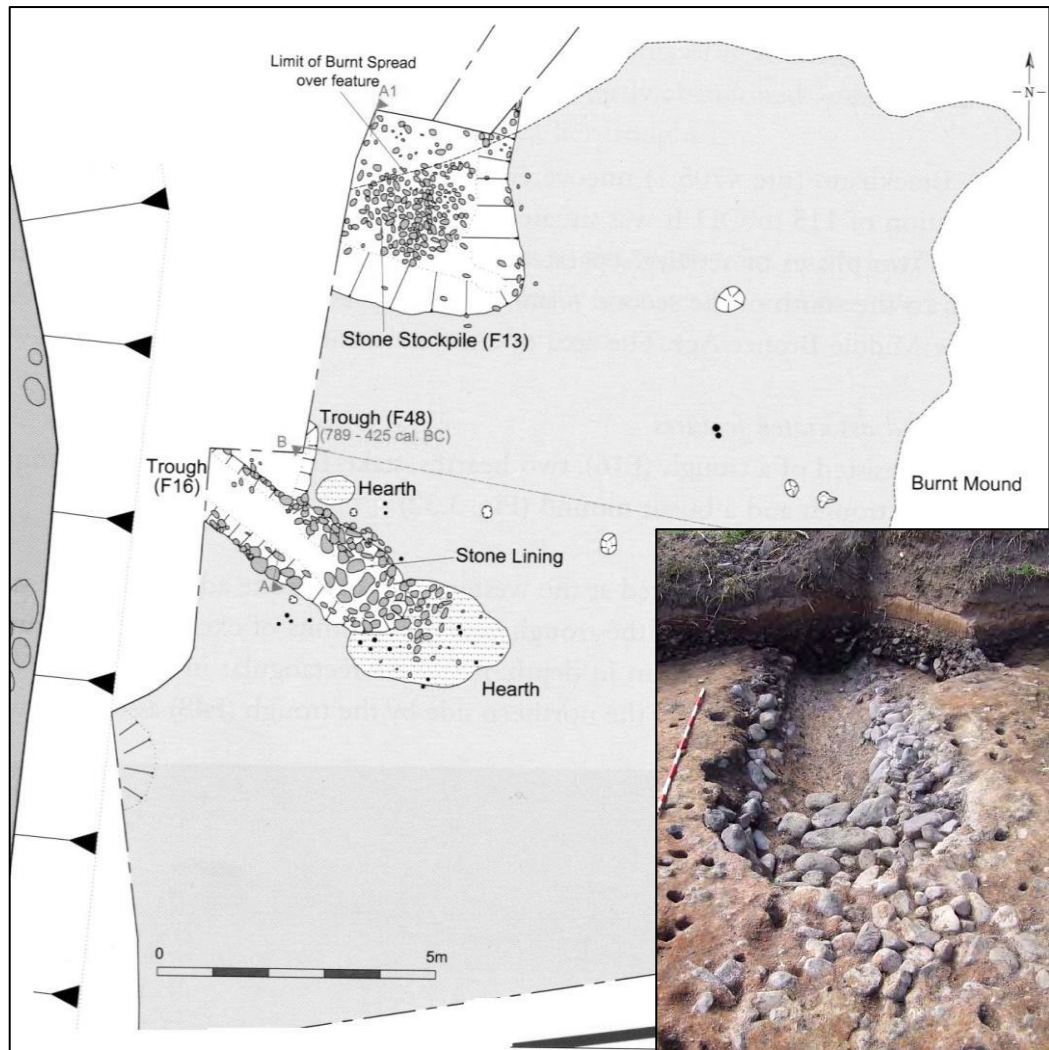


Fig. 10.100 Plan of excavated features at Brackbaun, Co. Limerick.

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Location:	Townland:	Lisnagry	Six inch map no: 6
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 169265, 164764
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: 49m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Áine Richardson	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	

Physical Setting: The site was located in a low-lying damp area of rough pasture

Cultural Landscape: A number of archaeological sites were excavated in the vicinity of Lisnagry Site 1 during the same road scheme. These included three *fulachtaí fia* and a cremation burial excavated at Richhill Site 1, E2329 located c. 80 m to the south

Adjacent excavated sites: *Fulachtaí fia* and cremation 80m to the south

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick road scheme. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a single trough.

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound was located immediately east of the trough (004). It was irregular in plan and measured 7m by 6.2m with a thickness of 0.35m. The mound consisted of three deposits with the lowest layer composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Wheat grains were retrieved from this deposit along with a charred nut-shell. Overlying this layer was a deposit of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone that is dated to the Middle Bronze Age. The upper layer consisted of similar material.

Trough: The trough (004) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.9m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.22m. It was filled with loose brown silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Charred cereal grains were retrieved from this deposit.

**Finds:** Cereal grains recovered from the burnt mound and trough

**Dating:** Charcoal (charred cereal grain) from the trough 004  
C14 (UBA-12346) 3347±23 BP (1729–1534 BC)  
Charcoal (*pomoideae*) from the burnt mound  
C14 (UBA-12347) 3265±24 BP (1614–1463 BC)

#### Reference

Richardson, A. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Lisnagry, Co. Limerick*. Final excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeological Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Richhill	Six inch map no: 6
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 165771, 158926 165810, 158889 165834, 158929
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: 36 m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Áine Richardson	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a wet and poorly drained field that was bounded by the current N7 to the west, a field boundary to the east and north and by a housing estate to the south.		
Cultural Landscape:	A number of archaeological sites were excavated in the vicinity of Lisnagry Site 1 during the same road scheme. These included a Middle Bornze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> excavated at Lisnagry, located <i>c.</i> 80 m to the north.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A Middle Bronze Age cremation burial was discovered here during the excavations. A <i>fulacht fia</i> was also excavated 80m to the north		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick road scheme. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed three separate areas of *fulacht fia* activity consisting of burnt mounds and troughs. A cremation burial was also excavated at the site.

### Site A

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound in this area was irregular in shape and measured 27m by 11m with a thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay. An attempt was made to record the burnt mound using the single context recording system to build up a detailed stratigraphic picture of the dumping episodes. While variations in the mound material were common, these cannot be readily linked to individual dumps of material as factors such as the arbitrary nature of waste deposition, weathering and leaching of exposed material and natural silt build-up around the stones meant that individual tip lines were not identifiable (Richardson 2009, 17).

Trough 1:	This trough (C101) was located 15m from the northern edge of the site. It was rectangular in shape with straight sides and a flat base. It measured 1.92m by 1.05m with a depth of 0.4m. The pit was lined with a dark pink/grey clay. Five fills were identified in the trough consisting of silty sands and heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Charred hazelnut shells were recovered from one of these fills.
Stake-Holes:	Six stake-holes and one possible post-hole were recorded to the north of the trough in the vicinity of the pits. They did not form any plan.
Pit 1:	This pit (290) was located 6m from the trough C101. It was rectangular in shape and measured 3.2m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.34m. Four fills were identified in the pit consisting of sandy clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Charred hazelnut shells, a single grain of barley and a chert flake were recovered.
Pit 2:	Pit (C125) was located to the east of the pit C290. It was rectangular in shape and measured 0.9m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.7m. Soft degraded wood fragments were recovered from the base of the pit along with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Overlying this was a similar deposit which is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
Pit 3:	This pit (C122) was located to the east of the pit C125. It was also rectangular in shape and measured 3.4m by 0.62m with a depth of 0.38m. Two fills were recorded in the pit consisting of dark silty clay and charcoal inclusions.
Roasting Pit 1:	This pit (C200) was located 9m from the trough C101. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.4m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of charcoal inclusions, mottled grey sand, heat-shattered stone and burnt wood fragments. The pit was cut by another rectangular feature measuring 1.7m by 0.83m with a depth of 0.2m. In situ burning was noted at the base of this feature which contained a fill of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Roasting Pit 2:	This pit (C326) was revealed 23m from the trough C101. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.5m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.2m. In situ burning was noted at the base of this feature. The fill consisted of dark sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Hearth/Fire Dump:	This feature was revealed at the western limit of the excavation. It was circular in shape and measured 1.8m in diameter with a depth of 0.14m. The basal fill consisted of black sandy clay, charcoal and ash deposits. The upper fill composed of light sandy clay, charcoal and burnt clay.
Pit 4:	Pit (C135) was revealed 2m south-west of the trough and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 6m by 3m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with grey sandy clay, decayed stone and charcoal.
Pit 5:	This pit (C116) was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.68m by 0.3m with a depth of 0.35m. It was filled with light brown silty sand.
Pit 6:	Pit (C143) was irregular in shape and measured 0.21m by 0.15m with a depth of 0.13m. It was filled with dark grey silty sand and heat-shattered stone.

- Pit 7: This pit (C145) was sub-circular and measured 0.75m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.45m. It was filled with dark grey silty sand and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 8: Pit (233) was sub-oval and measured 0.5m by 0.3m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with black sandy silt and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 2: This trough (C123) cut the pit C125. It was rectangular in plan and measured 4.8m by 1m with a depth of 0.43m. The pit was lined with a dark grey/pink clay. It was filled with dark silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal which is dated to the Late Bronze Age.
- Stake-Holes: Two parallel lines of stake-holes were recorded to the south of the trough which shared a similar axis to the trough.
- Roasting Pit 3: This pit (C340) cut the trough C123 and a number of pits. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.87m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.78m. The base of the feature showed evidence of in situ burning while the fill consisted of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 3: This trough (C030) cut into the north-western portion of the burnt mound. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.2m. It was clay-lined and filled with dark silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
- Pit 9: This pit (C181) was cut into the northern end of the burnt mound. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 6.8m by 3m with a depth of 0.8m. Nine fills were noted in the pit consisting of silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Charcoal from one of these fills is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.

## **Site B**

- Burnt Mound: The burnt mound was irregular in plan and measured 9.5m by 6.5m with a maximum depth of 0.5m. The excavator suggests that the mound had been damaged in the past by ploughing activity (Richardson 2009, 10). Four deposits were identified in the make-up of the mound which consisted of dark silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 1: This pit (C228) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.6m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.24m. The fill consisted of grey silts, stones and charcoal material.
- Pit 2: Pit (C226) was revealed to the south-west and was sub-oval in shape. It measured 2m by 2m with a depth of 0.24m. The fill consisted of black silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A charcoal sample from this deposit is dated to the Late Neolithic period. Charred wood fragments were recovered from this pit also.
- Pit 3: This pit was revealed to the south of pit C226. It was irregular in shape and measured 2m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.42m. Three fills were recorded in the pit consisting of dark silty clays, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
- Pit 4: Pit (C249) was irregular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1m with a depth of 0.32m. The fill consisted of mid-brown clay and sub-rounded stones.

## **Site C**

- Burnt Mound: The burnt mound was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 9.9m by 6m with a thickness of 0.2m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and

black silty clay. An attempt was made to record the burnt mound using the single context recording system to build up a detailed stratigraphic picture of the dumping episodes. While variations in the mound material were common, these cannot be readily linked to individual dumps of material as factors such as the arbitrary nature of waste deposition, weathering and leaching of exposed material and natural silt build-up around the stones meant that individual tip lines were not identifiable (Richardson 2009, 10). Charcoal from the mound is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

- Trough: This pit (C258) cut the northern portion of the burnt mound and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 1.8m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.32m. Three fills were recorded in the possible trough consisting of silty sands, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 1: This pit (322) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.98m in diameter with a depth of 0.11m. The feature was filled with black silty sand, charcoal and heat-shattered stone which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Pit 2: Pit (334) was located to the west of the previous pit and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2.1m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.4m. Three fills were recorded in the pit consisting of silty clays and heat-shattered stone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Chert debitage was recovered from the fill of pit (C290) in Site A. Two other flint flakes were recovered from unstratified contexts.

Ecofacts: Charred hazelnut shells, carbonised barley grain and charred wood

#### **Dating:**

Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit (C181) Site A  
C14 (UBA-12315) 2910±22 BP (1207–1014 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from trough (C123) Site A  
C14 (UBA-12318) 2873±23 BP (1126–945 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (C125) Site A  
C14 (UBA-12323) 2945±31 BP (1267–1045 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (C226) Site B  
C14 (UBA-12327) 4066±23 BP (2836–2493 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit (C322) Site C  
C14 (UBA-12328) 3844±23 BP (2457–2205 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound Site C  
C14 (UBA-12329) 3821±23 BP (2397–2151 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the trough (C258) Site C  
C14 (UBA-12330) 3699±22 BP (2194–2026 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The principal archaeological components uncovered on this site were burnt mounds and associated features including troughs, various categories of pits and stake-holes. These indicate the site represents the remains of *fulachtaí fia*. The combined evidence recovered from the excavation of the site does not provide any conclusive evidence as to the function of the *fulachtaí fia* though it does provide for suggestion as to the range of activities that occurred on this site.

#### **References**

O'Connell, T.J and Ní Thóibín, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Richhill Site 1, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Sallymount	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 166414, 160220
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: 34m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Aidan Harte	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the crest of an east-west ridge, mid-way along the south-facing slope of an area of poorly drained pastureland. A natural pool was located north and upslope from the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Sallymount Site 3 was not located within close proximity to any other sites excavated as part of the road scheme. No recorded prehistoric sites were evident in the immediate vicinity.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations. It extended beyond the limits of the excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two deposits of burnt mound material and two pits, one of which may have functioned as a trough.
Burnt Spread 1:	This spread consisted of two deposits (C288 and C315) of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The spread was irregular in shape and measured 3.7m by 5m with a thickness of 0.07m.
Burnt Spread 2:	This was another spread (C292) of charcoal and heat-shattered stone which was not fully exposed during the excavation. It measured 4m by 3m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m.
Trough:	The trough (C316) was sub-circular in plan with a gradual break of slop and an irregular base. It measured 1.5m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.3m. Four stake-holes cut the base of the pit suggesting some form of internal lining or structure. Two fills were recorded in the trough consisting of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit:	This pit (C326) was irregular in plan and measured 3.55m by 2.65m with a depth of 0.25m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of a basal deposit of grey silty clay with occasional small stones and an upper fill composed of burnt mound material.

## Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash/hazel) from the burnt spread (C288)  
C14 (Beta-258954) 3880±40 BP (2470–2210 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a single trough which produced evidence to suggest it may have been wattle-lined. This lining technique is common during the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age period in Ireland. This is confirmed by the radiocarbon dated from the spread. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking.

## References

Scotland, L. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Sallymount 3, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

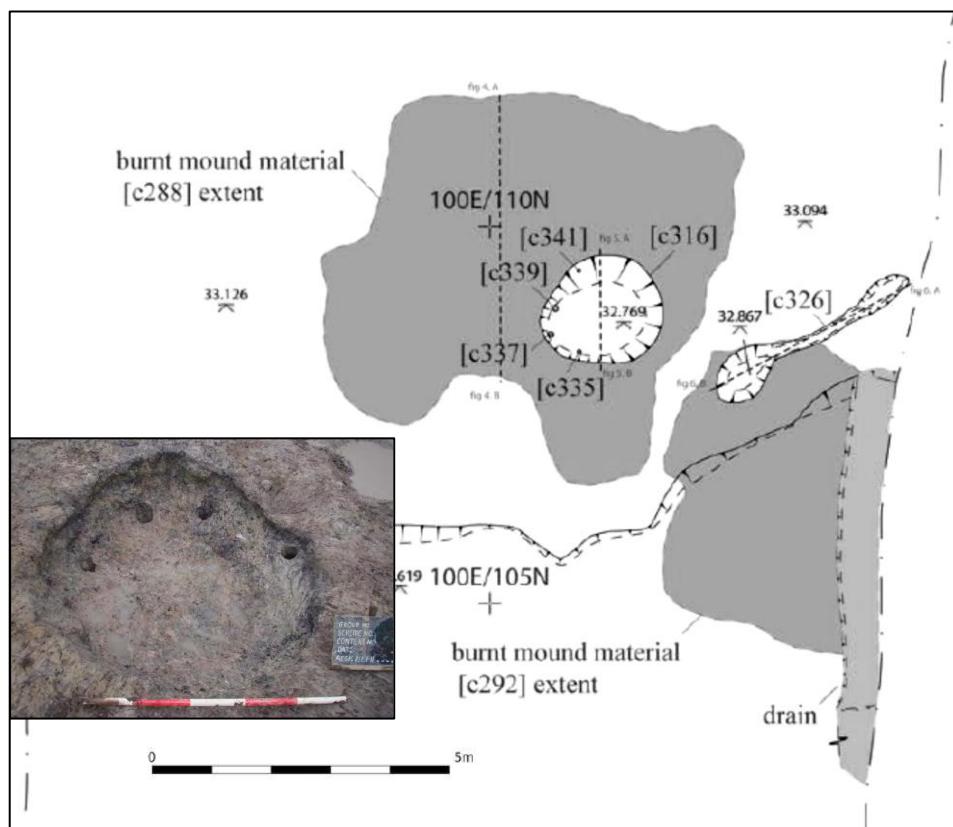


Fig. 10.101 Burnt mound deposits and trough pit with internal stake-holes at Sallymount



Location:	Townland:	Gardenhill	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 167175, 161325
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: 23m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Aidan Harte	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a gradual west-facing slope of an area of pastureland.		
Cultural Landscape:	Gardenhill Site 2 was located c.35 m west of a cremation pit and cist, along with several pits, postholes and post-medieval drains. There were no other recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Bronze Age burial site		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a trough and a pennanular feature.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C5) was irregular in shape and measured 10.53m by 8.43m with a thickness of 0.51m. It consisted of compacted heat-shattered sandstone, charcoal and ash. The deposit overlay the various cut features on site.
Trough:	The trough (C16) was oval in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. The pit measured 1.8m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.25m and was filled with a deposit of heat-shattered stone, dark silty clay and charcoal.
Pennanular Feature:	C38 was oval shaped cut feature with an approximate diameter of 2.5m. As C38 did not enclose a substantial area, (an area measuring a maximum of 2 m by 1 m was enclosed) it is unlikely to have been used for a substantial structure, though it may have been used for storage.
Stone Stockpile:	A spread of unburnt sandstone was revealed during excavation. The area measured 3m by 1m with a depth of 0.1m. These stones (sandstone) were similar in size and composition to those in C5 and C12 and this feature may have been some form of storage area prior to their use.

## Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the trough C12  
C14 (Beta-258951) 2990±40 BP (1380–1120 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a single trough which did not produce any evidence to suggest it may have been timber-lined. An oval pennanular feature on site may have been the remnants of a small structure used for either temporary shelter or as a sweatlodge. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking.

## References

Scotland, L. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Gardenhill Site 2, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

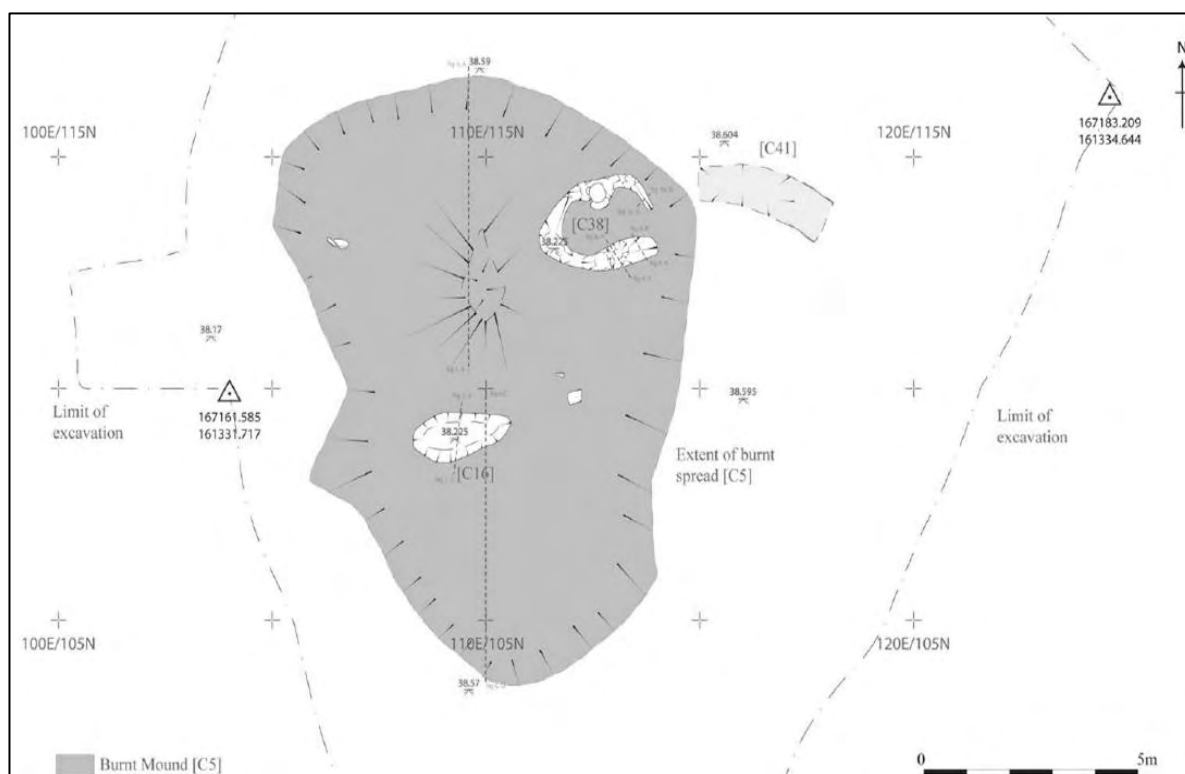


Fig. 10.102 Burnt mound and possible structure at Gardenhill, Co. Limerick.

Location:	Townland:	Gortnalahagh	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Stradbally	NGR: 166842, 160836
	Barony:	Clanwilliam	Altitude: 41m OD
	County:	Limerick	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Aidan Harte	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a gradual west-facing slope of an area of pastureland. A modern well was also identified on site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Two other sites were excavated within the townland of Gortnalahagh. Gortnalahagh Site 1 E2324, which consisted of a charcoal production pit dated to the early medieval, and 220 m northeast of Gortnalahagh Site 3 E2322, which consisted of several pits dated to the Early Bronze Age, Iron Age and post-medieval/early modern period.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway. There was no surface trace of the burnt mound prior to excavations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled burnt mound and a number of troughs, some of which cut one another suggesting separate phases of activity.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed as an elongated spread of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal in a dark silty clay matrix. It consisted of three separate deposits of burnt stone material. In total the spread measured 34.5m by 9.6m with a thickness of 0.31m and it overlay the trough C68.
Trough 1:	Trough (C66) was sub-oval in plan and measured 2.06m by 1.76m with a depth of 0.46m. It cut the natural subsoil and was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough 2:	This trough (C68) was oval in plan and measured 2.2m by 1.36m with a depth of 0.43m. The feature had a sharp break of slope and a flat base and was filled with black silty clay heat-shattered stone.
Trough 3:	This pit (C71A) was one of three conjoined troughs. It was oval in plan and measured 1.2m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.43m. It was filled with dark silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

Trough 4: This pit (C71B) was one of three conjoined troughs. It was rectangular in plan and measured 2.22m by 1.36m with a depth of 0.31m. It was filled with dark silty clay and heat-shattered stone. A large stone was identified set on edge on the south-western side of the feature.

Trough 5: This pit (C71C) was one of three conjoined troughs. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 3.25m by 2.5m with a depth of 0.72m. It was filled with dark silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread deposit (C62)  
C14 (Beta-258957) 3380±40 BP (1750–1540 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the troughs C71A-C  
C14 (Beta-258957) 2930±40 BP (1270–1010 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the presence of a number of different troughs which did not produce any evidence to suggest they may have been timber-lined. The site can be interpreted as a boiling location possibly used for cooking.

#### **References**

Scotland, L. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Gortnalahagh Site 2, Co. Limerick*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Aghadegnan	Six inch map no: 13
	Parish:	Templemichael	NGR: 213468, 276908
	Barony:	Longford	Altitude: NA
	County:	Longford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Longford Bypass	
	Site Director:	John Channing	
	Consultants:	Judith Carroll Ltd	
	Year:	1993	
Physical Setting:	This site was located one mile north of Longford Town in a low-lying area close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Longford Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it was truncated by a sewerage pipe.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a quantity of burnt stone south of a trough which was severely truncated by a sewerage pipe. However three phases of trough construction within one extended pit were indicated by the surviving stratigraphy. A second shallow pit was located to the north of the trough which contained both burnt and unburnt stone. No finds were recovered and the site was no scientifically dated.

#### **References**

Channing, J. 1994. Archaeological excavations at Aghadegnan, Co. Longford. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1993*. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Lisnamuck	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	Templemichael	NGR: 214940, 276510
	Barony:	Ardagh	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Longford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Unknown	
	Site Director:	Ros Ó Maoldúin	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical setting of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a low mound heat-shattered stone, a possible trough and a series of stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a crescent shaped deposit of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and dark silty clay. It measured 11m by 10.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.24m.
Trough:	The trough as situated centrally within the arms of the burnt stone deposit. It was oval in shape and measured 1.56m by 1.44m with a maximum depth of 0.36m. The basal fill of the trough consisted of dark sandy clay with charcoal while the upper deposit was composed of burnt stone and charcoal-rich material. Upcast from the digging of the pit was situated adjacent to the trough.
Stake-Holes:	A cluster of five stake-holes were situated adjacent to the southern edge of the trough.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None	Ecofacts:	None
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**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
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Absolute dating:	None
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**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a deposit of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. Although no lining was identified within these pits, it was suggested that the natural subsoils were impermeable and would therefore have held water naturally within the pits. That being said, the relative depths of these pits would seem to negate a water-boiling function. Although the mound was ploughed flat, a horseshoe shape was still discernible and the pit/trough was situated right at the centre of its arc. Although no pattern was evident among the stake-holes situated adjacent to the pit, they are almost certainly interrelated. The positions of the stakes on either side of the trough could indicate support for something similar to a spit.

**References**

Ó Maoldúin, R. 2006. Archaeological excavations at Lisnamuck, Co. Longford. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2003*, 320. Bray. Wordwell.

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Location:	Townland:	Lisnamuck	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	Templemichael	NGR: 214950, 276430
	Barony:	Ardagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Longford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Unknown	
	Site Director:	Ros Ó Maoldúin	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical setting of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed three burnt mounds and their associated troughs.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound: This mound measured 16m by 11.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.46m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.

Trough: The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 2.15m by 1.59m with a depth of 0.2m. It had vertical sides and a stake-hole recorded in each of the corners.

Pit/Well: This pit was oval in shape with a stepped base. It was deeper to the north end, with a distinctive step up to the shallower southern base. It measured 6m by 3m with a maximum depth of 2m.

#### Site B



Burnt Spread: This was a small deposit of burnt mound material composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich silty clay. It measured 2.5m by 1.5m with a thickness of 0.04m.

Pit: This pit was identified adjacent to the spread. It was oval in plan and measured 1.05m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.25m.

### Site C

Burnt Spread: This deposit only survived in patches as much of it was probably removed due to later agricultural activity. It was composed of dark sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Trough: The small spread overlay a sub-rectangular trough that had steep vertical sides and a flat base. Five stake-holes cut the base of the feature, one in each of the corners.

Pit: The pit was oval in shape and measured 0.7m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.42m.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None	Ecofacts:	None
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### Dating:

Relative dating:	None
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Absolute dating:	None
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### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a deposit of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. In these three *fulachtaí fia*, two distinctly different trough or pit types are represented. At sites A and C, the troughs were rectangular in plan and had flat bases with a stake-hole in either corner. The stake-holes probably indicate some kind of internal lining that does not survive. The pits central to the other two spreads were oval in plan, were deeper than the others and their sides broke more gently to a less flat base. This form suggests a different function and may have been utilised to access the watertable. The other may have employed a dry heat used for roasting activities.

### References

Ó Maoldúin, R. 2006. Archaeological excavations at Lisnamuck, Co. Longford. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2003*, 320. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Aghareagh	Six inch map no: 10
	Parish:	Templemichael	NGR: 211527, 274992
	Barony:	Longford	Altitude: NA
	County:	Longford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Longford Bypass	
	Site Director:	Mandy Stephens	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd	
	Year:	2009	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the base of a low hill in a wetland area delimited to the north by the N5 and to the south by a watercourse, Ballyminion Stream. Areas of bog and marsh surrounded the site, which was constructed on layers of peat.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations. This was one of four previously unknown sites revealed during the project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N5 Longford Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mounds that extended beyond the limits of excavation. Burnt mound 1 was revealed as a spread of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a matrix of charcoal-rich material. The deposit measured 18m by 0.4m with a thickness of 0.22m. Mound 2 measured 14.3m by 3.95m with a thickness of 0.6. It was composed of similar material to mound 1 and it is possible the gap between the mounds may represent the 'horseshoe', allowing access into the working area. The site was not fully excavated due to weather conditions, waterlogging and wayleave constraints. No finds were recovered and at the time of cataloguing the site was not scientifically dated.

### **References**

Stephens, M. 2012. Archaeological excavations at Aghareagh, Co. Longford. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2009*, Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Dowdallshill	Six inch map no: 07
	Parish:	Dundalk	NGR: 305970, 309267
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Unknown road construction	
	Site Director:	Thaddeus Breen	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1994	
Physical Setting:	The site is located near the corner of a field which slopes down towards a marshy area near a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of road construction. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed patchy spreads of burnt material consistent with a <i>fulacht fia</i> site. Two pits were exposed filled with burnt stone and charcoal. No mound or spread was revealed however small patches of burnt material were exposed.
Pit 1:	This pit was oval in shape with steep sides and a flat bottom. It measured 1.6m in diameter with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with burnt stone and charcoal-rich material. This pit had a few flat stones on the base and sides suggesting some form of crude stone lining.
Pit 2:	This pit was oval in shape with steep sides and a flat bottom. It measured 2m in diameter with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with burnt stone and charcoal-rich material.
<b>Finds:</b>	Two flint flakes were recovered upslope from the series of pits
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### References

Breen, T. 1995. Dowdallshill. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1994*, 61 .Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Carstown	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Ballymakenny	NGR: 311650, 279490
	Barony:	Ferrard	Altitude: 27m OD
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	House construction	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in former marshland and was recognised as a spread of fire-cracked sandstones and dark soil located through ploughing.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland however there is a barrow at Milltown (LH021-037) less than two miles away and coastal flint scatters at nearby Newtown (LH022-0207).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of house construction. The site was a recorded monument and visible as a dark spread of burnt material in ploughsoil prior to investigation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large deposit of burnt mound material and a possible trough. A number of stake-holes were also revealed.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material (F3) was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. It covered an area measuring 10m by 6.75m with a maximum thickness of 0.24m.
Trough:	The possible trough (F4) was oblong in shape and measured 3.6m by 1.6m with depth of 0.36m. It was truncated by recent testing and was filled with burnt mound material.
Stake-Holes:	Eight stake-holes were recorded close to the trough and the excavator suggests they may have formed a screen of some sort.
Hearth:	A possible hearth (F6) was revealed 1m from the stake-holes. It consisted of a shallow depression 1.3m in diameter with a depth of 0.12m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone and heavy concentrations of charcoal.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Three fragments of unworked flint

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This is supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough and hearth for heating the stones. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling.

**References**

Murphy, D. 1998. *Archaeological excavations at Carstown, Co. Louth*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Castletown	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Castletown	NGR: NA
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: 4.4 m OD
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dundalk Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Rob Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in low-lying ground roughly 300m west of the Castletown River.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dundalk Sewerage Scheme. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a trough, three pits and a possible trough. The burnt mound material was damaged by machinery.
Burnt Spread:	The surviving material measured 2.94m and was situated adjacent to the possible trough. It was damaged by machine while the archaeologist was monitoring elsewhere.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.6m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.29m. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone and burnt bone.
Pits 1-3:	Three small pits were also revealed at the site and ranged in size from 1.4m by 0.41m to 0.63m by 0.6m and averaged 0.14m. All contained silty clay, charcoal and burnt stone.
Dating:	None

#### **References**

Lynch, R. 2000. Castletown, Dundalk. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 147. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Tattyboys	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	Clonkeen	NGR: 292348, 295504
	Barony:	Ardee	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Thaddeus Breen	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying ground close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however several similar burnt mound-type features were exposed during these improvements.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 road improvement scheme. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone, a shallow post-hole and a possible trough. No finds were recovered and the site was not scientifically dated.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread covered a triangular area and measured 9m by 5m with an average thickness of 0.25m. It was composed of black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 2.26m by 1.27m with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. Three flat stones lay on the base of the pit at one end suggesting it may have originally been stone-lined.
Pit:	The pit was oval in shape and measured 0.8m by 0.55m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

### References

Breen, T. 2000. Tattyboys. Group of *fulacht fiadh*-type features. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 153. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Cookstown	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	Charlestown	NGR: 293107, 294920
	Barony:	Ardee	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	

Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Road Improvement Scheme
	Site Director:	Thaddeus Breen
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.
	Year:	1998

Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying ground close to a stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however several similar burnt mound-type features were exposed during these improvements.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 road improvement scheme. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a possible trough.
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Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread measured 11m by 9m with a thickness of 0.3m and extended beyond the limits of the road take. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone and lay on a natural platform.
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Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 2.5m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with burnt mound material. A piece of stone with incised lines was found near the base along with burnt and unburnt cattle bone and teeth.
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<b>Finds:</b>	Possible worked stone and animal bone from the trough.
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<b>Dating:</b>	None
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### **References**

Breen, T. 2000. Cookstown. Group of *fulacht fiadh*-type features. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 153. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Cookstown	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	Charlestown	NGR: 292934, 295028
	Barony:	Ardee	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Thaddeus Breen	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying ground close to a reclaimed pond.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however several similar burnt mound-type features were exposed during these improvements.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 road improvement scheme. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone that measured 8m by 6m with a thickness of 0.1m. The reclaimed pond was filled with burnt stone and the site was considerably disturbed. No features such as troughs were revealed investigations at the site.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	Modern coin from burnt spread.
Ecofacts:	None

### Dating:

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	None

### References

Breen, T. 2000. Cookstown. Group of *fulacht fiadh*-type features. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 153. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Braganstown	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Strabannan	NGR: 303421, 294468
	Barony:	Ardee	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunleer-Dundalk Motorway	
	Site Director:	Cóilín Ó Drisceoil	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying area close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several ring-ditches are recorded <i>c.</i> 500m to the east of the excavation (LH015-04001-3).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunleer-Dundalk Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a damaged burnt spread that overlay a small paved area, two pits and a trough which was possibly timber-lined.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread was damaged by ploughing and machine damage with the result that the deposit survived as sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 8.4m by 4.56m with a thickness of 0.2m and was composed of black sitly clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough:	The trough was trapezoidal in plan and measured 3.5m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.45m. A split oak plank lined the base of the feature and a slight lip on the top of the west side of the trough suggests that the sides may also have been lined. The trough was filled with black clayey silt with frequent ash, charcoal and burnt stone.
Hearth:	The possible hearth was situated 1.45m from the trough and was sub-circular in shape. It measured 0.92m by 0.78m with a depth of 0.11m and was filled with charcoal and burnt stone.
Pit 1:	This pit was oval in plan with a stepped profile. It measured 1.51m by 0.97m with a depth of 0.43m. The pit was filled with sandy silt, charcoal, ash and burnt stone.

Pit 2: This pit was also oval in plan and measured 0.41m by 0.38m with a depth of 0.3m. The pit was filled with sandy silt, charcoal, ash and burnt stone.

### Finds:

Artefacts: Thirty-three flint artefacts were recovered from the site including a leaf-shaped arrowhead, a barbed and tanged arrowhead and three round scrapers and two cores. The remainder of the material composed of debitage.

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This is supported by the identification of a possible plank-lined boiling trough and hearth for heating the stones. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling, possibly for cooking. No radiocarbon dates are available for the site, however the recovery of a barbed and tanged arrowhead may indicate an Early Bronze Age date for the site.

### References

Ó Drisceoil, C. 2000. Braganstown. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 186. Wordwell, Bray.

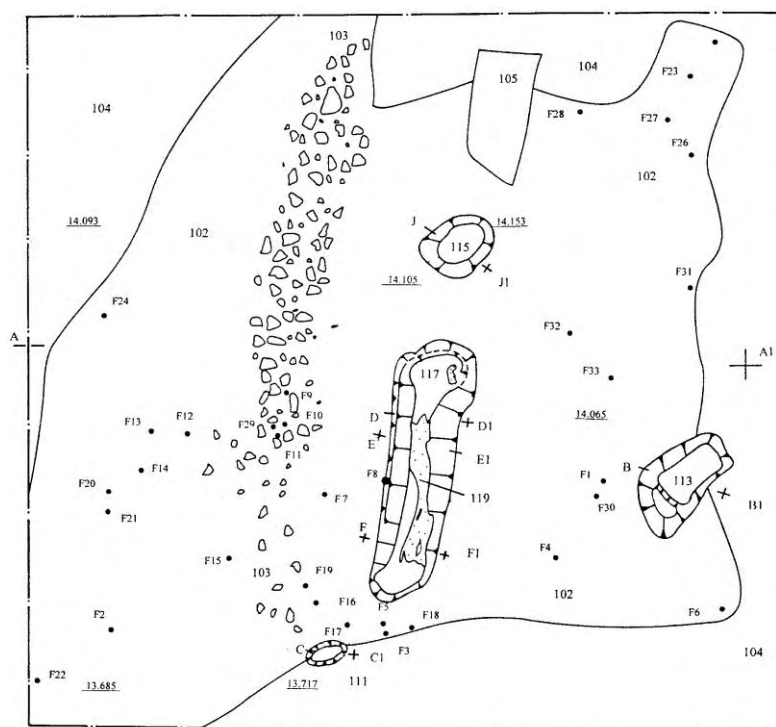


Fig. 10.103 Plan of excavated trough and pits at Braganstown, Co. Louth.

Location:	Townland:	Harristown	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Charlestown	NGR: 300019, 290971
	Barony:	Ardee	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Ardee Link Road	
	Site Director:	Carmel Duffy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying area close to a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Ardee Link Road. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. The site extended beyond the limits of the excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a large deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal that measured 25m by 10m with a thickness of 1.5m. It extended beyond the limits of the excavation. Numerous flints, several sherds of Bronze Age pottery and possible polished stone macehead were recovered from the burnt mound.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	Flint, Bronze Age pottery and a possible polished stone macehead
Ecofacts:	None

#### **Dating:**

Absolute dating:	None
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#### **References**

Duffy, C. 2000. Harristown. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 218. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Newrath	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Louth	NGR: 303982, 296472
	Barony:	Louth	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunleer-Dundalk Motorway	
	Site Director:	Cóilín Ó Drisceoil	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying area close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunleer-Dundalk Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound, a trough, two possible hearths and two pits.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound was heavily truncated by ploughing and machine damage. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. Due to the disturbance this material only survived as four small deposits.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.5m by 1.95m with a depth of 0.75m. It was filled with re-deposited subsoil, ash, charcoal and burnt stone.
Hearths:	Two hearths were revealed near the trough. One was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.89m by 1.13m with a depth of 0.3m. The base of the feature was heavily scorched from exposure to heat. It was filled with charcoal-rich material, ash and burnt stone. The second hearth was irregular in shape and measured 1.37m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with ash and charcoal.
Pits 1-2:	Two small pits were found 3.9m from the trough and hearths. The larger was truncated by a modern field ditch and measured 0.84m by 0.51m with a

depth of 0.22m. The second pit was oval in shape and measured 0.52m by 0.42m with a depth of 0.26m.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:                      None

Ecofacts:                      None

**Dating:**

Absolute dating:              None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed deposits of waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This is supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough and two hearths for heating the stones. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling, possibly for cooking. No burnt mound was evident during excavation and it is likely that the majority of this deposits was removed by later agricultural processes.

**References**

Ó Drisceoil, C. 2000. Newrath. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 219. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Richardstown	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Richardstown	NGR: 301352, 291028
	Barony:	Ardee	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Drainage Pipe Monitoring	
	Site Director:	Mathew Seaver	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying area close to the River Dee.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this area prior to investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a drainage pipe. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a sub-rectangular trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 9.8m by 11.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.38m. It was composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material that was cut by a substantial post-mediaeval ditch. The full extent of the mound was not revealed during excavation.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.4m by 1.4m and was lined with a charcoal layer that probably represented a burnt wooden lining. The base of the pit was cut by fourteen stake-holes suggesting it was indeed originally lined. The trough as filled with a thin layer of peat that contained animal bone that was in turn overlain by burnt mound material.
<b>Finds:</b>	Animal bone from the trough
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

Seaver, M. 2000. Richardstown. Burnt Mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1999*, 221. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Coolfore	Six inch map no: 21
	Parish:	Tullyallen	NGR: 304610, 280000
	Barony:	Ferrard	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Drogheda Bypass	
	Site Director:	Cóilín Ó Drisceoil	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site lay beside a stream, on fen-peat at the bottom of a gentle north-facing slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations although several sites were found in the vicinity during road works, including a Neolithic house to the south (LH021-072).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Drogheda Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. Approximately half of the site was destroyed prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a thin deposit of burnt mound material that covered a network of nineteen stake-holes. These did not form any coherent pattern. About half of the site was destroyed by machine prior to excavation therefor many additional features may have been removed.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Absolute dating: None

### References

Ó Drisceoil, C. 2002. Coolfore. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 215 Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Crumlin	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Dundalk	NGR: 304475, 303970
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunleer-Dundalk Bypass	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the western side of a gentle sloping hill and was 60m from a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however a similar site was identified during this development 90m to the west (see below). A cist burial was revealed c. 500m to the north-east (LH007-137).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>fulacht fia</i> (see below)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunleer-Dundalk Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a deposit of burnt mound material and several pits, some of which may have functioned as troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material measured 9m by 8m with a thickness of 0.12m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A further ash deposit also containing burnt stone was found adjacent to the mound. The full extent of the material was not revealed as it lay under the road take. Two flint flakes were recovered.
Trough:	The possible trough was truncated on its northern side by a drain. It was rectangular in shape and measured 2.14m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.17m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Hearth:	This possible hearth was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.68m with a depth of 0.8m. It was filled with two layers of charcoal-enriched soil and heat-shattered stones. The base of the feature showed slight evidence of orange discoloration, possibly as a result of burning.

Pits1-3: Three pits were also excavated during the excavation and visible in section of the modern drain. One pit may have functioned as a hearth as a basal deposit of ash was recorded.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Two flint flakes were recovered from the burnt mound

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site mound deposits of waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This technology is supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough and hearth for heating the stones. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling, possibly for cooking.

**References**

Lynch, P. 2002. Crumlin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 216 Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Crumlin	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Dundalk	NGR: 304460, 303870
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunleer-Dundalk Bypass	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located 90m west of a similar site at the base of a low, east-facing hill slope and 40m east of a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however a similar site was identified during this development 90m to the east (see above). A cist burial was revealed c. 500m to the north-east (LH007-137).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>fulacht fia</i> (see above)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunleer-Dundalk Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a deposit of burnt mound material, a trough and a small pit. No finds were recovered and the site was not scientifically dated.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material was exposed as a small spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal that measured 6.83m by 2.15m.
Trough:	This possible trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.75m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.43m. Most of the northern side of the feature was destroyed as a result of modern drainage.
Pit:	A shallow pit was also revealed on site. It measured 1.4m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.21m. The excavator suggests that this may have functioned as a hearth however no other information is available.

### References

Lynch, P. 2002. Crumlin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 216. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Hill of Rath	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	Tullyallen	NGR: 305445, 278155
	Barony:	Ferrard	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme
	Site Director:	Carmel Duffy
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.
	Year:	2000

Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the same townland in advance of the motorway.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a deposit of burnt mound material that extended beyond the limits of the excavation and a timber-lined trough.
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Burnt Mound:	The exposed portion of the mound measured 7.6m by 10.8m with a thickness of 0.7m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
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Trough:	The trough was oval in shape with sloping sides and a flat base. Thin alder planks lined the base of the pit and nineteen stake-holes were also revealed cut into the base of the trough suggesting the presence of wattle sides that no longer survive. The trough measured 2.3m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.6m.
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Pit:	A small irregular pit was identified beside the trough. It measured 1.3m by 2m with a depth of 0.55m and was filled with burnt mound material.
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Channel:	A possible water-channel ran from the pits in a south-westerly direction before extending beyond the limits of the excavation. It measured 14m in length by 1.6m with a depth of 0.3m and was filled with burnt mound material.
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**Finds:**

Artefacts: A few flints were recovered during the excavation however their context is unknown.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site mound deposits of waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This technology is supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough which displayed evidence to suggest it may have been timber-lined originally. A water-channel may have either directed water to the pits on site or acted as an overflow outlet. Unfortunately, no other information is available for the excavation. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling, possibly for cooking.

**References**

Duffy, C. 2002. Hill of Rath. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 231. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Hill of Rath	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	Tullyallen	NGR: 305336, 278332
	Barony:	Ferrard	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kieran Campbell	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the same townland in advance of the motorway.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed the destroyed remains of a *fulacht fia* which consisted of a dispersed spread of heat-shattered stones and dark soil extending over an area 14m by 14m. No other information is available for the site.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Absolute dating: None

### References

Duffy, C. 2002. Hill of Rath. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 231. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Mell	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	Tullyallen	NGR: 306210, 276585
	Barony:	Ferrard	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kieran Campbell	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located 15m from a stream at the base of a ravine.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the same townland in advance of the motorway.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. It was not fully exposed.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a truncated burnt mound and a number of pits, some of which may have served as boiling troughs. No finds were recovered and the site was not scientifically dated.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material was up to 0.3m thick and was exposed for a distance of 10.8m in the section face. The area available for excavation extended for 3.2m onto the road, where it was truncated by site works. The deposits continued north beyond the limit of the road.
Trough:	This possible trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.8m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
Pit 1:	This pit was revealed adjacent to the trough. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m in diameter with a depth of 0.41m.
Pit 2:	This pit was irregular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.4m. The pit was filled with burnt mound material.

### References

Campbell, K. 2002. Mell. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 235. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Mell	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	Tullyallen	NGR: 305730, 277475
	Barony:	Ferrard	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kieran Campbell	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located 15m from a stream at the base of a ravine.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a truncated burnt mound and a number of pits, some of which may have served as boiling troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material measured 13m by 8.8m with an overall thickness of 0.3m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The area was truncated by field boundary and a drainage ditch.
Trough:	This pit was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.6m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.6m. It had vertical sides, a flat base and was filled with burnt mound material.
Pit 1:	This pit was rectangular in shape and measured 2.48m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.36m. This was also filled with burnt mound material.
Pit 2:	This pit was located 7m from the burnt mound. It was oval in shape and measured 0.95m by 0.94m with a depth of 0.32m. It was truncated by agricultural activity but filled with ashy material and heat-shattered stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	Flint debitage and nodules were recovered from natural gravels.

Campbell, K. 2001. Mell. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 237. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Newtown	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Louth	NGR: 304615, 280460
	Barony:	Louth	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Cólín Ó Drisceoil	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located beside a stream on a gentle south-facing slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the same townland in advance of the motorway.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an irregular deposit of burnt mound material, a trough and four circular pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was irregular in shape and measured 15m by 8m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. The material was contained within a scarped hollow and was composed of ash, charcoal-rich material and burnt stone.
Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 2m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.55m. The impressions of at least three planks were revealed at the base of the cut suggesting it may have originally been timber-lined. The trough was filled with burnt mound material.
Pits 1-4:	Four circular pits surrounded the trough, with one of these displaying evidence for <i>in situ</i> burning. No other information available.

**Finds:** A convex scraper was recovered from one of the pits.

**Dating:** None

#### References

Ó Drisceoil, C. 2002. Newtown. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Newtown	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Louth	NGR: 305640, 280565
	Barony:	Louth	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Cóilín Ó Drisceoil	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located beside a stream on a gentle south-facing slope above an area of fen peat.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the same townland in advance of the motorway.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a badly damaged burnt mound deposit, a trough, two pits, a hearth and a cluster of stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material was irregular in shape and measured 5.2m by 5.1m with a maximum thickness of 0.5m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 2.1m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.53m. A large boulder was revealed within the lower fills on top of six irregularly split alder planks suggesting it was originally timber-lined. It is unclear whether the large boulder reflects a deliberate deposit associated with the decommissioning of the site.
Hearth:	The hearth measured 1.5m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.25m. It contained a thick deposit of burnt stones, ash and burnt braches.
Pits 1-2:	Two conjoined pits were also revealed on the site with four stake-holes noted in the base suggesting that one of these pits was originally lined also. No other information available.

Stake-Holes: A further twenty-one stake-holes were found extending in an irregular fashion to the north.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Flint debitage flakes were found in the burnt mound material and the fill of the hearth.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Absolute dating: None

Relative dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site mound deposits of waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This technology is supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough which produced evidence to suggest it was timber-lined and hearth for heating the stones. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling, possibly for cooking. The large boulder found on the base of the trough, overlying the timber planks may be evidence of a possible deliberate deposit or closing deposits associated with the abandonment of the site.

**References**

Ó Drisceoil, C. 2002. Newtown. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Farrandreg	Six inch map no: 7
	Parish:	Castletown	NGR: 30345, 30790
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Ed Danaher	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical location of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations. Possible Beaker settlement identified to the south-west (LH007-133).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Beaker settlment		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two deposits of burnt mound material, two pits, a hearth and two troughs, one of which suggested it may have been timber-lined originally.
Burnt Mound:	Two separate spreads of burnt mound material were revealed (C2 and C3) which were separated by a modern drainage ditch. They were probably one single deposit originally. C2 measured 11.3m by 5.8m with a thickness of 0.18m while C3 measured 11.1m by 2.7m with a thickness of 0.18m. A grey silty clay was revealed below these deposits and is interpreted as the old ground surface. The burnt mound material was composed of heat-shattered sandstone and dark silty clays with charcoal.
Trough:	The trough (C9) was rectangular in shape with sharply sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.87m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.21m. Four stake-holes cut the base of the pit located in each of the four corners. The primary fill was composed of gritty sand which was overlain with burnt mound material.

Pit 1: This pit was truncated by the modern filed drain but would have been roughly rectangular in shape. It measured 1.6m by 1.14m with a depth of 0.55m and was filled with stony marl material.

Pit 2: Pit (C11) was roughly oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.3m with a depth of 0.17m. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Two fragments of flint debitage were recovered from the burnt spread.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Absolute dating: None

Relative dating: None

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site mound deposits of waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This technology is supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough which produced evidence to suggest it was timber-lined in prehistory. The supporting stake-holes located in each of the corners may indicate that the site was in use during the Late Bronze Age as this is a common lining method of the period. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling, possibly for cooking.

### **References**

Danaher, E. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Farrandreg, Co. Louth*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Plate 10.83 Burnt spread and unlined trough at Farrandreg, Co. Louth.

Location:	Townland:	Mell	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	Tullyallen	NGR: 305810, 277375
	Barony:	Ferrard	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway	
	Site Director:	Kieran Campbell	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a boggy hollow between tow east-west ridges.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the area during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway Scheme. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. The site came to light when burnt mound material was extruded from below the stripped ground surface by the weight of laden dumper trucks. Contractors earthworks had truncated the site to the west and wheel ruts had damaged two pits.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily damaged burnt mound site.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread was heavily damaged by machinery. The surviving deposit measured 10.5m by 8m with a thickness of 0.1m. The material was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Pits:	Pit (016) was circular in shape and measured 1m in diameter with a depth of 0.48m. It was filled with burnt stone. Pit (020) was sub-circular 1.2m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with burnt stone. Pit (025) measured 3m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.16m.
<b>Finds:</b>	Pit 3 produced a flint scraper and five waste flakes.
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

Campbell, K. 2002. Mell. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 268. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Littlemill	Six inch map no: 07
	Parish:	Ballybarrack	NGR: 302726, 305324
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: 28 m OD
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N1 Dundalk Western Bypass	
	Site Director:	Brian O' Donnchadha	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a bowl-shaped depression close to a number of springs.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the area during the road development. A Possible Neolithic house was revealed to the south (LH007-162). Post medieval building was recorded adjacent to the site and a recorded souterrain is situated 30m away (LH007-071).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N1 Dundalk Western Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread and pit situated in a natural depression.
Burnt Spread:	The spread material (C4) was situated in a natural depression (C3) that measured 12m by 7m with a depth of 0.25m. The material was composed of black silty clay, burnt stone, charcoal and few fragments of burnt bone.
Pit:	The pit (C6) was circular in shape and was cut into the natural depression. It measured 1.35m in diameter with a depth of 0.16m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and occasional heat-shattered stone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Burnt bone from the burnt spread

**Dating:**

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from fill of pit (C6)  
C14 (WK-18533) 986±85 BP (AD 893–1225)

Relative dating: None

### Excavation Interpretation

This site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of the M1 Dundalk Bypass. Excavation of the site revealed a large natural depression, in which a circular pit was cut. This pit measured 1.35m in diameter with a depth of 0.16m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and occasional heat-shattered stone. The insubstantial nature of the pit makes it unlikely that it was used as a receptacle for heating liquids. It is more likely to have been used for the dry roasting of foodstuffs on a very small scale. Equally, the site may not have functioned as a fulacht fia, instead have some relationship to nearby medieval activity.

### References

Ó Donnchadha, B. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Littlemill 2*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.84 Burnt mound deposit at Littlemill 2, Co. Louth.



Location:	Townland:	Faughart Lower	Six inch map no: 04
	Parish:	Ballymascanlan	NGR: 305326, 310851
	Barony:	Lower Dundalk	Altitude: 28 m OD
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N1 Dundalk Western Bypass	
	Site Director:	Shane Delaney	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on low-lying ground to the east of the main Dublin/Belfast railway embankment on the edge of wetland, formed where two streams converge.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the area during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible small Bronze Age structure.		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N1 Dundalk Western Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, a trough, a possible hearth and a possible structure on dryer, higher ground which may have been contemporary.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C46) material covered the trough and hearth and was composed black charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	The trough (C47) was rectangular to linear in shape and comprised a shallow (0.1m) funnel-shaped trough expanding to a deeper (0.5m) circular cut at its east end. The wider opening was at the western end, and sloped gently from west to east. There were also narrow depressions along both the northern and southern edges of the trough cut, indicating the possible presence of a timber plank lining in antiquity to consolidate the potentially unstable sides of the cut.
Possible hearth:	The possible hearth (C49) was circular in shape and consisted of a platform of two layers of charred timber in the base of shallow hollow. These timbers were only partially carbonised and represent a short lived burning episode where the timbers became waterlogged and failed to burn through. The

timbers were identified as hazel and dated to the latter half of the Middle Bronze Age.

**Structure:** This feature (C45) was a possible hut structure comprised of a posthole, naturally silted up with washed-in occupation debris, and located in the centre of an area bounded by a curvilinear foundation trench, which naturally silted up with. A flint core fragment, a flint flake and burnt bone were recovered from the slot trench.

**Hearth/Pit:** This pit (C33) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.51m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.15m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and the sides were fire-reddened suggesting the pit was exposed to high temperatures. Burnt bone was recovered from the fill of the pit. Two other possible post-holes were identified at the site.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Burnt bone was recovered from the hearth/pit (C33)

**Dating:**

Absolute dating: Wood (hazel) from hearth/platform  
C14 (WK-18554) 3011±36 BP (1390–1120 BC)

Relative dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat shattered stone. This very thin layer of heat shattered sand stone sealed a trough, a hearth platform and a probable pond. The trough (2.50m by 1.50m by 0.50m) was not lined and there was no indication to suggest that it had been. The hearth platform was an arrangement of long timbers placed sided by side in two layers (1m by 1m by 0.10m). The platform was set on peat and had become waterlogged preventing it from fully combusting. A pond feature (5.60m by 2.20m by 0.40m) was recorded to the north of the hearth; this appeared to link with the area of wetland and may have acted as a reservoir for the burnt mound trough if the water table was low. A possible hut site was recorded to the east (in the area of Faughart Lower 2). This comprised of a horseshoe-shaped gully with an opening to the west and probable central posthole (3.90m in diameter). It was located up slope of the wetland on firmer more well drained soil.

**References**

Delaney, S. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Faughart Lower, Co. Louth*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

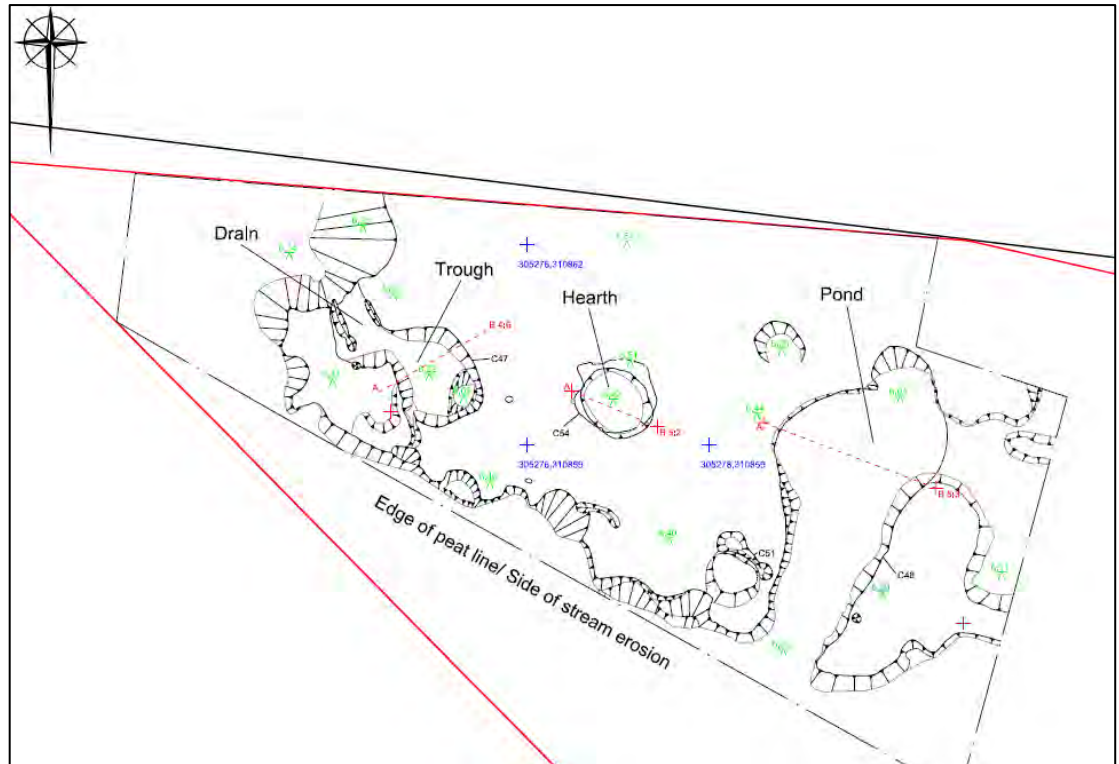


Fig. 10.104 Excavated burnt mound features at Faughart Lower, Co. Louth.



Location:	Townland:	Newtownbalregan	Six inch map no: 04
	Parish:	Castletown	NGR: 302030, 308495
	Barony:	Dundalk	Altitude: 25 m OD
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N1 Dundalk Western Bypass	
	Site Director:	Avril Hayes	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located approximately 60m to the south of a stream running from east to west across the road take. The ground rose steadily to the south while it remained quite level to the north where it dropped to the Castleblaney road.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the area during the road development. The site of Newtownbalregan 2 lay approximately 150m to the south of the <i>fulacht fia</i> . Fragments of a large, decorated prehistoric pot were found here in a shallow pit. Newtonbalregan 3 lay approximately 250m to the north of the <i>fulacht fia</i> . On the northern side of the Castleblaney road was the site of Newtownbalregan 5. This was a settlement site, probably dating to the Bronze Age consisting of a hut and associated features (including a spread of <i>fulacht</i> material)		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Bronze Age Settlement		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N1 Dundalk Western Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, a trough, a possible hearth and a possible structure on dryer, higher ground which may have been contemporary.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C2) consisted of a loose dark greyish black silty sand, which contained frequent fragments of burnt stone. It was spread in patches over an area approximately 7m from north to south by 7m from east to west. It had a maximum depth of 0.40m but in most areas it was quite shallow.		
Trough:	The trough (C3) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.69m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.32m. The sides were concave and the base was rounded and the pit was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.		

Pit/Post-Hole: C5 was oval in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.42m with a depth of 0.3m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Absolute dating: None

Relative dating: None

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed mound deposits of waste-firing debris associated with a pyrolithic technology. This technology is probably associated with water-boiling which may be supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough. The site can be interpreted as a burnt mound for pyrolithic water-boiling, possibly for cooking.

### References

Hayes, A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Newtownbalregan 7, Co. Louth*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

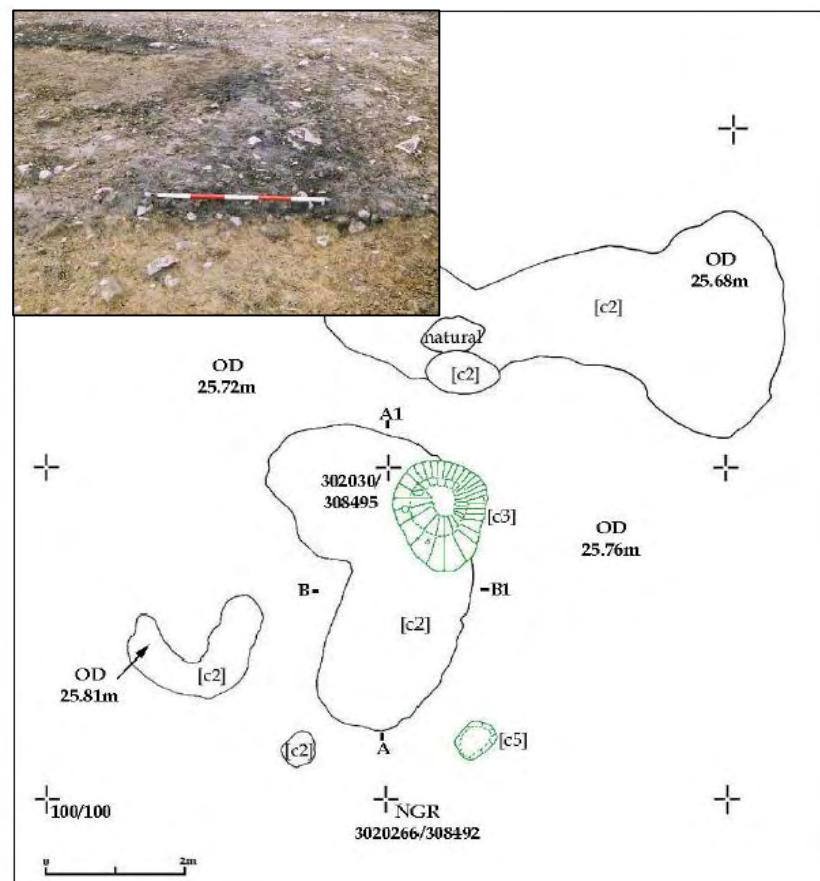


Fig. 10.105. Burnt stone deposit and possible trough pit at Newtownbalregan 7, Co. Louth.

Location:	Townland:	Newtownbalregan	Six inch map no: 07
	Parish:	Castletown	NGR: 302115, 308829
	Barony:	Dundalk	Altitude: 25 m OD
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N1 Dundalk Western Bypass	
	Site Director:	Dave Bailey	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the base of a slope adjacent to the N53 Castleblaney Road.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites identified in this townland prior to investigations however similar sites were revealed in the area during the road development. The site of Newtownbalregan 2 lay approximately 150m to the south of the <i>fulacht fia</i> . Fragments of a large, decorated prehistoric pot were found here in a shallow pit. Newtonbalregan 3 lay approximately 250m to the north of the <i>fulacht fia</i> . On the northern side of the Castleblaney road was the site of Newtownbalregan 7. This was the dispersed remains of a <i>fulacht fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Early Bronze Age settlement		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N1 Dundalk Western Bypass. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a possible Early Bronze Age/Beaker settlement that lay adjacent to a later burnt mound.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material (C12) was exposed as a linear deposit of grey ashy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone that measured 20.5m by 10m with a thickness of 0.12m.
Trough 1:	The trough (C207) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.9m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.4m. Six post-holes cut the base of the pit suggesting it may have been timber-lined originally. The trough was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Finds area include a modified scraper and flint debitage. Charcoal from the trough fill is dated to the Middle-Late Bronze Age.

Trough 2: This trough (C213) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.62m by 1.42m with a depth of 0.42m and was filled with loose sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Well: This possible well (C206) was situated directly south of the trough and naturally filled with water during the excavation. It measured 6.5m by 4.5m with a depth of 1m. It was filled with ashy layers, burnt mound material and re-deposited natural. Early Bronze Age flint material was recovered from the pit.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Flint was recovered from the burnt spread and the fill of the well.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough 1  
C14 (WK-18555) 2915±51 BP (1270–970 BC)

Relative dating: None

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Archaeological excavations revealed a multi-period prehistoric site. The burnt mound consisted of a large deposits of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling and two troughs, one of which produced evidence to suggest it was timber-lined. The well discovered on site probably supplied water to the adjacent troughs. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area that was probably used for cooking.

### **References**

Bayley, D. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Newtownbalregan 5, Co. Louth*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Proleek	Six inch map no: 04
	Parish:	Ballymascalan	NGR: 307083, 311958
	Barony:	Lower Dundalk	Altitude: 28m OD
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N1Newry to Dundalk Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Caroline Powell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the base of a slope adjacent to the N53 Castleblayney Road. The site was low-lying in nature and liable to flooding.		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible wedge tomb (LH004-041), a standing stone (LH004-042) and two long cist burials (LH004-068) are recorded within 1km of the excavated site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N1 Newry to Dundalk Road Scheme. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of three deposits of burnt mound material, pits and an unlined well.
Burnt Spread 1:	This deposit (004) measured 5.8m by 1.2m with a maximum thickness of 0.09m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A single flint flake was recovered from this deposit.
Burnt Spread 2:	This similar deposit (005) lay directly to the south and measured 5.2m by 3.2m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It was irregular in shape and composed of grey sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Burnt Spread 3:	This deposit (015) was crescent-shaped and measured 6.8m by 1.85m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m. It was composed of dark brown silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pits 1-3:	Four pits were associated with the spread (015). (024) was oval in shape and measured 0.72m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.23m. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Pit (020) was irregular in shape and measured 0.8m by 0.55m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with brown silty



clay and stones. 031 was oval in shape and measured 0.8m by 0.58m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with brown silty clay and angular stones.

**Possible trough:** Pit (026) was oval in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.5m. It had steep sloping sides and an uneven base and contained three fills composed of dark silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Burnt Spread 4:** Spread (013) was situated in the south-western corner of the site and measured 5.6m by 4.55m with a maximum thickness of 0.32m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A small quantity of animal bone and teeth, possibly of deer were recovered from the site.

**Well:** The possible well (028) was cut into a diverted and drained stream channel and filled naturally with water. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.14m by 1.88m with a depth of 0.35m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and contained two fills.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A flint flake was recovered from the burnt spread (004)

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone identified as possible deer was recovered from the spread (013)

### **Dating:**

**Absolute dating:** None

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavations revealed several deposits of burnt mound material, numerous pits and a possible trough. The site was considerably disturbed by later agricultural activity. The well on site probably supplied the pits/troughs with water for pyrolithic water-boiling. Animal bone recovered from the spread deposits may indicate that this activity involved the cooking of meat.

### **References**

Powell, C. 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Proleek, Co. Louth*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Development Services Ltd.



Plate 10.85 Burnt stone deposit and possible well/spring at Proleek.

Location:	Townland:	Haggardstown	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Haggardstown	NGR: 306113, 302429
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development
	Site Director:	Eoin Corcoran
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.
	Year:	2004

Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the locational setting of the site.
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Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the development.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of two heavily truncated burnt mound sites. A cluster of pits were also revealed, some of which may have functioned as troughs. A stone-lined pit may have functioned as a hearth or oven feature while a number of post-holes could have served as a windbreak. Unfortunately, no other information is available for the site.
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#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	Flint blade and two possible hammerstones
Ecofacts:	None

#### **Dating:**

Absolute dating:	None
Relative dating:	None

#### **References**

Corcoran, E. 2007. Haggardstown. Burnt Mounds. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004*, 266. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Dungooly	Six inch map no: 04
	Parish:	Faughart	NGR: 301172, 314703
	Barony:	Upper Dundalk	Altitude: NA
	County:	Louth	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Cia McConway	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the bottom of a north-facing slope beside an unnamed small stream, a tributary to the Kilcurry River.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a Bord Gáis Pipeline development. The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound and a single trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound extended for 8m by 4m and was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	Beneath the south-east end of the spread, a trough was discovered. It was roughly rectangular in plan, measured 1.7m east–west by 1.28m and was 0.59m deep. Two pieces of worked flint came from the trough, along with one piece of worked wood, a possible stake.
<b>Finds:</b>	Worked flint was recovered from the trough
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### References

McConway, C. 2009. Dungooly. Burnt Mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2006*. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Bofeenaun	Six inch map no: 59
	Parish:	Addergoole	NGR: 111494, 304287
	Barony:	Tirawley	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Research	
	Site Director:	Conor McDermott	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit	
	Year:	1992	

**Physical Setting:** The site is located at the lake edge on an exposed lake bed 20m from the shore of lough More. Low glacially deposited gravel hills run northeast-south-west along both sides of the lake defining part of the Glen Nephin valley in which the *fulacht fia* is located. The valley floor between the base of the hills and the lake edge is covered in peat.

**Cultural Landscape:** There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the *fulacht fia* however similar site was identified 75m to the south-west (MA059-0003). A crannóg was also investigated by the unit 127m to the west-south-west.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Crannóg, 127m to the west-south-west.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during survey work carried out by the Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit (UCD). Prior to investigation the mound was exposed and eroding into the lake. Four roundwoods were exposed on the western lake side of the mound which represented the location of the trough.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, a timber-lined trough and an arc of stakes.

**Burnt Mound:** The mound of burnt material was kidney shaped and measured 7.5m by 4.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.52m. It consisted of charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone, limestone and occasional pieces of quartz. There was an area rich in charcoal and sand on the surface of the mound which may represent hearths. There was no clear stratigraphy noted within the mound material, however much of the mound was disturbed by rootlets. Charcoal from the mound was identified as ash, willow, alder, hazel and birch.

**Trough:** The trough was constructed in a depression in the peat which had been excavated to a depth of 0.3m. The surviving timber trough measured 1.05m wide at the base and a maximum surviving length of 0.8m. The intact portion of the trough survived to a height of 0.5m. The base of the pit was lined with

a layer of leaves, twigs and other organic material including bog myrtle. Over this a layer of moss was placed. The sides of the trough were constructed with hazel and ash roundwoods set horizontally one on top of the other and held in place by two corner posts. Moss was noted packed between these roundwoods. Upright posts were also noted outside this surviving trough wall adding additional support. A concentration of sand was noted on the base of the trough, presumably left there as a result of the sudden quenching/shattering of the stones as they were immersed in the cold water. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone, fragments of wood and charcoal. Larger pieces of stone at the base appear to represent the final use of the trough.

**Stakes:** An irregular arc of stakes were recorded immediately west of the trough in the submerged lake-bed just beyond the site. The arc starts 2.3m from the side of the trough and runs 3.4m into the lake on the southern side. One of the stakes was identified as holly. The excavator suggests that it may have acted as a breakwater intended to stop the lake from encroaching on the site (McDermott 1995, 192).

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Charcoal from the mound was identified as ash, willow, alder, hazel and birch. The timber from the trough was identified as hazel and ash.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: A sample of wood from the trough  
C14 (GrN- Unknown) 2900±40 BP (1290–939 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound and a timber-lined trough, both of which were under threat from erosion at the time of investigation. Subsequent excavations by the Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit of UCD in 1992 revealed that only the partial remains of the trough survived with a quantity of the mound material being eroded also by the encroaching lake.

The surviving remains of the trough consisted of several roundwood elements held in place by internal stakes at the corners and external post/stakes. Trough lined with roundwood timbers are common in the archaeological record however at the time of this discovered only a few were known. The trough at Bofeenaun can be paralleled with a number of recently excavated examples located in similar low-lying areas that appear to have been filled naturally with water. No timber lining was noted at the base of the Bofeenaun example however, a bed of moss and leaves presumable acted as a filtering system (McDermott 1995, 192). This is not unusual, with similar examples noted elsewhere (see Chapter 5). It may be the case that natural subsoil provided an efficient base for the removal of the stone, with the side timbers working to stabilise the pit. It does not seem to be that case that the base timbers were removed after the site went out of use due to the primary fill of large heat-affected stones representing the final boiling episode.

The arc of in situ stakes is difficult to interpret but presumably they are associated with the activities carried out at the site. They could represent a submerged structure of some kind, or even mark the central working space around the trough. Stake-holes are common ancillary features at *fulachtaí fia* and are often difficult to interpret due to their irregular distribution pattern. In this case, they may represent pegs to secure a timber working surface/pathway in place providing an access platform to the lake.

## References:

McDermott, C. 1995. *Fulacht Fiadh* in Bofeenaun townland, Lough More, Co. May. Blackwater Survey & Excavations, Artefact Deterioration in Peatlands, Lough More, Co. Mayo. *Transactions of the Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit* 4. Crannóg Publications. Dublin

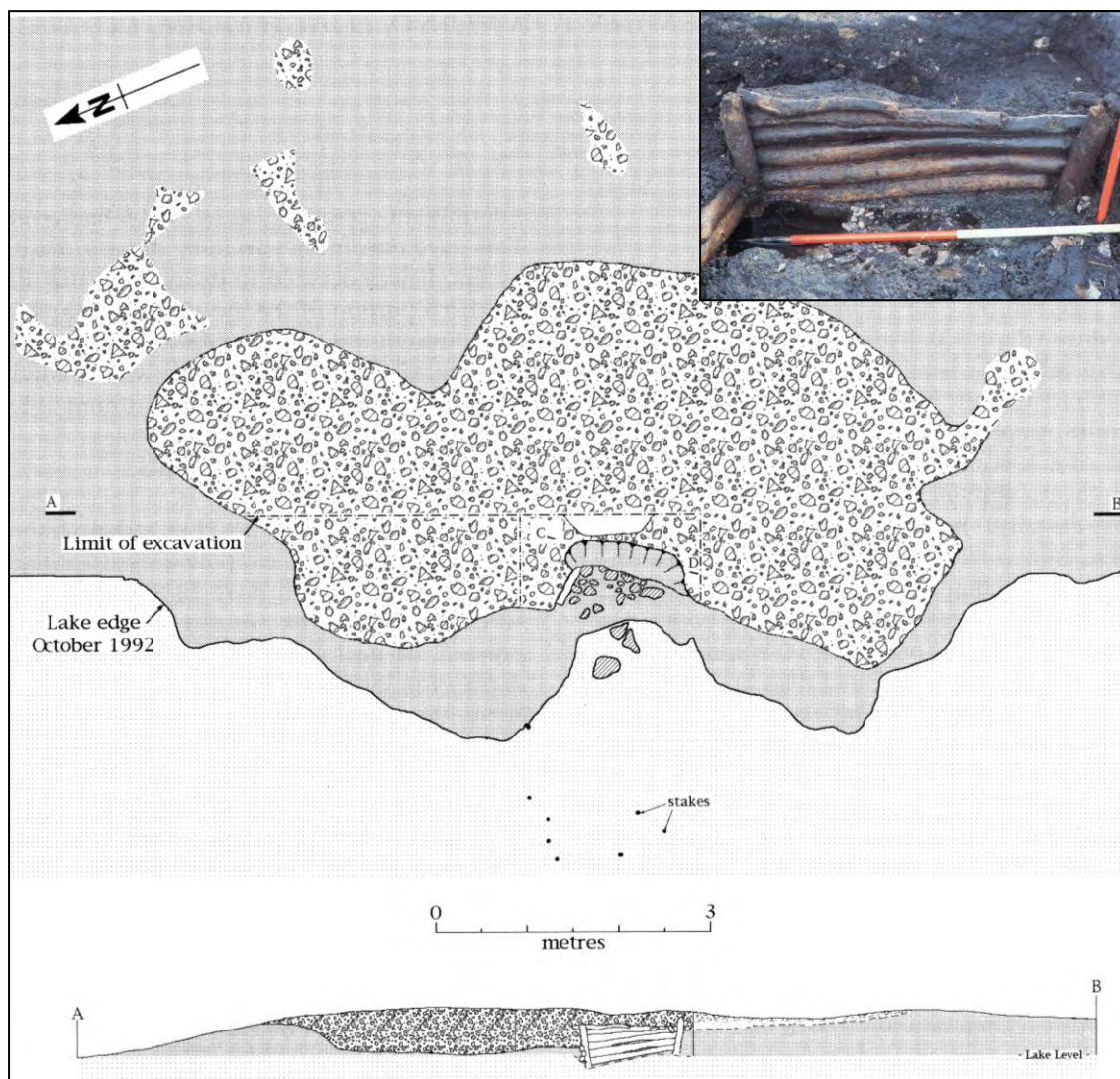


Fig. 10.106 Burnt mound and excavated trough pit with roundwood lining at Bofeenaun.

Location:	Townland:	Glen	Six inch map no: 85
	Parish:	Kilgeever	NGR: 70195, 284747
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Clare Island, Co. Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Clare Island Archaeological Survey	
	Site Director:	Paula King	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1992	
Physical Setting:	These sites were located 100m apart in a reclaimed peat basin to the south of the islands west road. The first site was partly overlain by the road while the second had been cut by a drain.		
Cultural Landscape:	Both sites area a part of a cluster of seven <i>fulachtaí fia</i> in the area		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Both excavated <i>fulachtaí fia</i> lay 100m apart.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological survey commissioned by the Royal Irish Academy. Prior to excavation, Site A survived as a visible lens of heat-shattered stone under the Islands West Road. There was no surface trace of Site B prior to excavation however a drainage trench had exposed a narrow band of charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of both sites revealed spreads of heat-shattered stone with no cut features however these may have been destroyed during recent disturbance.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound was exposed in section at a gate near the entrance to a field. Eighteen contexts were exposed representing the field bank, the old road surface, soil deposits, the burnt mound and peat. King notes that the majority of the contexts represented deposits of burnt mound material, a number of which were largely undisturbed. The mound measured 8.2m with a height of 0.6m. The mound was largely composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and black silt. A Late Bronze Age date was returned from this material. A pestle stone was recovered during excavation.

#### Site B

Burnt Mound: This burnt mound was heavily disturbed by recent land drains at the time of excavation. The undisturbed portion composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of sticky black silt with a heavy concentration of charcoal. On the



northern and southern section faces of the drainage trench, the mound extended 3.5m east-west and was up to 0.2m in height. In trench one, the spread extended 2.4m north-south and in trench two, it extended 0.9m to the east. This suggests that the mound was originally oval in shape which measured approximately 3.5m by 6.7m. The mound returned a Late Bronze Age date and the only artefact recovered was a possible hammerstone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Pestle stone from Site A and a hammerstone from Site B

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (willow) from the mound material (Site A)  
C14 (UB- 6826) 2922±37 BP (1260–1010 BC)  
Charcoal (willow) from the mound material (Site B)  
C14 (UB- 6827) 2957±33 BP (1293–1053 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of each site revealed burnt mounds which have been subjected to considerable damage by recent land drains and road construction. Several parallels can be drawn from these excavations where burnt mounds have been damaged. Similar sites were revealed during the Ballinrobe Sewrage Scheme in Co. Mayo (Walsh, 1995). A number of contexts were revealed at Site A with particular bands of charcoal representing different phases of use. No trough was encountered, being possibly destroyed during development works or it may lie outside the are of investigation. Site B was similar in that a high level of disturbance was noted and similarly no trough was discovered.

#### **References:**

Gosling, P. Manning, C and J. Waddel. 2007. *New Survey of Clare Island. Volume 5: Archaeology*. Royal Irish Acedemy. Dublin



Plate 10.86 Burnt mound deposit revealed in section at Glen, Co. Mayo.



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Location:	Townland:	Lecarrow	Six inch map no: 85
	Parish:	Kilgeever	NGR: 70412, 285869
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 60m OD
	County:	Clare Island, Co. Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Clare Island Archaeological Survey	
	Site Director:	Paula King	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1992	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a peat basin less than 20m from a similar site close to the centre of the island.		
Cultural Landscape:	A burnt mound is located 20m from the site in question and forms part of a larger, scattered group of five <i>fulachtaí fia</i> situated at the eastern end of the peat basin.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological survey commissioned by the Royal Irish Academy. There was no surface trace of the site prior to the excavation, however it was disturbed by a field drain which had bisected the site north-south, exposing burnt material in section.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed at least two phases of activity and identified a complex of features including a burnt, mound, several stone features and a possible trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was disturbed by a recent drainage ditch which bisected the material. As well as investigating the mound in section along the drainage ditch, several trenches were opened extended from the channel to investigate the original dimensions of the mound. King suggests that the original mound would have been at least c. 5m and possibly 7.4m by 5m with a thickness of 0.39 (2007, 258). It was composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal. The mound varied in composition in each trench suggesting some disturbance when the drain was excavated. A number of pieces of burnt clay were found in trench one.
Possible revetment:	A possible revetment was identified under the burnt mound material however given the central position of the stone setting it is unlikely to have served such a function (King 2007, 264). It may have been the foundation

for a structure or a simple dump of stone deposited to stabilise the ground surface.

- Trough:** A possible trough was identified in trench two. It was oval in plan and measured 1.6m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.07. The feature was filled with a deposit of heat-shattered sandstone, charcoal and partially burnt wood contained in fine, black, slightly gritty silt. Eighteen timber pegs and several peg holes were identified in the trough around the inner perimeter. There appeared to be traces of wattle connecting these pegs in places. The base of the trough was partially lined with a large stone slab. Sand was also noted in the base of the feature.
- Hearth:** Immediately to the south-east of the trough and overlapping its edge was an oval shaped deposit of loose heat-fractured stones. Removal of this deposit revealed an oval formation of angular stone. This may have functioned as a formal hearth for the trough.
- Stone surface:** The possible stone surface rested on the natural and seemed to be contemporary with the trough, hearth and possible oven feature.
- Possible Oven:** A pit measuring 0.5m wide with a depth of 0.4m was revealed in the western section face of the modern drainage channel. It was wedge shaped and lined with sandstone slabs. The structure was badly damaged by the disturbance and seemed to survive for another 0.6m in an easterly direction. It was constructed with three slabs each set into the natural. Prior to excavation, a small horizontal stone appeared to roof the feature.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** A single rim sherd of decorated, coarse prehistoric pottery was recovered from the exposed mound material prior to excavation.
- Ecofacts:** None

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating:** None
- Absolute dating:** Charcoal (birch) from the mound material  
C14 (UB-6828) 3620±32 BP (2041–1892 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a range of features associated with pyrolytic technology. The presence of a possible wattle-lined trough indicates that the main activity on site was water-boiling while the identification of a possible oven feature suggests that a dry heat involving hot stones was also practiced.

### **References**

Gosling, P. Manning, C and J. Waddell. 2007. *New Survey of Clare Island. Volume 5: Archaeology*. Royal Irish Academy. Dublin

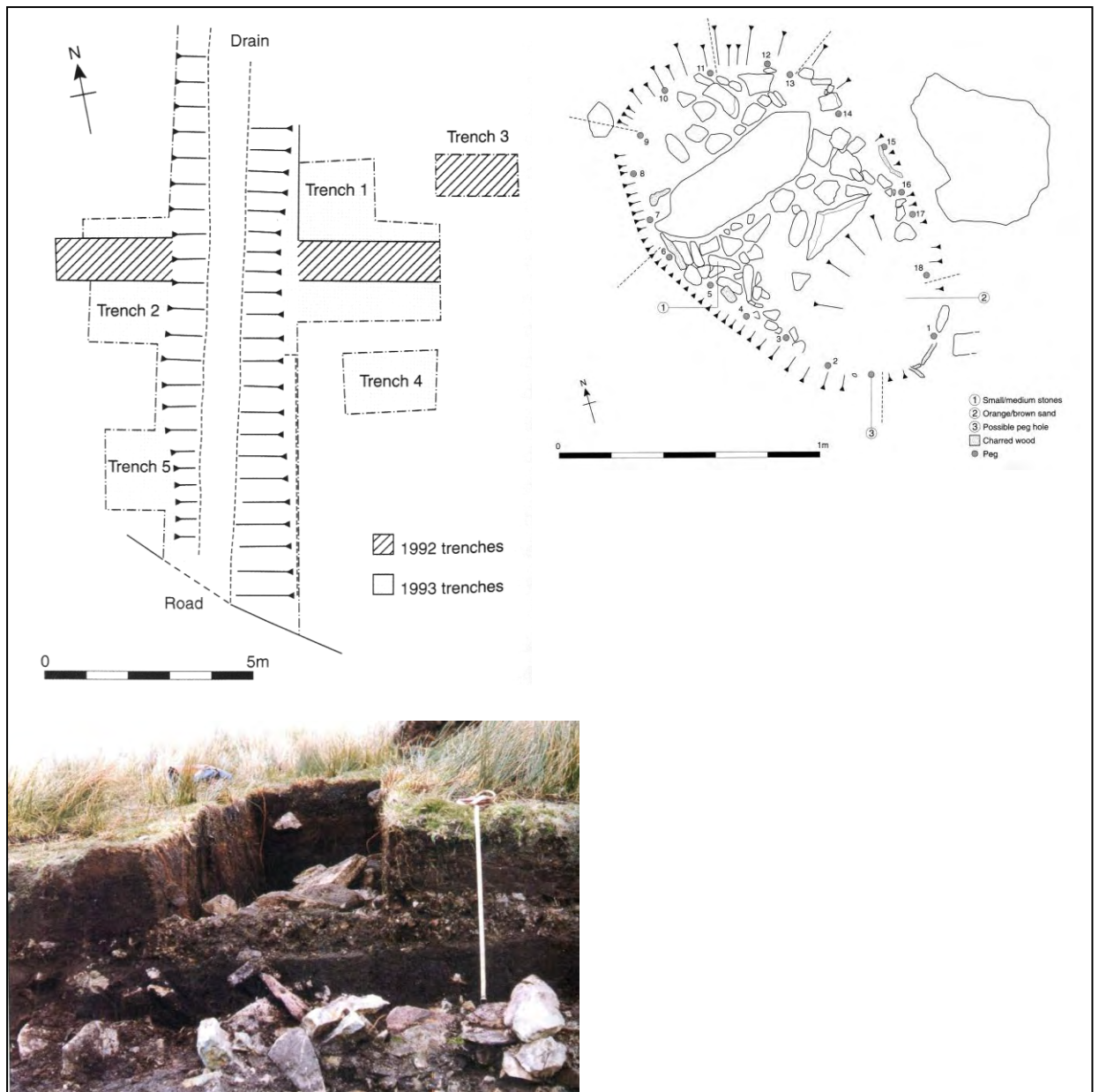


Fig. 10.107 Possible wattle-lined pit at Leacarrow, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Lecarrow	Six inch map no: 118
	Parish:	Kilgeever	NGR: 70412, 285869
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: NA
	County:	Clare Island, Co. Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Clare Island Archaeological Survey	
	Site Director:	Paula King	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1994	
Physical Setting:	The sites were situated in and around a small steep sided peat basin to the north-east of Knocknaveen.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate area surrounding these sites is rich in prehistoric archaeology with several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> clusters noted along with hut sites. The closure excavated 50m to the west produced lithics and stake-holes, suggestive of habitation areas possibly contemporary with the <i>fulacht fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	An enclosure which revealed habitation evidence and heat-shattered stone was excavated 50m to the west.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological survey commissioned by the Royal Irish Academy. The site survived as two contiguous grass-covered mounds prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed burnt mounds of heat-shattered stone, a trough and a stone spread.
Burnt Mound:	The mounds were roughly u-shaped in plan and measured 9.1m by 5.25m with a height of 0.3m. The upper layers were composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of grey peat and charcoal. A more substantial layer of burnt mound material underlay this and the heat-affected stone was larger here. This deposit yielded an Early Bronze Age date. The lower deposits consisted of a loose sandy matrix with charcoal inclusions.
Trough:	Removal of the sod in the central area revealed a number of lengths of wood that ran between and were associated with a number of upright stones. This structure, interpreted as a trough, measured 1.6m by 1.3m. A number of these wooden pieces retained their bark and showed signs of working. A single stake was also associated with this structure and was found <i>in situ</i> . A number of upright stones were also associated with this structure, some of

which may have collapsed into the trough area making the shape of the original trough difficult to ascertain.

Stone Spread: Excavation of the north-eastern mound exposed a deposit of sandstone boulders and stones which formed part of the mound. They were piled randomly on top of one another and were contained within a deposit of grey silt.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (birch) from the mound material  
C14 (UB-6831) 3660±33 BP (2137–1945 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Trial trenching of the extant burnt mound revealed the remains of substantial deposits of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. The remains of a possible timber and stone-lined would support this suggestion. A pile of unburnt stones found adjacent to the mound material may have been the remains of a stockpile ready to be used in the heating and boiling process. The site can be interpreted as a water-boiling location possibly used for cooking.

**References**

Gosling, P. Manning, C and J. Waddel. 2007. *New Survey of Clare Island. Volume 5: Archaeology*. Royal Irish Acedemy. Dublin.

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Location:	Townland:	Rathkelly	Six inch map no: 118
	Parish:	Ballinrobe	NGR: 118664, 264268
	Barony:	Kilmaine	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme
	Site Director:	Gerry Walsh
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council
	Year:	1994

Physical Setting:	The site is located on the northern bank of the river Robe.
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Cultural Landscape:	There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> however a stone circle is recorded within the parish of Ballinrobe (MA 118-134). Five other previously unknown <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were revealed during the sewerage scheme.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled mound of heat-shattered stone of which several artefacts were unearthed. A possible trough was identified cut into the natural limestone bedrock.
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Burnt Mound:	The levelled spread of burnt mound material measured 7.5m by 4.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.22m. It consisted of charcoal enriched dark brown sandy silt loam packed with fragments of heat-shattered sandstone. The mound produced a broken chert barbed and tanged arrowhead and a flint flake. A sheep tooth was also recovered.
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Burnt Spread:	Another spread of mound material was revealed immediately to the west and may represent another pyrolithic site. It measured 4.5m by 3.5m however it may have been dispersed material from the main deposit due to agricultural processes.
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Pit:	This natural depression was revealed under the northern end of the burnt mound material. It measured 0.42m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.26. The fill consisted of dark brown silty clay loam.
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Possible Hearth 1: A conglomerate layer of stone, iron staining and charcoal was revealed under the spread which may represent a hearth area (Walsh 1994, 9).

Hearth 2: A deposit of red silty clay loam was revealed at the north-east side of the site which Walsh states may represent the burning of the natural boulder clay (Walsh 1994, 9).

### Finds:

Artefacts: Chert barbed and tanged arrowhead from the burnt mound material along with a flint flake.

Ecofacts: A sheep tooth (molar) was recovered from the mound material

### Dating:

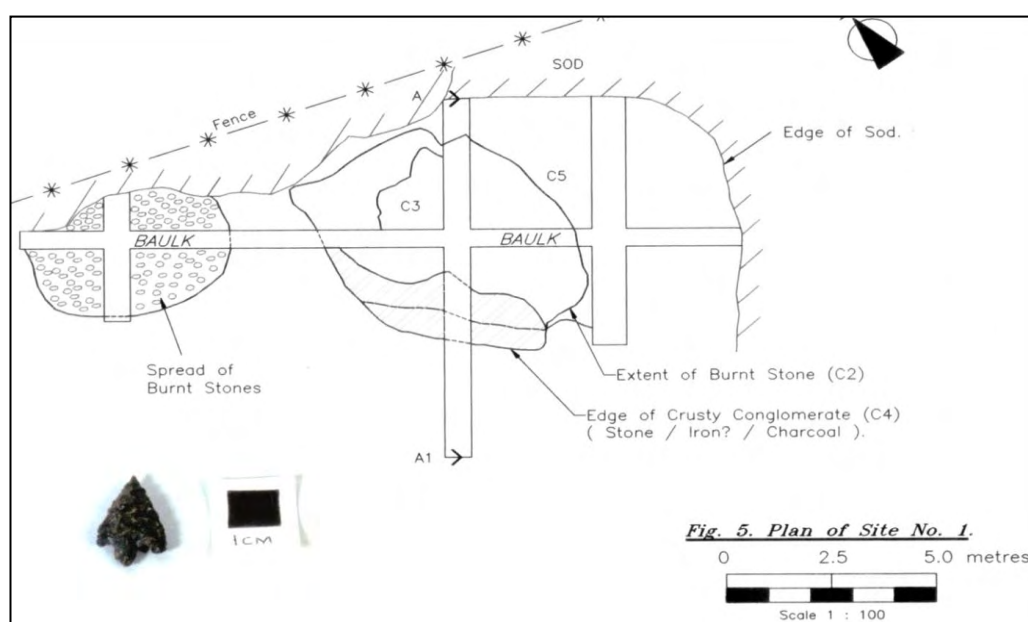
Absolute dating: None

### Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed the levelled remains of a burnt mound or *fulacht fia* which lay on the natural limestone bedrock. Two individual spreads of heat-altered sandstone were uncovered and Walsh suggests (1994) that the smaller of the two may represent another separate site, however the proximity of the spread, and its make-up might indicate that this was in fact dispersed material from the larger deposit. The petrology of the site consisted of shattered sandstone which is unusual as the underlying bedrock consists of limestone. This may suggest that the sandstone was deliberately transported to the site due to its efficiency in the heating process. No definitive trough was encountered during the excavation however a possible hearth was noted which may imply roasting/ baking activities using pyrolytic technology.

### References

Walsh, G. 1995. *Archaeological Excavations on the Ballinrobe Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme* 1994. Mayo County Council Archaeological Series 3.



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Location:	Townland:	Ballinrobe Demesne	Six inch map no: 118
	Parish:	Ballinrobe	NGR: 118664, 264178
	Barony:	Kilmaine	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gerry Walsh	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	1994	

Physical Setting: The site is located on the southern bank of the River Robe.

Cultural Landscape: There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the *fulacht fia* however a stone circle is recorded within the parish of Ballinrobe (MA 118-134). Five other previously unknown *fulachtaí fia* were revealed during the sewerage scheme. One was located on the opposite side of the river while the other four were discovered along the southern bank in a row.

Adjacent excavated sites: *Fulachtaí fia*

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations. The site was disturbed by modern backfill as a result of a previous watermain.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Partial excavation of the site (2m wide trench) revealed a levelled mound of heat-shattered stone. 200 animal fragments were recovered from a context under the spread which produced an Early Bronze Age date.

Burnt Spread: The spread of burnt mound material was revealed in a 2m wide trench and measured 4.4m long with a thickness of 0.2m. The majority of the spread seems to have only been revealed in section due to the size of the trench. The material consisted of black sandy silt with frequent heat-shattered sandstone. Underlying the mound material was a deposit of peat which contained numerous wood fragments (ash, alder, hazel) and two hundred animal bone specimens which included cattle, horse, pig and deer. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from this context also.



**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: 200 animal bone fragments which was dominated by cattle. A single horse molar and a pig phalanx was also recovered along with a red deer humerus. Most of the skeletal elements seem to consist of meat producing upper limb bones.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: A sample of charcoal from the peat deposit below burnt spread  
C14 (QUB- Unknown) Uncalibrated date unknown BP (2590–2205 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation revealed the partial remains of a burnt mound. No trough was encountered during excavation however it may lie outside the area of investigation or it may have been destroyed during previous drainage works on the site. Walsh however notes timber fragments in the peat layer which may represent a destroyed trough (1995 12).

**References**

Walsh, G. 1995. *Archaeological Excavations on the Ballinrobe Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme 1994*. Mayo County Council Archaeological Series 3.



Plate 10.87 Burnt mound in section of pipe trench at Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo.

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Location:	Townland:	Ballinrobe Demesne	Six inch map no: 118
	Parish:	Ballinrobe	NGR: 118688, 264157
	Barony:	Kilmaine	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme
	Site Director:	Gerry Walsh
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council
	Year:	1994

Physical Setting:	The site is located on the southern bank of the River Robe.
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Cultural Landscape:	There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> however a stone circle is recorded within the parish of Ballinrobe (MA 118-134). Five other previously unknown <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were revealed during the sewerage scheme. One was located on the opposite side of the river while the other four were discovered along the southern bank in a row.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulachtaí fia</i>
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### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Partial excavation of the site (2m wide trench) revealed deposit of burnt mound material which survived to a height of 0.3m. No cut features were exposed.
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Burnt Mound:	The exposed burnt mound material was 8.47m long and survived to a height of 0.3m. It consisted of charcoal enriched material in a matrix of heat-shattered sandstone. Some wood fragments were recovered from the base of the mound material. Walsh states that the mound appeared to have been levelled some time in the past (1995, 13).
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<b>Finds:</b>	None
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<b>Dating:</b>	None
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### References

Walsh, G. 1995. *Archaeological Excavations on the Ballinrobe Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme 1994*. Mayo County Council Archaeological Series 3.

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Location:	Townland:	Ballinrobe Demesne	Six inch map no: 118
	Parish:	Ballinrobe	NGR: 118664, 264178
	Barony:	Kilmaine	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gerry Walsh	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	1994	

Physical Setting: The site is located on the southern bank of the river Robe.

Cultural Landscape: There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the *fulacht fiadh* however a stone circle is recorded within the parish of Ballinrobe (MA 118:134). Five other previously unknown *fulachtaí fia* were revealed during the sewerage scheme. One was located on the opposite side of the river while the other four were discovered along the southern bank in a row.

Adjacent excavated sites: *Fulachtaí fia* (MO 02-MO 07)

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Partial excavation of the site (2m wide trench) revealed deposit of burnt mound material which survived to a height of 0.16m. No cut features were exposed.

Burnt Mound: The exposed burnt mound material was 6.5m long and survived to a height of 0.16m. It consisted of charcoal enriched material in a matrix of heat-shattered sandstone. A layer of iron pan was revealed under the burnt spread. The spread was situated adjacent to site (MO05).

Finds: None

Dating: None

### References

Walsh, G. 1995. *Archaeological Excavations on the Ballinrobe Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme 1994*. Mayo County Council Archaeological Series 3.

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Location:	Townland:	Ballinrobe Demesne	Six inch map no: 118
	Parish:	Ballinrobe	NGR: 118681, 264164
	Barony:	Kilmaine	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gerry Walsh	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	1994	

Physical Setting: The site is located on the southern bank of the River Robe.

Cultural Landscape: There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the *fulacht fia* however a stone circle is recorded within the parish of Ballinrobe (MA 118-134). Five other previously unknown *fulachtaí fia* were revealed during the sewerage scheme. One was located on the opposite side of the river while the other four were discovered along the southern bank in a row.

Adjacent excavated sites: *Fulachtaí fia*

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the Ballinrobe Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Partial excavation of the site (2m wide trench) revealed deposit of burnt mound material which survived to a height of 0.10m. No cut features were exposed. The exposed burnt mound material measured 3m in diameter with a thickness of 0.10. It consisted of charcoal enriched material in a matrix of heat-shattered sandstone. Three coarse stone stools were recovered from the spread along with two animal teeth.

**Finds:** Three coarse stone tools were recovered from the stone spread. They consisted of coarse sandstones with a high micaceous content. They possibly functioned as grinding/sharpening tools due to the smooth surface. Two animal teeth were recovered from the spread. One was an upper molar from a horse and the other was a lower molar from a cow.

**Dating:** None  
**References**

Walsh, G. 1995. *Archaeological Excavations on the Ballinrobe Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme 1994*. Mayo County Council Archaeological Series 3.

Location:	Townland:	Coolavally	Six inch map no: 123
	Parish:	Cong	NGR: 119481, 253526
	Barony:	Kilmaine	Altitude: 20m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Road Construction	
	Site Director:	Frank Ryan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	No information is available as to the locational setting of the site		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered by Gerry Walsh during topsoil stripping in advance of a road development by Mayo County Council. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound and a possible timber-lined trough. Twenty-five pieces of chert were also recovered.
Burnt Mound:	Prior to excavation the mound had been damaged by machine during land reclamation. The undisturbed portion was roughly kidney-shaped and measured 5m by 3m with a height of 0.5m. Two distinct layers were noted consisting of a basal deposit of densely compacted charcoal with the upper layer consisting of charcoal enriched soil in a matrix of heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough:	The trough consisted of a rectangular area measuring 1.6m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.2m. It was dug into the underlying peat with the base lined with six parallel lengths of wood. A deposit of sand was revealed above the timbers and a rectangular slab lay immediately to the south which contained two thin lenses of charcoal.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	Twenty-five pieces of chert were recovered from the site however the context of these finds are unknown. Ryan states that the majority of the chert comprised of blank or waste flakes while three produced evidence of secondary working (Ryan, 1996).
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Ecofacts:                      None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site consisted of a disturbed burnt mound which sealed the partial remains of a timber-lined trough. The site was considerably damaged by machine prior to archaeological investigation, something which was a common phenomenon prior to the establishment of the National Roads Authority.

The trough consisted of a rectangular pit which was dug into the underlying peat which probably facilitated the natural percolation of groundwater negating the need to fill the trough manually. It was lined at the base with six lengths of wood and a layer of sand was noted overlying this deposit, which probably accumulated as a result of heating process where the hot stones would have shattered violently after being immersed in the cold water.

Twenty-five pieces of chert were recovered from the site, some of which produced evidence of secondary re-working. This possibly indicates that small scale flint knapping occurred in the area during the sites use-history.

**References**

Ryan, F. 1997. The Excavation of a *fulacht fiadh* at Coolavally, Co. Mayo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1996*. Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Coolroe	Six inch map no: 111
	Parish:	Crossboyne	NGR: 133145, 271228
	Barony:	Claremorris	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Claremorris Town Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	It was situated in marshy ground adjacent to a drain/stream, which flows into the nearby robe river. The land here is fairly level with a very gradual slope towards the Robe River to the South and southwest.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulachtaí fia</i>		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered by Gerry Walsh during topsoil stripping in advance of a road development by Mayo County Council. The second site survived as a low grass-covered mound prior to excavation. There was no visible surface trace of the other sites prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and several pits, all of which may have functioned as troughs. A large amount of animal bone was also uncovered from the site.
Burnt Mound:	The mound of burnt material was oval in plan and measured 19m by 9m with a thickness of 0.6m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone (20% limestone) in a matrix of charcoal rich silty clay. At the very base of the mound adjacent to the trough there were two very black charcoal rich layers of mound material, which may be the result of in-situ burning / poorly defined hearths (Gillespie 2010, 22). Several different horizons were noted in the mound material which were interpreted as the result of leaching as opposed to different periods of use. Several lithics were recovered from the mound along with 121 animal bones which were recovered from a fine silty layer sealed by the mound material. Charcoal from the mound included oak, hazel, alder and willow.
Trough 1:	The central trough was cut into the natural boulder clay and was rectangular in plan. It measured 1.9m by 1.36 with a depth of 0.2m. The base was flat and sides sloped gently inwards. The possible remains of a residual lining

survived as a charcoal rich layer along the sides of the base. The two eastern corners extended east from the trough providing further evidence that the pit was lined. An iron-rich deposit rested on the base of the trough at its centre. It consisted predominantly of iron, probably bog iron, collected and compacted in a regular container or bucket which was then inverted in the centre of the trough after its final use (Gillespie 2010, 22). The fill of the trough consisted of collapsed burnt mound material.

- Trough 2:** This possible trough (C18) was located 5m from the trough 1 (C13). It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.55m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.33m. The base was fairly level and the southern half of the eastern side of the cut was difficult to discern and the southern side was quite low. The feature was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 1:** This pit (C8) was located 1.4m east of the central trough. It was sub-circular in plan with a diameter of 0.95m and a depth of 0.28m. The pit had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The pit was filled with burnt mound material.
- Stakes:** Three stakes were recovered in a roughly straight line south-east of the mound. A fourth stake was recovered 0.6m from these and were a similar distance from the second burnt mound. Five worked stakes were recovered near the southern edge of the mound. They were preserved in peat along with antler and bone.

## **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** Twenty-three chert flakes and 12 chunks were recovered from the site. Two retouched pieces were present including a regular tertiary flint flake with a slightly denticulate scraping edge from adjacent to the trough (C13) and a black chert convex scraper.
- Ecofacts:** A total of 121 bones were examined and cattle, pig, sheep, horse and red deer were all represented. The vast majority of the bones represented red deer, *Cervus elaphus*, (91 specimens) and 19 fragments were not readily identifiable to species. The sample of antler consisted of 76 fragments representing at least two individuals. The occurrences of three unshed burrs and butchered post-cranial bones indicates that deer were hunted and eaten.

## **Dating:**

- Relative dating:** None
- Absolute dating:** A sample of charcoal (hazel/alder) from the mound material C14 (GrN-27642) 3950±40 BP (2571–2309 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which sealed several cut features which included three pits, one of which produced evidence to suggest it may have been timber-lined during its use. Concentrations of charcoal along the sides and extended corners attest to this being the case. The presence of the charcoal deposit may either suggest the presence of rotted timbers or timbers which have been burnt in situ when



the site was abandoned, a phenomenon which has been noted elsewhere (see Chapter 5). The most interesting aspect of this trough was a central deposit of iron-rich material in the base of the pit. Gillespie states that it consisted predominantly of iron, probably bog iron, collected and compacted in a regular container or bucket which was then inverted and deliberately placed in the centre of the trough after its final use, possibly carried out as part of a closing event (see Chapter 7). The large assemblage of animal bone is a rare in relation to burnt mound archaeology and where it is noted, the assemblage is usually small and fragmented. The evidence suggests that the butchering/processing of large mammals occurred at the site.

## References

Gillespie, R. 2010. *Excavation at Coolroe, Claremorris, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

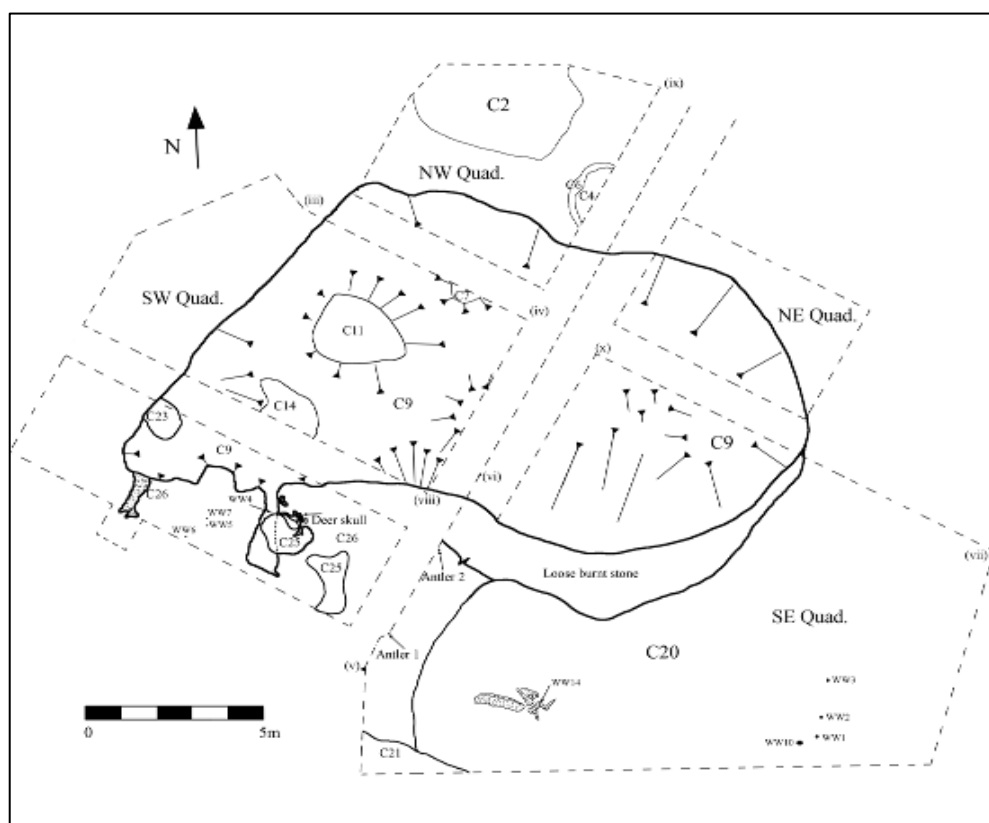


Fig. 10.108 Burnt stone deposits and excavated trough with central iron-rich deposit



Location:	Townland:	Coolroe	Six inch map no: 111
	Parish:	Crossboyne	NGR: 133157, 271231
	Barony:	Claremorris	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Claremorris Town Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	It was situated in marshy ground adjacent to a drain/stream, which flows into the nearby robe river. The land here is fairly level with a very gradual slope towards the Robe River to the south and southwest.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site excavated here.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulachtaí fía</i>		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered by Gerry Walsh during topsoil stripping in advance of a sewerage development by Mayo County Council. This site survived as a low grass-covered mound prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an oval burnt mound, stakes and several pits, all of which may have functioned as troughs. Animal bone and lithics were also recovered from this site also.
Burnt Mound:	Prior to excavation the mound exhibited a horseshoe-shape plan however Gillespie states that the base of the mound was irregular/oval due to slippage into the trough (2010, 35). It measured 12m by 17m with a thickness of 0.7m. The mound consisted of heat-shattered sandstone predominately with some limestone and chert inclusions in a matrix of gritty charcoal rich silt. There were three lenses of alluvial silt within the mound which may be a result of flooding during the use history.
Trough 1:	This trough (C53) was kidney-shaped in plan and measured 3.5m by 2.3m with a maximum depth of 0.36m. The NW half of the pit was 0.1m deep and had well defined steep sides and a fairly flat level base. The SE half of the trough comprised a sub-circular pit with a diameter of 1.6m and an overall depth of 0.36m. Thirty-four preserved wooden stakes were revealed cut into the grey marl at the base of the trough around in the inner sides. They were not preserved above the natural marl layer. These stakes were pushed or

hammered into position with force enough to bend or break the points against the rocks. Twenty-two of these stakes were identified to species: eighteen as hazel and four as ash. These stakes were placed vertically along the trough sides probably to support or be incorporated into a wicker lining. The primary fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered sandstone with moderate charcoal inclusions. Plant remains from the fill contained sweet woodruff, a species that can be found beside woodland and damp shady areas.

- Trough 2:** This trough (C57) was located south-east of the central trough and was sub-rectangular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 1.55m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.2m. A curvilinear gully was located close to this trough but was not directly related. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay.
- Pit 1:** This pit was located close to trough C57. It was sub-circular with a diameter of 0.9m with a maximum depth of 0.2m. A curvilinear channel extended from this pit which was 2.6m long. Both were filled with a mixture of mound material, occasional limestone and humic material.
- Pit 2:** This pit (C70) was located to the north of the central pit and was irregular in shape with steep sides. It measured 0.83m by 0.69m with a depth of 0.1m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 3:** This pit was located 1.8m north of the central trough and was sub-oval in plan. It measured 1.15m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.3m and was filled with burnt mound material. Two heaps of re-deposited natural were located close to the pit which were probably upcast material from the pit. The charred remains of two small timbers were on top of the southern mound. The eastern mound had a well-defined post-hole (C58) inserted into it.

## **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** Three retouched Chert artefacts were recovered including a side scraper fragment from the topsoil which overlay the mound, a convex end scraper from the mound and a retouched flake fragment from clay at the north east edge of the mound. Thirteen chert flakes and three cores were also present in the mound material
- Ecofacts:** Eleven fragments of a Red Deer antler were recovered from the base of the burnt mound. The occurrence of a shed burr indicates that antler was collected in the late spring when male red deer shed these elements.

## **Dating:**

- Relative dating:** None
- Absolute dating:** Charcoal (oak) from base of the trough (C53)  
C14 (GrN-27643) 3040±25 BP (1387–1215 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, two troughs and three pits, some of which may have also functioned as boiling/roasting/streaming features. The central feature on site was a circular trough with a sub-square extension possibly used to access the pit. The internal base of the trough was surrounded by 36 vertical stakes (hazel and ash) which survived in situ below the natural marl. The trough may have been wattle-lined with corresponding horizontal pieces woven between the uprights similar to other examples found in Ireland (see Chapter 5). Several other pits on excavated at the site may have served as additional troughs. A circular pit excavated at the site with an associated curvilinear channel may suggests that some form of water management was practices at the site with the channel acting as a possible overflow outlet for the pit.

## References

Gillespie, R. 2010. *Excavation at Coolroe, Claremorris, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

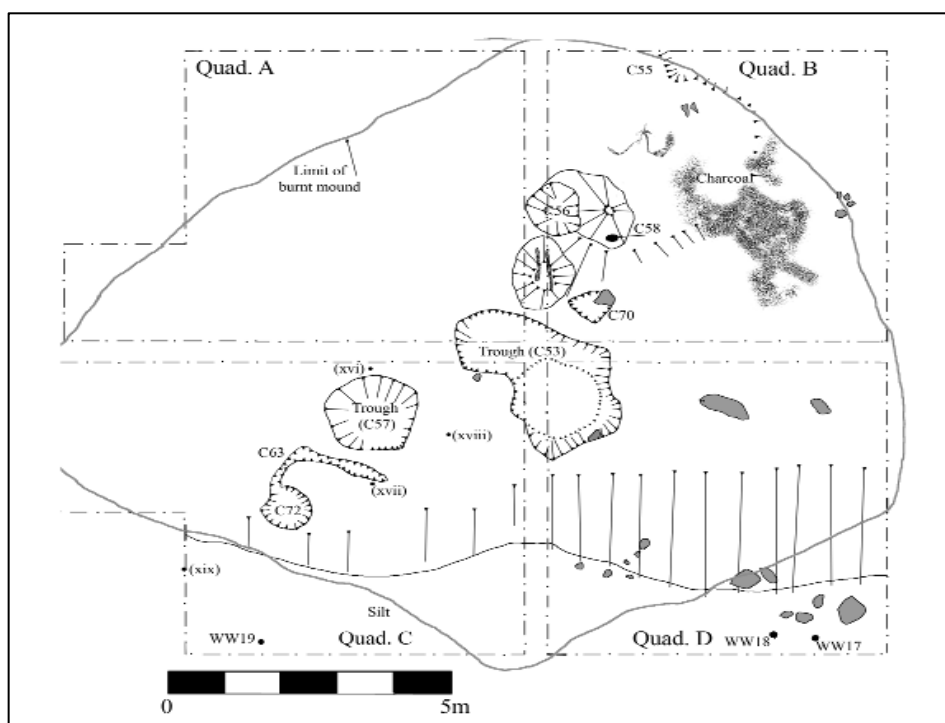


Fig. 10.109 Burnt mound, pits and wattle-lined trough at Coolroe, Co. Mayo.



Location:	Townland:	Coolroe	Six inch map no: 111
	Parish:	Crossboyne	NGR: 133163, 271234
	Barony:	Claremorris	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Claremorris Town Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	It was situated in marshy ground adjacent to a drain/stream, which flows into the nearby robe river. The land here is fairly level with a very gradual slope towards the Robe River to the south and southwest.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site excavated here.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> 2m west this site (MA 111-094003)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered by Gerry Walsh during topsoil stripping in advance of a sewerage development by Mayo County Council. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a low mound of heat-shattered stone and an earth-cut trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound of burnt material (C78) was roughly kidney-shaped and measured 11.2m by 7m with a depth of 0.3m. It consisted of heat-fractured sandstone with occasional limestone in a matrix of black, charcoal-rich, coarse gritty silt.
Trough:	The trough (C83) was sub-rectangular in plan with rounded corners and vertical sides. It measured 1.6m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.25m. Its primary fill consisted of compact grey silty clay with a charcoal rich lens resting on the base of the pit. The upper fill consisted of a mixture of mound material and grey silt.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	Two chert flakes were recovered from the mound material
Ecofacts:	Two animal bones were recovered including a horse vertebra from the mound material

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

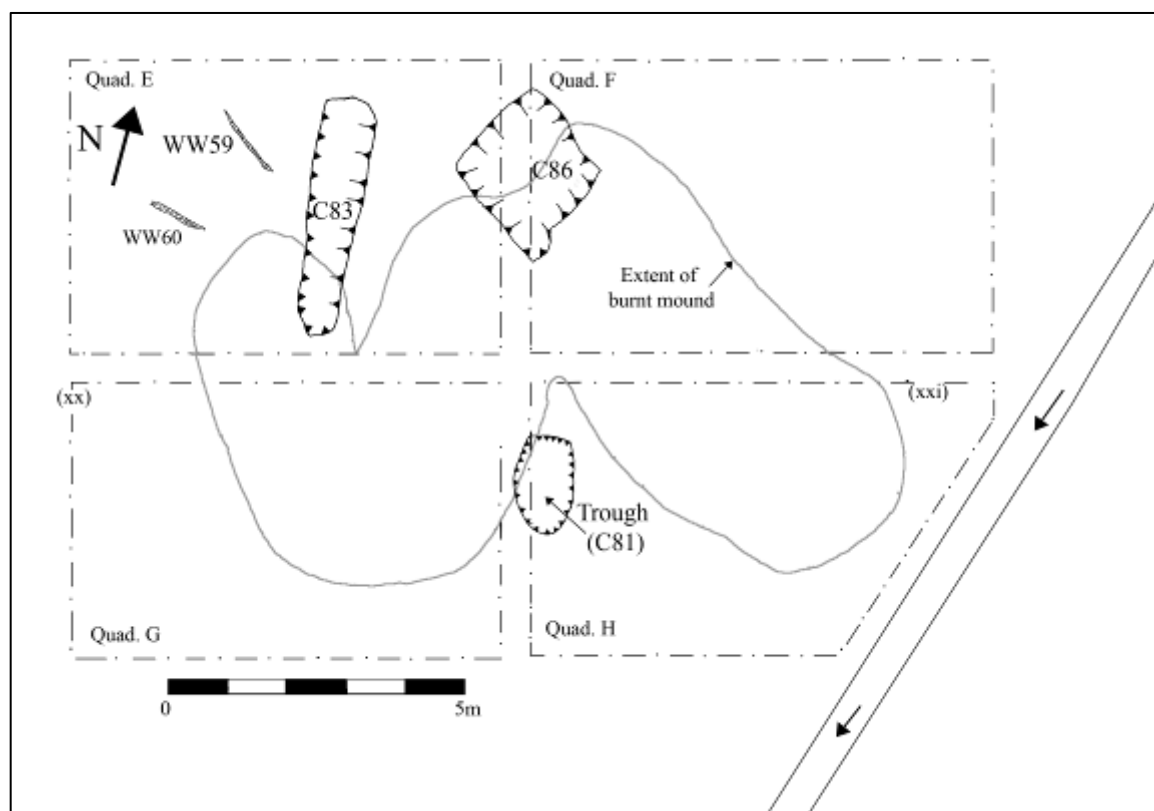
Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from base of the mound  
C14 (GrN-27644) 3555±45 BP (2021–1747 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a shallow sub-rectangular trough. Two other cut features were revealed just north of the burnt mound however these were deemed to be modern. Two chert flakes were recovered from the mound material along with two animal bones providing tentative evidence that the site was used for the butchering/processing of large mammals which were subsequently cooked using pyrolithic technology. Three *fulachtaí fia* were excavated along this stretch of river, with each providing a different date range suggesting that this was a prime location for the practice of pyrolithic technology for thousands of years.

## References:

Gillespie, R. 2010. *Excavation at Coolroe, Claremorris, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.



Location:	Townland:	Clare	Six inch map no: 101
	Parish:	Crossboyne	NGR: 134978, 274977
	Barony:	Claremorris	Altitude: NA
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Knock/Claremorris Bypass	
	Site Director:	Suzanne Zajac	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site lay on the outer edges of a tract of bogland south-east of Claremorris town.		
Cultural Landscape:	Three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated a short distance away which produced Early to Middle Bronze Age dates (see above).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil removal in advance of the Knock/Claremorris Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a low mound of heat-shattered stone which sealed a timber-lined trough, an associated causeway and a deposit of brushwood which have functioned as an access platform.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread covered an area measuring 8.2m by 11.3m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay.
Trough:	The trough was sub-oval in plan (dimensions unknown) and consisted of a wooden structure held in place at each end by a series of stakes. A narrow wooden causeway extended from its southern extremity for a distance of 3m. It consisted largely of a single felled tree which was set into the boulder clay similar to the trough.
Working Surface:	A deposit of brushwood was revealed to the west of the causeway and seemed to be contemporary with it. It was randomly placed but may have provided a suitable working surface.
Platform:	Post-dating these features and lying diagonally across the caseway, was a sub-rectangular wooden platform consisting of six split roundwoods with a shorter closing timber at each end.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: A multi-platform chert core was found amongst a deposit of hazelnut shells and animal bone (context unknown)

Ecofacts: Animal bone and hazelnut shells (exact context unknown)

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. The trough was timber-lined with a stake-hole in each of the corners, a common lining technique used in the Middle to Late Bronze Age period in Ireland (see Chapter 5). The working surface and platform indicates that the area was considerably waterlogged in prehistory. These surfaces were probably laid down to protect the trough and the working area of the site.

**References**

Zajac, S. 2000. Clare, Co. Mayo. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 155. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Deerpark East	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 99747, 285277
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	

**Physical Setting:** A number of *fulachtaí fia* were excavated here at the base of an uneven slope, adjacent to a fast flowing stream. The land slopes steeply from the south-west to these sites and continues to slope gently to a peat basin to the north and north-west, where there were three additional *fulachtaí fia*.

**Cultural Landscape:** The remains of three further *fulachtaí fia* rested on this peat in an adjacent field to the north and were excavated during the course of this scheme. A Bronze Age hut was also uncovered during the scheme which was excavated in the neighbouring townland of Rossbeg.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Further *fulachtaí fia* 15m to the west

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a timber-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (C8) measured 4.8m by 5.4m with a thickness of 0.12m. It consisted of compacted heat-shattered sandstone and occasional quartz in a matrix of charcoal and dark silty clays. The upper level and edges were disturbed.
Trough:	The trough (C26) was roughly oval in plan and measured 1.62m by 0.96m with a depth of 0.38m. This trough was originally lined with a series of longitudinal and vertical timbers. Thirty four timbers were identified in this trough. Many of them had well preserved cut ends. Nine horizontal brushwood sticks were concentrated at the northeast side of the trough and were probably the collapsed remains of the wood lining. Ten additional brushwood sticks occurred within the trough and were probably disturbed from the sides. The stakes were identified at either end of the trough with longer brushwood sticks at the sides suggesting different phases of trough lining or a variety of techniques employed in one phase.

Pit 1: This pit (C28) was located 3m north of the timber-lined pit. It was circular in plan with a diameter of 1.10m and a depth of 0.16m. The fill was a moderately compacted mottled orange brown and black sandy clay similar to the burnt mound material (C8).

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Only two wood species, alder and hazel, were found in the 35 wood samples. The larger pieces were twelve hazel stakes and one alder stake. Smaller brushwood included 16 hazel and 6 alder fragments.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder and hazel) from fill of stake within the trough (C30) C14 (GrN-27647)  $3470 \pm 30$  BP (1879–1691 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt spread of burnt stone and the remains of a timber-lined trough. This trough probably functioned as a boiling pit for the cooking of meat during the latter half of the Early Bronze Age period. The trough was lined with round-woods which was not a common lining technique during this period.

**References**

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport main drainage and waste water disposal scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.



Plate 10.88 Burnt stone spread and remains of timber trough at Deerpark East.

Location:	Townland:	Deerpark East	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 99731, 285322
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	A number of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here at the base of an uneven slope, adjacent to a fast flowing stream. The land slopes steeply from the south-west to these sites and continues to slope gently to a peat basin to the north and north-west, where there were three additional <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Cultural Landscape:	The remains of three further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> rested on this peat in an adjacent field to the north and were excavated during the course of this scheme. A Bronze Age hut was also uncovered during the scheme which was excavated in the neighbouring townland of Rossbeg.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> 15m to the south-east		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a low mound of heat-shattered stone and a shallow pit which may have functioned as a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (C9) was roughly oval in plan and measured 7m by 4.5m with a thickness of 0.25m. It consisted of compacted heat-shattered sandstone and occasional quartz. The matrix consisted mostly of sand, a low level of mid brown clay, two concentrations of charcoal rich clay and burnt clay. These probably indicate the positions of fires.
Trough:	The trough (C33) was roughly oval in plan with straight cut sides and a concave base. It measured 1.2m by 1m with a maximum depth of 0.24m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone in a sand and grit matrix with less than 20% of the matrix made up of grey brown mottled clay.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Charcoal was identified as oak, hazel, willow and alder

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	A sample of charcoal from the mound material (C9) C14 (GrN-27645) 4040±40 BP (2837–2467 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of burnt stone and the remains of an unlined trough that may have functioned as a boiling trough. This trough probably functioned as a pit for the cooking of meat during the latter half of the Neolithic period.

**References**

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport main drainage and waste water disposal scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Deerpark East	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 99697, 285268
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	A number of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here at the base of an uneven slope, adjacent to a fast flowing stream. The land slopes steeply from the south-west to these sites and continues to slope gently to a peat basin to the north and north-west, where there were three additional <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Cultural Landscape:	The remains of three further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> rested on this peat in an adjacent field to the north and were excavated during the course of this scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> to the east		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a badly disturbed burnt mound which had been truncated by a recent drain.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (C15) was irregular in plan and measured 7m by 6m with a thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of black peaty clay with 30% heat-shattered sandstone with occasional charcoal.
Trough:	The trough (C36) was badly disturbed by a land drain on its north-west side. The surviving portion was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.2m by 1m with a depth of 0.3m. The fill consisted of black peat and small stones similar to the mound (C15) with a lens of charcoal at the southwest side.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (hazel/alder) from the fill of the trough (C36) C14 (GrN-27646) 3585±55 BP (2129–1749 BC)

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport main drainage and waste water disposal scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Deerpark East	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 99596, 285438
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on peat, near the eastern end of a peat basin, which stretched from Deerpark East I to the edge of the drumlin belt to the north and east. This basin is open to the west. They were situated beside the same stream, which flowed through Deerpark East I.		
Cultural Landscape:	Three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated to the south-east in the neighbouring townland while further similar site types were revealed in the townlands of Gortroe and Attireesh.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> to the north		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a wicker-lined trough, a walkway and a quantity of worked wood.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C2) material was irregular to horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 3.5m by 4.6m with a thickness of 0.3m. It consisted of charcoal rich silty clay with heat-shattered quartz. Gillespie states that the loose stones on the upper layers may relate to some disturbance. Hazelnuts were retrieved from this deposit.
Trough:	The trough (C5) was situated in a hollow at the eastern side of the mound. It contained the partial remains of a wattle-lining. It was overlain with peat and a number of large stones. The wattle lining only survived in one portion of the trough and consisted of five rods in a woven pattern. A roughly circular arrangement of stakes supported the wicker lining. These were all preserved in the peat but were not visible above the base of the trough. The circular structure had a diameter of 0.9m with a depth of 0.1m. The fill consisted of flagstones were in a mixture of peat, decayed and burnt stone which had

15% charcoal. There were also occasional inclusions of bark, twigs and hazelnuts. Iron panning was present throughout.

**Walkway:**

A possible walkway or togher survived immediately to the north of the wicker trough. It consisted of a split timber of alder with its flat side up, abutted the north side of the wicker in the trough. It continued in a northerly direction for 1.43m. This split timber (C9) was overlain at a right angle, by a long alder trunk which was set end to end with at least one other fragmentary timbers.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Three struck chert flakes were recovered from the brushwood layer

Ecofacts: A deciduous premolar of a pig was found in the fill of the wicker trough (C5). The underlying layer (C11) contained seven unidentifiable long bone fragments; one of these represents the midshaft portion of a rib, the remainder are fragments of limb bones. Three cattle bones were recovered from C12

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (willow) from the fill of the trough (C5)  
C14 (GrN-28232) 3880±40 BP (2465–2205 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from deposit (C11)  
C14 (GrN-27649) 3755±20 BP (2271–2049 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a Chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age burnt mound site. The presence of deposits of heat-shattered stone and a boiling trough would confirm that the site functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site. The associated walkway may have provided access to the trough in a waterlogged environment during prehistory. The recovery of animal bone may indicate that the site was used for cooking. The placement of the flagstones in the fill of the trough may have been a deliberate act.

**References**

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport main drainage and waste water disposal scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

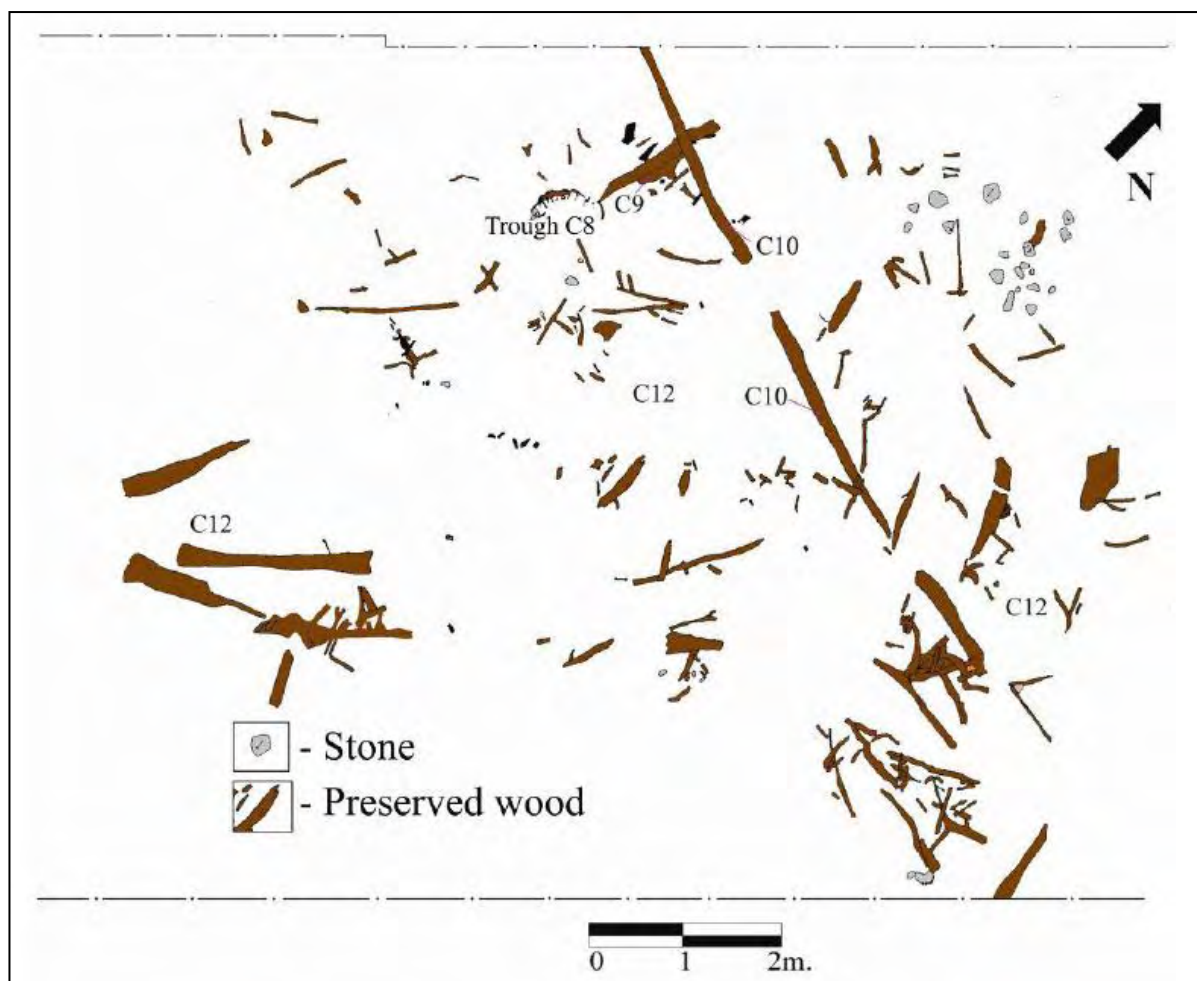


Fig. 10.110 Wattle trough and timber pathway at Deerpark East, Co. Mayo.





Location:	Townland:	Deerpark East	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 99615, 285433
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on peat, near the eastern end of a peat basin, which stretched from Deerpark East I to the edge of the drumlin belt to the north and east. This basin is open to the west. The <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated beside the same stream, which flowed through Deerpark East I.		
Cultural Landscape:	Three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated to the south-east in the neighbouring townland while further similar site types were revealed in the townlands of Gortroe and Attireesh.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> to the south and to the north-east		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a badly disturbed burnt mound. No cut features were identified during investigations.
Burnt Spread:	This spread was located a short distance to the north of the previous <i>fulacht fiadh</i> . It was irregular in shape and measured 5m by 7m. Gillespie states that it was very insubstantial and is likely to be re-deposited or very disturbed (2001, 8).
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Not sampled

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport main drainage and waste water disposal scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Deerpark East	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 99662, 285492
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on peat, near the eastern end of a peat basin, which stretched from Deerpark East I to the edge of the drumlin belt to the north and east. This basin is open to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	Three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated to the south-east in the neighbouring townland while further similar site types were revealed in the townlands of Gortroe and Attireesh.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> to the south and south-east		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which sealed the remains of a disturbed timber-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was irregular in shape and measured 8m by 8.32m with a maximum thickness of 0.14m. It rested on the natural peat and consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal stained sand.
Trough:	The trough (C6) was sealed by the burnt mound and measured 1.44m by 0.76m with a depth of 0.07m. It consisted of between five and seven poorly preserved and fragmented horizontal timbers. They were set parallel in sandy peat and rested in a shallow pit in the natural peat.
Dating:	Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough (C6) C14 (GrN-27948) 2910±50 BP (1261–939 BC)

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport main drainage and waste water disposal scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Attireesh	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100079, 285319
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on 2m of peat on the western end of an inter-drumlin bog. The land in the area is currently good pastureland and was formerly used for tillage.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 45m of each other.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a low mound of heat-shattered stone and a well preserved roundwood-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was sub-circular in plan and measured 7.8m by 6.7m with a maximum thickness of 0.5m. The mound consisted of quite compact heat-fractured stone, predominantly sandstone, in a matrix of compact, charcoal rich, silty clay. The matrix consisted of sand, grit and charcoal-rich clay. Charcoal was more concentrated to the north and east of the central hollow, possibly indicating the position of fires set on the mound during its use.
Trough:	The trough (C5) was revealed in the central hollow within the mound. It was rectangular in plan and measured 1.2m by 1.05m with a depth of 0.21m. It was constructed of tightly packed brushwood held in position by substantial retaining posts in the corners, which were inserted through the peat to underlying stone. There were 13 retaining posts, three each at the north-east, north-west and south-west corners. There were four retaining posts in the south-east corner. The trough base was lined with seven timbers laid east/west in the northern half of the trough. Hazel was the dominant wood

species from the trough construction with occasional alder timbers. A bedding of moss was also noted during excavation under the base timbers. The fill of the trough consisted of burnt mound material with peat, charcoal and occasional hazelnuts.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Chert hollow scraper from the mound material

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough (C5)  
C14 (GrN-28228) 2870±30 BP (1187–971 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single roundwood and brushwood-lined trough. The trough was cut into the peat and filled naturally with water. Mosses packed between these timbers and on the base of the trough probably served to filter the peaty water as it percolated into the structure. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area that was possibly used for cooking.

#### **References**

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport main drainage and waste water disposal scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

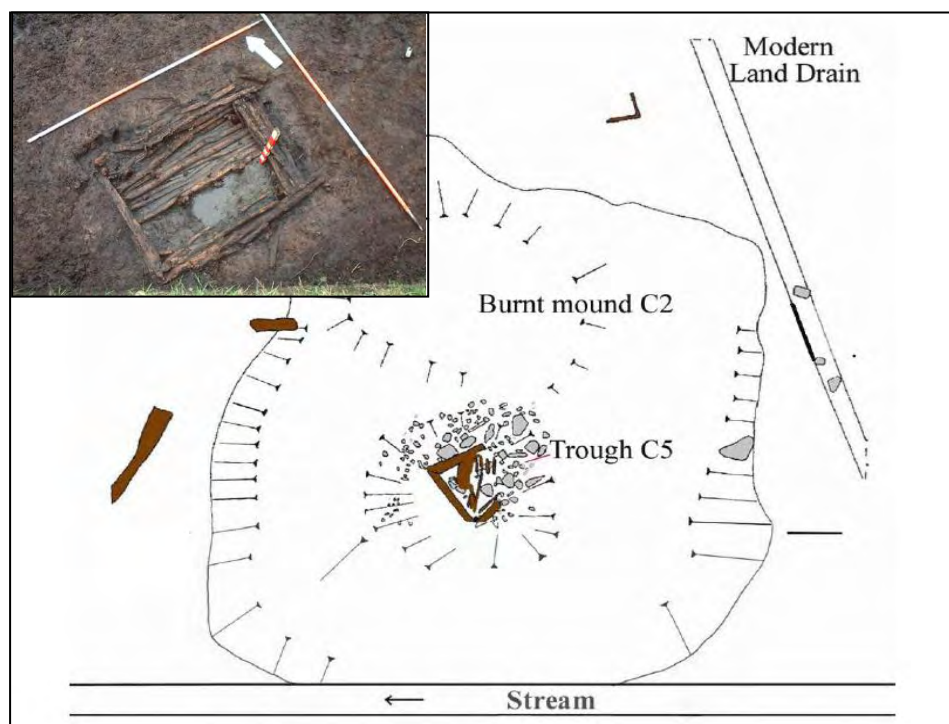


Fig. 10.111 Burnt mound and roundwood-lined trough at Attireesh, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Attireesh	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100133, 285283
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on 2m of peat on the western end of an inter-drumlin bog. The land in the area is currently good pastureland and was formerly used for tillage.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 45m of each other.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, a substantial roundwood-lined trough, a togher or trackway and a preserved shoreline.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) was irregular in shape and measured 7.4m by 5m with a thickness of 0.35m. It consisted of a moderately compact accumulation of small to medium sized heat-fractured stone, which was predominantly sandstone. The stone occurred in a matrix of black, silty clay with frequent charcoal and inclusions of quartz. The mound overlay a well preserved trough and several associated wooden features.
Trough:	The trough (C9) was situated in the centre of the site at the western side of the mound and was partly overlain by it. It was rectangular in plan and measured 1.5m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.18m. The trough was well built and well preserved. It was of similar construction to the troughs in Area 1 and Area 3. The sides consisted of brushwood and small twigs placed tightly into the sides of the trough. Three retaining posts were used to hold these sides in position. The side timbers overlay each other in the corners giving an interlocking effect and overlay the ends of the base timbers, which were laid longitudinally. The side timbers ranged from light brushwoods to

roundwoods. The northern and southern sides were the best constructed/preserved. These brushwoods were roughly packed into the sides of the trough building up quite thick sides, up to 0.17m thick. The inner face of the north-eastern side of the trough had the appearance of fine, tightly woven wickerwork. It consisted of tightly packed narrow twigs or light brushwoods. The trough timbers included alder, hazel, ash, apple-type, willow and elm. The dominant wood species was alder, followed by hazel and ash. Noteworthy is the fact that a substantial part of the wood assemblage of the trough was felled in the springtime. An outer lining of moss occurred between the trough timbers and the peat, while a sandy layer was noted in the base.

**Kneeler/surface:** A hewn split oak plank occurred adjacent to the trough. Gillespie states that this may have been related to the trough and used as a working surface or butchers block (2001, 13).

**Togher:** This linear feature occurred west of the mound and trough. It consisted of a loose concentration of worked timbers which were overlain with heavy and light brushwood. It consisted of a more compact linear arrangement of timbers, which measured 7m north-south by 1.5m east-west. These timbers were laid out in a rough herring-bone pattern with linear timbers oriented north-south, both overlain and underpinned by a relatively random series of timbers. The dominance of willow and alder indicated the wetter spectrum of an alder carr. Most of the wood retained bark, indicating that the material became waterlogged quickly after deposition.

**Shoreline:** An ancient shore-line with a possible surface was uncovered just north of the trough. It consisted of a lens or surface of small stones measuring 7.2m north-south by 1.4m east-west, with a break near its centre directly opposite the trough. It rested on peat with naturally occurring timbers but the bases of three large posts were revealed. Three posts were identified, *in situ*, in this shoreline (C13). These were heavily worked timbers with axe facets on almost every surface. One of these posts was mortised and a timber, which may have been a tenon, inserted into the mortice.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Blade fragments of flint and chert were recovered from the mound material and a second flint blade displayed evidence of heat exposure.

**Ecofacts:** Several animal bones were recovered from this area which included cattle, pig and red deer. Aging evidence indicates that these individuals were reared to a prime slaughtering age.

## **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (holly) from the fill of the trough (C9)  
C14 (GrN- 28229) 2940±20 BP (1256–1050 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from ancient shoreline (C13)  
C14 (GrN- 28230) 2910±30 BP (1253–1002 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single roundwood and brushwood-lined trough. The trough was cut into the peat and filled naturally with water. Mosses packed between these timbers and on the base of the trough probably served to filter the peaty water as it percolated into the structure. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area that was possibly used for cooking.

## References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

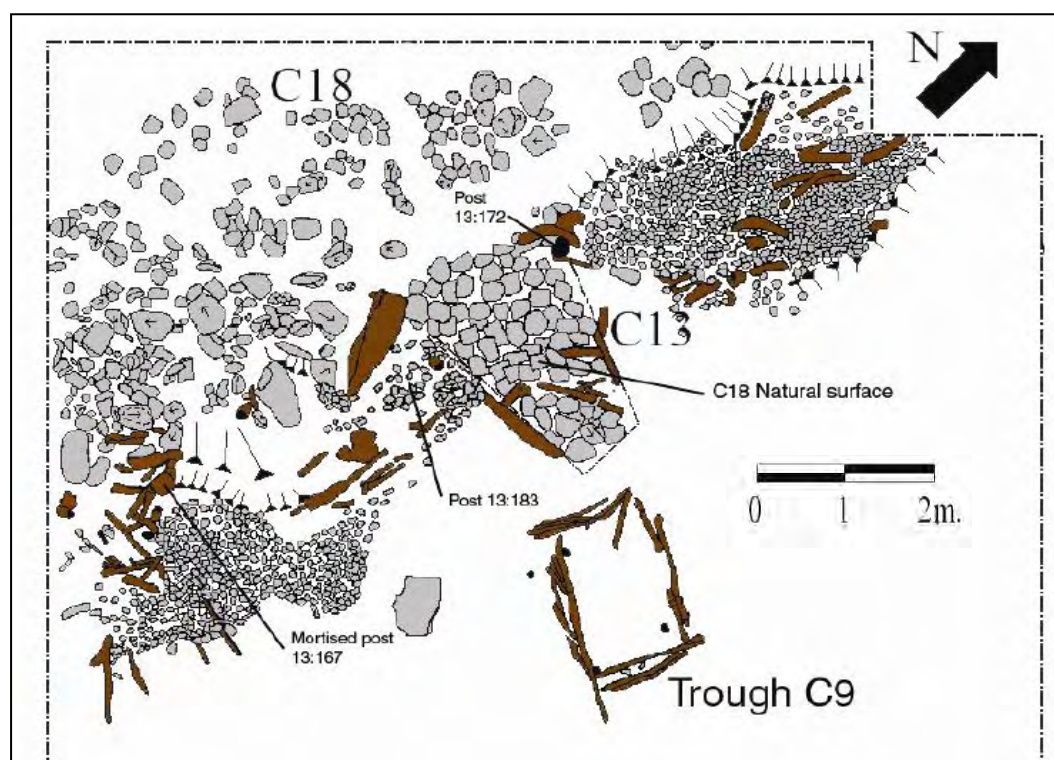


Fig. 10.112 Roundwood trough and ancient shoreline at Attireesh, Co. Mayo.



Location:	Townland:	Attireesh	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100144, 285310
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on 2m of peat on the western end of an inter-drumlin bog. The land in the area is currently good pastureland and was formerly used for tillage.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 45m of eachother.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone and a wood-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C26) was crescent shaped in plan and measured 6.7m by 6m with a maximum thickness of 0.36m. The mound consisted predominantly of heat fractured red sandstone in a matrix of charcoal. The mound was more compact towards the south and an area of concentrated charcoal occurred to the north-east of the trough.
Trough:	The trough (C27) was situated between the arms of the mound material and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 1.36m by 1.3 with a depth of 0.33m. This wood lining varied in density of <i>in situ</i> timbers and was comprised of roundwoods, brushwoods and occasional twigs. The east, south and part of the west sides were incomplete with as few as two timbers surviving. There were only two timbers set into the base of the trough. This wood included alder, hazel and ash with six pieces of apple-type fragments. The northern corner contained the best preserved wood. Here longitudinal timbers, which met at right angles, were placed on top of each other and



were tightly interlocked. Six stakes were noted in the trough situated in internal and external corners. The trough was filled with burnt mound material and peat deposits. The stony fill was probably a result of mound slippage. A layer of sand was present on the base of the trough along with moss which was also noted at the northern side of the trough where the timbers were preserved.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Mature beetle remains were recovered from the trough fill

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough (C27)  
C14 (GrN-27640) 3970±35 BP (2575–2351 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single roundwood and brushwood-lined trough. The trough was cut into the peat and filled naturally with water. Mosses packed between these timbers and on the base of the trough probably served to filter the peaty water as it percolated into the structure. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area that was possibly used for cooking.

#### **References**

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.



Plate 10.89 Extant burnt mound and remains of roundwood trough at Attireesh, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Attireesh	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100161, 285317
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on 2m of peat on the western end of an inter-drumlin bog. The land in the area is currently good pastureland and was formerly used for tillage.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 45m of each other.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a low mound of heat-shattered stone and the possible remains of a trough. It was the only one of the group to not contain a well preserved trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C30) was roughly crescent shaped and measured 6.2m by 3.25m with a thickness of 0.3m. It consisted of compact burnt sandstone in a matrix of charcoal rich mid-brown peat.
Possible Trough:	A possible trough feature (C32) was revealed between the arms of the mound material. This feature consisted of an oval shallow hollow in the peat measuring 1.3m by 0.6m by 0.2m deep, filled with small angular burnt stones, larger flat stones and sand, interspersed with frequent charcoal. Four large flat stones (C33) underlay this in the north-western half of the feature. The two larger stones were set side by side and one overlay them. A large root grew underneath these stones.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough (C32)  
C14 (GrN-28231) 3970±20 BP (2465–2299 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed a small mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single pit that was lined with flat stones. While this feature may have originally functioned as a trough it is equally possible it may have been a small oven associated with a pyrolithic dry heat. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic area that was possibly used for dry roasting.

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

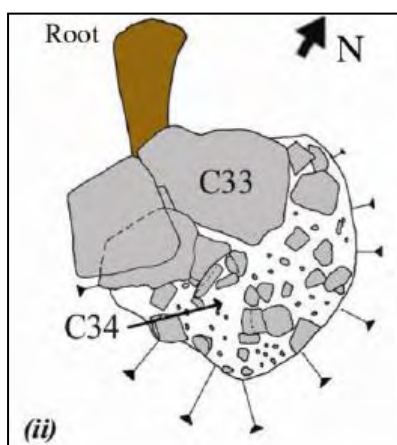


Plate 10.90 Burnt spread and remains of possible roasting oven at Attireesh, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Gortaroe	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100219, 285215
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 33m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on marginal land near the south-west end of an inter-drumlin bog, in the Clew Bay Drumlin belt, roughly 2.2km from the sea. These sites occurred on the edge of the same peat basin as the Attireesh <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 30m of each other.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound which sealed the remains of a timber-lined trough, a wicker trough and two unlined pits. A possibly togher was also revealed.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C7) was irregular in plan and measured 6.2m by 2.2m with a thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of compact red and yellow heat-fractured sandstone with concentrations of charcoal within the mound. The mound displayed evidence of disturbance on its southern extent.
Trough 1:	The trough (C22) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.47m by 1.07m with a depth of 0.4m. The pit was well defined and cut into the natural subsoil. Remains of a preserved lining survived in the north-western part of the trough. The sides of the trough were constructed of slit alder planks. The lining included thirty preserved timbers, eight of which were hazel stakes with pencil points. The woodworking facets were short and narrow. Most wood was felled after the growth season, i.e. between mid-summer and spring, and retained its bark. Seven stakes occurred in a line across the short

axis of the trough near its centre resulting in a divided trough. This line also marks the division between the stone and peaty fills of the trough and between the preserved wood and the half with very little wood. Charcoal from the trough was identified as hazel, alder, holly, ivy and willow with occasional hazelnuts.

- Trough 2: This trough (C24) was located to the south-east of the burnt mound. It consisted of a sub-rectangular hollow flanked by several *in situ* stakes. It measured 0.67m by 0.66 with a depth of 0.09m. The stakes were regularly placed in two rows of three, with one larger stake centred on the northeast side. They were identified as hazel, alder and a single oak specimen. The fill of the trough consisted of peat, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The trough was overlain by two large stones which was witnessed at other troughs excavated during the scheme.
- Pit 1: This pit (C25) was located 1m from the central trough and was sub-circular in plan. It measured 1.3m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.3m. A deposit of unworked wood was revealed in the fill of the trough along with peat and heat-shattered stone.
- Trackway: This feature (C14) was located at the western limit of the excavation. It measured 6.2m by 2.2m with a thickness of 0.1m. This spread of brushwood and roundwoods was laid in a haphazard linear fashion at the western corner of the excavated area. The majority of the timbers were in a linear plan with occasional timbers laid across them. Wood species included alder, willow, hazel, ash, birch, holly and apple-type. Some of the timbers produced woodworking evidence.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough (C22)  
C14 (GrN-27797) 4080±30 BP (2857–2495 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and two troughs, both of which had preserved timber linings suggesting they functioned as boiling pits using a pyrolithic technology. The presence of a trackway may also indicate that the site was waterlogged originally. One of the timber troughs was internally divided by a wattle screen suggesting that it may have separated the hot stones from food produce within the pit.

## **References**

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.



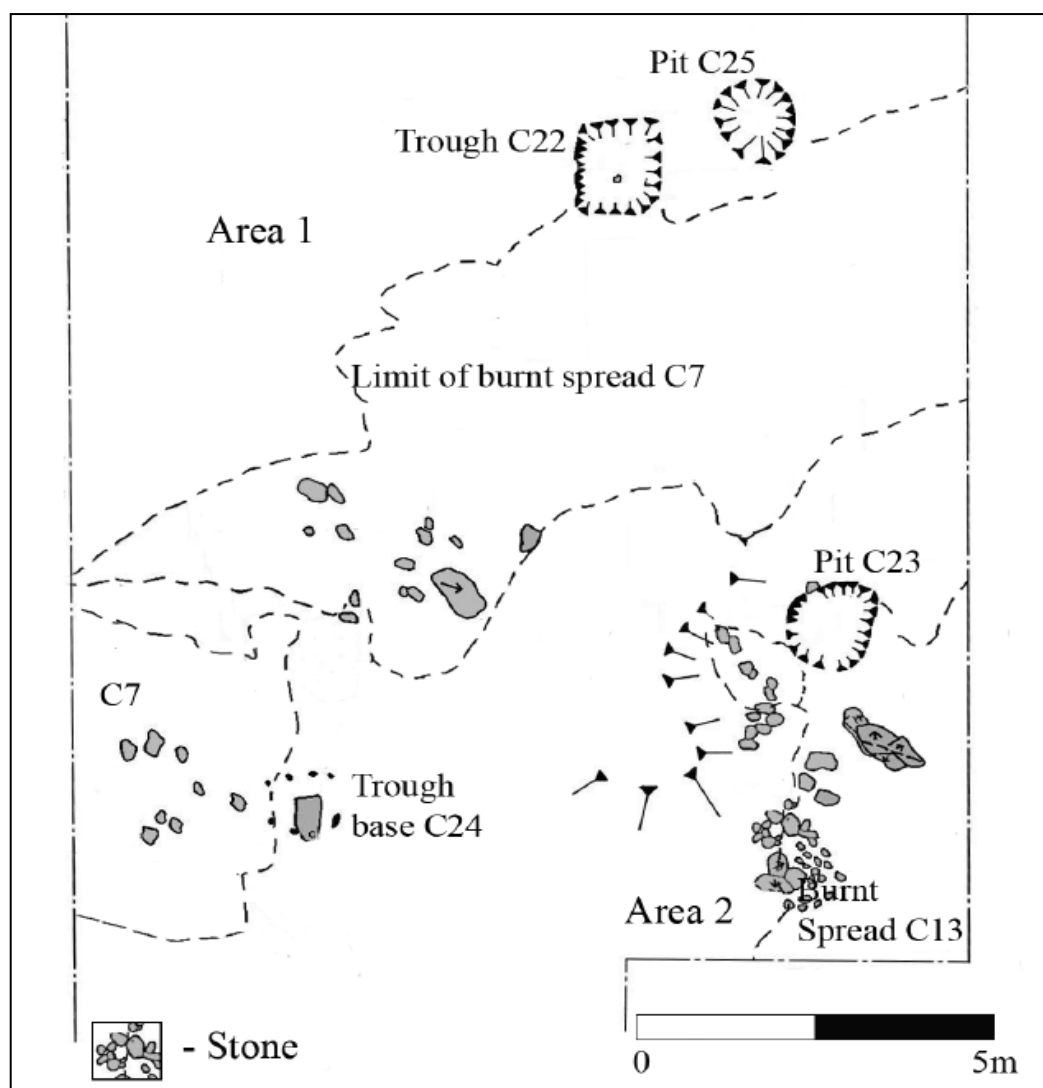


Plate 10.91 Timber-lined trough with internal division at Gortaroe, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Gortaroe	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100219, 285215
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 33m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on marginal land near the south-west end of a drumlin bog, in Clew Bay Drumlin belt, roughly 2.2km from the sea.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 30m of eachother.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a thin spread of heat-shattered stone which lay on an ancient lake bed. A possible trough was also identified.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (C13) measured 6.5m by 3.7m with a thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of heat fractured sandstone, with occasional inclusions of charcoal. The spread rested directly on a layer of water-rolled stone (C20) interpreted as a lake floor. This may indicate that Area 2 was on the edge of a lake and the <i>fulacht fia</i> in Area 1 was constructed as lake levels rose.
Trough:	The possible trough (C23) was located to the north-west of the spread and measured 1.2m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.15m. It was filled with peat and burnt stone with inclusions of wood and charcoal including hazel and alder.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough (C23) C14 (GrN- 27796) 4090±30 BP (2861–2497 BC)

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Gortaroe	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100333, 285174
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 33m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	These <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were situated on marginal land near the south-west end of an inter-drumlin bog, in the Clew Bay Drumlin belt, roughly 2.2km from the sea. These sites occurred on the edge of the same peat basin as the Attireesh <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here within 30m of each other.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone which sealed the partial remains of a timber and stone-lined trough which in turn sealed an earlier wood-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C5) was roughly circular in shape and measured 11.75m by 10.5m with an average thickness of 0.75m. It consisted of burnt sandstone in a matrix of charcoal blackened peaty clay. The level of charcoal was denser towards the base. The mound had a hollow close to its centre, which overlay the trough area. Several animal bone fragments were recovered from the spread.
Revetment:	Three upright stones were positioned close to the main trough and were set into the mound material rather than the peat. They were set in a line and were on the same alignment as the trough. They may have functioned as a revetment feature.



- Trough 1:** The central hollow in the burnt mound overlay an upright slab, a long roughly hewn oak plank abutting this stone and three smaller upright stones perpendicular to the upright slab. The upright slab and associated hewn plank probably represented the remains of a trough. It measured 2.62m by 0.5m with a thickness of 0.18m. The large upright stone was at a 50° angle towards the plank and may represent the surviving remains of stone and timber trough structure.
- Trough 2:** The remains of an earlier trough (C18) survived under the plank and stone structure. It measured 1.8m by 1m and comprised of preserved wood and a sandy basal layer. The wood survived in two groups: three poorly preserved horizontal timbers and the worked ends of four stakes. The horizontal timbers are likely to have been basal timbers from a rectangular trough. In addition side timbers are likely to have been removed or displaced in antiquity, possibly when the timber from the later trough (C15) was inserted. The stakes were overlain by a sandy layer and consisted of a line of three stakes.
- Shore-Line:** This feature (C16) was a deposit of loose, water-rolled stone with some wood overlaying it immediately north of the mound C5. It was curvilinear in plan measuring 9m by 1.5-2.5m by 0.2m thick. One piece of wood had evidence of chop-marks. This context appears to have been a shoreline. It consisted of very loose stones (90%) and some wood.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** None
- Ecofacts:** Cow jaw bone and two other cattle bone fragments were recovered from the mound material along with a hammerstone with charcoal staining.

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating:** None
- Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the mound material (C5)  
C14 (GrN-27795) 3245±30 BP (1603–1433 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a small mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single trough pit that composed of two separate troughs constructed quite differently from one another. The remains of a possible mound revetment probably served to retain the mound from entering the trough pit. While charcoal from the mound is dated to the Middle Bronze Age, it is evident from the archaeological record that several phases of water-boiling activity occurred at the site.

### **References**

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

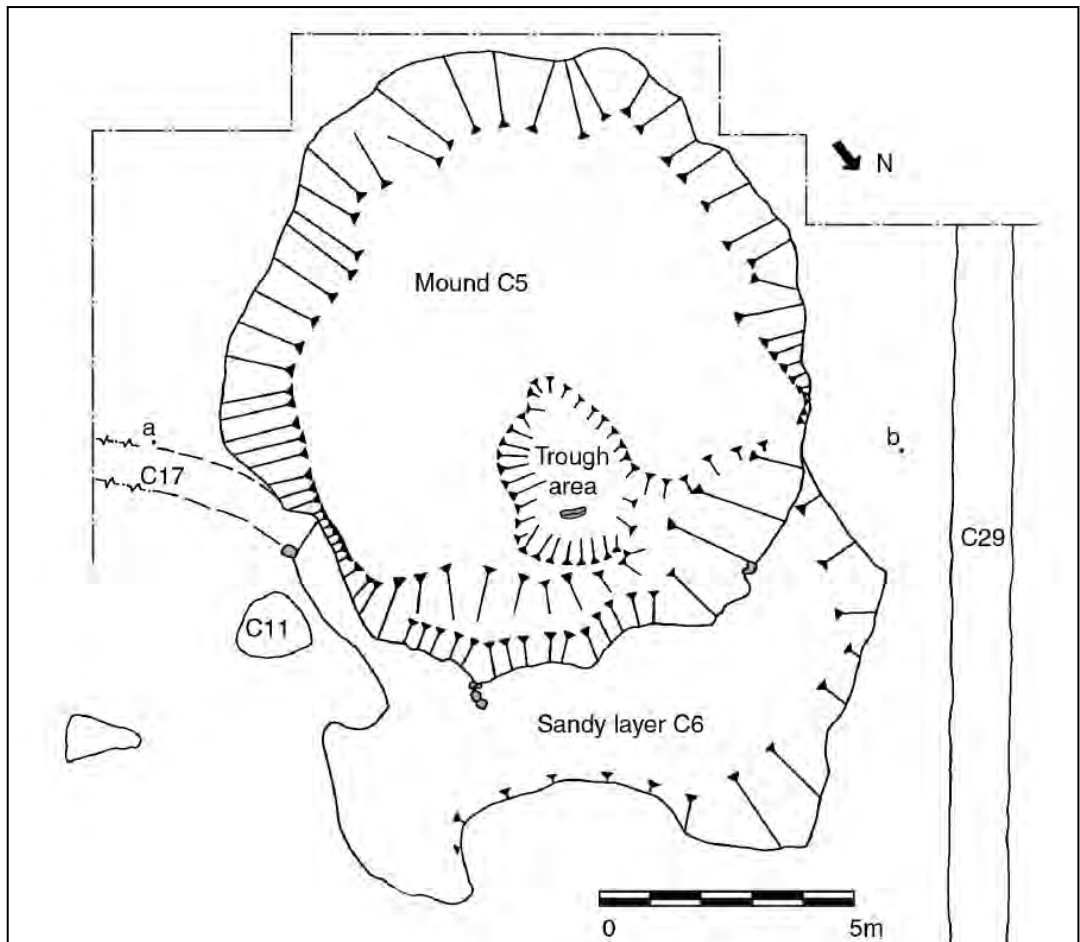


Plate 10.92 Burnt mound and to trough phases at Gortaroe, Co. Mayo.

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Location:	Townland:	Gortaroe	Six inch map no: 88
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100473, 285200
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 40m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	

**Physical Setting:** These *fulachta fia* were situated on marginal land near the south-west end of an inter-drumlin bog, in the Clew Bay Drumlin belt, roughly 2.2km from the sea. These sites occurred on the edge of the same peat basin as the Attireesh *fulachtaí fia*.

**Cultural Landscape:** A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen *fulachtaí fia* were uncovered during these investigations which clustered in a number of closely spaced townlands which included Deepark East, Attireesh and Gortaroe.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Four *fulachtaí fia* were excavated here within 30m of each other.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed the disturbed remains of a burnt mound which sealed a wood-lined trough.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound survived as a spread of heat-shattered sandstone (C2) in a matrix of charcoal-stained peaty clay. It measured 4m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m. It rested on peat which contained a large quantity of natural wood.

**Trough:** The trough (C4) was located below the mound and was encased in peat. It consisted of a number of horizontally laid brushwood sticks which possibly represent the base of a disturbed trough. The feature measured 1.3m by 0.9m and the wood consisted mainly of willow branches with no retaining upright stakes.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

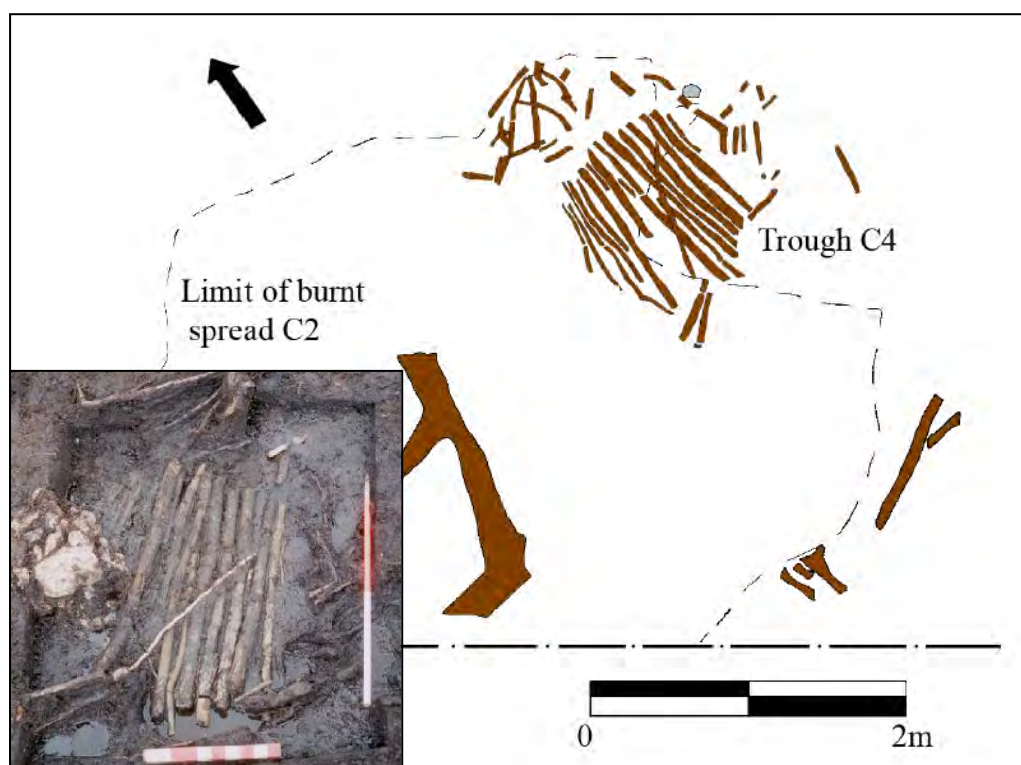
Absolute dating: Wood (hazel) from the trough C4  
C14 (GrN-28231) 3900±20 BP (2465–2299 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single roundwood and brushwood-lined trough. The trough was cut into the peat and filled naturally with water. Only the base of the trough survived intact. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area that was possibly used for cooking. Analysis of the hazel roundwoods indicate that they were cut using a stone axe.

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.



Location:	Townland:	Gortaroe	Six inch map no: 111
	Parish:	Oughaval	NGR: 100220, 285315
	Barony:	Murrisk	Altitude: 34m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Westport Main Drainage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The archaeological sites were on the south-facing slope of a large drumlin, in the Clew Bay Drumlin belt, roughly 2.2km from the sea.		
Cultural Landscape:	A Neolithic structure, a Bronze Age house and seventeen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were uncovered during these investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A Neolithic house was excavated 10m to the west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological testing in advance of the Westport Main Drainage Scheme. No surface trace of these sites existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a plank-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C106) was irregular in plan and measured 7.3m by 6.7m with a thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of heat-fractured sandstone.
Trough:	The trough (C116) underlay the mound material and was sub-circular in plan. It measured 1.2m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.3m. Half of the base of the trough retained the remains of a rough wood lining. Four main timbers laid north/south on the base of the trough were overlain by four smaller fragments of wood laid at a right angle to them. It was filled with a combination of mound material and peat. The eastern half of this fill comprised predominantly of mound material including some larger stones. The fill had a higher proportion of peat to the west.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from fill of the trough (C116) C14 (GrN- 27802) 3840±40 BP (2459–2147 BC)

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001 *Archaeological excavations on the Westport Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme*. Unpublished report for Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Bekan	Six inch map no: 92
	Parish:	Bekan	NGR: 144177, 279165
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 100m OD
	County:	Mayo	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme
	Site Director:	Bernard Guinan
	Consultants:	Independent
	Year:	2001

Physical Setting:	This site was identified at the edge of an area of deep peat.
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Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by secular and ecclesiastical remains.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and an oval pit which contained 34 stakes.
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Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread was irregular in shape and measured 7.2m by 7.4m with a maximum thickness of 0.33. It was composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay. Some disturbance was noted at the southern side of the mound. The western part of the mound displayed a more complex stratigraphy with a deposit of boulder clay noted under the mound, probably upcast material from the trough.
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Trough:	The trough was oval in shape and measured 2.04m by 1.22m with a maximum depth of 0.7m. 34 in situ stakes were revealed surrounding the internal perimeter of the pit suggesting some form of lining, presumably of wicker or wattle construction. The trough was filled with burnt stone.
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<b>Finds:</b>	Chert debitage (context unknown)
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<b>Dating:</b>	None
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### **References**

Guinan, B. 2003. Bekan. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 273. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Carrowcor	Six inch map no: 102
	Parish:	Knock	NGR: 141437, 278744
	Barony:	Costelloe	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernard Guinan	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	2001	

Physical Setting: This site was identified at the edge of an area of deep peat.

Cultural Landscape: There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by secular and ecclesiastical remains. Further *fulachtaí fia* related site-types were uncovered in the neighbouring townlands during the same project.

Adjacent excavated sites: Burnt spread 30m east of this site (both are discussed here).

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the pipeline wayleave.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread of heat-shattered stone. A similar site was revealed 30m to the east and is also discussed here.

#### **Site A**

Burnt Spread: This spread was heavily disturbed by cultivation furrows and land drainage/reclamation activities. It was also not fully exposed due to pipeline constraints therefore the dimensions of the spread are unknown. The excavated portion measured 12m by 14m with a maximum thickness of 0.9m. It was irregular in shape and consisted of compact charcoal enriched silt and heat-shattered sandstone. A small number of lithics were recovered from the site.

#### **Site B**

Burnt Spread: This spread was revealed 30m to the east and also displayed evidence of considerable disturbance. It was also not fully exposed due to pipeline constraints therefore the dimensions of the spread are unknown. The excavated portion measured 10m by 15m with a maximum depth of 0.27. It

was irregular in shape and consisted of compact charcoal enriched silt and heat-shattered sandstone. Unburnt stone was also noted in the spread which may explain the level of disturbance. Worked lithics were also retrieved from this site along with a polished stone axe.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Several struck lithics were recovered from Site A which included two flint scrapers. A polished stone axe and chert and quartz lithics were also retrieved. The context of these artefacts, however are unclear.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed two spreads of burnt stone associated with a pyrolithic technology. The recovery of artefacts suggests an early prehistoric date for the sites however these may be residual. No cut features were identified such as boiling troughs, however, these may lie outside the pipeline corridor.

**References**

Guinan, B. 2003. Carrowcor. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 274. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Cloonbulban	Six inch map no: 102
	Parish:	Bekan	NGR: 143877, 277784
	Barony:	Costellow	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernard Guinan	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	This site was identified at the edge of an area of deep peat, bounded to the east by a filed drain and to the south by a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by secular and ecclesiastical remains. Further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> related site-types were uncovered in the neighbouring townlands during the same project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt spread 25m east of this site (both are discussed here).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of both sites revealed spreads of heat-affected stone and a number of pits and related features.

### Site A

Burnt Spread: This spread of mound material was irregular in shape and measured 11m by 9m with a maximum thickness of 0.16m. It was heavily disturbed by agricultural activities and a number of filed drains. The deposit was composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and dark silty clays.

Trough 1: This pit was revealed under the mound material and was 1.1m in width and 0.42m in depth. Degraded wooded remains were uncovered above a basal layer of fine sand however the excavator was unclear as to the origin of this wood, therefore it may have been natural. The fill of the pit consisted of a basal layer of sand, above which were the wooden remains and heat-shattered stone.

Channel: A channel or gully extended from the upper north-western edge of the pit, possibly functioning as an outflow duct for excess water or an inlet channel directing water into the pit.

Trough 2: A second pit was revealed 3.5m east of the first trough. It was disturbed by a filed drain, leaving only the base of the feature intact. It was circular and measured 1.1m in diameter with a depth of 0.23.

Channel: A similar gully feature extended from this pit possibly functioning as an outflow duct for excess water or an inlet channel directing water into the pit.

## **Site B**

Burnt Spread: This smaller spread was heavily disturbed and measured 4m by 2m with a maximum thickness of 0.06m. It rested on a raised area of natural boulder clay.

Trough: The trough was sub-circular and measured 1.1m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.44m. The fill consisted of peat and a deposit of heat-shattered stone.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: Chert debitage and a number of chert scrapers recovered (context unknown).

Ecofacts: None

## **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

## **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed two spreads of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic technology. This technology is likely connected with water-boiling as a number of potential troughs were identified, some of which with associated water-channels acting as either overflow outlets or water-inlet channels. The sites can be interpreted as water-boiling locations probably associated with cooking.

## **References**

Guinan, B. 2003. Cloonbulban. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 275. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Fallakeeran	Six inch map no: 112
	Parish:	Kilvine	NGR: 143602, 271038
	Barony:	Clanmorris	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Mayo	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme
	Site Director:	Bernard Guinan
	Consultants:	Independent
	Year:	2001

**Physical Setting:** This site was identified at the edge of an area of deep peat, bounded to the east by a filed drain and to the south by a small stream.

**Cultural Landscape:** There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by secular and ecclesiastical remains. Further *fulachtaí fia* related site-types were uncovered in the neighbouring townlands during the same project.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** The two burnt spreads were excavated 150m apart

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of both sites revealed spreads of heat-affected stone which were heavily disturbed.

**Site A** This spread of mound material was irregular in shape and measured 3.5m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m. It was heavily disturbed by agricultural activities and a number of land drains. The deposit was composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and dark silty clays.

**Site B** This spread was uncovered 150m from the first site. It consisted of a spread of heat shattered sandstone measuring 2m by 5m. The spread was quite patchy due to considerable disturbance.

**Finds:** Chert and flint debitage was recovered from Site A (context unknown)

**Dating:** None

### **References**

Guinan, B. 2003. Cloonbulban. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 274. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Derragh	Six inch map no: 112
	Parish:	Knock	NGR: NA
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Knock to Claremorris Bypass	
	Site Director:	Paula King	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated at the base of a steep hill on the southern bank of a river.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by secular and ecclesiastical remains.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Knock to Claremorris Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone, a trough and a large plank resting on a wooden superstructure.		
Burnt Mound:	The spread of mound material measured 10.34m by 5.3m with a thickness of 0.45m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich matrix.		
Trough:	The trough extended from the worked plank to the riverbank and its edges were not clearly defined and its extend was determined by its fill which a number of stakes were driven in to. It measured 3.7m by 1.3m with a maximum depth of 0.38. No other information available.		
Structure:	This feature was rectangular in plan and was composed of longitudinally and transversely laid roundwoods and brushwood which sat in a shallow cut measuring 2.2m by 1.26m with a depth of 0.26m. A worked plank rested on this superstructure which was 1.87m long.		

<b>Finds:</b>	None	<b>Dating:</b>	None
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### References

King, P. 2003. Derragh. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 278. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Cloondace	Six inch map no: 112
	Parish:	Knock	NGR: NA
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: NA
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Knock to Claremorris Bypass	
	Site Director:	Sue Zajac	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated at the base of a hill on the southern bank of a river.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by secular and ecclesiastical remains. Further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> related site-types were uncovered in the neighbouring townlands during the same project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Knock to Claremorris Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a single unlined trough.
Burnt Spread:	The spread of mound material measured 6.7m by 6.2m and consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of peat and dark silty soil.
Trough:	A small oval depression was identified as a trough and was unlined. (No other details available)
Wood Layer:	An area of charcoal-enriched silt was identified on the southern edge of the burnt spread and was found in association with a layer of wood, mainly silver birch. Two pieces were roughly pointed.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### **Reference**

Zajac, S. 2003. Cloondace. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 276. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Devlis	Six inch map no: 93
	Parish:	Knock	NGR: 150685, 179143
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: NA
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Ballyhaunis Water Supply Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernard Guinan	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	2001	

Physical Setting: This site was situated beneath a stone field boundary.

Cultural Landscape: There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by secular and ecclesiastical remains. Further *fulachtaí fia* related site-types were uncovered in the neighbouring townlands during the same project.

Adjacent excavated sites: None

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Knock to Claremorris Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a single unlined trough.

Burnt Spread: The spread of mound material was irregular in shape and measured 7.6m by 5.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay.

Trough: A sub-rectangular pit was revealed which possibly functioned as a trough. It measured 2.08m by 1.01m with a maximum depth of 0.42m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

### Reference

Buinan, B. 2004. Devlis. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, 392. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Derrinnumera	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilmaclasser	NGR: 10425, 29400
	Barony:	Burrishode	Altitude: NA
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Landfill Extension Project	
	Site Director:	Bernard Guinan	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical setting of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of an extension project to the Derrinnumera Landfill site. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site two spreads of heat-shattered stone and several pits.
Burnt Spread:	This spread was irregular in shape and measured 11m by 16m and excavation revealed it to be divided into two distinct areas. The bulk of the material consisted of heat-shattered sandstone within a charcoal matrix.
Pit 1:	This pit was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.85m with a depth of 0.41m. It was filled with charcoal stained pit and burnt stone.
Pit 2:	The second pit was circular in plan and measured 1.1m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with peat and heat shattered stone.
Burnt Spread:	This area had limited deposits of heat-shattered stone. It measured 2.6m by 2.2m and partially overlay a single pit. The spread consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and dark silty soils.
Pit 3:	This pit was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.25m by 1.25m with a depth of 0.22m. The fill of the pit consisted of heat-shattered stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	A possibly struck lithic was recovered from the site (context unknown)

### References

Buinan, B. 2004. Derrinnumera. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, 349. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Carrowntreila	Six inch map no: 39
	Parish:	Ballynahaglish	NGR: 123681, 314887
	Barony:	Tirawley	Altitude: 10m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N26 Ballina–Foxford Stage 1 road	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in low lying undulating pasture approximately 5 km south of Ballina town. The main <i>fulacht fia</i> was situated in a peaty hollow and it had a watercourse, recently modified as a land drain, located immediately to the south and was surrounded by low hillocks to the north, east and south, while the view was open to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by the presence of two enclosures (MA039-54 and MA039-55) which are located on the crest of the hillock to the east of, and a large ringfort (MA039-52) is located to the north on the summit of the highest hill in the vicinity at 33m OD.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N26 Ballina–Foxford Stage 1 road. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound, two troughs, a number of possible structures and a feature interpreted as a well.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C23) was roughly crescent shaped and measured 12.25m by 15.8m and reached a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It consisted of heat-fractured sandstones in a matrix of compact black charcoal rich sandy loam. The mound was disturbed by a number of recent agricultural furrows. Underlying the mound material was a ‘construction layer’ consisting of moderately compact brown and black mottled silt loam with frequent inclusions of charcoal. This was cut by a number of features including a well, trough and numerous stake-holes.		
Trough 1:	This trough (C41) was located at the centre of the site bellow a hollow in the mound material. The cut was oval in shape with steep uneven sides and a sharp break of slope at the base. It measured 2.17m by 3m with a depth of		



0.85m. Four ash timbers roughly lined the base of the feature below the water table. A large stake-hole was uncovered at the south-western edge of the trough. Two fills were noted in the trough with the upper deposit consisting of peat, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Four fragments of animal tooth were recovered from this deposit. The basal fill consisted of grey gritty silt with charcoal and stone which returned an Early Bronze Age date.

**Stake-holes:** An arc of stake-holes is also associated with this trough interpreted as the remains of a possible windbreak structure.

**Trough 2:** This trough (C33) was situated 1m to the north-east and was oval in shape. It measured 2.8m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.45m. It had a flat base which was cut by four stake-holes. The trough was filled with a brown sandy loam which contained charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Four pieces of wood were also retrieved in the fill which may have been part of a displaced lining. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from the fill of the trough.

**Possible Hearth:** Two areas of burning were revealed during the excavation. One of these lay south-east of the troughs in the centre of the stake-hole cluster. An area of re-deposited burnt material was located east of the main stake-hole concentration.

**Stake-holes:** Numerous stake-holes are also associated with this trough representing different phases of activity relating to the use of the trough. A circular structure with a diameter of 1.9m was uncovered with evidence of some internal features. Another possible structure was also revealed with a diameter of 1.64m. An arc of ten stake-holes to the east of the trough possibly represent another larger structure with a diameter of 6m.

**Fire-Pit:** This pit (C34) was oval in shape and measured 1.26m by 1.31m with a depth of 0.34m. A dense charcoal layer covered the base of the feature which consisted of alder, hazel and willow. This was overlain with peat and heat-shattered stone.

**Pit:** This pit (C35) was situated immediately north-west of the well and was oval in shape. It measured 4.4m by 2.25m with a depth of 0.33m. The fill consisted of brown peaty clay, stone and some charcoal.

**Well:** This pit (C36) was interpreted as a well or water feature and measured 2m in diameter with a depth of 0.8m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal with a compact black sandy loam.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Animal tooth fragments from the trough (C41)

**Ecofacts:** None

## **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

Absolute dating:

- Charcoal (hazel) from fill of the trough (C41)
- C14 (GrN-28691) 3490±20 BP (1879–1744 BC)
- Charcoal (hazel/ash) from fill of the trough (C33)
- C14 (GrN-28690) 3410±30 BP (1855–1623 BC)
- Charcoal (hazel) from fill of stake-hole
- C14 (GrN-28692) 3490±50 BP (1935–1687 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a large deposit of burnt stone that overlay two troughs and number of possible U-shaped and circular structures. A well was also identified during excavation and probably served as a water-source for the site as no rivers or streams were located nearby. The two troughs displayed evidence to suggest they were timber-lined originally probably served as boiling pits for cooking. This is supported by the recovery of animal bone from these features. A potential fire pit may also have been used as a pyrolithic roasting oven for a similar cooking activity. The structures may have served as revetments for mound material or as windbreak structures. Alternatively, they may have functioned as temporary shelters.

### References

Gillespie, R. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Carrowtreilla, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

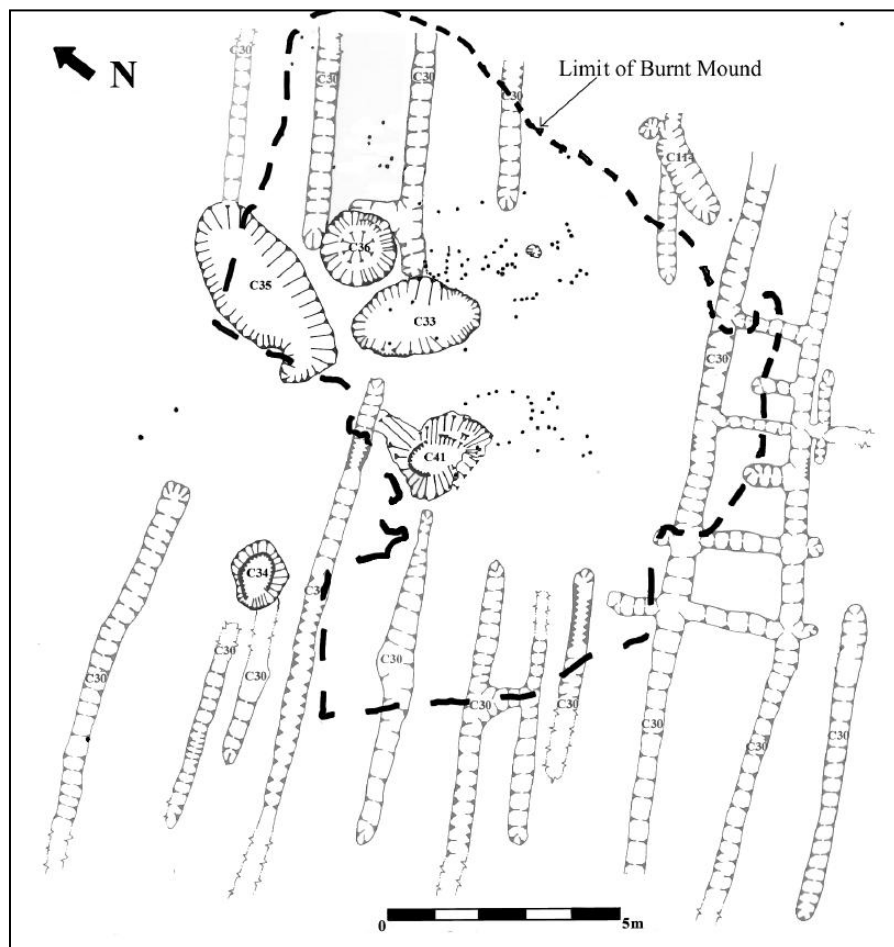


Fig. 10.113 Burnt mound, trough pits and structures at Carrowtreilla, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyglass West	Six inch map no: 32
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 14759, 30067
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: NA
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** The sites were located circa 1.5 km south of Charlestown close to the Bracklagh River. The terrace was on a raised drumlin ridge on a relatively gentle slope which sloped steeply to the east of the terrace into marginal flat land at the edge of the Bracklagh River. The burnt spread was within this flat area 30 m east of the terrace and 6 m from the Bracklagh River. A stream ran 2.5m from the burnt mound.

**Cultural Landscape:** A Medieval corn drying kiln and a charcoal production pit were located adjacent to the *fulacht fia* on a slight terrace.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was recorded as a roughly square grass covered mound prior to investigations in advance of the N25 Charlestown bypass.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone which dated to the Neolithic period. No cut features were identified however several lithic artefacts were recovered.

**Burnt Mound:** Prior to excavation the mound survived as a roughly square grass covered mound which measured 9m by 8.2m with a height of 0.52m. Gillespie states that the upper layers of the mound consisted of heat-shattered stone with no charcoal which may be due to modern disturbance of the mound followed by rain which washed out the charcoal followed by an attempt at reinstatement which left the mound with an untypical square shape. The in situ spread consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** The worked assemblage included a tanged siltstone Projectile Head and six chert pieces including two scrapers, two unmodified flakes and two edge damaged pieces

**Ecofacts:** None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:           None

Absolute dating:           Charcoal (oak) from the mound of heat-shattered stone  
C14 (GrN- 30744) 4500±85 BP (3492–3091 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone which did not overlay a trough. The absence of peat and likely fluctuations in the water table are likely to have degraded any organic remains and the density of rock in the subsoil would not have suited digging out of a trough or pit. Therefore, it can only be implied that the spread would have had an associated trough, but no physical evidence of it survived. A charcoal sample from the mound is dated to the Middle-to-Late Neolithic. A certain degree of caution must be applied to the sample as a considerable amount of damage to the site was noted during excavation.

**References**

Gillespie, R. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyglass West, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray



Plate 10.93 Extant burnt mound at Ballyglass West, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Skiddernagh	Six inch map no: 79
	Parish:	Tagheen	NGR: 121980, 287491
	Barony:	Carra	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline
	Site Director:	Deirdre Murphy
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services
	Year:	2005

Physical Setting:	This site was located in a low-lying area adjacent to a stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by the presence of an enclosure (MA079-058) and ecclesiastical remains.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound which sealed a number of in-situ stakes which dated to the Late Neolithic period.
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Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) spread over an area measuring 10m by 12m and reached a thickness of 0.3m. It was crescent shaped and consisted of black silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered limestone with some occasional sandstone pieces. Oak charcoal from the spread returned a Medieval date however the eastern extent of the spread displayed evidence of disturbance. Animal bone fragments were recovered from the spread along with clay pipe fragments.
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Timber-Stakes:	Twenty-eight stakes were revealed following the removal of the spread with most of these being identified as hazel. Sixteen stakes did display a roughly square pattern possible indicating some sort of structure, however most had no discerable pattern. Some of these stakes were sealed by peat and others by the burnt spread material. Some flat pieces of alder were covered from the peat and it was considered that these may have formed the base of a timber trough but this seemed most unlikely as there was no cut visible for such a structure (Murphy 2008, 18).
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**Finds:**

Artefacts: Animal bone fragments from the mound material (C3).

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (oak) from the burnt spread material (C3)  
C14 (Beta-217660) 930±60 BP (AD 1000–1240)  
Wood (hazel) from stake-hole cluster  
C14 (Beta-217661) 4000±90 BP (2870–2280 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

This site was identified during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mayo to Galway gas pipeline. Excavation revealed a large mound of heat-shattered stone overlying a series of stake-holes, some of which contained preserved hazel stakes. The arrangement of stake-holes possibly represented a structure of some kind (Murphy 2008, 17). One of these hazel stakes was dated to the late Neolithic (Beta-217661), while a sample of oak from the spread was dated to the medieval period. No other features were identified. It was noted that the mound material suffered from considerable damage; therefore it is possible that the charcoal sample is intrusive, representing later contexts being incorporated into earlier deposits. The absence of a water trough is also notable, suggesting that the burnt mound was not definitively connected to a *fulacht fia*.

**References**

Murphy, D. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Skiddernagh, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Carrowmore	Six inch map no: 79
	Parish:	Tagheen	NGR: 129075, 373315
	Barony:	Carra	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Deirdre Murphy and Siobhán McNamara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in a low-lying marshy area		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented. Similar <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were revealed during excavations within 1km of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a a burnt mound, a trough, two pits and a modern stone trackway which was overlain with burnt mound material highlighting the level of disturbance which has taken place at the site over the years.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (F2) covered an area measuring 16m by 7.50m and reached a maximum thickness of 0.34m. This spread consisted of compact dark–brown–black mottled clayey silt with frequent heat–shattered limestone and charcoal flecking. The stones present within this spread of burnt-mound material consisted mainly of limestone, representing at least 90% of stone from this site; the remainder 10% were sandstone and mudstone.
Trough:	The trough (F6) was oval in shape and measured 1.84m by 3.2m with a depth of 0.46. The trough filled naturally with water and contained a fill consisting of compact black peat.
Pit 1:	This pit (F18) was situated adjacent to the trough and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 0.9m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.37m and had steep sides and a concave base. It was filled with dark silty clays and shattered limestone.

Pit 2: This pit (F19) was located 12m north of the trough and was oval in shape. It measured 1.5m by 3m with a depth of 0.28m. This pit was filled with peat and occasional heat-shattered stones and flecks of charcoal. A Middle Bronze Age date was returned from this pit.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (F19)  
C14 (Beta-218975) 3180±40 BP (1520–1390 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered limestone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the identification of an unlined trough or boiling pit that filled naturally with water. The other pits identified on site may have functioned in a similar capacity.

**References**

Murphy, D and McNamara, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Carrowmore, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Grallagh	Six inch map no: 101
	Parish:	Tagheen	NGR: 129064, 373412
	Barony:	Clanmorris	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Deirdre Murphy and Siobhán McNamara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on an east-facing slope adjacent to a filed boundary.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented. Similar <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were revealed during excavations within 1km of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a trough and four pits. A chert scraper was also retrieved.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (F3) covered an area measuring 15m by 7m and reached a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It consisted of compact heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of peat and charcoal. A single animal bone fragment was recovered from the spread. The spread was dated to the Late Bronze Age.
Trough:	The trough (F4) was sub-rectangular in shape with rounded corners and measured 2.25m by 1.75m and reached a depth of 0.42m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered limestone and peat.
Pit 1:	This pit (F5) was sub-rectangular in shape with rounded corners and measured 2.75m by 1.53m and reached a depth of 0.35m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered limestone and peat. A late Bronze Age date was obtained from the fill of this pit.
Pit 2:	The pit F11 was cut at the top along its western side by the field boundary F8. This pit was oval-shaped, measured 2.20 by 1m and reached a depth of



Location:	Townland:	Smuttanagh	Six inch map no: 101
	Parish:	Manulla	NGR: 123239, 284816
	Barony:	Carra	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Deirdre Murphy and Siobhán McNamara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site itself was located at the base of one of these small north-south eskers, on the boundary between the dry land of the esker and extensive bogland to the immediate southwest. Land use in the area is mainly grassland supporting cattle and sheep.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented. Similar <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were revealed during excavations within 1km of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed twenty discrete spreads of burnt stone and six troughs exposed in two areas, 250m apart.

#### Area A

Burnt Spread: A total of twenty spreads of heat-shattered stone were revealed in both areas which highlights the degree of agricultural damage to the mound material and the subsequent dispersal of the material over a large area into small discrete deposits of shattered stone. The spreads ranged in size from c. 1m diameter to 10m x 5m and in depth from 0.05m to 0.2m. They were generally homogenous throughout with the exception of the largest, which was found near the southern end of Area B. This spread contained within it two small sub-circular areas with a high content of ashes (C14 and C15). These were presumably the remains of the fires used to heat stones for use in the troughs.

Trough 1: This trough (C2) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.5m. It contained seven fills consisting mostly of dark silty

clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The base of this trough produced five split alder planks which were set in a layer of clay at the base of the pit.

**Trough 2:** This (C3) was the most southerly of the troughs and was also sub-circular in shape. It measured 1m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.4m. A single fill was noted with high concentrations of heat-shattered stone. Deposits of clay noted on the inside of the trough may have been introduced to make the feature watertight.

**Trough 3:** Trough (C5) lay to the north of trough 1 and was also sub-circular in shape. It measured 1.4m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.34m. It had a single fill of peat, and it too had been lined with clay.

## **Area B**

**Trough 4:** Trough (C25) was oval in shape and measured 1.42m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.3m. It contained two fills consisting of peaty silt, dark clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Trough 5:** Trough (C26) was located 1m to the east and was also oval in shape. It measured 1.6m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.43m. . It had a single fill, which was a silty peat material with a high content of burnt stone. A linear depression extended for 1.65m from the southwest side of C26.

**Trough 6:** The next three troughs were located close to one another in the southern portion of the excavated area. C27 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.35m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.36m. Five fills were recorded in this trough consisting of silty clays, peat, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Murphy suggests that the clay at the base of the trough may have provided some sort of lining (Murphy 2008, 15).

**Trough 7:** Trough (C28) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1m with a maximum depth of 0.6m. Two fills were revealed in the trough consisting of peat, silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Trough 8:** This trough (C29) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.29m in diameter with a depth of 0.32m. Two fills were revealed in the trough consisting of peat, silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A shallow curved depression extended from the east side of C29. This feature extended for c. 1m and was 0.5m wide and 0.06m deep. It was filled with a dark grey silty clay. It is unclear whether or not it functioned as part of C29, or if it had any function.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from lower fill of trough C25  
C14 (Beta- 217659) 4060±40 BP (2850–2480 BC)

## **References**

Murphy, D and McNamara, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Smuttanagh, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Polldrain	Six inch map no: 79
	Parish:	Tagheen	NGR: 128998, 373809
	Barony:	Carra	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Deirdre Murphy and Siobhán McNamara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a rocky knoll along bog margin.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is well represented. Similar <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were revealed during excavations within 1km of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Mayo to Galway Gas Pipeline. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread of heat-shattered stone, a trough and two pits.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material (F3) measured 11.5m by 7m and reached a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of loose mottled grey/black sandy silt with 70% heat-shattered sandstone. Several fragments of animal bone were recovered from the spread which included cow and other unidentifiable species.
Trough:	The trough (F4) was located centrally to the site and lay under the spread material. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.9m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.43m. It was a steep sided pit with well defined edges and a flat base. Several stake-holes were uncovered cut into the base of the trough at its northern side.
Stake-Holes:	Six stake-holes were uncovered adjacent to the trough on its northern side. They occurred as a cluster and showed no distinct pattern.

Pit 1: This pit (F5) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.4m and reached a depth of 0.6m. The fill consisted of orange/brown marl mixed with sand.

Pit 2: This pit (F6) was located 2.6m south of the trough and was oval in shape. It measured 0.75m by 0.8m and reached a depth of 0.25m. The fill consisted of black silt with frequent charcoal. A single piece of animal bone was recovered along with an Early Bronze Age date.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Cow bone fragments were recovered from the spread and a rib fragment from a pig/sheep was recovered from the pit F6.

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from fill of pit F6  
C14 (Beta-217649) 3460±40 BP (1890–1680 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from fill of trough F4  
C14 (Beta-217648) 3680±70 BP (2280–1890 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered sandstone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the identification of an unlined trough which displayed evidence to suggest it may have been timber-lined originally. The other pits identified on site may have functioned in a similar capacity. Animal bone recovered from the site may indicate that it functioned as a boiling location for cooking.

#### **References**

Murphy, D and McNamara, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Polldrain, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146630, 300538
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie and Brendan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located within peat near the eastern edge of a shallow east/west peat basin. The peat basin was bounded to the north and south by low gravel hills. The area had been drained in recent years by a system of land drains which fed into the Sonnagh River 2.5 km west of the site.

**Cultural Landscape:** It was one of a cluster of nine *fulachtaí fia* excavated in this area as part of this scheme. Three *fulachtaí fia* and a later burnt spread were located within 200m of this site (Sonnagh II - E3344, III - E3345, IV - E3346 and VIII - E3358). The closest (Sonnagh II) was 25 m east of this site. A further six *fulachtaí fia* and burnt spreads were located in Sonnagh Townland within 400 m to the west of this site.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a well preserved roundwood trough and an associated platform or trough base.

**Burnt Mound:** The mound (C2) was crescent shaped in plan and measured 16m by 10.3m with a maximum thickness of 0.64m. It consisted of burnt and heat fractured sandstone in a matrix of sandy peat and charcoal. It contained the later platform (C7), two chert flakes and a fragment of burnt bone

**Trough:** The trough (C5) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.6m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.5m. The lining included a layered base of roundwood and split alder and hazel timbers, with a layer of moss between and below two layers of timber. The trough lining was held in place by seven hazel and one alder corner posts. The trough floor consisted of fifteen alder and hazel roundwoods which resting on a bed of moss. The sites consisted of interlocked roundwood timbers placed inside and outside the corner posts to

create a solid weave. The trough was filled with burnt stone and alder and oak charcoal in compact dark brown peat.

**Platform:** This timber structure (C7) was later than the trough as it sat on burnt mound material and not peat. It consisted of seven split base timbers and four corner posts. It measured 1.7m by 0.8m and was 0.1m in thickness. Most of the timbers were of ash. This structure may in fact be the remains of a trough base with the rest of the structure being removed in antiquity or destroyed by later activities.

**Timber Deposit:** A random deposit of roundwood timbers was uncovered west of the trough. It consisted of eight timbers, all of hazel, laid horizontally on the underlying peat and held in place by three stakes, two of which had worked ends. It is likely that the timber was laid down to solidify an area of wet ground either during the construction or use of the trough (Gillespie and Walsh, 2010).

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Two chert flakes were recovered from the burnt mound

**Ecofacts:** A fragment of burnt bone was retrieved from the burnt mound. Macrofossil remains present in the trough deposits (Moss).

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (birch) from fill of trough (C5)  
C14 (GrN-30748) 2470±30 BP (761–418 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single roundwood and brushwood-lined trough. The trough was cut into the peat and filled naturally with water. Mosses packed between these timbers and on the base of the trough probably served to filter the peaty water as it percolated into the structure. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area that was possibly used for cooking. The possible ‘platform’ is more likely a secondary trough that was cut into the mound at a later period (see Chapter 5 for further discussion).

**References**

Gillespie, R and Walsh, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Sonnagh 1, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyères: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.



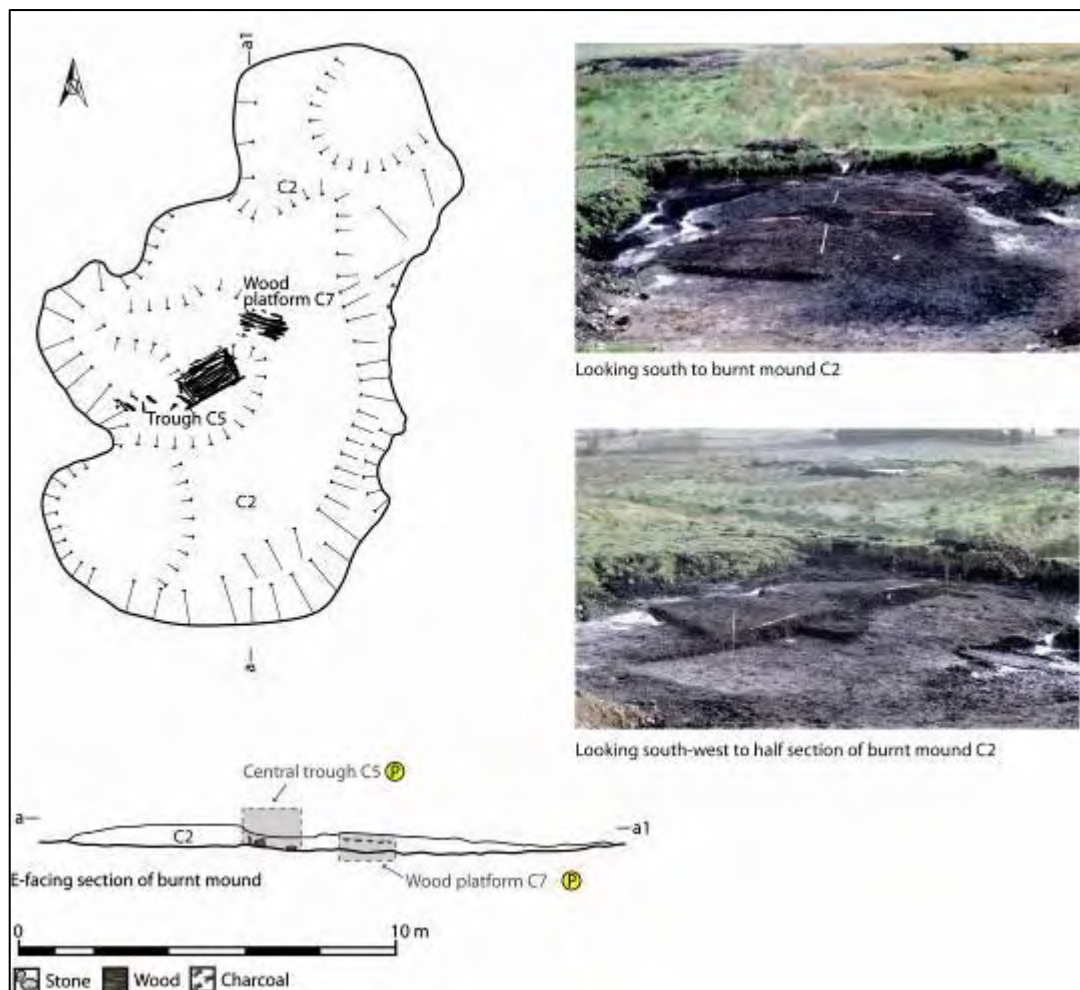


Plate 10.95 Roundwood trough and 'platform' base at Sonagh.

Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146653, 300257
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 72m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie and Brendan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located on the south-facing slope of a gravel rise at the eastern edge of a shallow east/west peat basin. This peat basin was bounded to the north and south by low gravel hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	It was one of a cluster of nine <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated in this area as part of this scheme. Three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and a later burnt spread were located within 200 m of this site (Sonnagh II - E3344, III - E3345, IV - E3346 and VIII - E3358). The closest (Sonnagh II) was 25 m east of this site. A further six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and burnt spreads were located in Sonnagh Td within 400 m to the west of this site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Neolithic structures 20m to the north on an elevated dryer position.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, the well preserved base of a plank-lined trough and several pits along with smaller spread deposits. A second phase of activity was represented by a spread of burnt mound material and several pits.

### Site A

Burnt Mound: The mound (C3) was oval in plan and measured 11m by 9m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It consisted of burnt and compacted heat-shattered sandstone in a charcoal rich matrix of sandy peat.

Trough: The trough (C5) was cut into the natural subsoil and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 3.6m by 2.55m. Only the base of the timber trough survived which consisted of sixteen poorly preserved ash split timbers. One stake was recorded in the corner of the structure. No side timbers were recovered however a groove in one of the timbers may have provided a slot for one of the wall planks. The trough was filled with a thin compact layer of burnt stone in a matrix of gritty sand with occasional inclusions of moss and

charcoal, which was more solid and compact than that in the mound (Gillespie and Walsh, 2010)

## **Site B**

- Burnt Spread:** This spread (C12) was located adjacent to Site A and the Neolithic structures. It was crescent shaped and measured 7.75m by 7.25m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of compacted heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal. Several flint scrapers were recovered from this spread. A silt layer covered the site possibly representing a flooding event and several pits were cut into this.
- Pit 1:** This pit (C7) was situated immediately south of the Neolithic structures and was sub-circular in plan. It measured 1.05m by 0.98m with a depth of 0.14m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of dark brown soil and charcoal.
- Pit 2:** This pit (C8) was located immediately west of pit C7 and was oval in plan. It measured 1.7m by 1.1m and was 0.3m in depth. The fill consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of dark brown soil and charcoal.
- Pit 3:** Pit C11 was sub-oval in shape and measured 2.1m by 1.53m with a depth of 0.35m. The pit was heavily oxidised which Gillespie suggest may indicate that the pit was exposed to high temperatures (Gillespie and Walsh, 2010). The fill consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of dark brown gritty soil.
- Pit 4:** C13 was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.2m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.27m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and loose sandy clay with charcoal flecks. It was dated to the Late Bronze Age.
- Pit 5:** C15 was located immediately west of the pit C13. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.45m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and loose sandy clay with charcoal flecks.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Several flint scrapers were recovered from the spread C12, however it was not clear if these were contemporary with the burnt mound material or the Neolithic structures.

**Ecofacts:** Hazelnuts were recovered from the trough (C5)

## **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Wood (ash) from the timber base of trough C5  
C14 (GrN-30751) 3170±20 BP (1492–1413 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit C11  
C14 (GrN-30749) 3070±45 BP (1413–1212 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit C13  
C14 (GrN-30750) 2760±60 BP (1044–805 BC)

## **References**

Gillespie, R and Walsh, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Sonnagh II, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146570, 300469
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie and Colin Gallagher	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located on the south-facing slope of a gravel rise at the eastern edge of a shallow east/west peat basin. This peat basin was bounded to the north and south by low gravel hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	It was one of a cluster of nine newly identified <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated in this area as part of this scheme. There were four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> located within 200 m of this site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a bowl shaped trough which was unusually lined with a single plank held in place by a series of wicker rods.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) was oval in plan and measured 10m by 6.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.35m. It consisted of burnt and compacted heat-shattered sandstone in a charcoal rich matrix of sandy peat.
Trough:	The trough (C4) was circular in plan and measured 1.25m in diameter with a depth of 0.4m. It was partly lined with poorly preserved timbers (C5). This lining consisted of a single flat tangentially split alder plank with 30 annual tree rings present, held in place by a hazel rod at either end. These rods had pointed ends, which were inserted into the base of the trough. It was filled with heat-fractured sandstone in a matrix of sandy peat and charcoal, with small pieces of charred timbers.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
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Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C4  
C14 (GrN-30754) 4100±40 BP (2867–2497 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a trough that produced evidence to suggest it was timber-lined. The trough was cut into the peat and filled naturally with water. The lining consisted of a tangentially split alder plank, held in place by a hazel rod at either end. These rods, one of which had a chisel pointed end, were inserted into the base of the trough. Its early date and unusual trough lining are significant and may indicate an alternative function to the fully lined rectangular troughs.

### References

Gillespie, R and Gallagher, C. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Sonnagh III, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

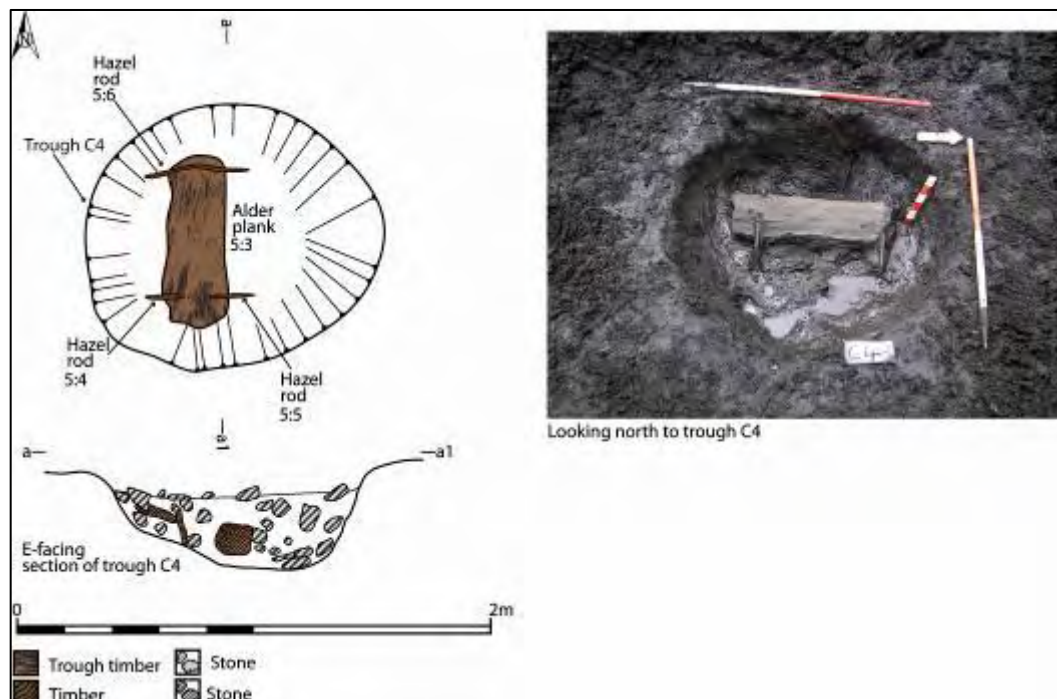


Fig. 10.114 Late Neolithic plank trough secured by hazel rod at Sonnagh.

Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146463, 300532
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie and Brendan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located on the south-facing slope of a gravel rise at the eastern edge of a shallow east/west peat basin. This peat basin was bounded to the north and south by low gravel hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	This <i>fulacht fia</i> was one of a cluster of burnt mounds excavated in this area as part of this scheme. There were five <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and burnt spreads located within 200 m of this site, Sonnagh I, II, IV, V and VI. Sonnagh IV was the closest, being 80 m east of this site. Two further burnt spreads and a <i>fulachtaí fia</i> (Sonnagh VII, X and XI) were located within 400 m to the west of this site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound and a substantial plank-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) was crescent shape in plan and measured 11m by 8m with a maximum thickness of 1.1m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of sandy peat and charcoal which was more compacted at the base. The plank-lined trough lay in the centre and was overlain by mound material.
Trough:	The trough (C5) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.5m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.5m. The trough was constructed with 31 timbers and the base was layered consisting of two wood bases separated by and resting on two layers of moss. The side timbers consisted of large split alder pieces, some of which did not reach the full length of the trough. The gaps were filled by large upright timber posts. The western side of the trough consisted of several roundwoods resting on a larger split plank. Considerable amounts of moss was noted packed between the timbers in the side wall. The southern end of the trough was poorly preserved with only one post surviving in the

corner. In contrast the northern side consisted of three round pieces of wood with the ends cut vertically and wedged between vertical corner-posts. A layer of moss was noted under the base of the trough which consisted of six split timbers. A burnt animal rib bone was recovered from this layer. The trough fill consisted of a compact mix of burnt stone, charcoal and peat. Charcoal from this fill was dominated by alder with willow, Holly and oak present.

**Wood Deposits:** A large scatter of timbers occurred at the north-western edge of the mound. Ten of the timbers were worked but did not form a structure of any kind. Instead these timbers were randomly placed and Gillespie suggests may have provided a surface or alternatively, a stockpile for heating the stone. Other smaller scatters of worked timbers were retrieved in the excavated area and may have been discarded during the construction phase (Gillespie and Kerrigan, 2010).

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A squared yew rod with a dowel at one end was recovered from the burnt mound.

**Ecofacts:** A burnt animal bone (rib fragment) was recovered from the moss layer under the base of the trough.

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Wood (alder) from the trough (C5)  
C14 (GrN-30755) 3005±20 BP (1368–1132 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay a single rectangular wood-lined trough. The trough was cut into the peat and filled naturally with water. Moss packed between these timbers and on the base of the trough probably served to filter the peaty water as it percolated into the structure. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area that was possibly used for cooking. The intense working and dressing of trough timbers displayed competent craftsmanship. The trough size may reflect an alternative function or larger scale use, possibly serving a larger group of people.

### **References**

Gillespie, R and Walsh, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Sonnagh IV, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.



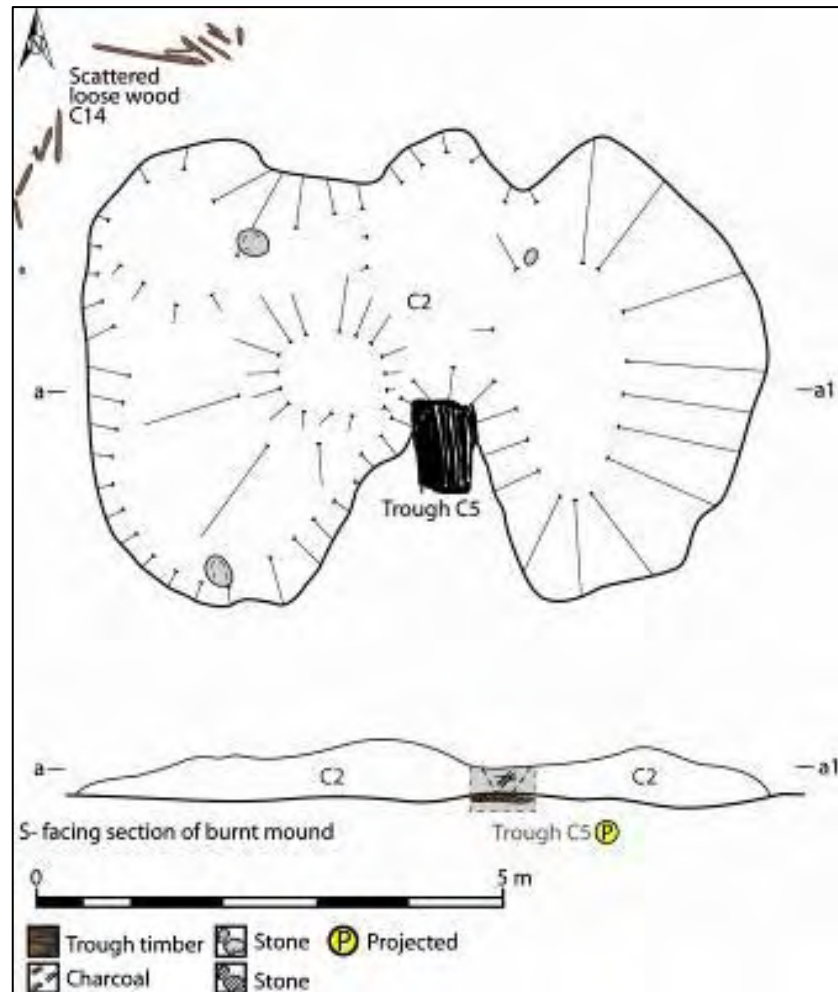


Plate 10.96 Timber trough with in situ burnt stone deposit at Sonnagh, Co. Mayo.



Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146551, 300495
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie and Brendan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located on the south-facing slope of a gravel rise at the eastern edge of a shallow east/west peat basin. This peat basin was bounded to the north and south by low gravel hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	It was one of a cluster of nine newly identified <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated in this area as part of this scheme. There were four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> located within 200 m of this site. Sonnagh III (E3345) was the closest, being 20 m south-east of this site. A further four were located within 400 m to the west of this site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and an oval trough which was partially timber-lined. A deposit of wood adjacent to the trough may have provided access to the trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) was crescent shape in plan with a central hollow marking the position of the trough. It measured 11m by 9.5m with a thickness of 0.5m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of peat and charcoal. A coarse chert blade was recovered from the mound.
Trough:	The trough (C9) was oval in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.8m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.4m. The base was partially lined with two split alder planks and three hazel corner posts were also recorded. A collapsed wicker lining was also noted along with a large quantity of moss. The wicker consisted of 21 hazel rods and a hazel wicker sail. The trough was filled with loose black silt with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Six samples of animal bone were recovered from this fill, all of which consisted of domestic pig remains.
Wood Deposit:	Several wood deposits were noted north and south of the trough. The largest piece was split pine that extended south-west from the trough and measured

1.73 m long. It was held in place by a stake at either of its southern end. There were a number of large tree trunks which may have been felled prior to trough construction or during its use, to the north of the trough.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A chert blade was recovered from the mound material

Ecofacts: Six samples of animal bone were recovered from the trough fill all of which contained pig teeth. Analysis concluded that they may have come from a single domestic animal of 17-19 months. A large quantity of hazelnuts were also recovered from the mound material.

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough  
C14 (GrN- 30759) 3645±40 BP (2134–1919 BC)

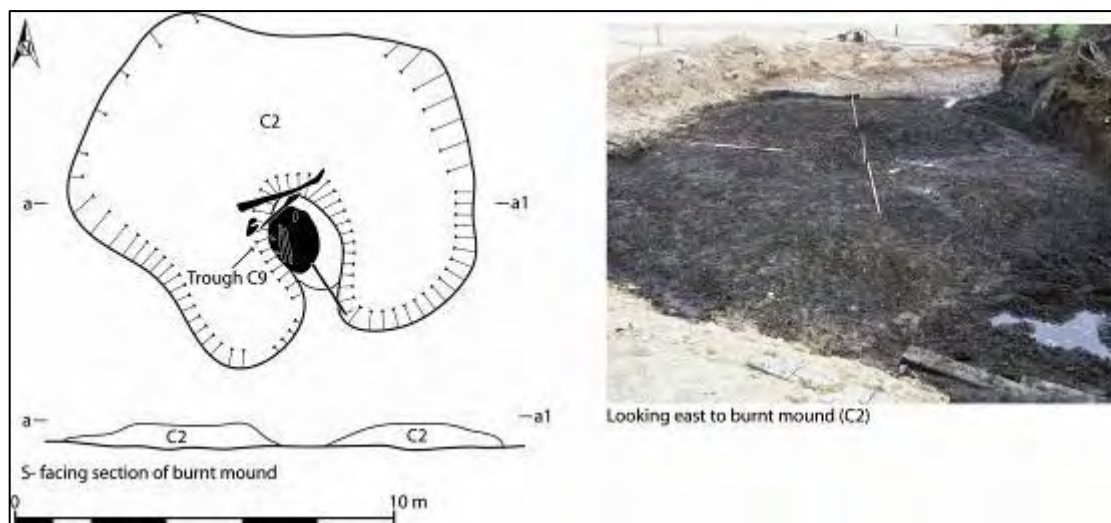
#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site consisted of a substantial burnt mound located on peat with an associated circular trough cut through the peat to access the water table. The trough fill contained the collapsed remains of a wicker and moss lining which would have filtered infilling water and provided suitable conditions for cooking. Animal bone and the chert blade suggest food processing, specifically domestic pig. Its Early Bronze Age date reflects the extended period of use for burnt mounds in the area. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic cooling location.

#### **References**

Gillespie, R and Walsh, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Sonnagh IX, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146387, 300539
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie and Colin Gallagher	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located on the south-facing slope of a gravel rise at the eastern edge of a shallow east/west peat basin. This peat basin was bounded to the north and south by low gravel hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of a cluster of nine <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and burnt spreads excavated in the area as part of this road scheme. There were five located within 200 m to the east of the site Sonnagh I-IV and IX and three others were located within 300 m to the west Sonnagh VI, VII, X and XI.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a substantial plank-lined trough along with a random deposit of wood, some of which was worked. Two metal beads were also recovered from a moss layer beneath the trough base.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) was crescent shape in plan and situated in an area of very wet peat. It measured 13.5m by 11.5m and reached a maximum depth of 1.5m. It consisted of small burnt and heat fractured sandstone in a matrix of peat with inclusions of charcoal, most of which was concentrated toward the bottom of the mound. Three chert flakes were recovered from the mound material.
Trough:	The trough (C4) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.4m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.45m. It consisted of 41 timbers; ten floor timbers, thirteen corner stakes, seven side timbers and eleven end timbers. The base of the trough was made up of three separate layers of sand, moss and roundwoods, some of which were split. Occasional pieces of burnt stone were located between the timbers possibly suggesting earlier activity (Gillespie and Kerrigan, 2010). The trough base was lined with ten split alder planks with thirteen stakes located in the corners. One of these planks was deliberately shaped for

the insertion of the corner stakes. The sides of the trough were made up of seven ash and alder split timbers and the end timbers consisted of eleven timbers. The north side had one split alder timber and an alder roundwood resting on three hazel roundwood timbers; most of these were cut to a wedge-shaped end. The south end consisted of five ash and one alder roundwood timbers, the lower alder timber was half split. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone, charcoal, charred wood and hazelnut shells. A tin bead and a small metal bead were recovered from the moss lining below the base of the trough.

**Brushwood Deposit:** A random deposit of brushwood was identified 8m south-west of the trough. Twenty one pieces of well preserved timber with cut marks were found scattered in the peat. A large tree trunk was also present which had axe marks present on one end.

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A conical tin bead was recovered from the moss lining below the base of the trough along with another small metal bead.

**Ecofacts:** Hazelnut shells were recovered from the fill of the trough

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Wood (birch) from the trough lining  
C14 (GrN-30756) 3065±20 BP (1401–1294 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site consisted of a substantial burnt mound located on peat with an associated rectangular trough cut through the peat to access the water table. The trough incorporated a complex lining of wood, moss and sand which effectively filtered the groundwater. The significance of this *fulacht fia* is the presence of two metal beads from the trough lining, possibly deposited as a foundation deposit prior to the construction of the new trough. Finds which are unique in an Irish prehistoric context. It is possible that the lower roundwood timbers are an earlier trough build. Occasional pieces of burnt stone were located between the timbers, indicating that some pyrolithic activity had taken place here prior to trough construction.

**References**

Gillespie, R and Gallagher, C. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Sonnagh V, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

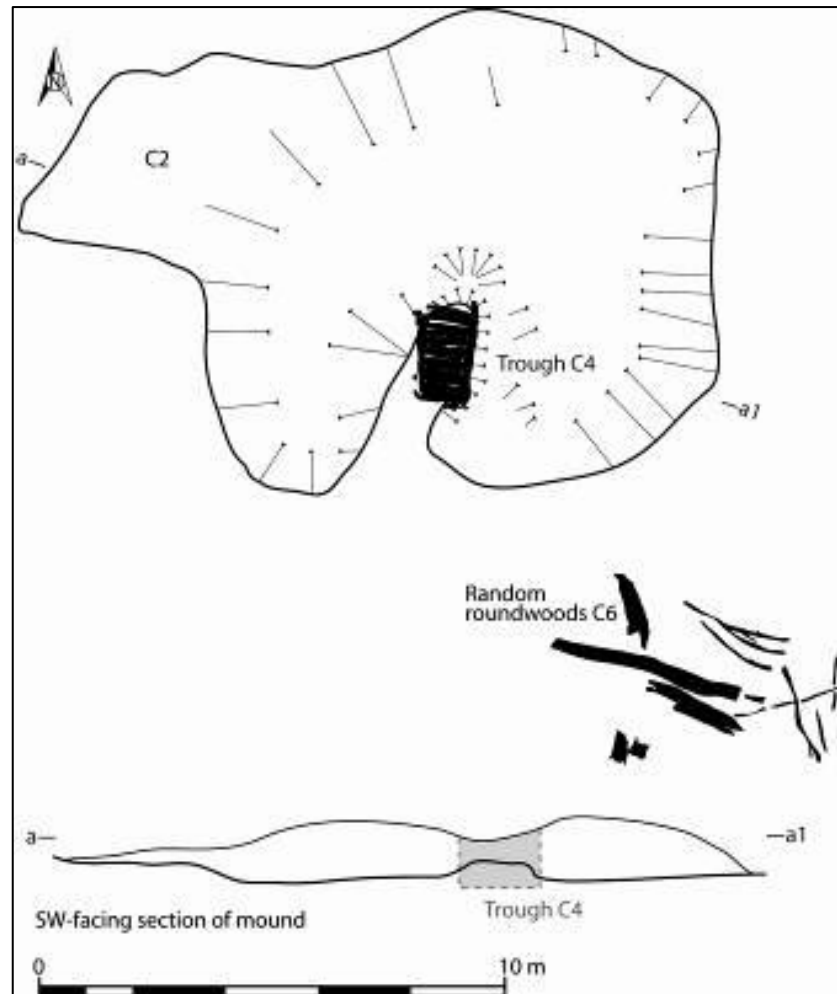


Plate 10.97 Plank-lined trough at Sonnagh V, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146361, 30055
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was situated on a slight south facing slope in a field of rough pasture and peat land bordered to the north and south by low lying gravel terraces. The surface vegetation was dominated by wetland grasses and rushes.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of a cluster of eight <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated in the area as part of this road scheme. There were six located within 200m east of the site (E3340, E3344, E3345, E3347, E3346 and E3358) while two others were located 300m to the west (E3349 and E3359). All of these sites were located in the townland of Sonnagh.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a shallow burnt mound spread. No cut features were noted during investigations.
Burnt Spread:	The spread (C2) was roughly horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 6.3m by 4.2m with a thickness of 0.3m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich peaty matrix. A sample of alder produced an Early Bronze Age date.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
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### Dating:

Absolute dating:	Charcoal (alder) from the spread of heat-shattered stone C14 (GrN- 30757) 3360±20 BP (1725–1612 BC)
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### References

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146183, 300579
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie and Colin Gallagher	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was on wet peat on the northern edge of the Sonnagh peat basin. The surface vegetation was dominated by wetland grasses and rushes.		
Cultural Landscape:	It was one of a cluster of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and burnt spreads excavated in this area. There were four located within 300 m to the east of the site Sonnagh V, VI, IX, X and XI, the closest of these being Sonnagh X and XI.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two shallow deposits of heat-shattered stone located 8m from each other. No cut features were associated with the spreads.
Burnt Spread 1:	The spread (C2) was sub-oval in plan and measured 12m by 5.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.45m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of peat and charcoal consisting of alder, ash, hazel, willow, oak and blackthorn/cherry.
Burnt Spread 2:	The second spread (C3) was located 8m to the south-east of the first and was sub-oval in plan. It measured 10m by 4.8m with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of burnt and heat fractured sandstone in a matrix of gritty sandy peat.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Charcoal (alder) from the spread of heat-shattered stone C2 C14 (GrN-30758) 3130±65 BP (1528–1214 BC)

### References

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146866, 300558
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 72m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a gravel rise at the eastern edge of a shallow east/west peat basin. It was situated on a gravel hill which sloped gradually from north to south towards the peat basin.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site was 20 m east of the Early Neolithic structures and <i>fulachtaí fia</i> in Sonnagh II. The lowpark multi period site3, located 500 m to the east of this site, included substantial contemporary early medieval habitation and iron-working features. Charcoal production pits at Sonnagh XII and XIII were roughly 200 years later but may have had a similar function.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a shallow spread of heat-affected stone and three pits, one of which returned a Medieval date. None of the pits were sealed by the spread material
Burnt Spread:	The spread (C5) was located at the southern limit of the site and was irregular in plan. It measured 5.5m by 4.4m and had a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of loose charcoal and heat-affected stone which rested on boulder clay.
Pit 1:	Pit (C3) was the largest and was circular in plan with steep to vertical sides and an irregular base. It measured 1.25m in diameter with a depth of 0.26m. The fill consisted of loose charcoal with heat-affected stone.
Pit 2:	This pit (C4) was circular in plan and measured 1.3m in diameter with a depth of 0.11m. The fill consisted of loose charcoal with heat-affected stone. A chert blade was recovered from this fill.



Pit 3: This pit occurred at the limit of the excavation and was circular in plan. It measured 0.95m in diameter with a depth of 0.06m. The fill consisted of dark brown sandy soil with charcoal and some heat-affected stone.

### Finds:

Artefacts: Chert blade from pit C4

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (oak) from fill of pit C3  
C14 (GrN-30786) 1005±30 BP (AD 982–1150)

### Excavation Interpretation:

This site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. It consisted of a thin spread of heat-shattered stone that overlay three pits, one of which contained charcoal dated to the early medieval period. One of the other pits identified in this site produced a chert blade, prompting the excavator to suggest that the radiocarbon date was unrelated to pyrolithic processes and was instead associated with charcoal production contemporary with nearby ironworking activity at Lowpark (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 141) .

### References

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyères: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

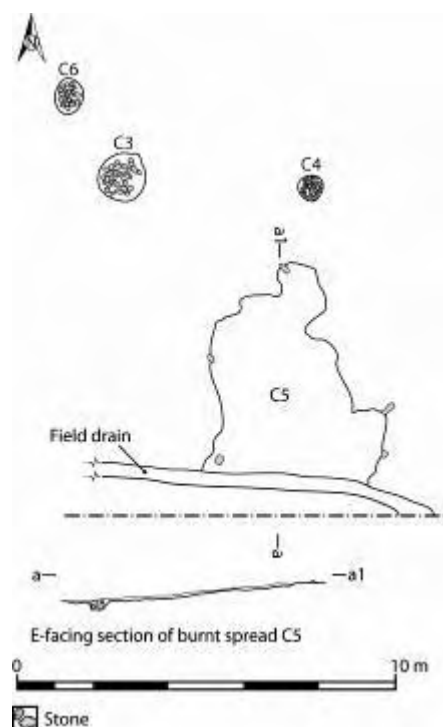


Fig. 10.115 Burnt spread and burnt stone pits at Sonnagh.

Location:	Townland:	Sonnagh	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 146319, 300577
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The <i>fulacht fia</i> was located on the north side of a deep c.1.50m east/west peat basin, which merged with higher ground to the east and stretched to Cuilmore townland in the west. To the north there was arable pastureland and to the south was an east/west ridge. A series of small streams drained north-east into the Sonnagh River.		
Cultural Landscape:	This was one of seven <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , several with wood-lined troughs in various states of preservation excavated in Sonnagh townland. The small burnt spread, Sonnagh XI consisted of a thin layer of disturbed burnt material adjacent to the east/west flowing stream. It was 33m west and 3m south of Sonnagh X.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt stone spread excavated 33m to the west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and the remains of a plank-lined trough. Several in situ stakes were also preserved in the vicinity of the trough. A smaller spread of burnt stone was uncovered to the west of the west.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C4) was bisected into three sections by a modern drain. It was circular in plan with overall dimensions of 12.08m by 4.8m with a thickness of 0.38m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a charcoal rich black silty matrix.
Trough:	The trough (C7) was rectangular in plan and measured 2m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.3m. Only the base of the timber lining survived which consisted of five split ash and alder roundwoods which were laid horizontally in the trough. Nine posts/stakes were recorded associated with the trough. One post was revealed under the most southern plank while another was revealed mid-way along the base on the eastern side. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Stake Structure:** Five posts were revealed to the west of the trough which formed a rough semi-circular pattern. Two other posts were uncovered to the north-west. This structure was interpreted as a possible windbreak (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010).

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (alder) was sampled from one of the posts C14 (GrN-30774)  $3320 \pm 20$  BP (1660–1527 BC)

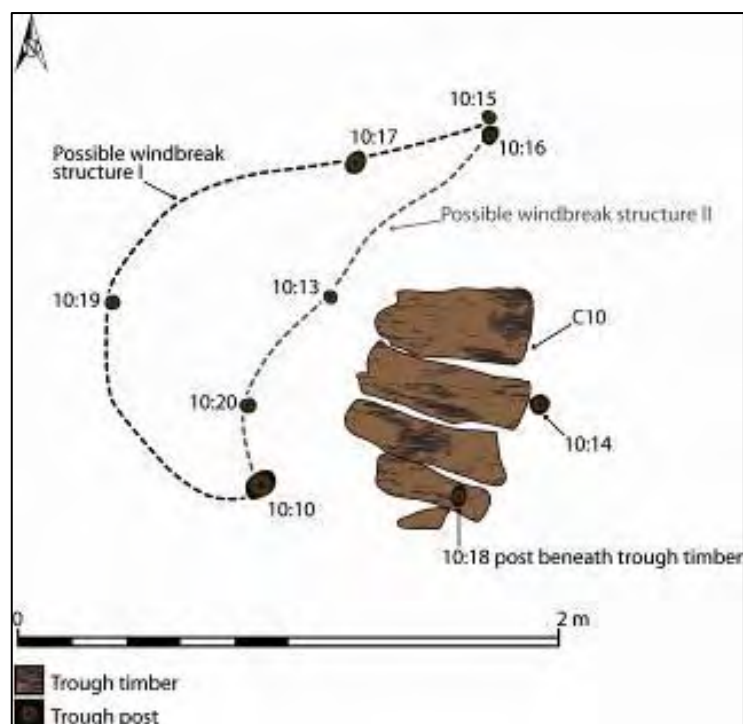
### **Excavation Interpretation:**

This *fulacht fia* comprised a disturbed mound and the base of a wood lined trough which returned a Middle Bronze Age date. Seven associated uprights may represent the remains of two windbreaks. Only the base of the trough survived however it can be interpreted as the remains of a boiling trough for pyrolithic water-boiling.

### **References**

Kerrigan A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Sonnagh X, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Tomboholla	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 145749, 300520
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in very wet ground on 1 m of peat and overlain by 0.50 m of peat. The surface vegetation was dominated by wetland grasses and rushes.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was located some 400–1000m from the Sonnagh cluster of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and burnt spreads and predated most of them. It was dated to the final Neolithic roughly contemporary with Sonnagh III <i>fulacht fia</i> 800 m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of burnt mound material which dated to the Late Neolithic period.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) was oval in shape and measured 4.6m by 3m and had a maximum thickness of 0.35m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone and peat with occasional charcoal. Alder and ash was radiocarbon dated to the Late Neolithic period.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
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### Dating:

Absolute dating:	Charcoal (alder and ash) from the burnt spread material C2 C14 (GrN- 30760) 3985±55 BP (2831–2299 BC)
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### References

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Fauleens	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 152993, 300612
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 107m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Fauleens I and II were located in a peat basin, which was up to 1.50m deep in places. The peat basin, extended west, before merging into higher well-drained ground to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible cairn with an assemblage of Prehistoric lithics and a <i>fulacht fia</i> , Cashelduff IV were situated between 500-1000m east of Fauleens VI.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> excavated 29m to the west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and two wood-lined troughs along with several preserved <i>in situ</i> stakes/posts.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) was irregular in shape and measured 16.3m by 9.5m with an overall thickness of 0.72m. It consisted of two deposits of material composed of heat-shattered sandstone, charcoal and charcoal rich silty clay. The two layers of burnt material may represent two phases of activity on the site associated with the two wood lined troughs (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 104).
Trough 1:	This trough (C11) was sealed by a peat layer. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.98m by 0.98m with a maximum depth of 0.5m. The trough was constructed of wood with several large stones acting as supports at the outer edges. Internally the structure was maintained by several stakes and wedges consisting of alder, ash, oak, holly and hazel. The lining consisted of split roundwoods with only three timbers lining the base. The north side of the trough consisted of split horizontal timbers of ash, alder and oak. The south side consisted of four timbers, two horizontal and two vertical. These composed of alder and ash. Kerrigan suggests the trough may have been

dismantled in antiquity (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 105). Three pad stones supported the wood-lining with one of these showing evidence of burning on the surface. The fill consisted of slumped burnt mound material while the basal deposit contained a moss layer which was also concentrated around and under the timbers in the north-west corner.

**Stakes:** Seven posts were revealed on the western exterior of the trough. Four were grouped in a small cluster while the remaining three were in a small arc curving east-west.

**Trough 2:** This trough (C27) was located in the south-east quadrant of the mound and was rectangular in plan. The trough structure itself measured 1.96m by 0.38m with a depth of 0.4m. The trough pit had been stepped and narrowed to accommodate the timbers and burnt mound material had been used to stabilise the structure. The sides and base of the trough consisted of three tangentially split oak planks possibly from the same tree. The side timbers were deliberately angled inward and had not been displaced by the encroaching bog. The south-west end of the trough had an elaborate construction with an end timber and a series of posts/stakes that propped up a split post end timber. The north-east end timber was held in place by two rectangular posts. Four fills were noted in the trough consisting of grey silt, heat-shattered stone and moss which may have been used as a caulking agent.

**Possible Structure:** Ten small posts/stakes were revealed 0.8m north-west of the trough in an arc formation. Twenty-eight posts/stakes were uncovered at the south-west end of the trough. They encompassed an area measuring 1.54m by 1.6m and were driven into the peat at an angle. The posts were driven in contiguously, with less than 5mm between them, and several were side by side.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Possible yew artefact from trough C27. A retouched burnt flint was recovered from the site during testing.

**Ecofacts:** None

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Wood (hazel post) from the trough C11  
C14 (GrN-30831) 2500±30 BP (774–521 BC)  
Wood (hazel post) from the structure around trough C27  
C14 (GrN-30833) 3505±30 BP (1898–1746 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The two layers of burnt mound material represent two phases of activity on site associated with the two wood-lined troughs. This site had two phases. Trough B was used in the Early Bronze Age. Trough A was constructed in the Late Bronze Age. The reuse of this site suggests that it was ideally located to exploit

the primary resources required for *fulachtaí fia* activity and remained an attractive site for such activity in the Bronze Age. The wood-lining of the Trough A was not very substantial or well-crafted along the sides or base, with stones used to secure the timber in place on the north and west sides. The base was poorly-lined and the trough may have been partly dismantled in antiquity prior to its final abandonment. The seven exterior posts/stakes on the west side of the trough did not form any obvious pattern but may have functioned as a basic windbreak.

The elaborate and careful construction of Trough B was unusual. The side timbers were deliberately angled inwards and had not been displaced from their original position by the pressure of growing peat or the slumping of mound material. The trough would have been unsuitable for cooking, as the opening was narrow and awkward for the insertion of large hot stones. The purpose of the 10 small wooden posts/stakes located along the north-west side of the trough in an arc formation was probably to support a windbreak/shelter. The function of the 28 extant stakes and posts and the seven backfilled post-holes/stake-holes is unclear, but they possibly formed windbreaks also, which were realigned over a period of time. They could also have been part of a larger structure, perhaps the foundation for a platform of wooden planks.

## References

Kerrigan A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Fauleens 1, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

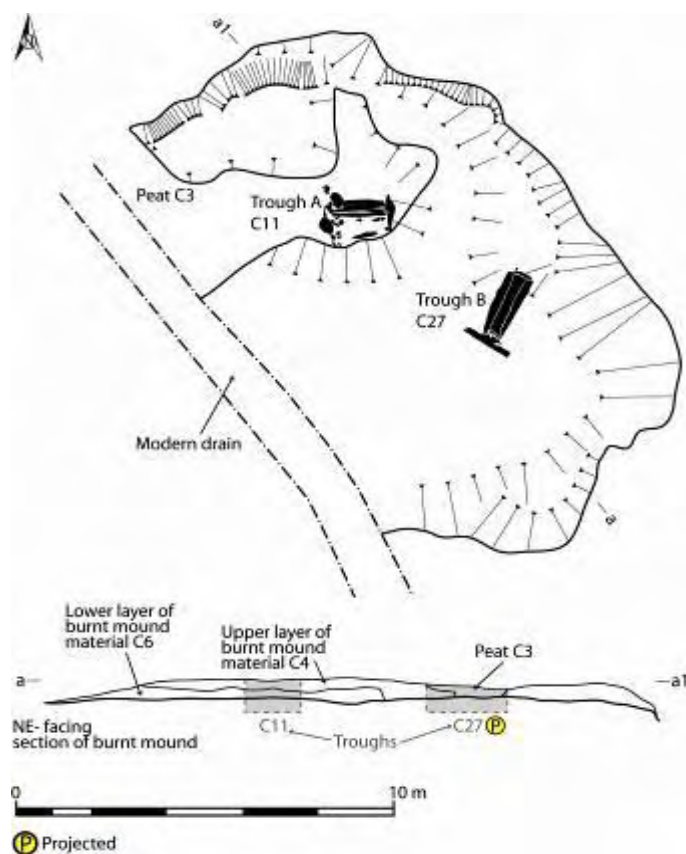


Fig. 10.116 Burnt mound and two timber troughs at Fauleens.

Location:	Townland:	Fauleens	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 152964, 300618
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 106m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Fauleens I and II were located in a peat basin, which was up to 1.50m deep in places. The peat basin, extended west, before merging into higher well-drained ground to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible cairn with an assemblage of Prehistoric lithics and a <i>fulacht fia</i> , Cashelduff IV were situated between 500-1000m east of Fauleens VI.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> excavated 29m to the east		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a well preserved plank-lined trough with a possible hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) overlay the trough and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 9.64m by 5.4m with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. The mound consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a charcoal rich, black silty clay.
Trough:	The trough (C6) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.02m by 1.18m with a depth of 0.25m. Below the trough base, a layer of moss and sand was present identical to that of Fauleens I acting as a possible filtration system for the trough. The base of the trough was lined with three oak planks with the central plank marked with the letter 'X' on the underside which Kerrigan suggests was an attempt by the builders to identify the central plank (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 115). The side timbers on the north-east were laid horizontally and held in place by corner posts. The opposite side consisted of three planks laid horizontally with one hewn to fit around the west corner post. The ends were similarly constructed and were wedged into the corner posts. Two sub-angular stones were recorded in the fill of the trough at the south-east end and may have functioned as further supports.



Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of charcoal rich black silt and heat-shattered sandstone.

**Possible Hearth:** An irregular shaped charcoal deposit was recorded outside the south-western side of the trough. Kerrigan suggests that this deposit may represent a possible hearth (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 118).

**Stakes/Posts:** Thirteen posts/stakes were recorded on the south-eastern side of the trough. These stakes were concentrated in two separate clusters and were set into the peat at an angle.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (hazel post) from the trough C6  
C14 (GrN- 30830) 2520±25 BP (786–545 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The trough (C6) did not fill naturally with groundwater, possibly indicating that water was brought to the trough and that the moss lining may have caulked the trough timbers to prevent water leaking. Alternatively, the trough may have filled with water in antiquity but owing to modern drainage activity, the watertable in the area may have lowered. The tool marks recorded on the wood had longer and narrower facets than those recorded on timber from the earlier dated trough (Trough B) at Fauleens I. These tool marks may represent Later Bronze Age tools such as palstaves, and socketed axeheads.

### References

Kerrigan A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Fauleens II, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

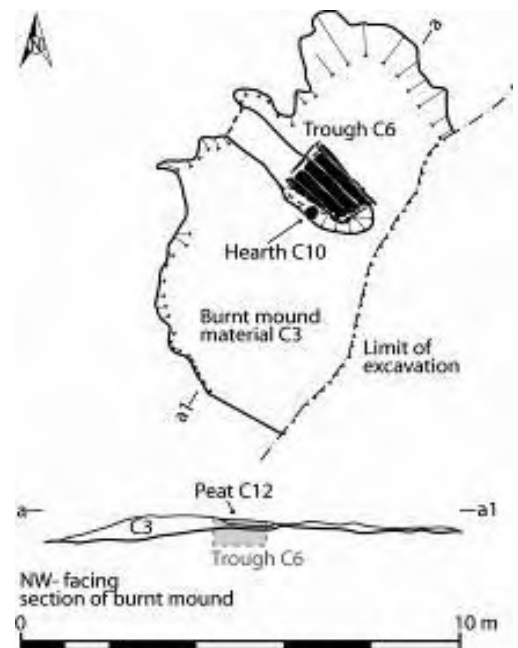


Fig. 10.117 Burnt mound material and plank-lined trough at Fauleens II.

Location:	Townland:	Fauleens	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 153123, 300548
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 108m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This small-burnt spread was situated on the east-facing slope of a north/south ridge, bordering a peat basin.		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible cairn with an assemblage of Prehistoric lithics and a <i>fulacht fia</i> , Cashelduff IV were situated between 500-1000m east of Fauleens VI.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone with no associated cut features. It was dated to the Late Neolithic period.
Burnt Spread:	The spread (C3) was irregular in shape and measured 7m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. The spread was damaged by a mechanical digger resulting in a cut feature filled with mound material. The spread consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich silty matrix.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
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### **Dating:**

Absolute dating:	Charcoal (hazel and alder) from the burnt spread C14 (GrN-30771) 3865±20 BP (2458–2286 BC)
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### **References**

Kerrigan A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Fauleens VI, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Fauleens	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 153419, 300446
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 108m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located near the edge of a deep peat basin on a gentle descending slope from the north. The peat basin extended to the west, east and south of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible cairn with an assemblage of Prehistoric lithics and a <i>fulacht fia</i> , Cashelduff IV were situated between east of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a single circular trough which dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 5.96m by 4.8m with a thickness of 0.085m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a charcoal rich black silty matrix which was covered by layer of peat.
Trough:	The trough (C4) was circular in shape and measured 1.65m by 1.52m with a depth of 0.18m. A large boulder was revealed in situ on the north side of the trough. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of a basal sandy layer and an upper deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the lower fill of the trough C14 (Beta-231647) 2890±60 BP (1270–910 BC)

### References

Kerrigan A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Fauleens IV, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Cashelduff	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 153705, 300316
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 112m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site, Cashelduff IV was located in Cashelduff townland, Co.Mayo, on the southern edge of an east/west aligned deep peat basin. The peat was cut by modern drains flowing into a stream along the southern side of the site that drained into the Coarse River, located 3km north of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	The <i>fulacht fia</i> was associated with two small disturbed burnt spreads Cashelduff II –III which were located less than 5m from the site. A possible cairn with an assemblage of Prehistoric lithics was excavated 250m south-east of the site. Another small <i>fulacht fia</i> with a circular trough was located 286m west of the site in Fauleens townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone which sealed an oval stone-lined trough.		
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) was circular in shape and measured 10.5m in diameter with a maximum thickness of 0.60m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay.		
Trough:	The mound overlay a stone-lined trough (C5) which was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 3m by 2.41m with a depth of 0.38m. The trough pit was stepped to accommodate the trough setting which reduced the size of the structure. It was stone-lined consisting of quartzite and sandstone slabs. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The trough filled naturally with water.		
<b>Finds:</b>			
Artefacts:	None		
Ecofacts:	None		

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the lower fill of the trough  
C14 (GrN-30772) 2540±25 BP (793–553 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

Charcoal retrieved from the lower fill (C7) of the trough yielded a radiocarbon date of 793–553 BC and places the *fulacht fia* in the Late Bronze Age period. Charcoal from C7 was mainly oak, ash, holly, alder, elm and willow reflecting the exploitation of both a dry land and wetland wooded environment for fuel resources. The trough filled rapidly with groundwater once the large stones in the fill (C7) were removed. The large stones may represent the last heating of water in the trough, or, alternatively, the large stones may have been backfilled into the trough. The quantity of the mound material suggests a prolonged use of this *fulacht fia* in the Late Bronze Age.

## References

Kerrigan A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cashelduff IV, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

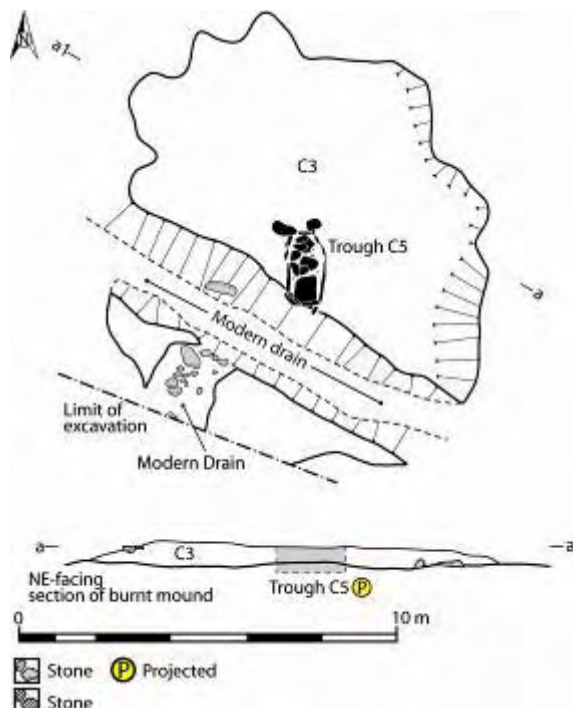


Plate 10.98 Stone-lined trough at Cashelduff, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Cloonaghboy	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 140716, 300532
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 77m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located within marshy undulating ground		
Cultural Landscape:	An Early Medieval Bivallate Ringfort (MA062-058, excavated under licence No. 04E1341) 100 m to the west of this site was earlier in date but may have been inhabited contemporaneously. Also a find of ‘Bog Butter’ was located 200m to the ESE in wet peat.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed several burnt stone deposits, one of which returned a Medieval date.
Spread 1:	This spread C9 was the larger of the two and was crescent shaped. It measured 3.5m by 2.15m with a thickness of 0.48m. It occurred 0.3m north of C7. The deposit consisted of charcoal mixed with oxidised sandy clay and heat-shattered stone.
Spread 2:	This spread (C7) lay in a shallow hollow and measured 0.9m by 0.75m with a maximum depth of 0.3m. It was filled by small to medium sized sub-angular stones, clayey sand and peat. It was overlain by successive layers of burnt stone sand and peat with inclusions of charcoal interspersed throughout. A Medieval date was returned from this deposit.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (various species) from spread deposit C7 C14 (GrN-30845) 1035±40 BP (AD 895–1148)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Two small deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal were uncovered. No pits or troughs were revealed at the site. The smaller of the two spreads lay in a natural hollow and was dated to the early medieval period. This burnt stone deposit may reflect small-scale pyrolithic activity, but the size of the spread suggests that it is more likely to represent a small fire or burning event during the early medieval period.

### **References**

- Gillespie A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonaghboy III, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.
- Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Cloonaghboy	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 141301, 300284
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 75m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site was situated on a north facing slope of a gentle east/west ridge, bordering on the deep peat basin. The land is utilised as rough pastureland and coniferous forestry plantations. The land is drained by a series of small streams, which flows into the River Moy, 2km to the north.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation prior to the road development, however, a number of burnt stone deposits were revealed during construction.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** *fulacht fia* excavated 45m to the south-east

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and the partial remains of a plank-lined trough.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound (C15) was irregular in shape and consisted of three spreads of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich black silty clay. The spreads measured 10.10m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.62m.

**Trough:** The trough (C17) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.05m by 1m with a surviving depth of 0.12m. A layer of sand was noted below the basal trough timbers interpreted as an attempt to level the base of the trough pit. The surviving structure consisted of three ash planks which lined the base of the trough with one substantial timber on the east end forming the only extant side. Several pieces of brushwood made up the remainder of the structure. Two posts survived in the south-east corner, one post on the north-east side and one in the south-west corner. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich silty clay.

**Timber Spread:** An area of eleven worked and randomly spread timbers (C19) was located in the northern part of the site and was partially covered by mound material. Eight cattle maxilla teeth, aged 24-30 months and 28 rib fragments from a



large mammal, probably the same individual were recovered from this timber deposit.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Eight cattle teeth and twenty-eight rib fragments were recovered from the timber deposit C19

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (oak) from the trough C17  
C14 (GrN- 30762) 2925±25 BP (1253–1043 BC)  
Wood (alder) from the timber deposit C19  
C14 (GrN- 30763) 2980±20 BP (1289–1128 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavations revealed a burnt mound, plank-lined trough and timber scatter. The area of random pieces of wood, several of which were worked, may be the preparation area for wood used in the trough construction. The 11 pieces may be the remnants of a wood assemblage that was not incorporated into the



Plate 10.99 Remains of burnt mound and plank-lined trough at Cloonaghboy IV, Co. Mayo.

trough. The remains of an upper jawbone from a cow

aged 24–30 months and 28

rib fragments, probably from the same individual, were recovered from the wood layer (C19), partly lying on the peat (C14) and sealed by the mound material (C15). An animal of this age would be the optimum age to slaughter and yield tender meat and may point to the *fulacht fia* being used for cooking. The trough area did not fill with groundwater but modern drainage may have lowered the watertable, it is probable that this trough was filled by groundwater originally. The mound material had been disturbed and flattened owing to drainage ditches associated with the forestry plantation and agriculture.

#### **References**

Gillespie, R. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonaghboy IV, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Cloonaghboy	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 141346, 300272
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 75m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a north facing slope of a gentle east/west ridge, bordering on the deep peat basin. The land is utilised as rough pastureland and coniferous forestry plantations.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation prior to the road development, however, a number of burnt stone deposits were revealed during construction.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>fulacht fia</i> excavated 45m to the north-west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a pit and a trough which was unlined.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C3) was roughly horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 9.5m by 9.2m with a maximum thickness of 0.42m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal rich silty clay.
Trough:	The trough (C12) was roughly oval in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.14m with a depth of 0.24m. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and coarse grained sandy silt.
Pit:	This pit (C7) was irregular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.4m with a maximum depth of 0.39m. A single fill was noted in the pit consisting of a thick layer of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (oak) from the trough C12 C14 (GrN-30773) 3960±30 BP (2568–2347 BC)

### References

Kerrigan, A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonaghboy IV, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Cloonfane	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 152863, 300629
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 106m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The burnt spread was situated at the base of the south facing slope of a north-east/south-west gravel ridge. The site was bordered to the south by a west/east flowing stream, which formed the townland boundary between Fauleens and Cloonfane.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation prior to the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which was disturbed by agricultural furrows and a stone wall foundation. Numerous hill wash deposit were also noted.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread was irregular in shape and measured 14.7m by 9m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. The spread consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay. The spread overlay a thin layer of peat in the southern half and the spread was overlain on the north-east side by a deposit of hill wash. The spread was truncated by several agricultural furrows and the foundation trench of a stone wall. Charcoal was identified as birch, oak, alder and willow.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Charcoal (birch) from the burnt spread C3 C14 (GrN-30764) 3565±30 BP (2014–1778 BC)

### **References**

Kerrigan, A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonfane V, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Cloonfane	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 152778, 300621
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 106m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The spread was located in a peat basin in an east/west valley. It was flanked by higher ground to the north and south .		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation prior to the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A similar spread was excavated 24m to the east.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which returned an Early Medieval date.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread (C3) was irregular in shape and measured 3.8m by 2.6m with a maximum thickness of 0.18m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich, black silty clay.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Charcoal (ash) from the burnt spread C3 C14 (Beta-231646) 690±40 BP (AD 1260–1390)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The deposit may reflect small-scale pyrolithic activity, although the size of the spread suggests that it is more likely to represent a small fire or burning event during the Medieval period.

### References

Kerrigan, A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonfane IV, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Cloonfane	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 152403, 300745
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 109m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site consisted of two small burnt spreads situated approximately 5m west of a double walled stone vernacular building on an area of flat dry ground which sloped gently to the south into a marshy area		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation prior to the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A similar spread was excavated 24m to the east		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two small spreads of heat-shattered stone.
Burnt Spread 1:	This spread (C3) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 3m by 1.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich, black silty clay. This spread may possibly be related to C4.
Burnt Spread 2:	This spread (C4) was circular in shape and was situated 1.6m north of the spread C3. It measured 1.9m by 1.7m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich, black silty clay.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (willow) from the burnt spread C4 C14 (GrN-30765) 1130±40 BP (AD 781–991)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The deposit may reflect small-scale pyrolithic activity, although the size of the spread suggests that it is more likely to represent a small fire or burning event during the Medieval period.

### **References**

Kerrigan, A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonfane VI, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Cloonmeen West	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 150493, 300957
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 109m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located in a well-drained level pasture with occasional rushes. A stream flowed from north to south 11 m to the east of this <i>fulacht fia</i> .		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity however the early medieval period is well represented by a number of possible enclosures.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, a stone-lined trough, a pit and a post-hole.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) was crescent shaped in plan and measured 12m by 10m with a thickness of 0.25m. It consisted of compact heat-fractured stone in a matrix of charcoal flecked gritty sandy soil. The spread of mound material extended beyond the area of excavation therefore the full extent of the spread was not revealed.
Trough:	The trough (C5) was located on a slight slope and was rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.6m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.45m and was partially lined with flat stone slabs. Some naturally occurring stones were also incorporated into the lining. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black sandy soil. A small deposit of re-deposited boulder clay was noted on the outer northern edge of the trough.
Pit:	The pit (C4) was located west of the trough and was sub-circular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 0.5m by 0.48m with a depth of 0.3m. It was surrounded by 14 flat stones which were laid around the edge of the pit. There was some evidence of scorching on the stones suggesting they

may have enclosed a small hearth around the pit. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of dark charcoal rich silts and a basal layer of heat-shattered stone.

Post-Hole: A possible post-hole (C7) was located 0.28m west of the pit (C4).

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Various) from the fill of trough C5  
C14 (GrN-30747) 2995±50 BP (1390–1054 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

This *fulacht fia* consisted of a partly stone-lined sub-rectangular trough (C5) with an associated pit or possible hearth (C4), immediately to the west. Although the trough was cut directly into the subsoil it did not fill naturally with groundwater. This suggests that either the watertable was lowered since the Bronze Age, or that it was filled manually from the nearby stream. The scorching at the surface of the pit (C4) suggests that it may have functioned as a hearth, however, the pit is likely to have had an earlier function before the hearth. A post held in C7 may have had a related function such as part of a meat-rack. The Cloonmeen West trough was partly lined with flat stones and naturally occurring boulders were incorporated. It is possible that the remainder of the sides and base were originally stone- or wood-lined with additional lining removed or rotted away subsequent to abandonment.

### References

Gillespie, R. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonmeen West, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyères: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

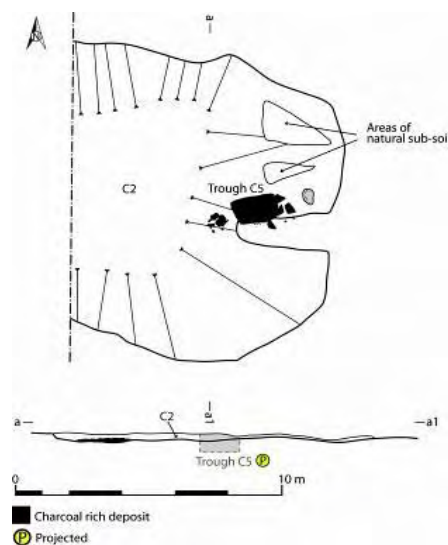


Fig. 10.118 Burnt mound and stone-lined trough at Cloonmeen West, Co. Mayo

Location:	Townland:	Cranmore	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 154432, 299983
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 120m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The shallow mound was located on the north facing slope of a gentle east/west ridge		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity however a possible enclosure was situated 0.5km north of the mound and another burnt mound was excavated 93m east of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt mound excavated 93m to the east.		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small mound of heat-shattered stone and a single unlined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C3) was irregular in shape and measured 8.9m by 5.8m with a maximum thickness of 0.30m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a charcoal rich silty clay.
Trough:	The trough (C4) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.84m with a depth of 0.15m. It filled naturally with water and consisted of a fill composed of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough C4 C14 (GrN-30766) 3360±60 BP (1867–1499 BC)

#### **References**

Kerrigan, A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cranmore, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.



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Location:	Townland:	Cranmore	Six inch map no: 63
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 154525, 299927
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 122m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The small burnt mound was situated in a shallow depression, located on the east facing slope of a gentle ridge running southwest/ north-east, which fell away east and north into low-lying marshy ground. The mound was located on the west bank of a south/north flowing stream, which ran along the base of the ridge.

**Cultural Landscape:** There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity however a possible enclosure was situated close to the site and another burnt mound was excavated 93m east to the west.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Burnt mound excavated 93m to the west.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a small disturbed burnt mound which sealed a sub-rectangular trough.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound (C3) was irregular in shape and measured 5.5m by 4m with a maximum thickness of 0.29m. It consisted of heat-shattered stones.

**Trough:** The trough (C4) was sealed by the mound material and was sub-rectangular in shape. It was disturbed on the east side, possibly by the widening of the adjacent stream. It measured 1.75m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.37m. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich silty clay.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C4  
C14 (GrN-30767) 3305±50 BP (1729–1458 BC)

### **References**

Kerrigan, A. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cranmore, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Location:	Townland:	Mullenmadoge	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 143188, 299827
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 87m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located 3 km south west of Charlestown, Co Mayo within flat well drained pastureland, which had been extensively reclaimed.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity however another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated as part of the same project 500m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which sealed an earth-cut trough and several stake-holes.
Burnt Spread:	The spread (C3) was horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 9.5m by 7.35m with a maximum thickness of 0.08m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal rich sandy clay.
Trough:	The trough (C9) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.5m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.5m. The sides were steeply sloped stepped to the east and the base was flat. Four stake-holes were cut into the base of the trough, one in each of the corners. The trough fill consisted of loose black charcoal rich silt with frequent heat-shattered stone.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

### Dating:

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of one internal stake-hole

C14 (GrN- 30849)  $2850 \pm 35$  BP (1117–922 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The mound of this *fulacht fia* was disturbed and is likely to have been substantial, possibly over 1 m thick, when intact. Slump from this mound (C4 and C8) filled the trough which retained an arrangement of stake-holes at its base. A step was incorporated into the eastern side probably to facilitate ease of access. Stakes set in the corners of the trough are likely to have supported wood and moss linings similar to the rectangular wooden troughs preserved in peat in Sonnagh and Fauleens.

### References

Gillespie, R. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Mullenmadoge 1, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

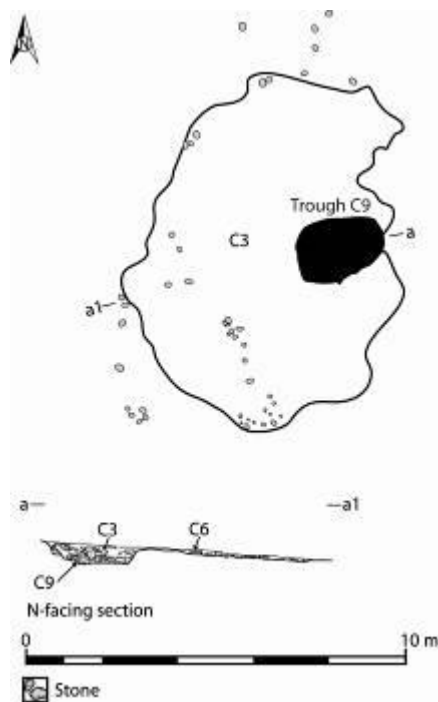


Plate 10.100 Trough with internal corner supports at Mullenmadoge 1, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Mullenmadoge	Six inch map no: 62
	Parish:	Kilbeagh	NGR: 143612, 299845
	Barony:	Costello	Altitude: 86m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard Gillespie	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was located 3 km south west of Charlestown, Co Mayo within flat well drained pastureland, which had been extensively reclaimed.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity however another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated as part of the same project 420m to the west.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which sealed an earth-cut trough and a number of stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C3) was roughly oval in shape and measured 10.25m by 5.15m with a thickness of 0.11m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal rich silty sand. Gillespie states that the mound may have been part of a larger mound which had been disturbed in the past (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 57).
Trough:	The trough (C10) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.44m by 1.92m with a depth of 0.38m. It had steep sides and a flat base with a semi-circular step cut into the north-eastern side. Thirteen stake-holes cut the base and sides of the trough suggestive of a timber lining either of wattle, brushwood or spit timbers. The trough was filled with a deposit of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal rich sandy clay.
Stake-Holes:	There was a cluster of nine stake-holes and one post-hole immediately north and west of the trough. Gillespie notes no definitive structure to the grouping however some situated close to the trough edge may have added additional support to the trough lining.

## Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (various) from the fill of one internal stake-hole of trough C14 (GrN-30850) 2815±50 BP (1115–841 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

The burnt spread was probably the base of a larger mound that had been disturbed. Stake-holes at the base of the trough probably supported a wood lining comprised of wattle, brushwood or planks, with an outer moss lining. The step cut into the eastern end of the trough, similar to that in Mullenmadoge I, may have been added to allow easier working access. The stake-holes and post-hole adjacent to the trough may have supported a windbreak or flimsy ancillary structure.

## References

Gillespie, R. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Mullenmadoge II, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mayo County Council.

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and Tuyéres: the Archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. Dublin. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Wordwell, Bray.

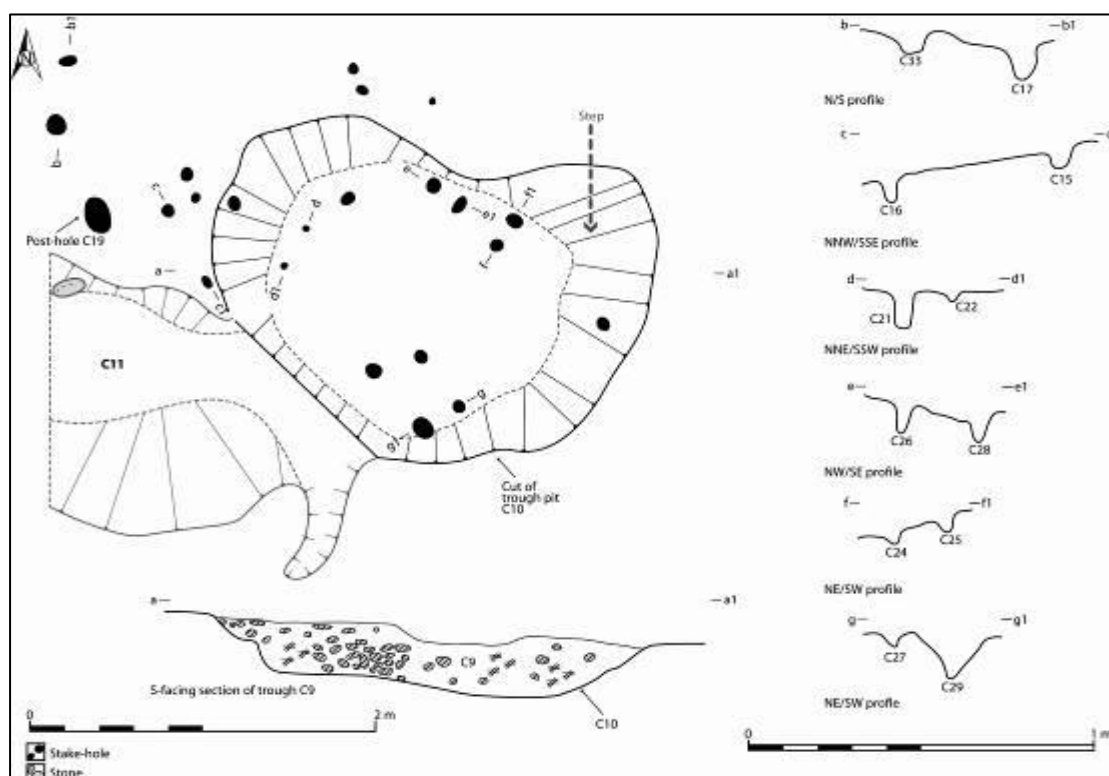


Fig. 10.119 Trough with internal stake supports at Mullenmadoge II, Co. Mayo.

Location:	Townland:	Balla	Six inch map no: 90
	Parish:	Balla	NGR: 125420, 28383
	Barony:	Clanmorris	Altitude: 36m OD
	County:	Mayo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Dominic Delany	
	Consultants:	Dominic Delany and Associates Ltd.	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying marshy in the north-west corner of a field.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity however the Medieval period is well represented in the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to these investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone which overlay a trough and related features.
Burnt Mound:	C3 was a sub-circular shaped burnt mound spread, measured 10.20m by 12m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m in depth. It consisted of loose dark brown-black silty clay with moderate cracked and broken limestone, occasional charcoal flecks and very occasional heat-cracked red sandstone with peat lumps running through it.
Trough:	C.6 represents the cut for the trough which was rectangular in shape measuring 1.05m north-south by 2.55m east-west and was 0.15m to 0.20m in depth. The trough was roughly orientated east-west. Upon removal of C.3 from the trough cut, a number of possible stake-holes were identified at the western end. In total three stake-hole features were recorded suggesting the pit may have held an internal organic lining. The trough was filled with a single deposit of burnt mound material.
Pits:	At the eastern side of the cutting were two oval shaped pits, C.5 and C.12. C.5 was oval in plan measuring 0.90m north-south by 0.79m east-west and 0.16 to 0.32m in depth. This pit was filled by C.4 a black silty sand with a moderate amount of charcoal flecks and occasional heat shattered stones.

C.12 was situated c.2m to the west and measured 1.12m north-south by 0.96m east-west and 0.11m in depth. This feature was filled by C.11 a black charcoal rich silty sand measuring 0.40m north-south by 0.23m east-west and 0.13m in depth.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Possible animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

This site can be defined as the remains of a *fulacht fia* water-boiling location. The spread overlay a peat layer and compact mottled orange/grey clay with light grey patches of sand into which the trough (centrally placed beneath the mound) was constructed. There were no timbers found lining the trough cut, however the presence of stake-holes indicates that it may have been timber-lined originally. The recovery of animal bone from the burnt mound may also indicated that the site was used for cooking.

**References**

Delany, D and Shanahan, S. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Balla, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished preliminary report prepared by Dominic Delany and Associates Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Sheephouse	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Donore	NGR: 304588, 273213
	Barony:	Lower Duleek	Altitude: 70 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Donore North Quarry Extension	
	Site Director:	Kieran Campbell	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1995	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in Donore Quarry 70m above the southern bank of the River Boyne.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a quarry extension. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two spreads of burnt mound material and associated pits.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound survived as a spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal that lay on the natural shale bedrock. The deposit measured 19m by 13m with a maximum thickness of 0.23m.

Trough: The trough was located excavated into the natural shale bedrock. It was oval in shape and measured 2.2m by 1.45m with an overall depth of 1m. The fill was composed of silty material and no lining was evident during excavation. Hazelnut shells were recorded in the fill of the trough.

#### Site B

Burnt Mound: This site suffered considerable damage as it lay under a temporary roadway used for the removal of overburden from the stripped area. It was located in a broad hollow on a north-west facing slope and measured 10.5m by 6m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m.



**Trough:** This possible trough was revealed under the burnt mound material. It was oval in shape and measured 0.95m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.6m. The fill consisted of light grey sandy silt and burnt stone. A small stone slab was revealed upright against the side wall of the pit suggesting it may have originally been stone-lined.

**Pits:** Seven other small pits were identified on site. All were circular with flat bottoms with diameters ranging from 0.9m to 1.3m and depths from 0.07m to 0.1m.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Flint scraper found adjacent to burnt spread at Site A. Fragment of a possible stone axe found in the burnt mound at Site B.

**Ecofacts:** Hazelnuts from trough fill (Site A)

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (unknown) from the basal fill of the trough (Site A)  
C14 (UB-3908) 3556±36 BP (2029–1777 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from fill of pit (Site B)  
C14 (UB-3910) 3043±35 BP (1415–1220 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity which were not contemporary in date. Both contained deposits of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling activity. The trough identified at Site B however may in fact be related to a dry heat due to the relative size of the feature. The possible stone lining can be compared with other stone oven features associated with dry roasting. This cannot be confirmed however and the feature could have functioned as a boiling trough.

### **References**

Campbell, K. 1996. *Archaeological excavations at Sheephouse Farm, Co. Mayo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Kieran Campbell.

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Location:	Townland:	Gormanstown	Six inch map no: 28
	Parish:	Rathbeggan	NGR: 315588, 267064
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Balbriggan Bypass	
	Site Director:	Frank Ryan	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical setting of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Balbriggan Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The site extended beyond the limits of the excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a truncated burnt mound site.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed as a spread of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal-rich silty clay that covered an area of at least 50m <sup>2</sup> . The deposit extended beyond the limits of the excavation.
Pit 1:	This pit was oval in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.25m with a depth of 0.55m. It had vertical sides and a concave base and was filled with deposits of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal-rich material. Two slot trenches to the east of the pit contained similar material.
Pit 2:	This pit was circular in shape and measured 0.55m in diameter with a depth of 0.57m. It contained three distinct fills.
<b>Finds:</b>	Waste flakes of chert and flint were recovered from all contexts. Possible hammerstone or rubbing stones were also found. Cattle bones were recovered from the site (context unknown)
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### **References**

Ryan, M. 1997. Gormanstown. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1996*. Bray, Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Sarsfieldstown	Six inch map no: 28
	Parish:	Moorechurch	NGR: 31520, 26692
	Barony:	Upper Duleek	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	No information available		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a thin spread of burnt mound material, seven pits and one possible clay-lined trough.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a thin truncated spread of heat-shattered stone and black silty clay. It extended beyond the limits of the excavation.		
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.26m by 1.28m with a maximum depth of 0.19m. It was situated below the burnt spread and may have been clay lined.		
Pits:	Seven pits were identified on the site in close proximity to the trough.		
<b>Finds:</b>	None	Ecofacts:	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (unknown) from the basal fill of the trough C14 (lab unknown) 2980±40 BP (1360–1060 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the linear feature C14 (lab unknown) 3060±70 BP (1450–1110 BC)		

### References

Russell, I. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Sarsfieldstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Lisdornan	Six inch map no: 28
	Parish:	Moorechurch	NGR: 31260, 26855
	Barony:	Upper Duleek	Altitude: 25m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme
	Site Director:	Ian Russell
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd
	Year:	2001

Physical Setting:	The site was situated within a low lying boggy area between the surrounding hills and ridges and lay below a layer of humic peat that had formed within the area over the centuries since its abandonment.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound, six pits and two troughs, one of which was wattle-lined.
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Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (004) was oval in shape and measured 19.4m by 14.6m with a maximum thickness of 0.64m. It was composed of dark silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A number of smaller spreads were also exposed in the vicinity.
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Trough 1-2:	This trough (F029) was oval in shape and measured 1.85m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.28m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and was lined on the sides with hazel wattling consisting of rods and stakes. This trough was cut by a second example which was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 3m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.4m. A single decayed wooden plank lined the base of the feature suggesting it may have been timber-lined originally. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Four hazelnut shells were also recovered from the fill. The northern corner of the trough (F039) contained a rectangular shaped cut measuring 0.66m in length by 0.52m in width and contained seven decayed wooden stakes / posts.
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- Pit 1: Pit (F034) was semi-circular in shape and measured 1.05m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.4m. It was cut by a drainage ditch and was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 2: Pit (042) was also cut by a drainage ditch. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1m by 0.47m with a depth of 0.24m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 3: F013 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.1m by 1m with a depth of 0.11m. This pit was also cut by a modern drainage ditch. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 4: This pit (F017) was circular in shape and measured 0.62m by 0.56m with a depth of 0.13m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 5: Pit (F019) was oval in shape and measured 0.91m by 0.62m with a depth of 0.19m. It had steep sides, a flat base and was filled with burnt mound material. The basal fill was composed of a black loam with charcoal flecking. A basal sherd of prehistoric pottery was recovered from this deposit.
- Pit 6: F012 was an outlying pit and was oval in shape. It measured 1.87m by 1.55m with a depth of 0.25m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: Basal sherd of prehistoric pottery from pit (F019)
- Ecofacts: Four hazelnut shells were recovered from the fill of trough 2 (F039)

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound (F004)  
C14 (lab unknown) 3800±70 BP (2460–2030 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit (F012)  
C14 (lab unknown) 3880±80 BP (2570–2130 BC)  
Wood (hazel stake) from the wattle-lined trough (F029)  
C14 (lab unknown) 3460±80 BP (1960–1540 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The radiocarbon evidence indicates that the main use of the *fulacht* took place between the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age and this is further confirmed by the base sherd of Late Neolithic pottery recovered from the pit F019, below the burnt mound. Secondary use appears to have taken place in the Early Bronze Age (Cal BC 1960–1540) when a new trough, this time wattle-lined (F029), was cut into the natural clay to the north of the site. It is unlikely that this trough was cut through the burnt mound which had clearly been disturbed by ploughing but rather at the edge of the mound which would have extended to the south.

### **References**

Russell, I. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Lisdornan, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Moorechurch	Six inch map no: 28
	Parish:	Moorechurch	NGR: 31365, 26810
	Barony:	Upper Duleek	Altitude: 28m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated within a low lying boggy area between the surrounding hills and ridges and lay below a layer of humic peat that had formed within the area over the centuries since its abandonment.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the limits of excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound, two possible troughs and 37 pits, nineteen of these were situated adjacent to the site.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F003) was oval in shape and measured 16.5m by 11m with a thickness of 0.28m. It was composed of black, charcoal-rich sandy clay and heat-shattered stone. A charcoal sample from the base of the mound material is dated to the Early Neolithic Period.
Trough 1:	This pit (F050) was oval in shape and measured 3.3m by 2.8m with a depth of 0.3m. This was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The pit naturally filled with water during the excavation.
Pit Group 1:	Eighteen pits were exposed beneath the burnt mound material. These were oval in shape with some possibly functioning as troughs. Most were filled with burnt mound material.
Trough 2:	This trough (F021) was oval in shape and measured 2.8m by 2m with a depth of 0.4m. An oval shaped area of flat stones lined a portion of the pit and was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

Pit Group 2: A total of nineteen outlying pits were exposed to the south and west of the burnt mound. These contained dark silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A charcoal sample from one is dated to the Middle Neolithic Period.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone consisting of cattle was recovered from a shallow depression north of the site and from one of the pits.

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound (F003)  
C14 (Beta-159679)  $5040 \pm 70$  BP (3971–3667 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit (F024)  
C14 (Beta-159678)  $4650 \pm 70$  BP (3637–3120 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

This burnt mound was revealed in advance of the Northern Motorway Scheme (Russell 2001). The site consisted of a burnt mound that overlay a trough and numerous pits. A total of nineteen pits were also excavated adjacent to the mound, one of which was interpreted as another possible trough. The radiocarbon evidence was retrieved from the burnt mound (Beta-159679) and from one of the adjacent pits which contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal (Beta-159678). The number of pits identified at the site combined with the difference in the radiocarbon dates, suggests prolonged pyrolithic water-boiling activity during the Early to Middle Neolithic. Animal bone retrieved from the site also suggests that food was cooked, possibly boiled in a similar fashion to Bronze Age *fulachtaí fia*.

### References

Russell, I. 2001. *Archaeological excavations at Moorechurch, Co. Meath. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.*

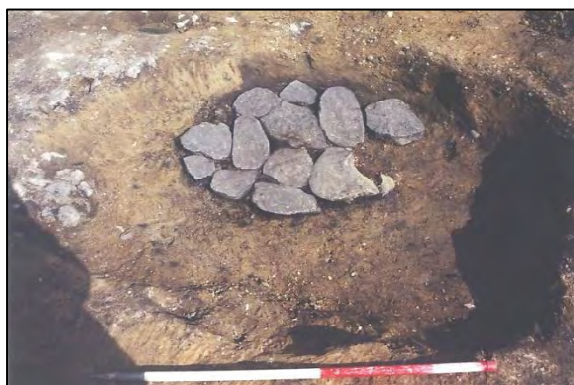


Plate 10.101 Stone-lined pit and boiling troughs at Moorechurch, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Claristown	Six inch map no: 28
	Parish:	Moorechurch	NGR: 31415, 26771
	Barony:	Upper Duleek	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated within a low lying boggy close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two *fulachtaí fia* separated by a post-medieval field boundary. Twenty-two pits, two possible troughs, post-holes and a linear feature were exposed at one site dating to the Late Neolithic while the other contained seven pits, two troughs, overflow channels and stake-hole concentrations dating to the Middle Bronze Age. No other information is available for the site.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	Flint cores and a pestle and mortar deliberately placed in the trough.
Ecofacts:	None

#### **Dating:**

Absolute dating:	None
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#### **References**

Russell, I. 2003. Claristown 1, Claristown. *Fulachta fiadh*. In I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 288. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Johnstown	Six inch map no: 48
	Parish:	Fennor	NGR: 277328, 240460
	Barony:	Lower Duleek	Altitude: 75m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Ruth Elliot	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located west of the entrance road to Johnstown House and east of the Enfield to Edenderry Road. A small stream was situated immediately north of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large trough and a number of pits filled with heat-shattered stone. No spread of burnt mound material was revealed.
Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1m with a depth of 0.2m. Stake-holes cut the base of the trough in each of the corners suggesting it may have originally held a timber-lining. The trough was filled with dark silts, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pits 1-2:	Two pits were revealed adjacent to the trough. Pit 1 was roughly circular in shape and measured 0.42m by 0.48. It was filled with dark grey silty clay, charcoal and burnt stone. Pit 2 was oval in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.15m.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### **References**

Russell, I. 2003. Johnstown. Fulacht fiadh. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, 299. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Rathmullan	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Donore	NGR: 306630, 273660
	Barony:	Lower Duleek	Altitude: 56m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Northern Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Northern Motorway Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two pits filled with deposits of dark silts, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. They may represent outlying features from a potential *fulacht fia* that lies outside the area of investigation.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Animal bone was recovered from the base of one of the pits.

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of one of the pits C14 (Beta-186490) 3250±60 BP (1630–1400 BC)

#### **References**

Russell, I. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Rathmullan, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Rossan	Six inch map no: 46
	Parish:	Clonard	NGR: 260550, 243580
	Barony:	Moyfenrath	Altitude: 75m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Eoin Corcoran	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M4 Motorway Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a severely truncated burnt mound site with the remains of two troughs and several pits.
Burnt Mound:	There was no indication of a burnt mound on the site however several charcoal-rich deposits were revealed. The site was heavily truncated and disturbed by agricultural activity.
Trough 1:	Trough (F132) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.98m by 1.24m with a depth of 0.17m. It had vertical sides and an irregular base which was cut by seven stake-holes in each of the corners. The primary fill of the trough was composed of black clayey sand and charcoal.
Trough 2:	Trough (F138) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.52m by 1.95m with a depth of 0.25m. It had vertical sides and a flat base which was cut by four stake-holes located in each of the corners. The primary fill was composed of dark sandy clay and charcoal.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	Two pieces of struck flint and one piece of worked chert were recovered from the pits.
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Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough 2  
C14 (Beta-177423) 2870±80 BP (1290–830 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough  
C14 (Beta-177424) 2750±80 BP (1100–790 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed two pyrolithic boiling troughs that produced evidence to suggest they were timber-lined. No burnt mound was identified and it is suggested that this may have been completely removed by agricultural processes. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location possibly for cooking.

**References**

Corcoran, E. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Rossan, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Plate 10.102 Rectangular troughs with internal timber supports at Rossan, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Towlaght	Six inch map no: 47
	Parish:	Clonard	NGR: 264616, 243634
	Barony:	Moyfenrath	Altitude: 67m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Motorway Scheme	
	Site Director:	Stephen J. Linnane	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a natural depression which may have formed a pond during the prehistoric period.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M4 Motorway Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the investigation

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a severely truncated burnt mound that was badly disturbed by deep ploughing.

Burnt Spread: Only a part of the *fulacht fia* lay within the road-take and it seems probable that the larger part of the material and associated features such as troughs lie to the north of the excavated area. The burnt spread consisted of black, silty clay with charcoal and heat shattered stone fragments. On the higher ground, to the north of the site, the material had been badly disturbed by ploughing but as the natural dipped into the area of the pond it was too deep to have been totally destroyed by ploughing. In this area the deposit had a maximum depth of c.0.40m and this thinned as it extended into the pond area.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

### References

Linnane, S. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Towlaght 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Arodstown	Six inch map no: 43
	Parish:	Kilmore	NGR: 287373, 251053
	Barony:	Upper Deece	Altitude: 78m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emmet Byrnes	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Truncated remains of an Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> (MH10)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two burnt spreads and their associated troughs. Both sites were truncated by filed drains and plough furrows.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound (F2) survived as a spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material. It measured 12.5m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m

Trough: The trough (F10) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.15m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.55m. A compact clay lining was noted at in the base and the sides of the pit. A charcoal sample from this spread is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

#### Site B

Burnt Mound: This spread (F32) was revealed c. 10m to the east of Site A. It was irregular in shape and measured 7m by 10m with a maximum thickness of 0.12m. It was composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich silty material.

Trough: The trough (F20) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 0.9m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of trough (F10)  
C14 (UB-6159) 3734±50 BP (2290–2010 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of trough (F10)  
C14 (UB-6160) 3680±31 BP (2190–1950 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Archaeological excavation revealed two contemporary burnt mound sites composed of spreads of heat-shattered stone and single troughs, one of which had a possible clay lining suggesting may have been filled manually. The sites can be interpreted as pyrolithic water-boiling areas.

**References**

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 315. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Arodstown	Six inch map no: 43
	Parish:	Kilmore	NGR: 287227, 251068
	Barony:	Upper Deece	Altitude: 78m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emmet Byrnes	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a thin spread of burnt mound material, a trough and two pits. The site was truncated by later agricultural activity.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread deposit measured 5m by 4m with a maximum thickness of 0.08m. It was composed of four thin deposits of silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The site was truncated by later agricultural activity.
Trough:	The trough (F2) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.4m. Three fills were noted in the trough composed of burnt mound material.
Pits:	Two pits were also revealed adjacent to the trough. No other information available.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of trough (F2) C14 (UB-6161) 3739±33 BP (2280–2030 BC)

**References**

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 316. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Cloncowan	Six inch map no: 42
	Parish:	Rathmolyon	NGR: 275293, 248847
	Barony:	Lower Moyfenrath	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Christine Baker	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a steep slope below the crest of a hill, at a point where marshy pasture becomes bog.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and the full extent of the site was not revealed during the investigation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound that extended beyond the wayleave, an oval trough, a shallow pit, stake-holes and two post-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The full extent of the mound was not revealed during the excavation. The exposed portion measured 3.5m by 3.5m with a thickness of 0.3m and was situated 2m downslope from the trough. A rough brushwood layer was identified between the two main layers.
Trough:	The trough was oval in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.74m. It contained twelve distinct fills and the base was cut by twenty-three stake holes suggesting the presence of a wattle-lining.
Stake-Holes:	Eight stake-holes and two post-holes were revealed to the north-west of the trough. No discernable plan could be identified.
Pit:	A small oval pit was revealed immediately south-east of the trough. It measured 1.2m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.16m. It contained black sandy silt and charcoal, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel, oak and ash) from the fill of trough (F6)  
C14 (GrN-24612) 3710±60 BP (2290–1920 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel, oak and ash) from the fill of trough (F9)  
C14 (GrN-28361) 3730±40 BP (2290–2020 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound that extended beyond the limits of pipeline corridor. A potential boiling trough was stratigraphically associated with the burnt stone suggesting a connection with pyrolithic water-boiling. The pit displayed evidence of the remains of a wattle-lining, a common lining technique during the Chaloclitic/Early Bronze Age. This is confirmed by the radiocarbon dates for the site. The stake-holes may relate to some stake structure associated with a hearth that did not survive archaeologically.

**References**

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 319. Wordwell, Bray

Location:	Townland:	Clonymeath	Six inch map no: 43
	Parish:	Galtrim	NGR: 285761, 251025
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emmet Byrnes	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a steep slope below the crest of a hill. Excavation revealed a possible well.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. The burnt mound survived as an extant monument prior to ground works. It measured 16m by 10m with a height of 0.4m. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, two troughs and an associated well or cistern.
Burnt Mound:	The full extent of the mound was not revealed during the excavation. The exposed portion measured 16m by 10m with a maximum height of 0.4m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough 1:	This trough (F11) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.2m by 1.44m with a depth of 0.42m. It was filled with burnt mound material, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age. The large pit or sump lay adjacent to this trough.
Pit/Well:	A large oval pit lay adjacent to the trough. It measured 4.79m by 4.04m with a depth of 0.6m. It was filled with black silty sand and burnt sandstone. Animal bone identified as a pigs rib was identified in the pit.
Trough 2:	This trough (F60) was not fully revealed but was roughly sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2.1m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.4m and was filled with burnt mound material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	Flint blade was recovered from the burnt mound
Ecofacts:	Animal bone (pig) was recovered from the sump/well

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound (F1) C14 (UB-6165) 3745±32 BP (2285–2041 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of trough (F11) C14 (UB-6166) 3787±31 BP (2337–2138 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Partial excavation of this extant burnt mound revealed two troughs, one of which was connected to a lower pit that possibly functioned as a reservoir or well feature, supplying water for the trough. There are no other water-sources in the vicinity of the site. This pit may have also functioned as an emptying cistern for the trough, where used water could have been released to the lower pit after it was used. Animal bone recovered from this pit may indicate that the site functioned as a water-boiling area for cooking.

**References**

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 322. Wordwell, Bray

Location:	Townland:	Cooksland	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 285761, 251025
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 102m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Christine Baker	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on a gentle north-facing slope in level pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a truncated burnt mound site. A number of troughs were identified along with stake-holes and several intercutting pits. The site was cut by a stone-filled drain and a number of furrows.
Burnt Spread:	Three spreads of burnt mound material were exposed on the site. These were revealed in shallow cuts. F1 measured 3.6m by 2.6m while F12 measured 2.97m by 1.62m. F13 was the smallest deposit measuring 1.25m by 1.15m. All were composed of grey marl, charcoal-rich clay and heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough:	The trough (F19) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.65m. The fill consisted of compact black silty clay with charcoal-inclusions.
Pits:	Four intercutting pits were exposed immediately east of the trough. No other information available.
Stake-Holes:	Ten stake-holes appeared to form an arc enclosing the features on site at one end. This may have functioned as a windbreak for the site.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	A flint flake and a single piece of chert were recovered from the site
Ecofacts:	None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of pit (F9) C14 (UB-4993) 3928±36 BP (2565–2336 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit (F24) C14 (UB-4994) 3840±42 BP (2463–2145 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a number of small deposits of waste-firing material associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. The presence of a well-defined unlined trough may confirm this suggestion. The site may have functioned as a small-scale, temporary pyrolithic site for cooking.

### **References**

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 323. Wordwell, Bray

Location:	Townland:	Knockmark	Six inch map no: 44
	Parish:	Knockmark	NGR: 294079, 252635
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Emmet Byrnes	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on a gentle north-facing slope in level pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: The site was inadvertently damaged by heavy machinery and only one of the remnants of the conjoined burnt mounds survived. This measured 5m by 2m with a thickness of 0.2m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone and shale. A flint knife was recovered from the spread.

### Finds:

Artefacts: A flint blade was recovered from the spread.

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

### References

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 326. Wordwell, Bray

Location:	Townland:	Lagore Little	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Ratoath	NGR: 294079, 252635
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on a gentle north-facing slope in level pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> 83m to the west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, two troughs and two pits.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was composed of blackened earth, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 16m by 5.4m.
Trough 1:	This trough (F5) was oval in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.23m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
Trough 2:	This trough (F11) was irregular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.1m with a depth of 1.1m. A thin layer of heat-shattered stone lined the base of the feature. It seems likely that the trough was allowed to silt up after it was abandoned. Two small pits were also revealed adjacent to this trough filled with heat-shattered stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 328. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Lagore Little	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Ratoath	NGR: 299593, 253502
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on a gentle north-facing slope in level pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> 83m to the east		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, two troughs and two pits.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound survived as a spread of heat-shattered stone that measured 5m by 2m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 1:	This pit was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.9m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.25m. Two fills were noted in the cut consisting of a humic silt and slumped natural subsoil.
Pit 2:	This pit was oval in shape and measured 0.87m by 0.78m with a depth of 0.18m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### **References**

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 328. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Ballynamona	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Galtrim	NGR: 286200, 251900
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Quarry Site	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical location of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a proposed quarry site. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily ploughed out burnt mound. No finds were recovered and the site was not scientifically dated.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a thin spread of heat-shattered sandstone and limestone in a matrix of charcoal-rich clay. The deposit measured 6.35m by 3.5m. Two smaller patches of similar material were also identified adjacent to this deposit. The material was patchy and damaged by ploughing.
Trough 1:	This possible trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.5m by 1.15m and was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone.
Trough 2:	This was another possible trough that was also sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2.2m by 1.7m and was filled with burnt stone.
Pit:	This pit was revealed north-east of the burnt spread. It was irregular in shape and measured 3.75m by 2.25m and was filled with deposits of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone with charcoal-rich material.

**References**

Murphy, D. 2006. Ballynamona. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*, 361. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Athboy Road	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Unknown	NGR: 279500, 257300
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Unknown	
	Site Director:	Alan Hayden	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a slight rise in a low-lying area prone to flooding.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a heavily ploughed out burnt mound that survived as a number of patchy deposits of heat-shattered stone. A number of pits were identified, two of which may have functioned as troughs. Several pits intercut suggesting several phases of activity. No other information is available.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	Leaf-shaped arrowhead
Ecofacts:	None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	None

**References**

Hayden, A. 2006. Athyboy Road. Burnt Mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Carranstown	Six inch map no: 27
	Parish:	Duleek	NGR: 305350, 271350
	Barony:	Lower Duleek	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Quarry	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Arch-Tech Ltd.	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on level ground at the base of a south-facing slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations. It is located c. 5km from the complex of megalithic monuments in the Boyne Valley.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Three possible structures		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a quarry extension. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a number of possible structures and a large burnt mound that overlay a number of possible troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material covered an irregular area measuring 40m by 35m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It was composed of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal.
Trough 1:	This trough was oval in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.6m and was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone. The base of the pit was cut by eight stake-holes suggesting the presence of some organic lining.
Trough 2:	This trough was sub-circular in shape and was cut internally by a number of stake-holes. This trough was connected to trough 3 by a gully or channel.
Trough 3:	The trough was connected to trough 2 by a gully or channel. The pit was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.4m in diameter and was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.
Pit/well?:	This pit was rectangular in shape and measured 5.45m by 3.5m. A large circular pit was located in its northern end. This measured 2.2m in diameter with a depth of 2.39m. The feature was cut by a townland boundary but was

filled with heat-shattered stone. The lower fill was composed of organic layers that produced two stakes.

- Pit 2: This pit was circular in shape and measured 1.1m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.2m. A shallow gully ran eastwards from the pit for a distance of 4m before it was cut by a later feature. Thirteen stake-holes and two post-holes were recorded around the pit and the western portion of the gully.
- Structure 1: This possible structure underlay the burnt spread and was composed of seventy-five stake-holes that formed a semi-circular arc. A further cluster of fourteen stake-holes were recorded in the centre of the possible structure that was contained within an area measuring 8m by 2.5m.
- Structure 2: This possible structure lay under a small deposit of burnt mound material in a shallow depression that measured 2.6m by 2.1m. It was defined by a series of 37 stake-holes that formed a U-shaped structure.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound and several troughs, some of which produced evidence to suggest they may have been timber-lined originally. This would confirm that the site functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling area consistent with a *fulacht fia* that was used over a long period of time. The possible structure identified on site may have been temporary shelters for this activity or they may have functioned as possible sweatlodges using a similar pyrolithic technology.

#### **References**

Dehaene, G. 2006. Cruicerath and Carranstown. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*, 368. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Fleenstown Little	Six inch map no: 45
	Parish:	Donaghmore	NGR: 307155, 249824
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 65m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Cara Murray	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located in the topographical section associated with tributaries of the Broad Meadow River. This area has clearly been affected by land improvement works, particularly associated with drainage.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations. The nearest recorded prehistoric site is a possible ring-ditch located c. 1.5m to the north-east (ME045-010). Other prehistoric sites have also been identified nearby, as a result of works on this road scheme. To the west of Site 14, in Harlockstown, an extensive prehistoric multi-phase Site 19 (03E1526 ext.) lay immediately to the south of the *fulacht fia* Site 20 (03E1310 ext.)

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Bronze Age pit and area of burning

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed separate areas of prehistoric activity. Area A revealed an Early Bronze Age pit while Area B revealed a burnt spread.

**Burnt Spread:** The burnt mound material was oval in shape and measured 2.2m by 2.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.13m. It was composed of dark sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. No cut features were identified.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

### **References**

Murray, C. 2008. Archaeological excavations at Fleenstown, Co. Meath. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Baltrasna	Six inch map no: 45
	Parish:	Ratoath	NGR: 307185, 250457
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 67m OD
	County :	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Cara Murray	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in the topographical section associated with tributaries of the Broad Meadow River. This area has clearly been affected by land improvement works, particularly associated with drainage. The landscape in which the site was located is gently undulating, associated with the tributaries of Broad Meadow River. A natural spring was identified upslope from the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations. The nearest recorded prehistoric site is a possible ring-ditch located c. 1.5m to the north-east (ME045-010). Other prehistoric sites have also been identified nearby, as a result of works on this road scheme. To the west of Site 14, in Harlockstown, an extensive prehistoric multi-phase Site 19 (03E1526 ext.) lay immediately to the south of the <i>fulacht fia</i> Site 20 (03E1310 ext.)		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two *fulachtaí fia* approximately 43m apart that situated adjacent to an ancient paleochannel.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound (F4) was irregular in shape and was composed of a single deposit of yellow quartz sandstone and some limestone in a matrix of black charcoal-rich silt. It measured 8.15m by 6.3m with a maximum thickness of 0.25m.

Trough: The trough (F28) was sub-circular in shape and 6m downslope from a natural spring. It measured 1.8m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.45m and upcast

from the digging of the pit was noted at one side. Two fills were noted in the pit composed of grey clayey silt that was overlain with burnt mound material. A piece of scorched alder wood from this deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Pit:** A small pit (F40) was situated adjacent to the trough. It was sub-oval in shape and measured 0.45m by 0.66m with a depth of 0.34m. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and burnt stone. A post-hole was also revealed close the pit.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** This burnt mound deposit (F100) was situated adjacent to the trough and measured 4.5m by 6.1m with a thickness of 0.13m. It was composed of heat-shattered sandstone and limestone in a matrix of black silty clay.

**Trough:** The trough (F107) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.19m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.3m. Four decayed fragments of a wooden plank were found on the base of the trough over a deposit of silty sand and pebbles. The upper fill was composed of burnt mound material.

**Hearth:** A possible hearth was identified 1.5m north-east of the trough. It consisted of an irregular area of oxidised subsoil that measured 2.03m by 3.75m.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Two pieces of flint debitage were recovered from the topsoil

**Ecofacts:** Small animal bone fragments were recovered from the post-hole.

## **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the lower fill of trough (Site A)  
C14 (WK-17932) 3658±30 BP (2140–1940 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mound deposits and associated water-boiling troughs, both of which produced evidence to suggest they were timber-lined. A large formal hearth was associated with the trough at Site B suggesting that stones were heated and deposited immediately into the nearby trough. The recovery of animal bone fragments from the excavation may suggest that the location was used for boiling meat during the Early Bronze Age.

## **References**

Murray, C. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ballytarsna, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



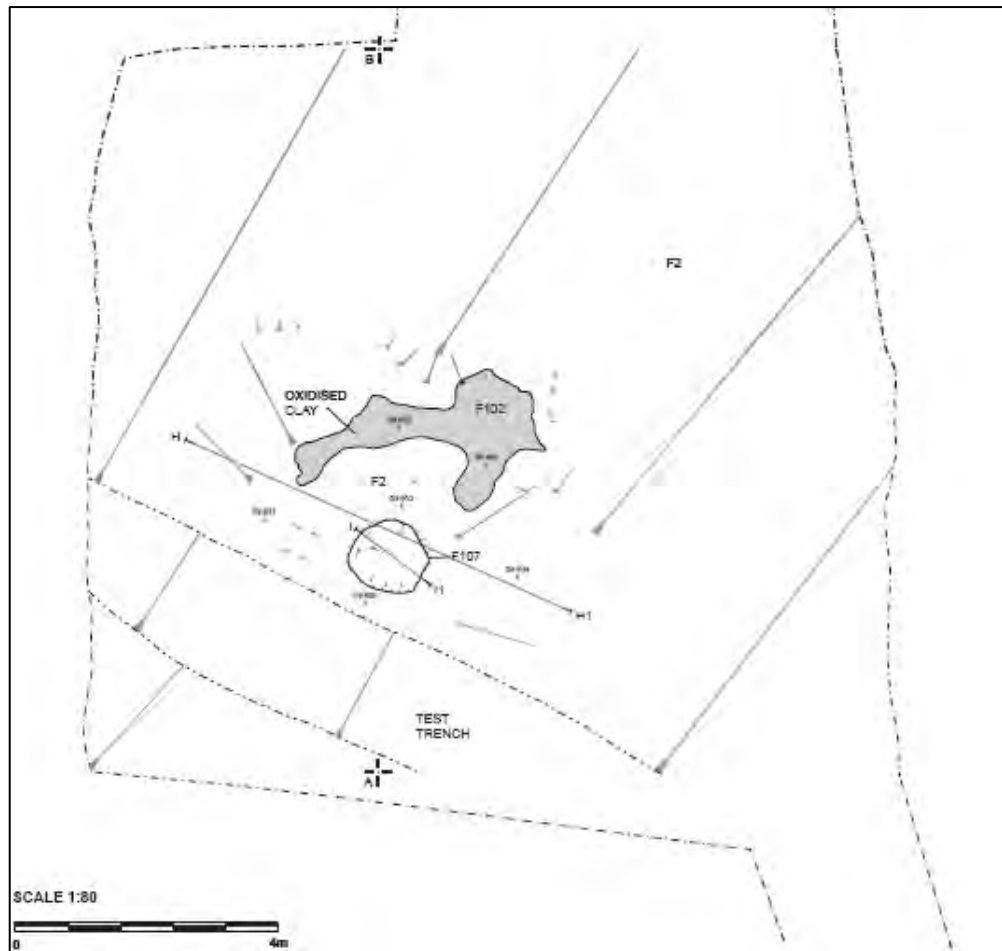


Fig.10.120 Burntmound, hearth and trough pit at Ballytarsna, Co. Meath.



Location:	Townland:	Harlockstown	Six inch map no: 45
	Parish:	Ratoath	NGR: 305046, 251010
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 66m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Cara Murray	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in the topographical section associated with tributaries of the Broad Meadow River. The site was situated towards the base of a slight depression in this field, 17m from the canalised section of the Broad Meadow River tributary.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological investigations. The nearest recorded prehistoric site is a possible ring-ditch located c. 1.3m to the south (ME045-010). Other prehistoric sites have also been identified nearby, as a result of works on this road scheme. To the west of Site 14, in Harlockstown, an extensive prehistoric multi-phase Site 19 (03E1526 ext.) lay immediately to the south of the <i>fulacht fia</i> Site 20 (03E1310 ext.)		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during excavation as it lay beyond the limits of excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and four troughs, two of which produced timber-linings.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F10) was not fully revealed during the excavation but the exposed portion measured 19.7m by 9.3m with a thickness of 0.23m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. No distinct layers could be determined in the make-up of the mound during the excavation.
Trough 1:	Trough (F26) was oval in shape and measured 1.37m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.29m. The pit was lined with the remnants of four timber planks that

were in a poor condition. The basal fill was composed of black silty clay, stones and charcoal which was overlain by clay.

Trough 2: This trough (F12) partly cut the previous pit. It was also roughly oval in shape and measured 1.35m by 1.09m with a depth of 0.29m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

Trough 3: Trough (F21) was not fully revealed during excavation as it lay outside the wayleave however the exposed portion measured 1.05m by 0.51m with a depth of 0.22m. The trough was filled with charcoal-rich material and deposits of heat-shattered stone.

Trough 4: Trough (F24) was oval in shape and measured 1.3m by 1m with a depth of 0.23m. It had straight sides and an irregular base and was lined with five timber planks. The trough was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### Finds:

Artefacts: A flint side scraper was recovered from the burnt mound material

Ecofacts:

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the lower fill of trough 4 (F24)  
C14 (WK-17947) 3730±47 BP (2290–1970 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the lower fill of trough 3 (F21)  
C14 (WK-17948) 3779±31 BP (2300–2050 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound that was not fully exposed due to pipeline constraints and four possible boiling troughs, two of which had preserved timber linings. The site was dated to the chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age period and can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area possibly used for cooking.

### References

Murray, C. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Harlockstown 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Plate 10.103 Burnt mound and plan-lined trough at Harlockstown 1, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Harlockstown	Six inch map no: 45
	Parish:	Ratoath	NGR: 305141, 250751
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 66m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Finglas to Ashbroune Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Cara Murray	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was set in a gently undulating landscape associated with the tributaries of the Broad Meadow River, in a field that that was waterlogged and marshy.		
Cultural Landscape:	The nearest recorded prehistoric site is a possible ring-ditch located to the north of the site (ME045-010). Other prehistoric sites have also been identified in Harlockstown during the course of this project including the <i>fulacht fia</i> at Site 20 (03E1310) and two small burnt mound sites excavated, 2.1km to the east at Site 15 (03E1361) in Ballytarsna.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound that extended beyond the limits of the excavation and a possible trough.
Burnt Mound:	The exposed portion of the burnt mound was revealed as a small deposit of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. The deposit measured 1.6m by 2.1 with a thickness of 0.26m
Pit/Trough:	The possible trough (F5) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.15m by 0.88m with a depth of 0.17m. It was filled with burnt stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Murray, C. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Harlockstown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Rath	Six inch map no: 39
	Parish:	Cookstown	NGR: 305050, 254100
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 66m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Holger Schweitzer	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site consisted of three separate fields within the townland of Rath. Fields 2 and 3 were located to the south-west of the current N2. Field 3, at the southernmost extent, occupied the base and southern slope of a hill which rises north into Field 2 and levels out, but drops gently toward the west and east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Known prehistoric monuments in the immediate vicinity of the area appear to be mainly of Bronze Age date. A Bronze Age ring-ditch (ME045-002) was discovered through aerial photography in Killegland 2km to the south of the site. A Bronze Age stone lined cist; containing cremated human remains in funerary vessel have been discovered in Ratoath c. 4km to the southwest of Rath. Further Bronze Age activity was recorded in Cookstown townland c. 0.5km south of the site. Several other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were revealed during this road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Complex of prehistoric features including ring-ditches and waterholes.		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Finglas to Ashbourn Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Features uncovered on the site include two possible steam/sweat lodges, four ring-ditches and barrows and three large water-logged pits. The pyrolithic features were found at the southernmost extent of the excavation area adjacent to a streambed.		
Burnt Spreads:	Two thin spreads of burnt mound material in shallow cuts or depressions F102 and F106 were located in the south-eastern corner of Area 1, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the east. Depression F102 measured 6.5m by 5m by 0.05m. F106 was recorded in an area measuring 1.6m by 1.55, and was located 0.7m to the west of F102. The burnt mound material F342 = F392 within these contained frequent charcoal and heat shattered stone. Both spreads were probably originally the same feature, which spread thinly over a larger area as a consequence of erosion and agricultural truncation.		

- Water-hole:** Waterhole F165 consisted of a large sub-oval cut measuring 10.7m by 6.5m and up to 1.3m in depth, which was centrally located in the southern half of Area 1. The notion that this feature most likely served as a waterhole is evidenced by its' thick marly fills, indicative of waterlogging over extended periods of time. Sharp southern, south-eastern and south-western slopes contrasted with the north-eastern slope which was very gradual, gently sloping into the pit and most likely provided the access point to it. Covering the base of the waterhole were a series of waterlogged deposits which contained rich organic remains, including plant remains and worked wood. The worked wood consisted of simple chisel and wedge worked ends. Plant species identified in the waterlogged deposits of the water hole were hazelnut shells and weed seeds. A possible spear-head shaft and saddle quern were recovered from the feature.
- Water-Channel:** Waterhole F165 was fed by a gully, F702 which was also associated with sweat lodge F340. This group of features are likely to be broadly contemporary and functionally related, with the gully feeding the waterhole to provide a water source for the sweat lodge. The gully measured 22m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.6m
- Sweatlodge 1:** The sweat lodge structure was located to the west of the waterhole F165 where 49 stake-holes appeared to be the remains of successive circular tent-like structures. The stake-holes were associated with an external hearth F208, an internal pit F192 and a beaten earth surface. Due to the heavy agricultural truncation of this area and the high number of stake-holes, the exact number of structures cannot be determined but it appears that two to three structures existed in short succession. Several pits in the immediate vicinity of the sweat lodge appear to have been associated with it and these may represent post pits or similar structural features, however their function is unclear. A sub-rectangular pit F192 which measured 0.76m by 0.49m by 0.35m was located within the circle(s) of stake-holes, but could not be clearly associated with any specific use within the sweat lodge structure. This was filled with F976, a deposit of blackish brown sandy clay, which contained moderate stone and charcoal, similar to burnt mound material.
- Sweatlodge 2:** Steam lodge F905 was located in the north east of Area 1, to the east of the waterhole F165. This was, a rectangular structure, consisting of corner postholes and an external hearth F104, which had a flue F537 leading to the interior of the structure. Around this structure a series of different features were excavated, which appeared to be contemporary and related to it. These features included a curvilinear enclosing ditch F103 to the north, two cut terraces F147, F1293 with associated pits to the south of F905, a rectangular trough F153, and a number of shallow pits flanking the northern wall of the steam lodge. The steam-lodge structure F905 itself, together with its surrounding features indicates an elaborate system of water management combined with heating/firing processes. The sweat lodge structure was oriented northeast – southwest with the entrance to the southwest. An

external hearth F104 lay at the north-eastern side. The building measured 3m northeast to southwest and 3.2m southeast to northwest.

**Trough:** A rectangular trough F153 was excavated 0.8m west of steam lodge F905. It measured 2.04m by 1.34m and was aligned roughly NNE-SSW. Its depth varied between 0.38m and 0.14m. Three stake-holes F521, F519, and F523 were identified at the northwest, northeast and southwest corners, which indicated a potential wood lining of the trough. The troughs basal fill was F408, a deposit of burnt mound material with occasional fragments of burnt bone. This was overlain by F339, charcoal rich clayey silt. No finds were recovered from this feature. This trough is thought to be associated with the steam lodge due to the similarity in fills, which contained burnt mound material, and due to its proximity to the entrance of the building.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Copper alloy, ring pin, bronze fibula. Saddle quern and numerous flint flakes.

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone was recovered from the well.

### **Dating:**

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough (F1189)  
C14 (WK-18207) 2897±53 BP (1260–920 BC)  
Charcoal (blackthorn) from the fill of pit (F263)  
C14 (WK-18206) 2812±31 BP (1050–840 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of hearth/furnace (F346)  
C14 (WK-17942) 2170±32 BP (370–110 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Features uncovered on the site included steam lodges (Area 1) with associated features, ring-ditches (Areas 2 and 5) and three large waterlogged pits (Areas 1 and 6a). Industrial activity was evidenced by a metal working area and a kiln or roasting pit (Area 4). A number of the ring-ditches contained deposits of cremated human bone and one contained a crouched inhumation. The remains of an isolated child burial, were excavated in Area 4. In Area 1 a group of related Bronze Age features included steam lodge F340, waterhole F165 and water channel/gully F702. Area 1 was located at the south west of the excavation area, towards the bottom of a steep south facing slope, on a natural terrace, overlooking a stream at its' southern extent. Steam lodge F340 consisted of a circular arrangement of 49 stakeholes with an internal shallow pit F192 and beaten earth floor indicating a tent-like structure serving as a small steam lodge. A hearth (F208) located at the north of the structure may have been used to heat stones. Gully F702 to the south of this structure in all likelihood fed a substantial waterhole F165 to the east of the structure. Iron Age activity in Area 1 was represented by construction of steam lodge structure F905, a short distance east of the Bronze Age steam lodge F340. This rectangular building with external stake lined pit /furnace and internal flue was delimited by a series of pits and postholes, indicating a superstructure.

### **References**

Schweitzer, H. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Rath, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Causetown	Six inch map no: 29
	Parish:	Athboy	NGR: 289518, 273222
	Barony:	Lune	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Transmission station	
	Site Director:	Thaddeus Breen	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low valley with land sloping gently upwards to the north and south from a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a small 220 kv transmission station. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed the remains of an oval burnt mound composed of various deposits of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. Burnt bone was found within the deposits along with three flints. Four pits were revealed under the burnt mound material, all of which contained burnt bone. There is no other information available for the site.

<b>Finds:</b>	Artefacts:	Ecofacts:	Burnt bone
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### Dating:

Relative dating:	None
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Absolute dating:	None
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### References

Breen, T. 2007. Caustown. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004*, 297. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Drumbaragh	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 745100, 762200
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Estate	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	National Archaeological Services	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of an oval burnt mound, a rectangular trough and a number of pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was sub-oval in shape and measured 9.2m by 9.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.28m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and located c. 1.2m from the burnt mound. It had vertical sides, a flat base and measured 1.95m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.45m. Four stake-holes cut the base of the trough in each of the corners suggesting the presence of an organic lining that no longer survives.
Water-Channel:	A possible water-channel extended from the north-eastern edge of the pit in a south-east direction and may have served as an overflow outlet for the trough.
Pits:	A number of small pits were revealed under the burnt mound material and were all filled with that material. One pit was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.4m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.43m. Three deliberately placed stones were noted in the base of the feature suggesting the pit may have been lined. This may have as an additional trough or roasting pit.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:

Ecofacts:

**Dating:**

Relative dating:        None

Absolute dating:        None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and two possible troughs, both of which produced evidence to suggest they may have been internally lined. The lining technique in trough 1 was possibly composed of timber with internal supports, a common method employed during the Late Bronze Age. The stone lining noted in the other is also common during this later Bronze Age period in Ireland. The water-channel may have served as an overflow or emptying mechanism. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling site possible used for cooking.

**References**

Halpin, B. 2007. Drumbaragh, Kells. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004*, 317. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Rathmullan	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Donore	NGR: 3006800, 2873600
	Barony:	Lower Duleek	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Private Development	
	Site Director:	Melanie McQuade	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located towards the base of a low north-facing slope close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a small truncated burnt mound site and a single trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was composed of heat-shattered stone and black silty clay that measured 3.3m by 2.6m with a maximum thickness of 0.05m. The material was flanked by a number of other clay silt deposits also containing burnt stone.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.04m by 1.02m. Three stake-holes cut the base of the trough pit in the north-eastern side suggesting the presence of a lining that no longer survives.
<b>Finds:</b>	Three pieces of worked flint were recovered from the topsoil
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Halpin, B. 2007. Rathmullen. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004*, 337. Wordwell, Bray

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Location:	Townland:	Carranstown	Six inch map no: 27
	Parish:	Duleek	NGR: 305500, 271300
	Barony:	Lower Duleek	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Quarry Extension	
	Site Director:	Liam Hackett	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the base of a slope in a low-lying area, adjacent to the River Nanny.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site was situated in a particularly dense prehistoric landscape with four separate burnt mounds excavated within approximately 1km of the site (see above). Other excavated sites include a possible Bronze Age settlement and burial activity in the form of a ring-ditch.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a quarry extension. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a small burnt mound and two possible troughs, one of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was roughly circular in shape and measured 8m by 7.5m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Troughs:	Two troughs were identified on site. One was a large sub-circular pit that was filled with burnt mound material. A sub-rectangular pit was also identified with a depth of 0.1m. The base was lined with an oak plank.
<b>Finds:</b>	22 flint artefacts were recovered from the site, three of which were found within the burnt mound material. A deposit of hillwash at the base of the bank of the stream also produced a number of finds.
<b>Dating:</b>	Wood (oak) from the base of rectangular trough C14 (Lab unknown) 3622±38 BP (2031–1933 BC)

### References

Hackett, L. 2009. An excavation of a fulacht fiadh in Carranstown, Co. Meath. *Ríocht na Mídhe* 20, 24–8

Location:	Townland:	Ballinter	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Assey	NGR: 288989, 261143 288719, 260783 288764, 260763
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 45 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area on the banks of the River Skane.		
Cultural Landscape:	The sites were located <i>c.</i> 3km north-west of the Hill of Tara. The Hill of Tara has been an important focus of ritual activity through Irish prehistory and into the medieval period. The nearest archaeological site exposed during the current works was a burnt mound exposed in Balgeeth, <i>c.</i> 1.5km to the south (05E0022) dated to the start of the second millennium BC.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed three separate areas of burnt mound activity with their associated troughs located within <i>c.</i> 500m of each other.		
<b>Site A</b>			
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (F4) was identified north of the possible trough and was irregular in shape. It measured 3.6m in diameter with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It was composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich soils. Two adult cattle teeth were recovered from the deposit. A sample of charcoal is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.		
Trough:	The trough (F5) was oblong in shape and measured 1.5m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.24m. A single fill was noted in the pit composed of dark brown organic silt, wood and charcoal. A sample of charcoal from the pit is dated to the Late Neolithic period.		

**Wood Deposit:** Two decayed fragments of wood were uncovered a short distance from the burnt mound material lying parallel and immediately adjacent to one another. One was a deliberately split oak plank suggesting that these may have been timbers for a trough. A layer of alluvial material overlay this deposit which yielded animal bone consisting of cattle and horse.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound survived as three deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The main deposit (F4) overlay trough pit and was irregular in shape. It measured 5.5m in diameter with a thickness of 0.14m suggesting it had been flattened/dispersed by flooding from the adjacent river. A sample of oak from this deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Two other deposits of silt, sand and heat-shattered stone were also identified. F2 measured 4.5m in diameter while F10 measured 5.5m in length. Animal bone was recovered from an alluvial deposit below the burnt mound.

**Trough:** The trough (F7) was oblong in shape and was truncated by archaeological testing. It measured 1.4m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.3m. The primary fill of the cut consisted of a plastic grey clay, possibly inserted as a deliberate lining to waterproof the cut. Four timbers were exposed set into this fill, they were laid closely together and were composed of roundwoods identified as alder.

## **Site C**

**Burnt Mound:** A substantial deposit of charcoal-rich silt/sand and burnt/heat-shattered stone (F2) extended over the greater portion of the cutting, sealing the second possible 'trough' (F5) and its fills and extending beyond the limits of the cutting. It had a maximum thickness of 0.16m and was covered by a substantial layer of soil.

**Trough 1:** The trough (F16) was oblong in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.8m. It had a single fill composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. A deposit of organic material at the base of the pit may have represented a collapsed lining. A sample of ash is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Hearth:** Immediately south of the trough, two possible hearths were identified. They consisted of two circular areas of oxidised subsoil measuring 1m in diameter.

**Trough 2:** A second possible 'trough' cut (F5) was then exposed in the centre of the site. This consisted of a large shallow oblong cut, measuring 1.9m in length, 1.17m in width and 0.45m in depth. The fragmented and decayed remains of a wooden lining (F8) were exposed at the base of the cut; this consisted of four linear fragments of timber laid parallel, extending along the long axis of the cut. A thin layer of ash sealed the timber remains which was in turn sealed by burnt mound material. A sample of which is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

## Finds:

Artefacts:	No
Ecofacts:	Two cattle teeth were recovered from the burnt spread in Site A. Cattle, sheep or pig bones were recovered from the alluvial layer beneath the burnt mound at Site B.

## Dating:

Absolute dating:	Charcoal ( <i>pomoideae</i> ) from the lower fill of trough (F5) Site A C14 (WK-24250) 4120±30 BP (2870–2570 BC) Charcoal (hazel) from burnt spread (F4) Site A C14 (WK-24249) 3404±30 BP (1770–1620 BC) Charcoal (oak) from burnt spread (F4) Site B C14 (WK-24261) 4020±30 BP (2620–2470 BC) Charcoal (ash) from fill of trough (F16) Site C C14 (WK-24248) 3584±30 BP (2030–187 BC)
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## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation revealed three areas of burnt mound activity dating from the Chalcolithic to Early Bronze Age periods. Each deposit of burnt stone is associated with a boiling trough while two sites were found to contain animal bone suggesting they may have been used for cooking.

## References

Tobin, R. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ballinter, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

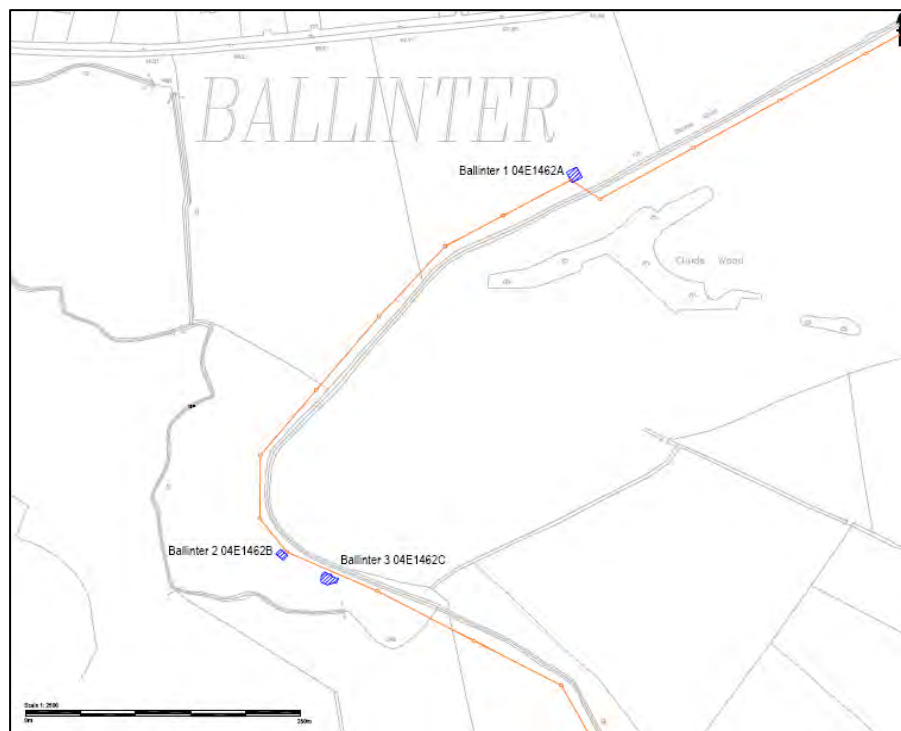


Fig. 10.121 Burnt mounds excavated along pipe scheme in Ballinter townland.

Location:	Townland:	Balgeeth	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Assey	NGR: 288627, 259260
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 45 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area on the banks of the River Skane.		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible henge at Riverstown (ME031:032) is located 1.5km to the east. ‘Ringlestown Rath’ (ME037:005) classified as a hillfort in the RMP, is located 1.8km to the southeast. During the current project two possible burnt mound sites were excavated 500-600m to the south in Balreask townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a deposit of heat-shattered stone and two possible troughs.
Burnt Mound:	A large deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich soils (F2) was situated atop the natural hillock. The deposit measured 5.45-6m in maximum diameter and 0.38m in maximum depth. The northeast extent had been truncated by the modern drainage ditch. It was composed of an even mixture of heat-shattered stone, charcoal rich soils and sand. A single cow humerus was recovered from the deposit. A sample of hazel from the spread is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Further smaller deposit of similar material were identified in the vicinity of the main mound. Six animal bones were recovered from the deposit (F3) with the only identified specimen being the distal end of a red deer humerus which was chopped crudely.
Trough 1:	This possible trough (F18) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.4m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.5m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and was filled with three distinct fills composed of deposit of burnt mound material. A sample of charcoal from the fill is dated to the Early Bronze Age.



Trough 2: Another possible trough (F10) was exposed to the north. It was oblong in shape and measured 2.2m by 1.17m with a maximum depth of 0.36m. It contained a single fill (F11), consisting of an uneven mixture of coarse sands and silty clays, dark grey in colour. A sample of oak from the fill is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: No

Ecofacts: Animal bone from the site was recovered from the burnt stone deposits. It consisted of cow and red deer, the latter fragment was composed of butchered bone.

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the trough (F18)  
C14 (WK-24245) 3632±30 BP (2130–1900 BC)  
Charcoal (oak) from the fill of the trough 2 (F10)  
C14 (WK-24246) 3617±30 BP (2120–1890 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from burnt spread (F2)  
C14 (WK-24244) 3685±30 BP (2200–1960 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound dating to the Chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age period. The presence of waste-firing material and two possible unlined troughs confirms that the site was used for pyrolithic water-boiling. Butchered animal bone recovered from the site may indicate that this activity involved cooking meat.

#### **References**

Tobin, R. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Balgeeth, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Balreask	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Balsoon	NGR: 288588, 258796 288558, 258701 288563, 258606
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 57 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The sites were located in a low-lying area on the banks of the River Skane 1.5km north of Kilmessan Village.		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible henge at Riverstown (ME031-032) is located 1.7km to the north-east. ‘Ringlestown Rath’ (ME037:005) classified as a hillfort in the RMP, is located 1.5km to the southeast, and a tumulus (ME037:007) is located in the Odder townland, 3km to the southeast. During the current project two possible burnt mound sites were excavated 500-600m to the south in Balreask townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two burnt mound sites and their associated troughs. A third site may not be classified as a similar site as only small deposits of burnt stone were noted.

### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: This was revealed as a shallow deposit of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone (F3) that lay directly on top of a series of silt layers. It was irregular in shape and measured 7m by 4m with a maximum thickness of 0.25m. The deposit appeared to have been flattened and dispersed, presumably by flooding from the adjacent river and modern ploughing. The burnt mound was sealed by a deposit of silt which yielded animal bone remains consisting of cattle bone.

- Trough:** Pit (F10) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.64m in diameter with a depth of 0.25m. Six-stake-holes cut the base of the feature forming a line on one side. A fragment of decayed timber was also identified on the base of the trough suggesting the pit was lined originally, possibly by wattle.
- Pit 1:** This pit (F17) was irregular in shape and measured 1.4m in diameter with a depth of 1m. It contained a single fill consisting of a mixture of sand, gravel and dark grey clay with wood inclusions.
- Pit 2:** Pit (F33) was revealed a short distance to the south. It was circular in shape and measured 1.2m in diameter with a depth of 0.2m. It contained a single fill consisting of a mixture of sand, gravel and dark grey clay with wood inclusions. The fill was sealed by a silt deposit that contained animal bone identified as cattle and sheep. A second silt deposit contained a red deer scapula.

## **Site B**

- Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound survived as substantial deposit of burnt/heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich soils (F3). It lay on a deposit of silt which sealed two of the small pits. The burnt spread was irregular in shape and measured 11m in diameter with a thickness of 0.2m. The original shape of the deposit had presumably been levelled and dispersed by flooding from the adjacent river and subsequent ploughing.
- Trough 1:** This pit (F39) pre-dated the first phase of flooding on the site. It was oblong in shape and measured 1.78m in diameter with a depth of 0.6m. The primary fill (F43) consisted of grey silt with frequent small stone and charcoal inclusions. The upper fills were composed of burnt mound material.
- Pit 1:** A second smaller pit cut (F15) was exposed immediately to the northeast of the possible trough F39. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.26m in diameter with a depth of 0.17m. It was filled with various silty deposit with stones and charcoal.
- Pit 2:** This pit (F22) was circular in shape and measured 1m in diameter with a depth of 0.4m. It contained fills composed of natural silts that were sealed by burnt mound material.
- Pit 3:** Pit (F24) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.24m in diameter with a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with silty clays and burnt mound material.
- Pit 4:** Pit (F17) was circular in shape and measured 0.8m in diameter with a depth of 0.3m. It contained a single fill (F18) which consisted of mixture of silty clay, small stone, charcoal and occasional wood, not dissimilar to the burnt mound material. A sample of hazel from this fill is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Trough 2:** The trough (F7) was revealed in the centre of the cutting. It was oblong in shape and measured 1.72m in diameter with a depth of 0.32m. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp and well-defined, the upper face of the

sides near vertical, the base concave, near flat. A series of twenty-three stake-holes were exposed cutting into the base. A fragment of decayed wattle-work was identified in the base of the trough suggesting that the trough was originally wattle-lined. The primary fill of the pit consisted of decayed wood, organic material and black silt. A sample of hazel charcoal from the fill is dated to the Early Bronze Age. An additional deposit of wood fragments were identified adjacent to the wickerwork which were sealed by a deposit of burnt mound material that contained animal bone consisting of red deer, cattle, sheep/goat.

## Site C

**Burnt spreads:** This site was composed of three very small deposits of charcoal-rich material that contained some burnt stone material. A sample of ash from one of the deposits is dated to the mediaeval period.

## Finds:

**Artefacts:** No

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone from the site was recovered from the burnt stone deposits. It consisted of cow and red deer, the latter fragment was composed of butchered bone.

## Dating:

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from the pit (F17) Site B  
C14 (WK-24817) 3918±30 BP (2480–2290 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough 2 (F7) Site B  
C14 (WK-24818) 3643±30 BP (2060–1920 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from charcoal deposit (Site C)  
C14 (WK-24260) 912±30 BP (AD 1030–1210)

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mound areas consisting of deposits of burnt stone associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This is confirmed by the presence of boiling troughs, both of which displayed evidence of possible wattle linings, a common trough lining during the Chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age. Site C cannot be confirmed as a burnt mound and probably relates to shrub burning during the medieval period.

## References

Tobin, R. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Balgeeth, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

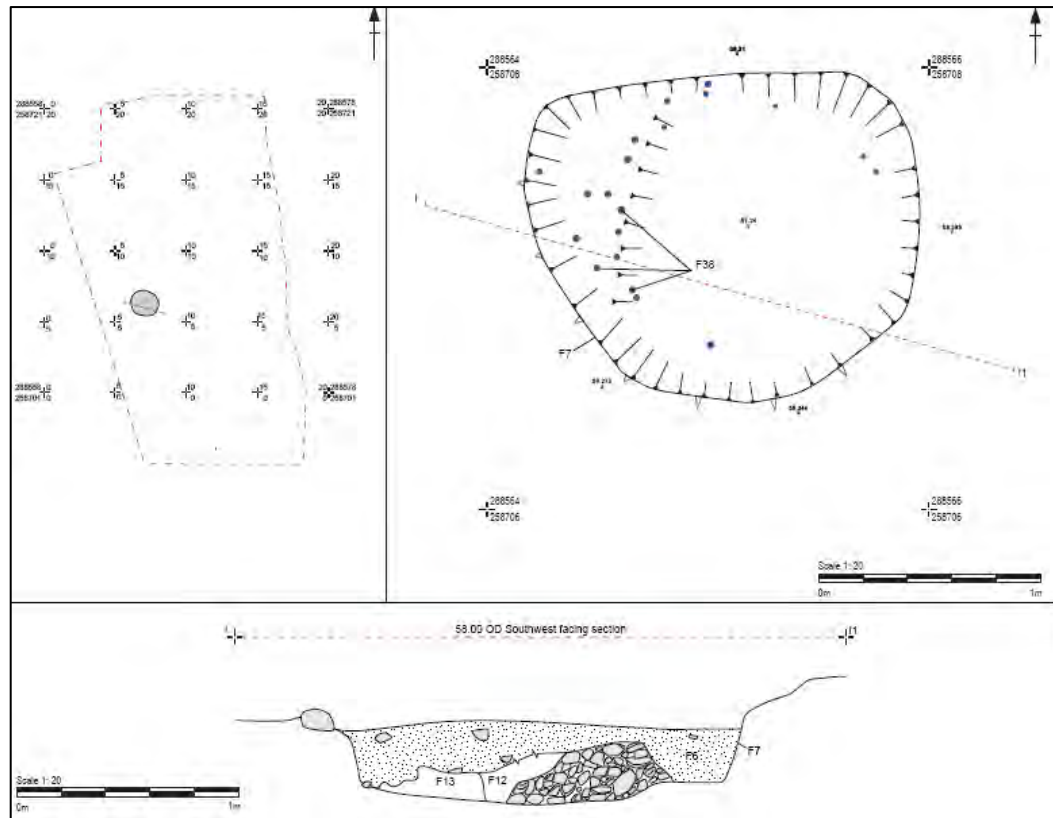


Fig. 10.122 Burnt mound and wattle-lined trough at Balgeeth, Co. Meath.



Location:	Townland:	Warrenstown	Six inch map no: 37
	Parish:	Knockmark	NGR: 292300, 254065
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 73 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Sheelagh Conran	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site lies within a level plain extending west from the banks of the River Skane in the grounds of Warrenstown College.		
Cultural Landscape:	The nearest two sites exposed during the current works were burnt mound sites. A small deposit of burnt mound material was exposed in Killeen townland c. 1.1km to the southeast (see below); the deposit was dated to the middle of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Millennium BC.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a large burnt mound that sealed a well-defined rectangular trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (F2) extended beyond the limits of the excavation. The exposed portion measured 9m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.38m. It was composed of charcoal-rich soils and heat-shattered stone, a sample of which is dated to the Late Bronze Age. The deposit contained some fragments of animal bone and was sealed by a layer of silt, presumably from various flooding events.
Trough:	The trough (F4) was rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2m by 1.18m with a maximum depth of 0.3. Four stake-holes cut the base of the trough, one in each of the corners. Traces of a wooden lining were identified along the inner face of the cut. The surviving remnants consisted of three longitudinal fragments, and sections of reddish brown soil representing the decayed fragments of additional timbers. The primary fill of the trough was composed of dark sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone, a sample of which is dated to the Late Bronze Age. The secondary fill

consisted of a light grey silt, mottled with occasional yellow flecks, presumably the product of natural silting after the site had passed out of use.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	No
Ecofacts:	Burnt and unburnt animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound deposit and from the primary fill of the trough. Cattle tooth was recovered from the trough.

### Dating:

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (birch) from the fill of the trough (F4) C14 (WK-24240) 2911±30 BP (1260–1000 BC) Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound (F2) C14 (WK-24239) 2887±30 BP (1200–970 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound deposits of heat-shattered stone and a single trough that displayed evidence to suggest it was internally lined with timber. Stake-holes recorded in each of the corners further support this. These would have been used as supports for the side walls of the trough, a common lining technique during the Late Bronze Age in Ireland (see Chapter 5). Animal bone recovered from the site suggests that the boiling water was used for cooking.

### References

Conran, S. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Warrenstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

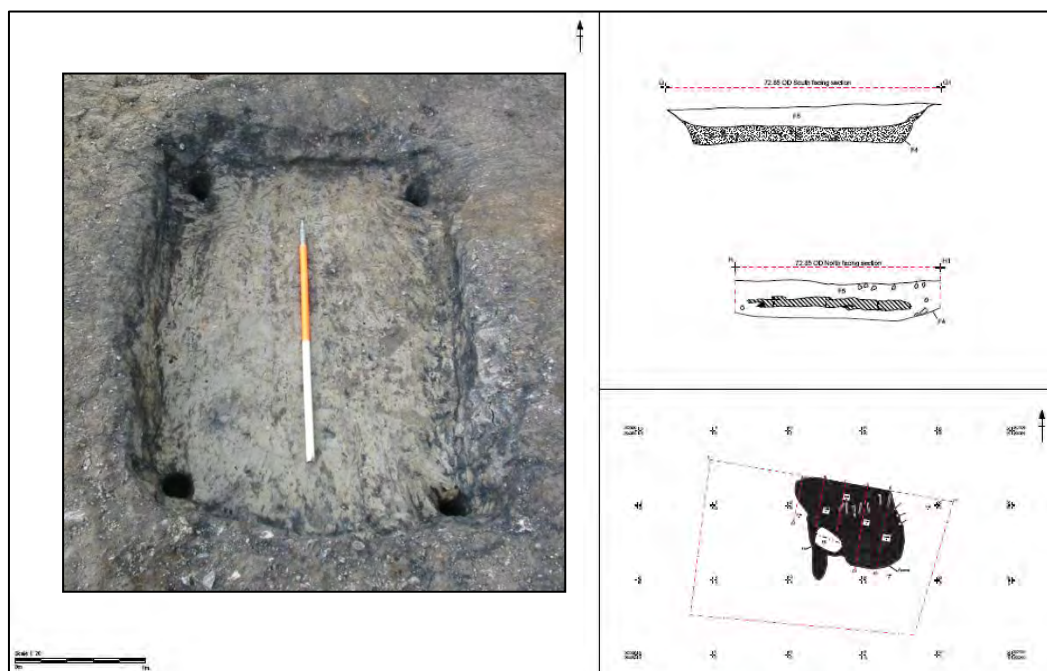


Fig. 10.123 Trough pit with internal corner supports at Warrenstown, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Kilmessan	Six inch map no: 37
	Parish:	Kilmessan	NGR: 288635, 257959
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 59 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site lies within a level plain extending west from the banks of the River Skane.		
Cultural Landscape:	During the current project three sites containing possible burnt mound deposits were exposed on the banks of the River Skane in Balreask townland, c. 750m to the north of the current site (Excavation 05E0077) and a fourth possible burnt mound site was also exposed c. 800m to the south on the banks of the same river in Kilmessan townland (Excavation 05E0689).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a small deposit of burnt mound material and a number of stake-holes. The site was truncated by a later drain feature.
Burnt Mound:	Five deposits containing heat-shattered stone and charcoal were exposed. The earliest in the stratigraphic sequence (F35) was exposed in the south-eastern portion of the cutting, directly atop natural soils. The surviving extent of the deposit was irregular in shape, measuring 8m in length, 4m in width and 0.18m in depth. Its flattened profile suggests its original extent had been dispersed by alluvial action. F2 was irregular in shape and measured 9.25m by 4.16m with a thickness of 0.3m. It extended beyond the eastern limit of excavation towards the existing river. This deposit contained a far smaller proportion of stone than the earlier 'burnt mound' deposit (F35), consisting largely of charcoal rich sandy soil. A sample from this deposit is dated to the Late Bronze Age. F8 was irregular in plan and measured 5.2m by 3m with a thickness of 0.23m. Two further smaller deposits of similar material were noted nearby.



**Stake-Holes:** A cluster of 6 stake-holes were revealed in the centre of the site. The stake-holes were too small, shallow and closely spaced to have supported a substantial structure. A common northwest-southeast orientation was apparent, but no structural form was identified.

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** No

**Ecofacts:** Three animal bone fragments were identifiable as coming from the skull of a goat, including the 'lower portion of the horn core which had been chopped at the base.

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (cherry) from the burnt mound deposit (F2)  
C14 (WK-24241) 3550±30 BP (1260–1000 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed several deposits of burnt mound material dispersed by alluvial activity and truncated by several drain features that may have removed any trace of a possible trough. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location due to the large amounts of charcoal and shattered-stone. This activity may have been associated with cooking given the recovery of animal bone fragments.

**References**

Tobin, R. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Killmessan, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilmessan	Six inch map no: 37
	Parish:	Kilmessan	NGR: 289069, 257228
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 61 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Sheelagh Conran	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on the south-western bank of the River Skane, c. 300m southeast of the village of Kilmessan, and 180m southeast of St. Mary's Church (ME037-029) and east of the attached rectory. The site is situated less than 23m west of the river.		
Cultural Landscape:	The nearest sites exposed during the current project were also possible 'burnt mound' sites: 'Kilmessan 1' (Excavation number 05E0075) c. 1km to the northwest and 'Athronan 1' (Excavation number 05E0690) and 'Athronan 2' (Excavation number 04E1499) in Athronan townland c. 1.5km to the southeast. All three sites were located on the banks of the River Skane.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed three small deposits of burnt mound material that contained animal bone.
Burnt Spread 1:	The earliest deposit of archaeological significance was (F24) which was irregular in shape. It consisted of a poorly sorted mixture of burnt/heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich soils, varying in colour from dark grey to black. The deposit was irregular in shape, measuring 3.4m by 2m with a thickness of 0.25m. Animal bone consisting of cattle, sheep/goat and red deer were recovered from the deposit. It is dated to the Early Bronze Age. The burnt stone deposit was sealed by a layer of dark brown sediment that yielded a large number of red deer bones along with horse.
Burnt Spread 2:	F18 was composed of charcoal-rich sand and heat-shattered stone. It measured 2.5m in diameter with a thickness of 0.17m.

Burnt Spread 3: This deposit (F5/F6) was irregular in shape and composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich silty clay. It measured 8m by 4m with a maximum thickness of 0.43m. A sample of alder is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Cattle bone was recovered from the deposit.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: No

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the burnt spread 1 and 3. It was identified as red deer, cattle, sheep/goat and horse.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound deposit (F24)  
C14 (WK-24268) 3589±30 BP (2030–1880 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound deposit (F14)  
C14 (WK-24267) 3550±30 BP (1950–1780 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed several deposits of burnt mound material dispersed by alluvial activity and truncated by several drain features that may have removed any trace of a possible trough. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location due to the large amounts of charcoal and shattered-stone. This activity may have been associated with cooking given the recovery of animal bone fragments.

**References**

Conran, S. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Killmessan, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Killeen	Six inch map no: 37
	Parish:	Killeen	NGR: 293372, 253615
	Barony:	Skreen	Altitude: 61 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Sheelagh Conran	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is located near the base of a south-facing slope overlooking the River Skane, within 300m of the riverbank.		
Cultural Landscape:	The first (Excavation 05E0398 Leshemstown 5) was located c. 1km to the southeast, in the townland of Leshemstown and consisted of a substantial ‘burnt mound’ dating to between 1880 and 1680 BC and a later burial dated to between 1260 and 1020 BC. The second (Excavation 05E0429) was located in Warrenstown, c. 1.1km to the northwest and consisted of a substantial ‘burnt mound’, dating from between 1260 and 970 BC.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a small spread of burnt mound material.
Burnt Spread:	The only archaeologically significant deposit exposed on the site (F3) was confined to this depression (Figures 4-5). It consisted of a deposit of charcoal rich silty clay, dark grey to black in colour, with moderate inclusions of burnt stone, measuring 0.08m in depth and 0.65m in maximum diameter. The full extent of the site was not revealed.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (blackthorn) from the burnt mound deposit (F3) C14 (WK-24268) 3545±34 BP (2008–1767 BC)

#### **References**

Conran, S. 2010. Archaeological excavations at Killeens, Co. Meath. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Athronan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killeen	NGR: 289882, 256015
	Barony:	Skreen	Altitude: 61 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Laurence McGowan	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the northern extent of a field bounded to the north by the River Skane; the field was in agricultural use as open pasture. The field is located on the gentle north-facing slope of the valley of the River Skane, which passes immediately to the north of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no sites recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places in the immediate vicinity although the complex of the Hill of Tara is situated approximately 5km to the north. During the current works the remains of what has been tentatively identified as another ‘burnt mound’ site were exposed in Athronan Little, less than 500m to the west of the current site. A more substantial ‘burnt mound’ site exposed in Kilmessan (Excavation 05E0689 Kilmessan 2) c. 1.5m km to the northwest (Excavation 05E0689; Kilmessan 2). Both sites have now been dated to the Bronze Age.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Medieval pits		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a large deposit of burnt mound material, a number of possible successive troughs and a large group of pits, some of which may have functioned as cisterns.		
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound material survived as a thin spread of charcoal-rich soil and heat-shattered stone and overlay most of the cut features on site. Two flint flakes and a number of animal bones were recovered from the deposit. These were identified as cattle and red deer. Two smaller deposits of similar material were also identified on site. These also produced animal bone and a number of flint blades.		
Troughs 1-2:	The possible ‘troughs’ consisted of two consecutive pit cuts (F96, F82) on the same location, the second largely erasing the first. The first pit was sub-		

rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 0.84m with a depth of 0.15m. Above this pit had been almost entirely removed by a second, broader pit cut (F82) in the same location; only one shallow fill (F95) was identified within the original cut, a fine-grained, black sandy silt mixed with charcoal and burnt stone, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age. The second trough was sub-circular in shape and measured 2m in diameter with a depth of 0.6m. It was filled with various deposits of heat-shattered stone and dark silty material.

- Pits:** Six pits were identified surrounding the troughs. The largest of these six pits (F61) was located *c.* 1m to the west of the central ‘troughs’. The cut was broad, 1.45m wide, but with a shallow basin-shaped profile, 0.2m deep. It was filled with deposits of burnt mound material. Four small sub-circular pits, grouped closely together, circled the western and northern sides of the central pits, from west to east: F102, F76, F101 and F84. The four pits were of broadly similar dimensions, with maximum diameters of 0.5-0.8m and maximum depths of 0.1-0.27. Pit (F67) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.54m by 0.98m with a depth of 0.15m. It contained a single fill consisting of heat-shattered stone.
- Cistern 1:** This pit (F69) was identified 6m from the trough. It was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.66m and a depth of 0.33m. It had vertical sides, a flat base and was filled with seven silt deposits with the upper fill composed of burnt mound material.
- Cistern 2:** Pit (F62) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.1m in diameter with a depth of 0.42m. The lower fill was composed of silt while the upper deposit consisted of burnt mound material. A cattle tooth was recovered from the silt fill while a sample of charcoal from the upper deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Cistern 3:** Pit (F59) was circular with a diameter of 1.1m and a depth of 0.3m. The lower fill was composed of silt while the upper deposit consisted of burnt mound material.
- Cistern 4:** Pit (F10) was circular in shape and measured 1.1m in diameter with a depth of 0.32m. The lower fill was composed of silt while the upper deposit consisted of burnt mound material.

## **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** Twenty lithics were recovered from the topsoil and the burnt spread deposits. Three flint cores, a single chert core, eight pebble flint flakes, three flint blades and a single limestone blade.
- Ecofacts:** Animal bone was recovered from the burnt spread deposits and from the fill of pit (F63). Only ten fragments were identifiable including seven fragments from adult cattle, a sheep/goat fragment and a red deer fragment.

## **Dating:**

- Relative dating:** None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the upper fill of trough (F96)  
C14 (WK-24271) 3518±30 BP (1930–1750 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the upper fill of pit (F62)  
C14 (WK-24270) 3736±30 BP (2280–2030 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed an Early Bronze Age burnt mound site with associated troughs and pits interpreted as cisterns for holding water. While it is unclear whether these pits functioned as water tanks, the troughs most certainly held water for boiling water using a pyrolithic technology. The main trough on site also displayed evidence of being re-cut indicating that this feature remained an important pit for carrying out these activities in the Early Bronze Age. Animal bone recovered from the site may imply that these activities involved cooking.

### References

McGowen, L. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Athronan 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Plate 10.104 Burnt stone spread and recut trough at Athronan 1, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Athronan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilmessan	NGR: 289465, 256114
	Barony:	Skreen	Altitude: 87 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	Athronan 2 was located c. 1.3km south-southeast of Kilmessan village. The site was located adjacent to the northern boundary of a large field, which also forms the northern boundary of the townland of Athronan Little.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no sites recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places in the immediate vicinity.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small rectangular trough and a deposit of heat-shattered stone.
Burnt Spread:	A deposit (F3) was revealed 1m from the trough. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 2m in diameter with a thickness of 0.15m. It was composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich deposits.
Trough:	The possible trough (F5) was oblong in shape and measured 1.32m by 0.99m with a depth of 0.38m. The cut had a regular, clearly-defined profile, with near vertical sides curving into a flat base. It contained a single fill, consisting of an even mixture of heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich silts.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (willow) from the fill of the trough (F5) C14 (WK-24243) 3622±30 BP (2120–1890 BC)

**References**

Tobin, R. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Athronan 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Leshemstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilmessan	NGR: 294647, 251843
	Barony:	Skreen	Altitude: 87 m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Redmond Tobin	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the northern bank of the River Skane, a short distance east of Drumree Bridge. The river forms the southern boundary of a large pasture field. The site cutting was located c. 12m north of the riverbank.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no sites recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places in the immediate vicinity although the complex of the Hill of Tara is situated approximately 5km to the north.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two small pits filled with burnt stone.
Pit 1:	This pit (F6) was circular in shape and measured 0.9m in diameter with a depth of 0.26m. Two fills were noted in the pit composed of brown silty clay and burnt stone with some charcoal inclusions.
Pit 2:	Pit (F4) was revealed less than 1m away. It was circular in shape and measured 0.85m in diameter with a depth of 0.14m. It contained a single fill which consisted of silty grey clay containing inclusions of burnt stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	A burnt flint fragment was recovered from pit 2 (F4)
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### **References**

Tobin, R. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Leshemstown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Leshemstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilmessan	NGR: 293971, 252732
	Barony:	Skreen	Altitude: 87m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Laurence McGowen and Donal Fallon	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a low prominence close to the southern boundary of a field that is currently in agricultural use as a low-grade pasture. The River Skane passes immediately to the south of the site and in its current position appeared to actually truncate the southernmost portion of the mound.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no sites recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places in the immediate vicinity. The nearest sites exposed during the current project were a small ‘burnt mound’ deposit in Killeen townland, c. 1.1km to the northwest (05E0691), and three sites exposed c. 1km to the south and southeast in Leshemstown.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Dunshaughlin to Castletown Tara Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound, a wood-lined trough, several pits and a number of stake-holes. A Bronze Age burial was also identified cut into the burnt mound.

### Phase 1

Burnt Spread: This small deposit of burnt mound material relates to the first phase of activity on the site and is associated with a group of stake-holes. The deposit measured 5m in diameter with a thickness of 0.11m and was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A similar but shallower irregular 'burnt mound' deposit was exposed immediately to the northeast; this deposit measured 2m in maximum diameter but only 0.03m in maximum depth. It may have been dispersed and levelled by flooding. Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material, identified as red deer.

**Stake-Structure:** A grouping of nine stake-holes were exposed c. 0.5m north of the southern boundary of excavation., cutting into the deposit of natural silt. The stake-holes formed two loosely parallel lines that extended beyond the limits of the excavation. Charcoal from two of these stake-holes were dated to the Early to Middle Bronze Age.

## **Phase 2**

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound (F118 and F119) was composed of two deposits of clayey silt with varying proportions of charcoal and burnt/heat-shattered stone. It had a maximum thickness of 0.43m.

**Trough:** The trough (F82) was cut into a natural mound of silt which may have been enhanced to create a dry area. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.27m and had vertical sides and a flat base. The base was lined with fourteen closely packed lengths of alder roundwood and two possible planks which were held in place by a number of corner stakes. The primary fill of the trough was composed of silty clays and heat-shattered stone and charcoal, a sample of which is dated to the Late Bronze Age.

**Pit 1:** Pit (F153) was identified 8m from the trough. It was circular in shape and measured 0.57m in diameter with a depth of 0.37m. It contained a single fill composed of charcoal-rich material and stone.

**Pit 2:** Pit (F109) was 0.74m in diameter with a depth of 0.55m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

**Burial:** A grave cut (F117) was inserted/cut into the mound, consisting of an oval pit, 1.05m long (north-south) and 0.8m wide (Plate 15). The grave cut contained the remains of a single adult female laid on her right-hand side in a crouched position with her knees drawn up. The remains were those of an adult female with an estimated age of 26-35 years, an estimated height of  $157.3 \pm 3.72\text{cm}$  (5 feet 2 inches  $\pm$  1.5 inches). The specialist noted a number of pathologies including a possible metabolic disorder, mid degenerative changes for the spine and healed trauma to the spine and hand, suggesting 'a rather active life-style for the individual'. The individual was buried in the last quarter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Millennium BC, c. 1260-1020 BC and suggested the last phase of use of the site was during that period.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A flint scraper was recovered from the clay layer which the trough was cut into.

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone was recovered from the phase 1 burnt mound deposits identified as cattle and red deer and also from the main burnt mound. Bone was also recorded from a peat layer beneath the burnt mound material. The material was identified cattle, sheep/goat, pig, dog and indeterminate large mammal. The marks of butchery were visible on a number of specimens.

## **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the stake-hole (phase 1)  
 C14 (WK-24262) 3449±32 BP (1880–1680 BC)  
 Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough  
 C14 (WK-24813) 2901±30 BP (1220–1000 BC)  
 Bone (human) from the crouched inhumation  
 C14 (WK-17423) 2933±33 BP (1260–1020 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

The excavation at Leshemstown identified three different phase of activity on a single site. The first phase consisted of a grouping of nine stake-holes at the southern extent of the cutting, possibly forming the northern extent of a structure, two deposits of ‘burnt mound’ material, and a single small pit. The site then appears to have been abandoned for a period, indicated by the formation of a shallow layer of silt sealing the primary phase of features. A single deposit of ‘burnt mound’ material was exposed above the silt layer; whether this was a distinct episode or simply an extension of the first period of use is uncertain. A large rectangular timber lined trough is assigned to this phase also along with the large mound of waste-firing material associated with water-boiling. The third and final deposit extended towards the northern portion of the site. It was within this ‘burnt mound’ deposit that a grave cut was exposed cutting into the first two deposits and sealed by the third. Radiocarbon dating has indicated a substantial gap in the dates from the first and third phases of activity, suggesting that the two phases represent entirely discrete episodes of activity separated by over 500 years.

### References

McGowen, L and Fallon, D. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Leshemstown 5, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.



Plate 10.105 Large burnt mound and roundwood trough at Leshemstown 5, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Randalstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Donaghpatrick	NGR: 250800, 305800
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Tara Mines Extension	
	Site Director:	Cara Murray	
	Consultants:	CRDS Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The sites were located at the north-western limit of the Tara Mines development. This area is located 3.2 kilometres west of Kilberry on the north-eastern side of the River Blackwater.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is a range of prehistoric sites within the vicinity of the excavated sites of which the known monuments, located to the north, consist of rock art (ME018-031), built into a structure in Arch Hall townland, and a standing stone (ME018-018) in Balsaw townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Prehistoric structures and pit features		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Tara Mines extension.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt stone and two troughs
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was roughly oval in shape and measured 9.25m by 13.75m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 1:	This trough (F657) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.15m in diameter with a depth of 0.35m. On the north-eastern side of the trough were the possible remnants of a wooden lining. This consisted of two possible timbers which had survived in poor condition.
Trough 2:	This trough (F656) was oval in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.34m. The pit contained a single fill composed of burnt stone.
Dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough 2 C14 (WK-22260) 3617±30 BP (2120–1890 BC)

### References

Murray, C. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Randalstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Bracetown	Six inch map no:
	Parish:	Dunboyne	NGR: 302489, 242517
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 65m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Linda Clarke	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the flood plain of the River Tolka, which formed the southern boundary of the site. As a result the site retained water and flooded in areas on occasions during excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation. Other activity was also carried out in the immediate vicinity of Bracetown as two cremation pits at Dunboyne 1 (A017/007) were identified south of the River Tolka and approximately 30–40m south of Bracetown 1. The cremation pits at Dunboyne 1 were dated to Cal BC 1530-1410 (Beta 241263) and Cal BP 1260-1000 (Beta 241270).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and two pits that may have functioned as troughs.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F31) was crescent-shaped and measured 15.25m by 8m with a maximum thickness of 0.34m. It was composed of black silty clay, flecks of charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Due to repeated flooding of the River Tolka and agricultural activity, the burnt mound was quite disturbed and several layers and additional spreads of burnt mound material were located within its vicinity. These are likely to be derived from the main spread F31. A fragment of worked chert, a polished bone and a small quantity of burnt and unburnt animal bone was recovered from the material.		
Trough:	F22 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.16m by 0.78m with a depth of 0.29m. It was filled with burnt mound material.		
Pit 1:	Pit (F21) was circular in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.11m. It was filled with burnt mound material.		

Pit 2: Pit (F25) measured 2m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.

### Finds:

Artefacts: A possible chert scraper was recovered from the burnt mound along with a polished bone and a chert blade and core.

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound some of which was identified as cattle and dog.

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel, ash and alder) from the lower burnt mound material  
C14 (UB-7049) BP (2135–1908 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel, ash and alder) from the upper burnt mound material  
C14 (UB-7050) BP (1387–1129 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a number of associated pits, some of which may have functioned as water-boiling troughs. Radiocarbon dating of the mound deposits indicated at least two phases of activity on the site spanning a considerable period of time. The site appears to have its origins in the Early Bronze Age period before being abandoned sometime in the Later Bronze Age. Animal bone recovered may suggest that the site was used for cooking.

### References

Clarke, L. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Bracetown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

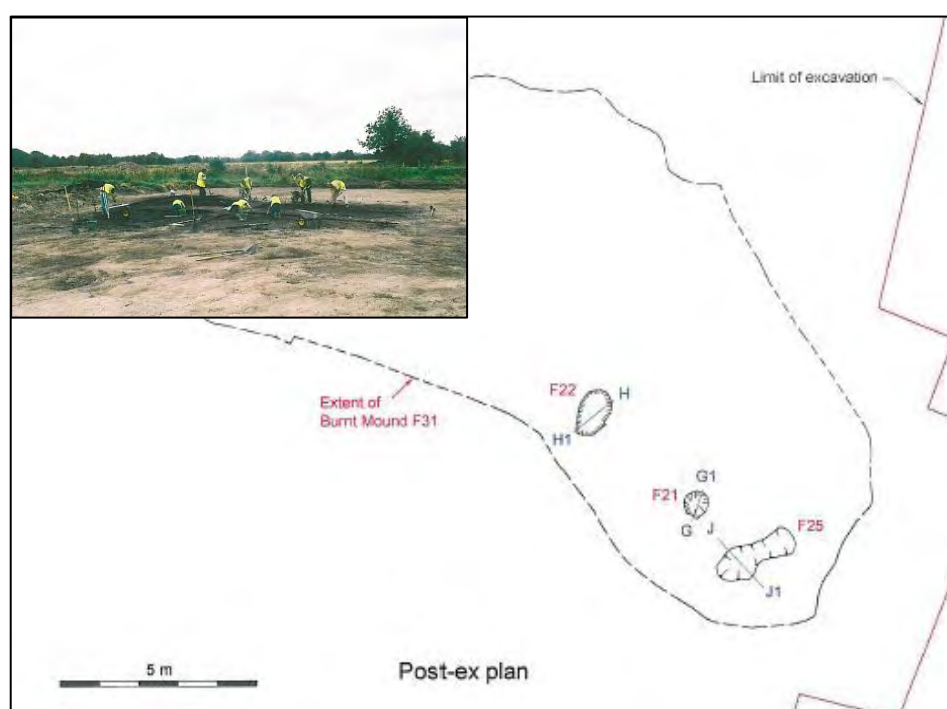


Fig. 10.124 Burnt mound and pits at Bracetown, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Ballinter	Six inch map no:
	Parish:	Tara	NGR: 289868, 261711
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Stephen Linnane	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on flat ground to the north of the River Skane and prior to canalisation of the river would have been prone to flooding.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed three small deposits of heat-shattered stone and two pits.
Burnt Spreads:	Three spreads were identified, consisting of near-black, silty clay with inclusions of burnt stone and charcoal flecking. F048 was composed of three patches within an area measuring 3m by 1m with a thickness of 0.01m. F415 measured 0.15m by 0.08m with a thickness of 0.03m while deposit F418 measured 0.6m by 0.3m with a thickness of 0.04m.
Pit 1:	This pit (F410) was oval in shape and measured 1.44m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.21m. It contained four fills composing of silty clays, occasional charcoal and wood fragments. No burnt stone was identified.
Pit 2:	Pit (F416) was also oval in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.21m. The pit contained a single fill composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample from the pit is dated to the Late Neolithic period.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None



**Dating:**

Relative dating:       None

Absolute dating:       Charcoal (elm) from the fill of pit 2  
C14 (Beta-237583) 4110±50 BP (2875–2500 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed small spreads of burnt stone with associated pits filled with deposits of burnt stone. These pits were too shallow to have function as boiling pits. Instead, they probably functioned as roasting pits or ovens for a pyrolithic dry heat. The site can be interpreted as a small scale pyrolithic area for short-term cooking.

**References**

Linnane, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ballinter, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cooksland	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 295722, 253348
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 101m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Stephen Linnane	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a gently sloping filed close to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread, the remains of a timber-lined trough and a number of pits.
Burnt Spread:	The spread (F303) was irregular in shape and measured 7.5m by 7.5m with a thickness of 0.1m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone that lay on a buried turf line.
Trough:	The trough (F306) was situated immediately north of the spread and cut through the possible old turf or ground surface. It was rectangular in shape and measured 2.05m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.45m. A single degraded plank lay at the base of the feature that overlay a deposit of black silty clay surrounded by four stake-holes suggesting that the sides of the feature were also timber-lined. A clay deposit on the base of the feature may have been the remains of an additional clay lining. The trough was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone, a sample of which is dated to Middle Bronze Age. A convex end scraper was recovered from the fill of the trough.
Pit 1:	Pit (F332) measured 3.6m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with dark clays and stone. No charcoal was identified.

Pit 2: Pit (F352) measured 2.4m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.35m. It was filled with dark clays and stone. No charcoal was identified.

### Finds:

Artefacts: Flint end scraper was recovered from the trough fill while a piece of flint debitage was found in burnt spread.

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit 2  
C14 (Beta-237581) 3410±40 BP (1877–1613 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. This was confirmed by the identification of a plank-lined trough with corner stakes, used as supports for side walls that no longer survived. This lining technique was common during the Late Bronze Age period in Ireland. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area, possibly used for cooking.

### References

Linnane, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Cooksland, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

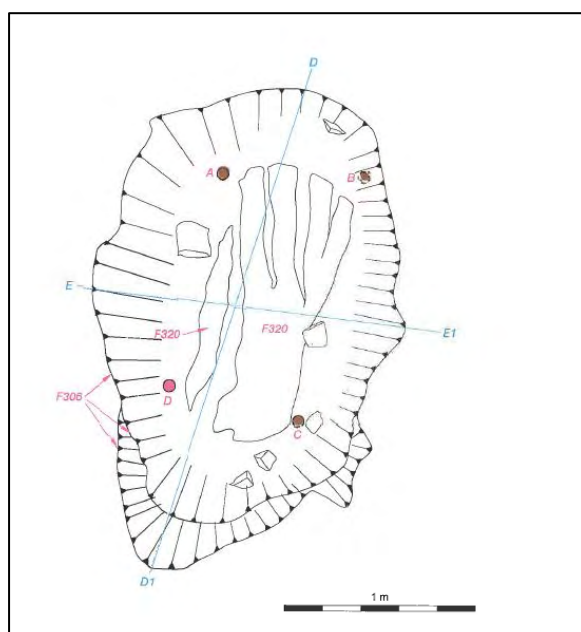


Fig. 10.125 Trough pit with internal stake supports at Cooksland, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Boyerstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 283602, 265922
	Barony:	Roatoath	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Linda Clarke	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-ling area. No water-source was identified in the immediate area of the site. A possible well however was noted during the excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar sites were revealed in advance of the project in the same townland (see below).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread, the remains of a possible well and a number of pits.
Burnt Spread:	The truncated spread deposit (F7) was irregular in shape and measured 6.5m by 6m with a thickness of 0.15m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. Charred cereal remains were recovered from the spread. A sample from the deposit is dated to the Late Bronze Age.
Pit/Well:	The spread sealed a large irregular pit (F8) that measured 6.8m by 6m with a depth of 1.5m. It continually filled with water during the excavation suggesting it may have functioned as a well. The feature was sealed by a layer of natural subsoil mixed with burnt stone. It was filled with six deposits of various silts and burnt mound material. Animal bone and timber fragments were recovered from the feature. Two stake-holes were cut into the base of the well feature.
Pit 2:	This pit (F10) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.97m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.3m and was filled with charcoal-rich material and burnt stone. A sample from this fill is dated to the Late Bronze Age.

Pit 3: Pit (F18) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m in diameter with a depth of 0.09m and was filled with silty clay, charcoal flecks and occasional burnt stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone displaying cut marks was recovered from the topsoil. Animal bone was also recovered from the large pit fill along with some cereal remains.

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (elm) from the lower fill of pit (F8)  
C14 (Beta-241315) 2880±40 BP (1200–930 BC)  
Charcoal (cherry) from the fill of pit (F10)  
C14 (Beta-241316) 2870±40 BP (1190–920 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a large pit that probably functioned as a well. The presence of heat-shattered stone indicates that a pyrolithic technology was used at the site. No definitive trough was identified however the two stake-holes identified at the top of the well may represent the truncated remains of a trough at the north-western site of the pit. This compares well with other sites where troughs are identified immediately adjacent to large pits where water could easily be released or replenished with clean water. The animal bone from the well may suggest that the site was used for pyrolithic cooking.

### **References**

Clarke, L. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Boyerstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Plate 10.16 Well pit and truncated trough at Boyerstown, Co. Meath.

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Location:	Townland:	Boyerstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardbraccan	NGR: 283636, 266461
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 65m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Linda Clarke
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to an adjacent stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several sites were revealed in advance of the project in the townland (see below). Bronze Age settlement activity was identified at the nearby largescale, multi-period site at Boyerstown 3 (A0023/015).
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread and the remains of a trough that was possibly timber-lined.
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Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F6 and F7) was composed of two deposits that measured 9.4m by 8m with a thickness of 0.4m. They were composed of black, charcoal stained clay and heat-shattered stone.
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Trough:	The trough (F9) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1m with a depth of 0.48m and was situated below the burnt mound. Fragmented remains of alder planks were noted on the base of the feature suggesting it may have been originally lined. The fill of the trough was composed of burnt mound material which contained further charred cereal remains.
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<b>Finds:</b>	Charred cereal remains were recovered from the burnt mound.
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<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (elm) from the lower fill of pit (F8) C14 (Beta-241319) 3550±40 BP (2010–1760 BC)
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### **References**

Clarke, L. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Boyerstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Boyerstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardraccan	NGR: 283125, 265818
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Linda Clarke	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-ling area. No water-source was identified but the site was located on the edge of a waterlogged, marshy area from which water would have been readily available.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar sites were revealed in advance of the project in the same townland (see below). Bronze Age settlement activity (a structure and isolated pits) was identified at the nearby largescale, multi-period site at Boyerstown 3 (A0023/015).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, three pits, two post-holes and a possible water-channel.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material was contained within a large cut (F8) that measured 8m by 3.8m with a maximum depth at one end of 0.7m. It was composed of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal-rich clay and measured 4.2m by 2.4m with a depth of 0.7m. A layer of re-deposited subsoil sealed the top of the spread and may have been the result of damage from a drain which cut through the deposit. Charcoal from the spread is dated to the Early Bronze Age.		
Pit 1:	Pit (F10) was oval in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.12m. Two fills were noted composed of a lower deposit of clay and upper fill of burnt mound material.		
Pit 2:	Pit (F12) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.35m by 0.23m with a depth of 0.11m. One fill was recorded composed of dark brown silty clay.		

Pit 3: F20 was sub-oval and measured 0.65m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.15m. The lower fill was composed of a sterile clay while the upper deposit consisted of burnt mound material.

Channel: This feature (F31) was linear in shape and was connected to the southeastern extent of the burnt mound F8 and the pit F10 and was cut by posthole F16. It was filled with a soft, light-grey-coloured, sandy silt that contained very occasional flecks of charcoal and burnt stone. It measured 4.5m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.08m.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the burnt mound material (F6)  
C14 (Beta-241321) 3750±40 BP (2287–2035 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and associated pits. The mound was composed of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic activity. No definite trough was revealed as the pits were too shallow to have functioned as water-boiling troughs. Acknowledging the possibility of truncation, these pits may have functioned as roasting ovens employing a dry pyrolithic heat to cooking food produce.

#### **References**

Clarke, L. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Boyerstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



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Location:	Townland:	Boyerstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardbraccan	NGR: 283222, 266418
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 68m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Linda Clarke	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area. No water-source was identified but the site but a number of ditches on site may represent old stream channels.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar sites were revealed in advance of the project in the same townland within 700m of each other. Bronze Age settlement activity (a structure and isolated pits) was identified at the nearby largescale, multi-period site at Boyerstown 3 (A0023/015).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two burnt spread deposits, a trough, a number of water-channels and ditches which may have enclosed the site.
Burnt Spreads:	Two spreads were located in close proximity in the northern portion of the site. F19 measured 2.2m by 0.82m with a thickness of 0.16m while F20 measured 0.9m by 0.88m with a thickness of 0.22. They were composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from F20 is dated to the Chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age period.
Trough:	The trough (F7) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.75m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.17m and was filled with dark sandy silts, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Three stake-holes cut the base of the trough suggesting the feature may have been timber-lined originally.
Pit 1:	A large pit (F9) may have functioned as a trough. It was sub-oval in shape and measured 3.4m by 2.2m with a depth of 0.4m. It was situated just north

of the trough and was filled with burnt mound material, charcoal from which is dated to the Late Neolithic period.

- Pit 2: This pit (F17) may have also functioned as a trough. It measured 3m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.45m and was filled with burnt mound material. A possible water-channel extended from this pit beyond the limits of excavation.
- Pit 3: F11 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.25m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.37m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 4: F15 was sub-circular and measured 2.2m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.85m. It was filled with burnt mound material. A small amount of cereals were recovered from this fill.
- Pit 5: F30 was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.46m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.13m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 6: F34 was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.88m by 0.84m with a depth of 0.18m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Ditch: F13 was a ditch that seemed to surround the archaeological features on site. A number of possible water-channels also extended from the feature. It was curvilinear in shape and measured 20.6m by 1m with a depth of 0.6m. It was filled with silty clays, occasional charcoal and burnt stone. It may have been used for channelling water within the site as it extended from the ditch F38, curved by the trough and curved around the site before extending beneath the baulk to the northwest.

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the topsoil while some cereals were recovered from the fill of pit (F15)

#### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of pit (F9)  
C14 (Beta-241322) 4050±40 BP (2840–2480 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the burnt spread deposit (F20)  
C14 (Beta-241323) 4010±40 BP (2620–2460 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the area revealed the remains of a small pyrolithic site enclosed by small ditch. The pyrolithic features were composed of deposits of waste-firing material and possible trough features. The curving ditch feature may have acted as a water management feature as some pits had extended water-channels connected to this feature.

#### **References**

Clarke, L. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Boyerstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

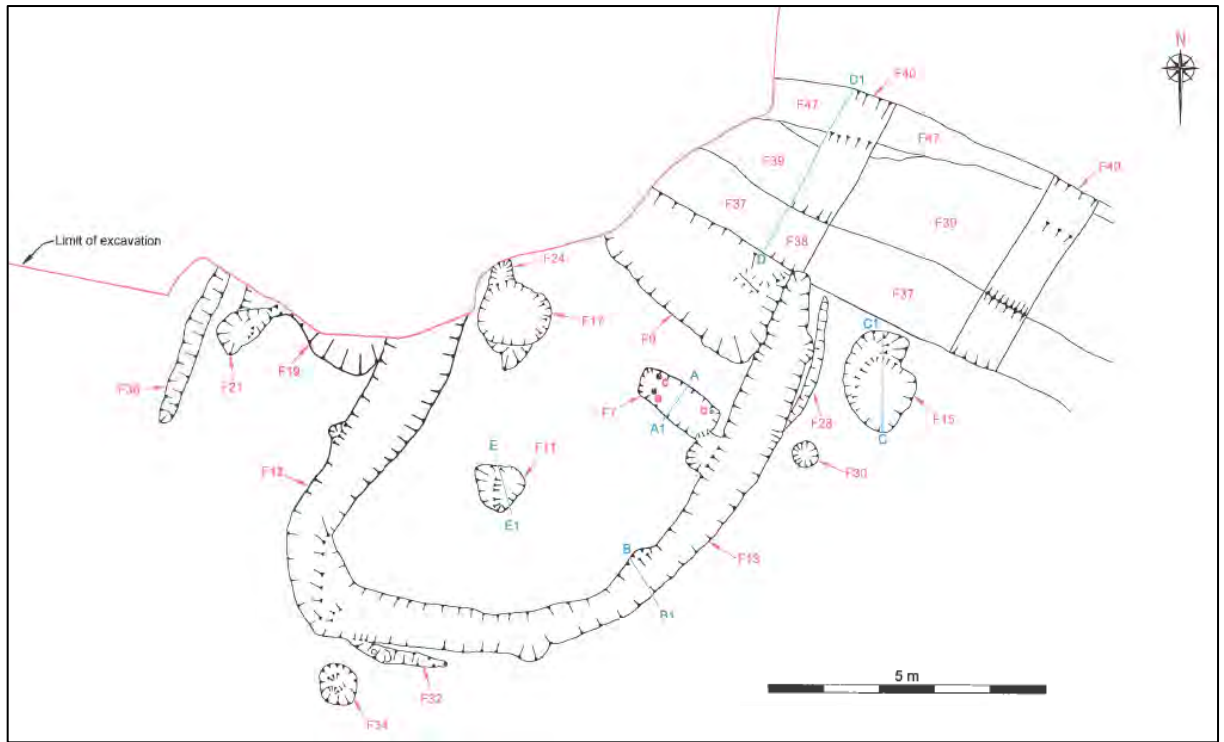


Fig. 10.126 Boiling/roasting pits enclosed by ditch at Boyerstown, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Roestown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 295903, 254143
	Barony:	Rotoath	Altitude: 105m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Lydia Cagney	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-ling area. No water-source was identified but excavation did reveal a possible well.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however the burnt mounds discovered in the locality such Cooksland 2 (A008/005) and Berrilstown 2 (A008/010), are likely to have been associated with nearby prehistoric settlement such as was attested at an adjacent site Roestown 2 (A008/002), where a large lithic assemblage complemented the finds from this site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread, two possible troughs, a series of stake-holes and a possible well. A large lithic assemblage was also retrieved.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material that measured 7m by 6.2m. A smaller deposit of similar material measuring 1.8m by 0.8m was identified nearby. Burnt bone fragments were identified within the larger deposit.
Trough 1:	F14 measured 1.32m by 1.13m with a depth of 0.13m. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from the deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Trough 2:	This trough (F5) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.59m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.22m. It contained two fills composed of silty clays with

charcoal inclusions. A flint flake and core were found within the fill and a sample of charcoal is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Well:** A possible well (F12) was situated east of the well. It was circular in shape and measured 1.74m in diameter with a depth of 0.54m. It contained two fills composed of grey clay and upper fill of silty clay and stones. It filled naturally during the excavation.

**Stake-Holes:** Fifteen stake-holes were revealed under the burnt stone deposit. No overall pattern or alignments could be determined.

**Deposit:** A deposit of silty clay produced a number of lithics including a scraper and flint flake. A polished chalk bead was also retrieved along with cattle bone. A modern ditch also produced a number of lithics and additional animal bone.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Flint debitage, two scrapers and core were recovered from the topsoil while a hollow-based arrowhead was recovered from re-deposited topsoil. A fragment of a bone bead was recovered from a silt deposit along with a polished chalk example. An end scraper was also found in this deposit. Flint debitage, a hollow scraper, polishing stone, two concave scrapers and four flint flakes were found in an adjacent ditch while a flint flake was recovered from the trough.

**Ecofacts:** Cattle teeth were recovered from a layer of re-deposited natural.

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough 1  
C14 (Beta-241302) 3790±40 BP (2402–2045 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough 2  
C14 (Beta-241303) 3830±40 BP (2460–2147 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and associated pits. The mound was composed of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic activity. Two troughs were revealed at the site that possibly functioned as water pits for boiling. This water was probably sourced from the adjacent well. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area, used possibly for cooking meat.

### **References**

Cagney, L. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Roestown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

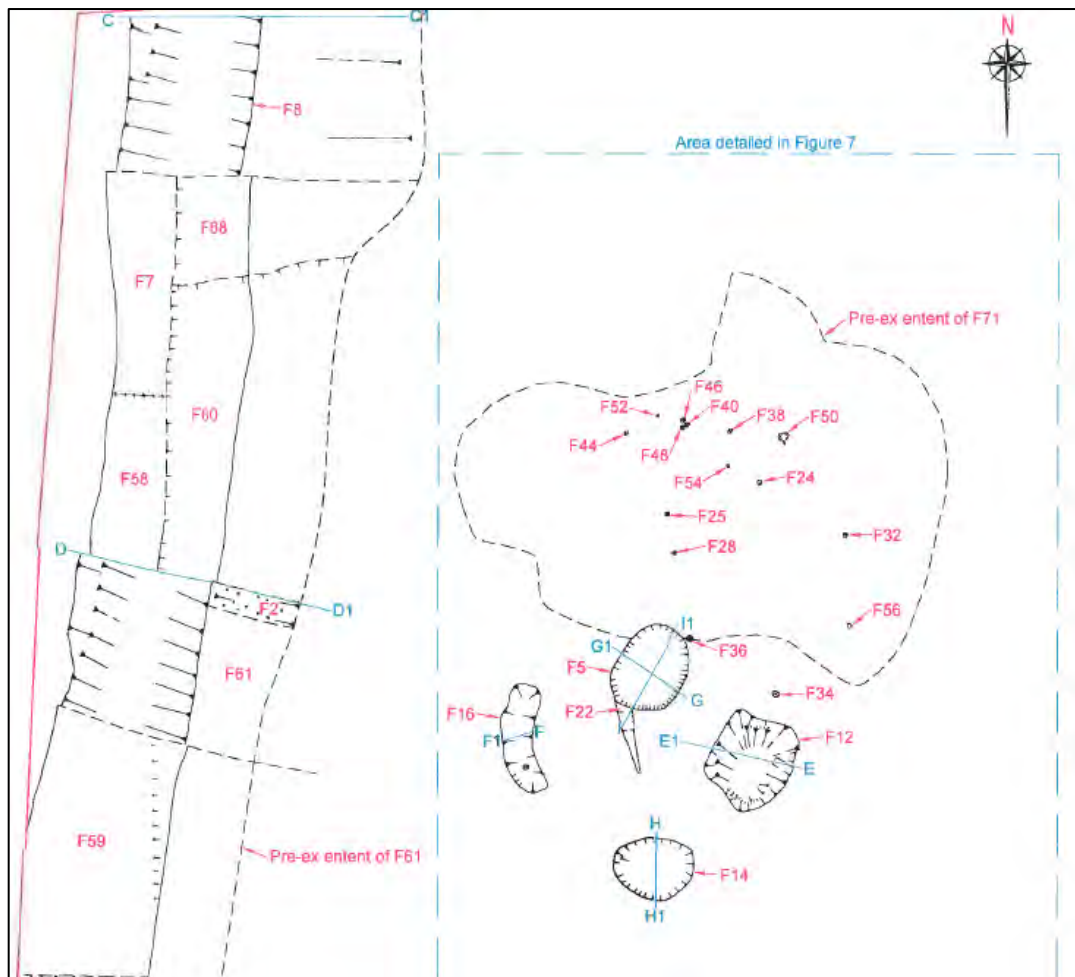


Fig. 10.127 Burnt stone deposit and boiling pits at Roestown, Co. Meath.



Location:	Townland:	Blundelstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Templekeeran	NGR: 292119, 261903
	Barony:	Skreen	Altitude: 60m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Lydia Cagney and Victoria Ginn	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a large, narrow, rectangular field situated to the east of the existing N3 and the south of the River Lismullin. The lower part of the field is within the floodplain of the river and contained waterlogged marshy ground with rushes.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar site-types were exposed during road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a series of natural glacial and peat deposits along with a spread of heat-shattered stone and a number of pits, some of which may have functioned as troughs.
Natural spreads:	A variety of natural and archaeological deposits and spreads were located including a glacial spread (F4) and several peat deposits. Flint fragments along with debitage and a flint scraper were recovered from the deposits.
Burnt Spread:	F33 consisted of the main spread of burnt mound material on site and was composed of dark charcoal-rich silt clay and heat-shattered stone. It overlay a number of other similar deposits, one of which contained horse bone.
Trough 1:	Pit (F11) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.45m by 1.17m with a depth of 0.24m. It contained two fills, the primary of which was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. A sample from this deposit is dated to the Late Neolithic period.

Trough 2: Pit (F28) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.15m with a depth of 0.28m. The fill of the pit was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 1: Pit (F8) was circular in shape and measured 0.86m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.27m. It was filled with a single deposit of black sandy clay.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A flint hollow scraper was recovered from the topsoil, while a side scraper was recovered from one of the spreads. Flint debitage and another scraper were recovered from the natural deposits.

Ecofacts: Horse bone was recovered from the burnt spread material representing at least one individual which was at least 13–16 months before death

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough 1  
C14 (Beta-247045) 4010±40 BP (2832–2462 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and associated pits. The mound was composed of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic activity. Two troughs were revealed at the site that possibly functioned as water pits for boiling. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area, used possibly for cooking meat.

### **References**

Cagney, L and Ginn, V 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Blundelstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



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Location:	Townland:	Boolies	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Burry	NGR: 271052, 274634
	Barony:	Lower Kells	Altitude: 98m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Ian Russell
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar site-types were exposed during road development. Burnt mounds were excavated adjacent to the site at Boolies 2, Chapelbridge 5 and Drumbaragh 3 while prehistoric settlement activity was recorded at Chapelbridge 4 and Drumbaragh 1.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mounds and their associated troughs.
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### **Site A**

Burnt Mound:	F6 was composed of a mound of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 14m by 12m with a thickness of 0.19m.
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Trough:	Pit (F15) was overlain by the burnt mound material and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 1.9m by 1.52m with a depth of 0.27m. It contained one fill composed of burnt mound material, a sample of which is dated to the Late Bronze Age. Five stake-holes cut the base of the trough located in each of the corners suggesting the pit was originally timber-lined. A small quantity of cremated bone was recovered from the fill of one of the stake-holes.
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Pit 1:	Pit (F14) was irregular in shape and measured 1.63m by 1.19m with a depth of 0.18m. It contained one fill composed of burnt mound material.
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## Site B

- Burnt Mound: This mound (F7) was situated 10m from the previous deposit and measured 11.5m by 10.5m with a thickness of 0.24m.
- Trough: Pit (F12) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2m by 1.05m with a depth of 0.7m. The single fill was composed of burnt mound material.
- Pit 1: Pit (F13) measured 2.3m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.33m. It contained a single fill composed of burnt mound material.

## Finds:

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: Burnt bone was recovered from the fill of one of the stake-holes in the trough at Site A

## Dating:

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough (F15) Site A C14 (Beta-247135) 2930±40 BP (1266–1009 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the area revealed two separate burnt mound sites with associated pits that functioned as water boiling receptacles. The trough at site A was dated to the Late Bronze Age period and displayed evidence to suggest it was timber-lined with corner stakes, a common lining method during this later Bronze Age period. Burnt bone from the trough may indicate that the site was used for cooking. Site B was not scientifically dated and it cannot be confirmed whether it is contemporary with Site A.

## References

Russell, I. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Boolies 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

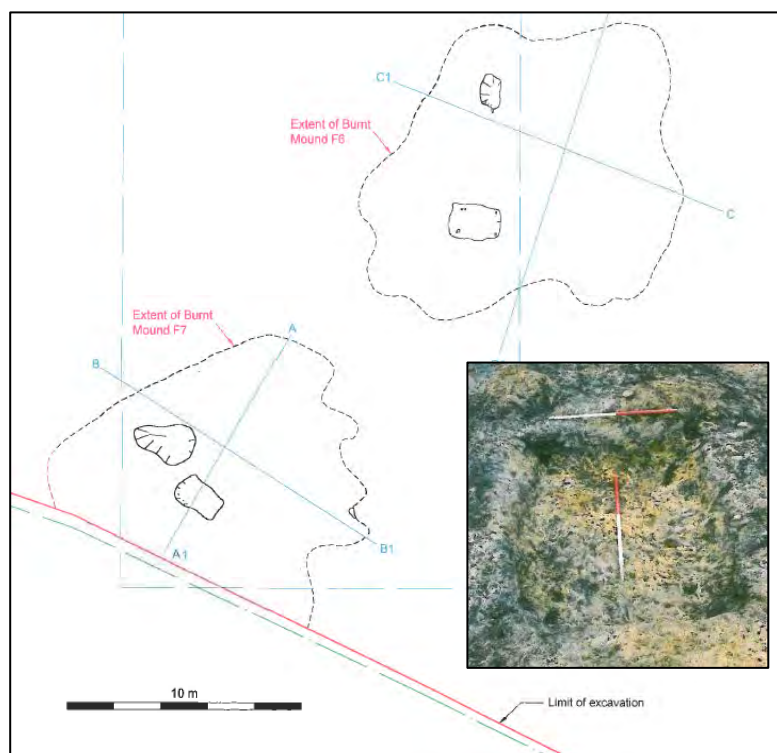


Fig. 10.128 Burnt mounds and troughs at Boolies 1, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Boolies	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Burry	NGR: 271636, 274569
	Barony:	Lower Kells	Altitude: 96m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar site-types were exposed during road development. Burnt mounds were excavated adjacent to the site at Boolies 2, Chapelbridge 5 and Drumbaragh 3 while prehistoric settlement activity was recorded at Chapelbridge 4 and Drumbaragh 1.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, two troughs and several pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material covered an area measuring 12m by 5m with a thickness of 0.25m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 1:	The trough (F24) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2m by 1.32m with a depth of 0.23m. It was cut by a single stake-hole located in each of the four corners and was filled with dark silty clay and stones.
Trough 2:	Trough (F25) was also sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.88m by 1.48m with a depth of 0.29m. It was cut by a single stake-hole located in each of the four corners and was filled with dark silty clay and stones.
Pit 1:	Pit (F22) was covered by the burnt mound material and was circular in shape. It measured 1.6m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.42m. It contained one fill composed of charcoal silty clay and burnt stones.

- Pit 2: Pit (F14) was also circular in shape and measured 0.4m by 0.44m and was filled with charcoal silty clay and burnt stones.
- Pit 3: This pit (F23) measured 2.24m by 2.1m with a depth of 0.16m and was filled with deposits of charcoal-rich material and burnt stone. Seven stake-holes were associated with this pit, two of which were cut into the base while the rest occurred cut into the south-eastern side respectively.
- Pit 4: This pit (F18) was revealed 12m south-west of the burnt mound. It was oval in shape and measured 0.73m by 0.58m with a depth of 0.39m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered. Charcoal from this deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Pit 5: Pit (F19) was located 18m north of the burnt mound. It measured 0.93m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.17m. The fill was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from fill of pit (F18) located 12m from burnt mound C14 (Beta-247136) 3710±40 BP (1271–1977 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and associated pits. The mound was composed of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic activity. Two troughs were revealed at the site that possibly functioned as water pits for boiling. Both displayed evidence to suggest they may have originally been timber-lined. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area, used possibly for cooking.

### References

Russell, I. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Boolies 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

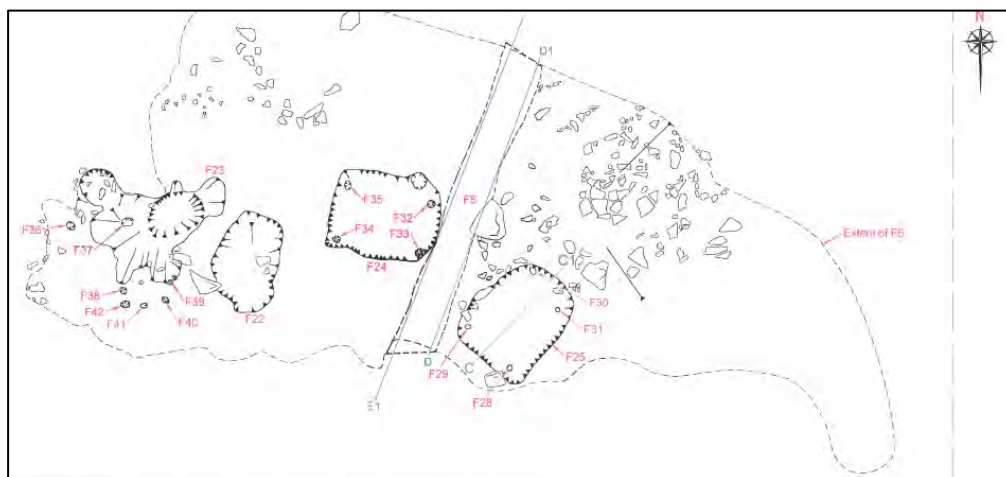


Fig. 10.129. Burnt spread and trough pits at Boolies 2, Co. Meath.

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Location:	Townland:	Chapelbride	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Burry	NGR: 276947, 274659
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 96m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Derek Gallagher
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the base of a small hill, adjacent to a pond.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar site-types were exposed during road development. Burnt mounds were excavated adjacent to the site at Boolies, and Drumbaragh 3 while prehistoric settlement activity was recorded at Chapelbridge 4 and Drumbaragh 1.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed three areas of burnt mound activity consisting of spreads of heat-shattered stone and several pits and troughs.
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### **Site A**

Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread (F8) was irregular in shape and measured 11m by 10m with a thickness of 0.15m. It was composed of dark grey silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Four smaller deposits of similar material were noted in the immediate vicinity which may be spread out from the original deposit by later ploughing.
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Trough 1:	Pit (F47) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.25m by 1m with a depth of 0.16m. It contained one fill composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
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Trough 2:	This pit (F38) was also sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.5m by 1m with a depth of 0.15m. It contained one fill composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
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- Linear Features:** Two linear features were recorded in close proximity to the possible troughs. F45 measured 2m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.15m and was filled with burnt mound material. F38 measured 8.5m by 1.75m with a depth of 0.18m. It was also filled with burnt mound material.
- Trough 3:** This trough (F7) was located 5m from the previous features. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.99m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with four deposits of burnt mound material. A sample from this trough is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
- Trough 4:** This pit (F11) was circular in shape and measured 1.7m in diameter with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with two deposits of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. A large stone found in the centre of the pit is interpreted as a deliberate deposit possibly associated with a closing event at the site. A stake-hole was also associated with the pit.
- Pit 1:** Pit (F13) was sub-oval in shape and measured 0.8m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.22m. It was also filled with burnt mound material.

## **Site B**

- Pit 1:** Pit (F18) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.15m by 1m with a depth of 0.16m. It was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 2:** This pit (F20) was circular in shape and measured 1.1m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. It was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 3:** F22 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.45m by 1.17m with a depth of 0.1m. It was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

## **Site C**

- Pit 1:** F24 measured 0.85m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.16m. It was filled with silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Charcoal from this pit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Pit 2:** F26 measured 1.3m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.13m. It was also filled with burnt mound material, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from fill of trough (F7) Site A  
C14 (Beta-247137) 3240±40 BP (1612–1433 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from fill of pit (F24) Site C  
C14 (Beta-247138) 3670±40 BP (2195–1939 BC)  
Charcoal (Hazel) from fill of fill of pit (F26) Site C  
C14 (Beta-247140) 3860±40 BP (2465–2206 BC)

## **References**

Gallagher, D. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Chapelbride, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Drumbaragh	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 270122, 275065
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 84m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Derek Gallagher	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying area close to a stream that formed a small pond in the northern part of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however several similar site-types were exposed during road development. Burnt mounds were excavated adjacent to the site at Boolies, and Chapelbride while prehistoric settlement activity was recorded at Chapelbridge 4 and Drumbaragh 1.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound and an associated rectangular trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F6) measured 19.2m by 11.25m with a thickness of 1.34. It was located 4m from the edge of a stream and was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It lay on a deposit of peat and other silty deposits containing further burnt mound deposits. A sample of charcoal from one of these burnt mound layers is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Uncharred plant remains were recovered from the burnt mound. Two smaller additional spreads were identified at the site possibly associated with a flooding event.
Trough:	The trough (F33) was sealed below the burnt mound. It was rectangular in plan and measured 2.2m by 1.1m. A thin alder plank lay on the base of the trough adjacent to a deposit of charcoal suggesting the pit was originally timber-lined. A sample of this charcoal is dated to the Early Bronze Age. The plank and charcoal layer were overlain with a deposit of silty sand and

heat-shattered stone, a sample of which is dated to the latter half of the Early Bronze Age period suggesting a second phase of activity at the site. Uncharred plant remains were recovered from the trough.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Uncharred plant remains were recovered from the burnt mound and trough.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound (F8)  
C14 (Beta-247166) 3550±40 BP (2016–1756 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the upper fill of trough (F33)  
C14 (Beta-247167) 3450±40 BP (1886–1666 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the lower fill of trough (F33)  
C14 (Beta-247168) 3580±40 BP (2035–1775 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and associated pit. The mound was composed of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic activity. A single trough was revealed at the site that possibly functioned as a water pit for boiling. This is supported by the fact that the pit displayed evidence to suggest it may have originally been timber-lined with several phases of activity present. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling area, used possibly for cooking.

**References**

Gallagher, D. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Drumbaragh, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



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Location:	Townland:	Castlekeeran	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 268690, 276832
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 75m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Stuart Reilly	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located near the base of a steep south-facing slope of a small hill, which overlooked an area of reclaimed bog.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed and extensive burnt spread, a trough and a number of modern features.
Burnt Spread 1 and 2:	This spread (F4) measured 20m by 10m and was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It was cut by a number of furrows. A sample of charcoal from the deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age. The deposit (F5) was located immediately adjacent to the spread F4. It measured 3m by 4m and was composed of similar material. A sample of charcoal was dated to the Middle Iron Age.
Trough:	The trough (F9) was oval in shape and measured 2.3m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.35. A possible clay lining was noted on the base and sides of the feature and it was filled with dark brown clay and heat-shattered stone.
Dating:	Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound (F4) C14 (Beta-247178) 3570±40 BP (2030–1774BC) Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread (F5) C14 (Beta-247179) 1950±40 BP (41 BC– AD 129 BC)

### References

Reilly, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Castlekeeran, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Pottlebane	Six inch map no: 10
	Parish:	Kilskeer	NGR: 267131, 278668
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 79m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Derek Gallagher	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site lay 40m to the west of a northwards flowing stream, which was a tributary of the River Blackwater.		
Cultural Landscape:	A previously recorded and excavated Bronze Age cist Burial was situated adjacent to the site (ME010-043).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Iron Age/Early Medieval Kiln		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The site extended beyond the limits of excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material that overlay a trough and a number of pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed as a spread of heat-shattered stone, silty clay and charcoal that measured approximately 10m by 8m in extent with a maximum depth of 0.34m. It extended beyond the limits of excavation.
Trough:	The trough (F27) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 3.05m by 1m with a depth of 0.35m. It contained a loose fill composed of dark brown silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of hazel from the fill is dated to the Early Neolithic period. Charred cereal remains were also recovered from the deposit.
Pit 1-2:	Two deposits of silt, presumably from separate flooding events overlay two pits. F33 was oval in shape and measured 1.3m by 1m with a depth of 0.28m. It contained two fills of dark silts, charcoal and stone. F35 was also oval in shape and measured 0.8m by 0.58m with a depth of 0.52m. It contained a fill composed of silty sand, charcoal and stones. Charcoal from

this deposit is dated to the Middle Iron Age. Charred and uncharred plant and cereal remains were recovered from the pit.

Pit 3: This pit (F29) was oval in shape and measured 1.43m by 1.18m with a depth of 0.23m. It contained two fills composed of silty sands, charcoal and stones.

Pit 4: Pit (F30) was oval in shape and measured 2.22m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.35m. It contained two fills composed of silty clay, stones and charcoal.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Charred and uncharred plant remains were recovered from the upper fill of the trough and pit (F35).

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the basal fill of the trough  
C14 (Beta-247182) 4900±40 BP (3770–3647 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (F35)  
C14 (Beta-247181) 2280±40 BP (404–20 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

This site was revealed in advance of the M3 motorway and consisted of a *fulacht fia* and several Iron Age features. The *fulacht fia* consisted of a spread of heat-shattered stone, a single trough and a number of pits. Charcoal from the fill of the trough was dated to the Early Neolithic period. The radiocarbon date was retrieved from the basal fill of the trough, which was in turn sealed by the spread of burnt mound material. This provides a *terminus ante quem* date for the use of the trough. It is, however, the only dated feature sealed by the burnt spread, and so must be viewed with a certain degree of caution.

#### **References**

Gallagher, D. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Pottlebane 3, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Philpotstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardsallagh	NGR: 286602, 264220
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 55m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical location of the site		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including a <i>fulacht fia</i> 300m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Bronze Age cremation identified 28m from the structure.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a sub-rectangular structure, a cremation, two troughs and a well.
Burnt Mound:	No burnt mound or spread of heat-shattered stone was revealed during the excavation however this material may lie outside the area of excavation.
Structure:	A possible sub-rectangular structure formed by a slot trench (F10) was revealed in the eastern area of the site. It had internal measurements of 4m by 3m. An internal, curvilinear slot-trench and an associated, external, east-west, linear slot-trench which extended from F10, were also noted. Each contained one fill composed of silty clays, small stones and charcoal.
Trough 1:	The possible trough (F17) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1m by 1.48m with a depth of 0.28m. It contained one fill composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 2:	This trough (F8) was located adjacent to a large water-hole or well. It was rectangular in shape and measured 2.19m by 0.83m with a depth of 0.25m. It contained a single fill composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.

**Well:** F31 was sub-oval in shape and measured 7m by 2.7m with a depth of 0.39m. The fill was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. A flint fragment was identified in the fill.

**Ditch:** A curvilinear ditch (F19) was also identified on site which separated the burnt mound and settlement activity with the cremation. It measured 26m by 0.48m with a depth of 0.58m and contained a number of fills that contained charcoal. Animal bone, a loom weight and flint were recovered from the ditch.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A possible loom weight was recovered from the ditch while a flint blade and a convex end scraper were also recovered from the same context. A piece of flint was also found in the fill of the trough

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone, some of which was identified as pig teeth were recovered from the ditch.

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (*maloideae*) from the fill of the trough (F8)  
C14 (Beta-247091) 3220±40 BP (1608–1417 BC)  
Charcoal (*maloideae*) from the fill of the slot trench (F10)  
C14 (Beta-247092) 3000±40 BP (1386–1123 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the ditch  
C14 (Beta-247093) 3040±40 BP (1413–1133 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The excavation of the site revealed a Middle to Late Bronze Age structure, a large ditch, cremation burial and evidence of pyrolithic activity. No burnt mound was revealed however, this may lie outside the area of excavation. Two troughs filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and a large well support the suggestion that pyrolithic water-boiling was being undertaken at the site during the later Bronze Age. It is difficult to establish whether the structure is related to this activity however it may have functioned as a specialised cooking hut.

### **References**

Martin, K. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Philpotstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Philpotstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardsallagh	NGR: 291734, 262039
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 51m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Stuart Rathbone
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area close to a stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including burnt mound and settlement activity 300m to the west.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Archaeological testing revealed a large burnt mound, however it was largely removed during unlicensed stripping of the area prior to excavation. Excavation revealed two pits however further features may have been destroyed during unlicensed work. During testing the burnt mound was recorded as being 12m by 5m with a thickness of 0.5m. It was composed of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and heat-shattered stone and was completely removed during unlicensed work.
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<b>Finds:</b>	None
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<b>Dating:</b>	None
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### **References**

Rathbone, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Philpotstown, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Derver	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 266636, 279668
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: 77m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Derek Gallagher	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located 15m from the north bank of the River Blackwater.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland (see below).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Iron Age roundhouse		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Archaeological excavation revealed the remains of a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age roundhouse with ancilliary burnt mound activity.
Burnt Spreads:	These spreads (F85-89 and F176) were located at the northern area of the site. Spread (F86) measured 2.2m by 1.7m with a thickness of 0.16m while F87 measured 3.65m by 2.9m with a thickness of 0.14m. F88 measured 2m by 1.35m with a thickness of 0.13m while F89 measured 3m by 2.62m with a thickness of 0.12m. F176 measured 3.4m by 1.8m with a thickness of 0.05m. Each deposit was composed of dark silty clays and small deposits of heat-affected stones. Some contained small fragments of cremated bone.
Pit 1:	Pit (F10) was oval in shape and measured 1.82m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.28m. It was filled with three deposits of silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 2:	Pit (F78) was sub-oval in shape and measured 2.2m by 2m with a depth of 0.1m. It was filled with dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 3:	Pit (F91) was rectangular in shape and measured 0.7m by 0.49m with a depth of 0.09m. It was filled with silty sand, charcoal, stones and burnt bone.

- Pit 4: This pit (F224) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.59m by 0.89m with a depth of 0.58m. It was filled with dark brown silty sand and stones.
- Pit 5: F227 was a linear shaped cut that measured 1.05m by 0.48m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with brown silty sand and stones.
- Pit 6: F236 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.27m by 1.36m with a depth of 0.64m. It was filled with brown silty sand, charcoal and stones.
- Pit 7: Pit (F80) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.32m by 1.18m with a depth of 0.25m. It was filled with dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: Burnt bone was recovered from some of the burnt spread deposits

#### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread (F86)  
C14 (Beta-247198) 2510±40 BP (795–421 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (F80)  
C14 (Beta-247197) 1090±40 BP (AD 877–1024 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site was identified during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonree–North of Kells motorway. Excavation revealed a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age house structure (Beta-247201) and numerous pit features, along with charcoal spreads containing possible heat-affected stone (Gallagher and Ginn 2008, 3). One of these spreads was contemporary with the structure (Beta-247198). Some of the pits contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A sample from one of these pits was dated to the early medieval period (Beta-247197). This pit feature did contain some burnt stone, but it cannot be linked to water-boiling activity at the site.

#### **References**

Gallagher, D and Ginn, V. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Derver 4, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Derver	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 266808, 279314
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: 76m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Derek Gallagher
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2007

Physical Setting: The site was situated next to the River Blackwater.

Cultural Landscape: There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland.

Adjacent excavated sites: None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Archaeological excavation revealed the remains of a burnt spread and pits

Spread: The spread (F6) was at the centre of the site, measuring 3.46m by 3.3m with a thickness of 0.1m. It was composed of charcoal and burnt stones.

Pits: Pit (F9) measured 0.4m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.3m and was situated adjacent to the spread deposit. The fill was composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material. F10 was circular in shape and measured 0.8m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.15m and was situated adjacent to the spread deposit. The fill was composed of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material. Pit (F12) measured 1.25m by 1.05m with a depth of 0.2m. It contained two fills composed of dark silts, charcoal and burnt stone. Pit (F14) was isolated from the rest of the pits. It measured 0.9m by 1m with a depth of 0.18m.

**Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit (F9)  
C14 (Beta-247194) 3330±40 BP (1734–1515 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (F14)  
C14 (Beta-247195) 1960±40 BP (43 BC– AD 126)

### **References**

Gallagher, D and Ginn, V. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Derver 5, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Ardraccan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardraccan	NGR: 282981, 266758
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 70m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Matt Mossop	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying marshy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The full extent of the sites were not revealed during the investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Archaeological excavation revealed two separate areas of burnt mound activity revealed 200m apart.

### Site A

Burnt Mound:	The mound (F15) was sub-oval in shape and measured 12.5m by 9.2m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m. It was composed of dark sandy silt, charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. The deposit overlay most of the cut features on site. A hone stone was recovered from the burnt mound.
Trough 1:	Trough (F43) was sub-circular in shape with near vertical sides and a flat base. It was situated adjacent to a hearth and measured 1.65m by 1.55m with a depth of 0.83m. It contained four fills composed of silty clays and heat-shattered stone. Fragments of cattle and horse bone were recovered from the fills.
Hearth 1:	This feature (F46) lay immediately adjacent to the trough F43. It was bowl shaped and measured 1.7m in diameter with a depth of 0.25m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material, the basal fill of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

- Trough 2:** Trough (F50) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.75m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.36m. The fill was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.
- Hearth 2:** This hearth (F80) was recorded adjacent to the trough (F50). It measured 0.8m in diameter with a depth of 0.11m. It contained a fill composed of charcoal-rich material, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age. The hearth was truncated by sump F38.
- Metalled Track:** A metalled track (F70) composed of heavily worn stones. It led 14.50m north from the deepest part of sump (F38) and averaged 2m in width. The surface was heavily worn, so that the frequent small sub-rounded stones survived predominately at the edges of the feature, where they were compacted into the underlying grey clay.
- Sump:** A large sub-oval sump (F38) was sealed by the overlying burnt mound material. It measured 8.5m by 4.8m with a depth of 1.67m. Its base stepped down from west to east where it attained its greatest depth in a bowl-shaped depression c. 2.5m in diameter. Cattle, sheep/goat bones were recovered from the base of the pit along with charcoal, clay and stones, a sample of which is dated to Late Bronze Age. Uncharred seeds were also recovered from the pit.
- Well 1:** Pit (F66) was circular in shape and filled naturally with water. It measured 1.5m in diameter with a depth of 1.2m. It tapered to a narrow base and was filled with silty clays that contained fragments of cremated bone. Charcoal from the fill is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.
- Well 2:** Pit (F77) was oval in shape and measured 3.2m by 2.8m with a depth of 1.68m. It also filled naturally with water and had steep sides leading to a flat base. Deposits of wood and fruitstones were retrieved from the base of the pit along with hazelnut shells. This was overlain with deposits of silty clay that contained animal bone, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

## **Site B**

- Ditches:** Two parallel ditches were revealed in this area 1.5m apart. They were filled with layers of grey clay and dark brown silts that contained hazelnuts. Burnt bone fragments of uncharred seeds from aquatic wetland were also uncovered in the basal fills suggesting they both held water. Charcoal from the basal of one of the ditches is dated to the Late Bronze Age.
- Pit:** This pit (F35) was oval in shape and measured 1.62m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.2m. It contained two fills composed of charcoal and burnt stone. Four unburnt pig teeth were retrieved from this pit. Charcoal is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

## **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** Hone stone from burnt mound in Site A.

Ecofacts: Animal bone including cattle, horse, sheep/goat and pig were recovered from the wells and sump. Hazelnut shells, and uncharred plant remains also recovered from pits.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (*maloideae*) from the fill of ditch (C27)  
C14 (Beta-247111) 2730±40 BP (975–806 BC)  
Charcoal (*maloideae*) from the fill of the pit (C38)  
C14 (Beta-247112) 2870±40 BP (1193–922 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the hearth (C46)  
C14 (Beta-247113) 3890±40 BP (2474–2210 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit (C35)  
C14 (Beta-247114) 3880±40 BP (2471–2209 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the pit (C80)  
C14 (Beta-247115) 3850±40 BP (2461–2205 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the pit/well (C66)  
C14 (Beta-247116) 2950±40 BP (1299–1026 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Two areas approximately 200m apart, revealed evidence of burnt mound activity and previous field systems. Area A included a heavily worn metallised track leading to a large sump, successive wells, hearths, and troughs sealed by a low burnt mound. Quantities of cattle and sheep/goat bone were recorded in the deeper features. Two separate phases of burnt mound activity were recorded in the early Bronze Age and the later bronze Age. Area B centered on a thin burnt stone spread surrounding a shallow bowl-shaped pit c. 1.4m in diameter. This has been dated to the early Bronze Age. A later Bronze Age field boundary ditch was also recorded in this area as were two additional undated linear ditches. The scale of the sump, wells and metallised surface, suggest a very considerable investment of resources, though the surviving burnt stone material does not reflect above average usage. It may be that the sump and wells provided water for farm animals or a nearby population as well as for the troughs, explaining the

above average traffic obviously experienced around the site.



Plate 10.107 Well pit at Arbraccan, Co. Meath.

**References**

Mossop, M and Ruddle, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ardraccan 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Ardraccan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardraccan	NGR: 282806, 267082
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 67m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Matt Mossop
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying marshy area.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval enclosure and kiln
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Archaeological excavation revealed an early medieval enclosure and settlement activity that overlay and truncated an early <i>fulacht fia</i> which consisted of a hearth, troughs, pits and metalled surfaces.
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Burnt Mound:	The burnt spread (F29) was oval in shape and measured 7.4m by 6m with a thickness of 0.19m. It was situated on a natural rise and composed of dark silty clay, charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. The spread deposit was cut by a ditch and slot trenches for later early medieval structures.
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Trough 1:	This pit (F70) was sub-rectangular in shape and was cut by the enclosure ditch. The surviving portion measured 1.76m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.24m. The pit lay downslope away from the burnt spread and was filled with grey silty clay and burnt mound material.
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Trough 2:	This trough (F79) was truncated by a palisade slot trench. It was sub-rectangular in shape but retained its maximum dimensions of 3.05m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.44m. The pit lay downslope away from the burnt spread and was filled with grey silty clay and burnt mound material. A sample of charcoal is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
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Pits:	The pits (F74, F94, F120, F125, F127, F136, F154) were generally sub-oval bowl-shaped cuts with a number of slight irregularities, except pit F125. Pit 125, was a slightly irregular linear cut (2.94m x 1.20m x 0.18m), which contained frequent charcoal and burnt sub-angular stones in its fill (F126). The remaining pits varied from 0.84–1.3m in maximum dimensions by 0.07–0.31m depth. These pits were filled with a dark brown-grey silty-clay with charcoal flecks.
Hearth:	A possible hearth (F95) was identified 10m downslope from the troughs. It was oval in shape and measured 0.92m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.15m. It contained frequent charcoal flecks and had burnt some of the underlying stones.
Metalled Surfaces:	A metalled surface F66, which measured 5.40m by 2.60m by 0.09m, comprised small subangular stones embedded in the underlying compact, yellow, silty-clay, and was situated south of the burnt spread (F29). A second metalled surface (F97) measured 8.6m north to south by 4.4m, apparently consolidating the area between the pits and troughs .
<b>Finds:</b>	
Artefacts:	A number of flint and chert cores along with debitage was recovered from the topsoil.
Ecofacts:	None
<b>Dating:</b>	
Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (cherry) from the fill of trough (F79) C14 (Beta-247119) 3190±40 BP (1601–1392 BC) Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (F94) C14 (Beta-247117) 3210±40 BP (1606–1411 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site lay in pasture at the southern edge of an area of marshy ground. Excavation revealed evidence for a Middle Bronze Age burnt mound complex; a substantial enclosure with two internal structures of probable early medieval date; associated field systems; and a number of pits, postholes, hearths, and possible corn-drying kilns. The size of the burnt mound and the number of its associated pits suggest that this burnt mound was used more than the burnt mound at Ardracran 3, despite its higher elevation. Given the higher elevation of the site, it appears the site would have been in use during wetter periods than neighbouring sites Ardracran 1.

### **References**

Mossop, M., Ginn, V and Ruddle, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ardracran 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Ardraccan	Six inch map no:
	Parish:	Ardraccan	NGR: 282787, 267218
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 67m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Matt Mossop	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying marshy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Archaeological excavation revealed a trough and an adjacent pit
Burnt Mound:	Burnt mound material surviving within the upper parts of root systems indicates the former presence of a small burnt mound slightly upslope of the trough measuring at least 6m by 4m. Despite the furrows, the lack of substantial burnt mound material in the vicinity cannot be adequately explained by later ploughing. Given no wooden lining for the trough, only one related pit and relatively small quantities of burnt mound material, it seems that this <i>fulacht fia</i> had a relatively short period of use. This is likely to have been dictated by the exhaustion of the local stone supply and possibly fuel.
Trough:	The trough (F9) was sub-rectangular in shape with rounded corners, vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.95m by 1.32m with a depth of 0.39m. The trough contained four fills composed of sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered limestone. Stone pocket marks around the sides and base of the pit may suggest it was originally stone-lined.
Pit 1:	Pit (F11) lay immediately south-west of the trough. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.01m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.14m. It contained two fills composed of grey clay, and stones with an upper fill consisting of heat-shattered stone.

Post-Hole: A substantial post-holes (F43) lay immediately south-west of the trough. It was oval in shape and filled with dark grey clay.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: A chert blade was recovered from a furrow on site.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**References**

Mossop, M. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ardraccon 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Plate 10.108. Boiling trough and adjacent pit filled with burnt stone at Ardraccon 3, Co. Meath.



Location:	Townland:	Drumree	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Knockmark	NGR: 282787, 267218
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Holger Schweitzer	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in low lying terrain at the base of a gently sloping hill, adjacent to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity was uncovered in the neighbouring townland of Leshamstown.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval kilns and possible structure		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Archaeological excavation revealed several small spreads of heat-shattered stone and a number of pits containing similar material. A cremation pit was also excavated on the site along with later, medieval activity.
Burnt Spreads:	Located adjacent to the trough F7 was a rectangular deposit of heat-shattered stone, black silty clay and charcoal. It measured 3.14m by 2.67m with a thickness of 0.14m. Similar deposits which may have originally been connected to this spread were revealed 5m west of the trough (F7). Spread (F9) measured 8m by 1.75m with a thickness of 0.18m. It was composed of dark grey silty clay, charcoal, burnt stone with some inclusions of cremated bone. F56 was irregular in shape and measured 2.36m by 0.63m with a thickness of 0.07m. F55 measured 2.2m by 2m with a thickness of 0.1m and was composed of similar material to the previous spreads.
Trough:	The trough (F7) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.08m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.37m. It was situated adjacent to the spread (F8) and the cremation pit (F6). It was filled with dark grey silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 1:	Pit (F14) was cut into the spread (F8). It was oval in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.08m. It was filled with dark sandy silty, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 2:	This pit (F13) was oval in shape and measured 0.95m by 0.65m with a depth of 0.06m. It was filled with dark sandy silty, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 3:	F28 was oblong-shaped and measured 0.55m by 0.30m with a depth of 0.06m. It contained dark silty clay and charcoal.
Cremation Pit:	Pit (F6) was oval in shape and measured 0.45m by 0.37m with a depth of 0.08m. It was situated 1.4m west of the trough and contained no burnt mound material. The fill was composed of charcoal and cremated bone. Charcoal from the pit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Post-Holes:	Two post-holes were directly associated with the spread F9.
Hearth:	A possible hearth (F20) was revealed to the north-west. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1m in diameter with a depth of 0.2m. It contained evidence for <i>in situ</i> burning and had four fills composed of charcoal, oxidised soil and burnt stones.
Roasting pit?	A possible roasting pit was identified 3m from the hearth. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.04m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.45m. The base displayed evidence of <i>in situ</i> burning and had four fills composed of charcoal-rich material and burnt stones. Two post-holes were found in the vicinity of the hearth and pit.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts:	A number of flint flakes were recovered from the topsoil
Ecofacts:	Burnt bone from spreads

<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (maloideae) from the fill of cremation pit (F6) C14 (Beta-241268) 3580±40 BP (2130–1773 BC)
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## **Excavation Interpretation**

The site shares a number of characteristics with burnt mounds, or *fulachtaí fia*, including the presence of a trough, a high content of heat-shattered stones, a lack of artefacts, and proximity to a water source. A pit was radiocarbon dated to 2120–1850 BC, placing at least some of the activity at Drumree 1 in the Bronze Age. A heavily truncated possible structure and two kilns of simple construction were also observed.

## **References**

Schweitzer, H. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Drumree, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Berrilstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Trevet	NGR: 295902, 255898
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: 123m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Stuart Rathbone
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a marginal area that was prone to flooding.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity was uncovered in the neighbouring townlands.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Archaeological excavation revealed nine pits contained burnt mound material. The site was heavily truncated by later post-medieval ploughing.
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Pit 1:	F10 was sub-oval in shape and measured 0.97m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.17. It contained one fill composed of sandy clay with occasional stones.
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Pit 2:	Pit (F12) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.1m by 0.96 with a depth of 0.28m. It was filled with two deposits of dark sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
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Pit 3:	Pit (F14) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.22m. The fill was composed of dark grey sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
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Pit 4:	F18 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.07 by 0.95 with a depth of 0.2m. A U-shaped channel extended from the pit. It measured 2.6m by 0.36m with a depth of 0.17m. The pit contained two fills composed of dark sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Occasional burnt bone was also recovered along with flint.
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- Pit 5: This pit (F20) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.3m. It contained a single fill composed of black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 6: Pit (F22) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.26m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.25m. It contained two fills composed of silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 7: F24 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.23m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 8: F32 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 3.6m by 1.75m with a depth of 0.09m. It was filled with orange sandy clay, charcoal and stones.
- Pit 9: Pit (F34) was also sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.4m by 1m with a depth of 0.47m. It contained two fills composed of silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Two flint flakes, a re-touched flint artefact and a quartz crystal core were recovered from the site.

Ecofacts: Burnt animal bone was recovered from the pit (F18)

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of pit (F18)  
C14 (Beta-246985) 3740±40 BP (2285–2035 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Nine pits, some of which were associated with stake-holes, were revealed within the excavation area. Some of the pits were filled with fire-cracked and burnt stones and charcoal-rich soils, material typical of burnt stone mound sites. One of these pits has been dated to 2285–2030 BC. However, no stone mound was located, nor was any burnt stone present in the topsoil. It therefore seems likely that activities equivalent to those that lead to the formation of burnt stone mounds was undertaken at this site, but that it was not in use for a sufficient amount of time to allow a build-up of burnt stone.

### **References**

Rathbone, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Berrilstown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Leshamstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 295390, 251814
	Barony:	Rotoath	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Holger Schweitzer
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	Leshamstown 1 was located in the southeast corner of a large, arable field, with the southwest corner of the site partly located to the south of a substantial east–west field boundary. The site is situated to the north of an east–west stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity was uncovered in the neighbouring townlands.
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Archaeological excavation revealed a burnt mound and spreads, a trough, numerous pits and a metallised surface or platform.
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Burnt Mound:	The mound consisted of a dispersed spread of material (F6) that measured 9m by 8m with a thickness of 0.2m. It was composed of light black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The full extent of the spread was not revealed during the investigation.
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Trough:	The trough (F7) was situated at the southern extent of the spread and was oblong in shape. It measured 1.96m by 1.58m with a depth of 0.52m. It contained five fills, the primary of which was composed of re-deposited collapsed natural. The other deposits were composed of varying fills of silty clays and heat-shattered stone. Two pig teeth were recovered from the primary deposit. A sample of charcoal from this deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age. A small piece of flint debitage was found in the upper fill.
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- Pits 1-4: Four pits (F8: 0.95m diameter x 0.17m depth; F9: 1.10m x 1.04m x 0.30m; F10: 1.17m x 1.02m x 0.22m; and F48: 1.17m x 0.68m x 0.10m) all similar in size and shape were found to the west of the burnt spread (F6), and they were all filled with burnt mound type material.
- Pits 5-10: A series of five, southwest–northeast, shallow pits (F11–F13, F15, and F28) truncating each other, were found c. 2.20m to the southwest of the trough, almost at the base of a natural slope.
- Pit 11: This pit (F42) measured 2.04m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.47m. It contained five fills including a thin layer of charcoal.
- Pit 12: Pit (F41) measured 2.03m by 0.94m with a depth of 0.32m and was located at the base of the slope and filled naturally water during the excavation. Charcoal from one of the fills is dated to the Early Bronze Age. This pit was associated with a metallised surface.
- Metallised Surface: The surface (F64) was irregular in shape and associated with the pit (F41). It measured 1.7m by 1.6m and seemed to be truncated by severe ploughing. It was defined by a compact layer of closely laid small stones.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: Flint debitage was recovered from the trough and a core was recovered from a small deposit of burnt mound material.
- Ecofacts: Pig teeth were retrieved from the trough while a fragment long bone was recovered from a small deposit of burnt mound material.

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough  
C14 (Beta-231943) 3620±40 BP (2131–1886 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the pit (C41)  
C14 (Beta-231944) 3520±40 BP (2010–1696 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site consisted of a spread of burnt mound material, several associated pits, deposits, and a metallised surface or platform. These are thought to belong to one, prehistoric phase of activity, as also implied by the radiocarbon dates of 2130–1890 BC and 1970–1740 BC. The roughly crescent-shaped and heavily truncated spread of burnt stone and charcoal-rich material was located on the highest ground in the vicinity of a stream and its low lying ground, which appears to be subjected to regular seasonal flooding. After the abandonment of the burnt mound and its associated features, as displayed by the deliberate infilling of the features with burnt mound material, the site does not appear to have been re-used until the modern field boundaries and drains were put in place.

### **References**

Schweitzer, H. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Leshamstown I, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Leshamstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 295422, 251767
	Barony:	Rotaoth	Altitude: 91m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Holger Schweitzer	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on arable land located close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity was uncovered in the same townland 50m to the north (see above).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: This site at Leshamstown 2 was identified during advance testing as a collection of shallow pits and spreads. Following the re-opening of the site for the full archaeological resolution only one of the archaeological features found during testing, a shallow pit, could be re-located.

Pit: Pit (F6) was irregular in shape and measured 0.52m by 0.48 with a depth of 0.18m. The fill was composed of black silty clay and charcoal.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Absolute dating: None

### References

Schweitzer, H. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Leshamstown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Williamstown or Bawn	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardsallagh	NGR: 287180, 263874
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 51m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Ken Wiggins
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was located on arable land located close to a stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland (see below).
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Adjacent excavated sites:	Medieval structure
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound that overlay a number of pits, some of which may have functioned as troughs. A large medieval structure was also excavated adjacent to the burnt mound.
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Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F6) was circular in shape and measured 11.2m by 10.7m with a thickness of 0.32m. It was composed of black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. Upon the removal of the mound four smaller spreads of material were exposed, three of which were located in natural hollows and contained charcoal and burnt stone. One of these deposits is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
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Pit 1:	Pit (F17) was revealed beneath the burnt mound material. It measured 1.59m by 1.03m with a depth of 0.22m. The fill was composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone.
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Pit 2:	Pit (F18) measured 2.1m by 1.22m with a depth of 0.31m. It contained two fills, the primary of which was composed of burnt stone and black silty clay.
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Pit 3:	This pit (F25) was revealed outside the extent of the spread. It measured 1.48m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.28m and contained two fills composed of burnt mound material as well as an large amount of uncharred remains that
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suggests the feature was waterlogged (white water-lily, crowfoots, hemlock, celery-leaved buttercup, sedges, fool's parsley and fat-hen, may have been brought to the site along with a single barley grain from this same context. Ruderal weeds included henbane, knotgrass, prickly sow-thistle, redshank, thistles and common nettle.

Pit 4: Pit (F20) measured 1.37m by 0.88m with a depth of 0.88m. It contained four fills composed of soft grey clays, the second deposit contained an oak roundwood.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Uncharred plant remains were recovered from pit 3

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread (F14)  
C14 (Beta-247086) 3860±40 BP (2465–2206 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The removal of the mound revealed four burnt stone deposits and four cuts containing burnt stone fragments. One of the cuts also contained a fragmented length of oak roundwood with heavily decayed ends. This mound dates from the Early Bronze Age. There were no postholes or stake-holes relating to ancillary or associated structures although the large pit and one of the cuts may represent the remains of a trough and a boiling pit. A modern ditch ran north-south through the site and drained what would have been a previously wet environment which would have provided sufficient water for the troughs/pits.

#### **References**

Wiggins, K. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Williamstown or Bawn 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Williamstown or Bawn	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardsallagh	NGR: 286517, 263757
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 51m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Ken Wiggins
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was located on arable land located close to a stream.
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland (see above).
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity with the most intense activity focusing on a deep well and trough.
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#### **Site A**

Well:	This feature (F17) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 14m by 6m with a depth of 2m and contained sixteen fills. The fills at the base of the pit mostly consisted of compact clays with frequent inclusions of organic material including (wood, animal bone, hazelnut shells, and occasional beetle remains). A number of worked wooden pieces including stake/pencil/wedge and chisel ends were also recovered from these lower layers. The middle fills were composed of silty clays with inclusions of animal bone, hazlenuts and organic material while the upper deposits were composed of silty clays with charcoal, burnt stones and animal bone and cremated bone. A possible whet stone was recovered from the upper layers. The pit had a gradual sloping side at one end to allow access and it was partially metalled with stone.
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- Pit 1: Pit (F38) was oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.07m. It was filled with dark silty material, charcoal flecks and stones.
- Trough: Pit (F28) may have functioned as a trough. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.6m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.46m. Its fill was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Stockpile: A possible stone stockpile (F39) may have been associated with the trough. It consisted of a deposit of silty sand with frequent inclusions of various sized stones concentrated mainly at its centre. It measured 1.4m by 1m.

## Site B

- Pit: This pit (F44) was elongated in shape and measured 3.8m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.28m. It contained four fills consisting of burnt mound material. The fill was disturbed by earlier archaeological testing. A sample of charcoal is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

## Finds:

- Artefacts: A flint blade was recovered from a deposit overlying the well. A possible whet stone was recovered from the upper fill of the well. Worked wood was also recovered from the well.

- Ecofacts: Plant remains, fruitstones, hazelnut shells and beetle remains were recovered from the well along with animal bone identified as cattle and sheep/goat. Some displayed evidence of butchery.

## Dating:

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Bone (animal) from the fill of the well (F17)  
 C14 (QUB-7058) 2989±35 BP (1379–1117 BC)  
 Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough  
 C14 (Beta-247088) 3070±40 BP (1431–1216 BC)  
 Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (F44) Site B  
 C14 (Beta-247089) 3790±40 BP (2402–2045 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

The site was comprised of four separate areas, two of which contained archaeological activity in the form of burnt stone and charcoal rich features, linear features, and a large well. Charcoal from an isolated pit feature has produced an Early Bronze Age date indicating the earliest phase of activity on the site. Animal bone from the base of the well feature has been dated to the latter stages of the Middle Bronze Age period and the charcoal-rich trough feature located in direct proximity to this well is likely to be contemporary with it. The location of trough F28 directly east of the large well F17 suggests a potential contemporary use of the two features. Access to water from F17 for use within the trough F28 would have been made very practical by locating both features near each other. Butchered animal bone recovered from the well indicates that the site was possibly used as a cooking area.

## References

Martin, K. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Williamstown or Bawn 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

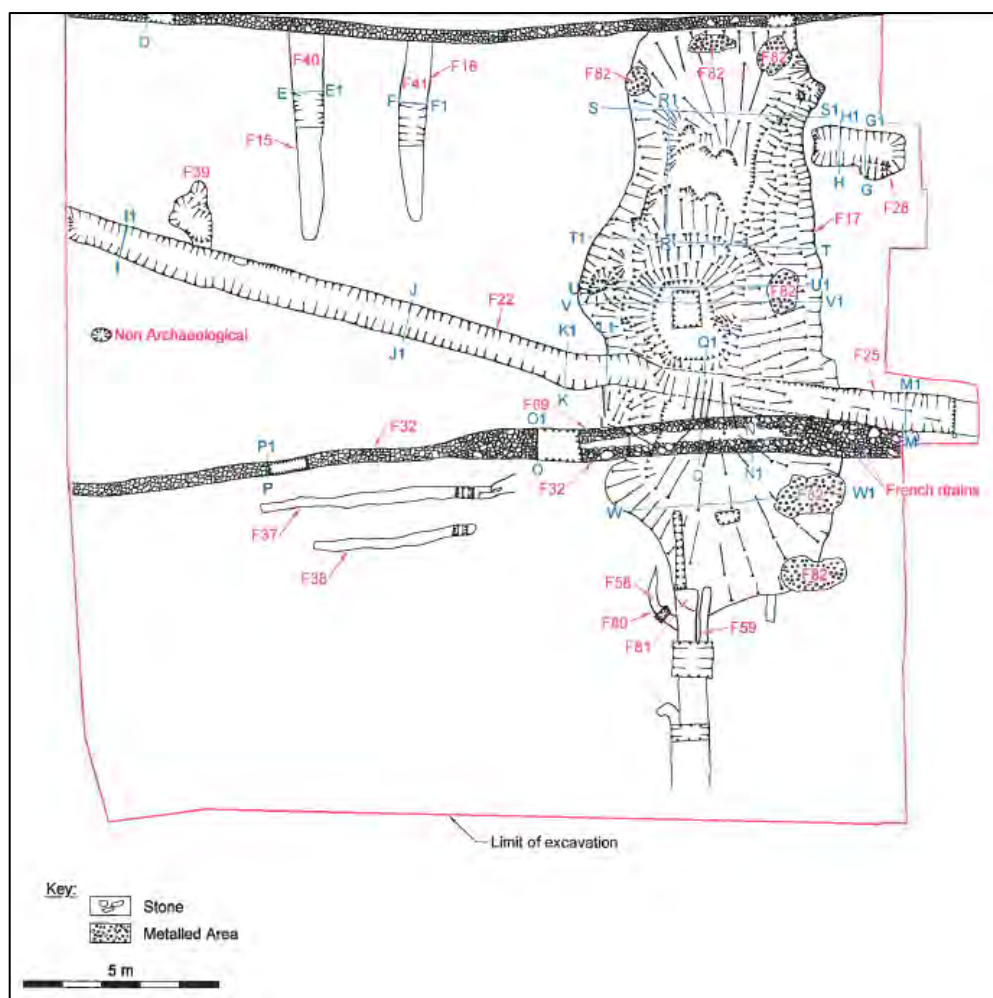


Fig. 10.130 Well pit at Willimastown or Bawn, Co. Meath.



Location:	Townland:	Bennettstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunboyne	NGR: 301857, 243732
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Meath	

Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway
	Site Director:	Ruth Elliott
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting:	The site was located within the floodplain of the River Tolka
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Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in the same townland (see below).
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Adjacent excavated sites:	Medieval industrial pits
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a crescent-shaped burnt mound, a number of post-holes and numerous pits.
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Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F4) was crescent-shaped and measured 10m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It was situated at the western edge of the River Tolka where the land drops steeply into the rivers floodplain. It comprised of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Indeterminate cereal grains, along with uncharred seeds including acmenes of nettle and fruitstones of elder were recovered from F4. Charcoal from the spread is dated to the Middle Bronze Age. A deposit consistent with flooding was revealed adjacent to the spread which contained a flint scraper.
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Post-Holes:	Two post-holes were revealed beneath the burnt mound towards the centre of the space demarcated by the crescent shape.
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Pit 1:	Pit (F49) lay adjacent to the post-holes but overlay the spread F4. It measured 1m by 0.76m with a depth of 0.4m and contained a fill composed of loose black silty clay, charcoal and stones.
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Other features:	The stratigraphic relationship between the remaining 15 pits, postholes and stake-holes (F6, F8, F10, F12, F24, F25, F27, F28, F55, F56, F59, F61, F63,
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F65, and F69) in this area and the burnt spread could not be conclusively determined. Two medieval industrial pits were also excavated on site suggesting later activity in the area unassociated with pyrolithic technology.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: A flint scraper was recovered from the flood deposit adjacent to the spread. A number of flint flakes and cores were also recovered across the site.

Ecofacts: Barley and cereal remains were recovered from the site.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread (F4)  
C14 (Beta-231935) 3260±40 BP (1626–1440 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Two large, clay-lined pits were revealed during the excavation of a burnt spread in advance of the M3 Clonree to Kells motorway. The *fulacht fia* consisted of a spread of heat-shattered stone, several pits and numerous post-holes. A sample of charcoal from the burnt mound material was dated to the middle Bronze Age (Beta-231935). The two clay-lined pits excavated in the centre of the site were filled with silty clays, animal bone and cereal grain. Both were dated to the later part of the early medieval period. These two features were interpreted as possible industrial or refuse pits unrelated to the earlier burnt mound and pyrolithic technology. No heat-shattered stone was discussed in relation to either of the pit fills.

**References**

Elliot, R and Ginn, V. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Bennetstown I, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Bennettstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunboyne	NGR: 301664, 243960
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Ruth Elliott	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located within the floodplain of the River Tolka		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity 300m away in the same townland (see above).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread deposit an oval-shaped pit.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread (F5) was irregular in shape and measured 11.5m by 4.5m and was composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The deposit was sandwiched between natural peat deposits and alluvial river deposits. Charcoal from the deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit:	The spread overlay a single pit which was oval in shape. It measured 0.4m by 0.34m with a depth of 0.12m. The fill was composed of dark sitly clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread (F5) C14 (Beta-231938) 3850±40 BP (2461–2205 BC)

#### **References**

Elliott, R and Ginn, V. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Bennetstown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Johnstown	Six inch map no:
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 295927, 251219
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 98m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Stuart Elder	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in undulating pastureland on a gentle, southwest-facing slope, although it rose on all sides, particularly the south and west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval settlement, Neolithic house and Bronze Age walls		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed multi-period activity dating from the Neolithic to the Early Medieval period. The burnt mound was extensively damaged by later ploughing but survived as a spread of heat-shattered stone that was associated with a trough and a deep well.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F579) was extensively truncated and survived as a thin deposit of grey silty sand, charcoal and burnt stone. It measured 13.95m by 2.1m with a thickness of 0.16m. A flint core, a flake and flint debitage were recovered from the deposit.
Trough:	The trough (F483) was situated 3m to the west and was rectangular in shape. It measured 2.14m by 1.31m with a depth of 0.18m. Six stake-holes cut the base of the feature along with a post-hole suggesting the trough may have originally been lined. The trough was filled with dark silty clays with occasional pebbles and charcoal.
Pit/Well:	This pit (F641) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 7.86m by 5.16m with a depth of 1.52m. It was situated immediately south of the trough and was interpreted as a possible combined quarry and well to serve the trough. At the eastern end of this large pit there was evidence for an artificial step



with several stakeholes which may have formed the foundations for a handrail, or similar. Below this access the pit displayed evidence for a metallised surface. It contained nine fills, the majority of which composing of clayey silt, stones and charcoal with occasional animal bone. A sample from one of these fills is dated to the Late Bronze Age.

The southwest corner of this pit (F641) was cut through an earlier and deeper pit (F768:2.32m by 2.21m by 1.56m) with five fills, the primary of which contained a clay silt with charcoal and decayed stones with a significant quantity of wood, flint, animal bone and uncharred seeds. A Middle Bronze Age date was obtained from this deposit. Three additional later re-cuts were observed in the pit. Fragments of split oak were recovered from one of these re-cuts along with additional plant remains and cremated human bone, thought to be part of a disturbed burial. A fragment of burnt bone from the upper fill is dated to the Iron Age.

**Post/Stake-Holes:** Twenty-two post-holes were observed in the periphery of the burnt mound in two concentric arcs.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A flint core, flake and blade were recovered from the burnt mound while chert and flint artefacts were recovered from the bottom fill of the large pit.

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone identified as cattle, sheep/goat, deer and dog were found in the large pit. Uncharred seeds were also recovered.

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Bone (animal) from primary fill of earlier well  
C14 (Beta-236022) 3030±40 BP (1408–1132 BC)  
Wood (alder) from fill of later well feature  
C14 (Beta-241275) 2750±40 BP (997–816 BC)  
Bone (burnt) from upper fill of later well  
C14 (Beta-241274) 2270±40 BP (401–206 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The burnt mound activity appears to have been largely located to the extreme east of the site, and was subsequently heavily truncated by the insertion of the north–south field boundary ditch. The existing spread (F579) was very shallow, thereby precluding any estimates as to the volume of the mound, and therefore any information as to the number of possible firings. The shallow sub-rectangular had six stakeholes arranged around the edges, suggesting the use perhaps of a temporary wattle liner. The large pit probably served as a well for the adjacent water-boiling features and seems to have remained an important feature into the Iron Age.

### **References**

Elder, S and Ginn, V. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Johnstown I, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

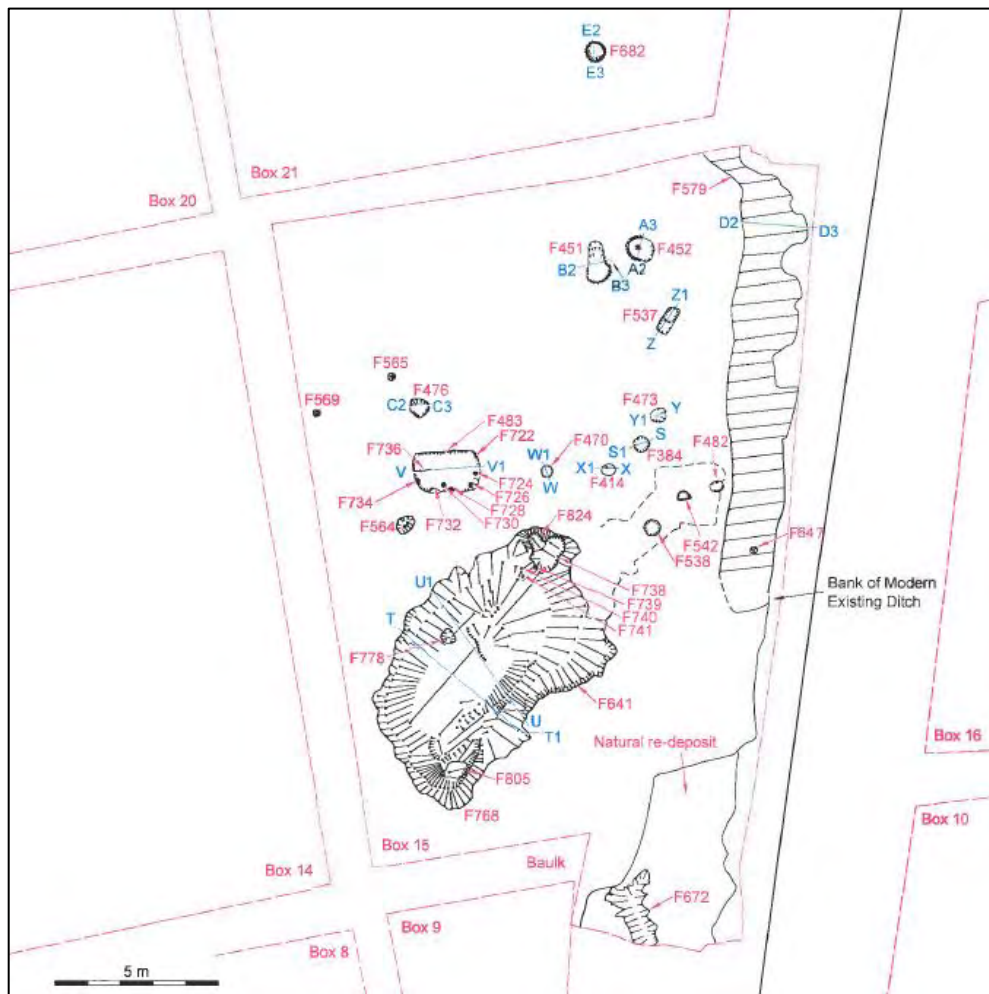


Fig. 10.31 Well pit and associated trough and pits at Johnstonw, Co. Meath.

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Location:	Townland:	Gainstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardbraccan	NGR: 285084, 264615
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 61m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Stephen J. Linanne	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in pastureland that sloped down from east to west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity that contained spreads and pits filled with heat-shattered stone.

##### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: It seems that much of the burnt mound in this area had been ploughed away in later periods leaving shallow traces of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal-rich deposits in a number of depressions.

Pit 1: Pit (F604) measured 2.64m by 1.64m with a depth of 0.63m. It was filled with heat-shattered sandstone and black silty clay. A cattle tooth was recovered from this fill.

Pit 2: This pit (F606) was circular in shape and measured 0.89m in diameter with a depth of 0.2m. Two fills were noted in the pit composed of silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 3: This pit (F608) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.89m by 0.45m with a depth of 0.23m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and contained a fill composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Pit 4: Pit (F618) was also rectangular in shape and measured 1m by 0.24 with a depth of 0.18m. It contained one fill composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

## **Site B**

Burnt Mound: The centre of activity within Area B was located 45m to the west of that in Area A and was separated from it by a field boundary consisting of a substantial ditch with bank and hedge. A large ploughed out and dispersed burnt stone spread (F719) dominated this portion of the site. It survived as small patches of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 1: This pit (F722) was irregular in shape and measured 1.2m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

Pit 2: Pit (F724) was square in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.2m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

Pit 3: Pit (F756) was circular in shape and measured 1.4m in diameter with a depth of 0.3m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

Pit 4: Pit (F762) was also circular in shape and measured 1.2m in diameter with a depth of 0.47m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material. Charcoal from the fill of this pit is dated to the Late Neolithic period. A convex end scraper was also recovered from the upper fill deposit.

Pit 5: This pit (F764) was circular in shape and measured 1.4m in diameter with a depth of 0.4m. A single post-hole cut the base of the feature. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

Pit 6: Pit (F768) was circular in shape and measured 1.2m in diameter with a depth of 0.45m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

Pit 7: Pit (F776) was oval in shape and measured 1.3m by 1m with a depth of 0.15m. The fill was composed of burnt mound material.

**Finds:** A flint convex end scraper was recovered from the fill of pit (F762)

Ecofacts: Cattle teeth were recovered from the fill of pit (F604)

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from fill of pit (F608) Site A  
C14 (Beta-247095) 3530±40 BP (1963–1745 BC)  
Charcoal (*maloideae*) from fill of pit (F762) Site B  
C14 (Beta-247096) 4020±40 BP (2833–2466 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation**

A total of four pits and two depressions were contained with Area A and a dispersed and ploughed out burnt mound spread, six depressions, seven pits and two postholes were contained with Area B. The majority of these features were filled with burnt mound material. This would suggest the former presence of a burnt mound (*fulacht fia*) in/within the vicinity of the site and that burnt stone technology was being used in both parts of the site (presumably for boiling water).

## **References**

Linnane, S. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Gainstown 1, Co. Meath. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.*

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Location:	Townland:	Gainstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardbraccan	NGR: 285368, 264267
	Barony:	Lower Deece	Altitude: 60m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Terry Connell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in pastureland that sloped down from east to west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed three burnt mounds, only one of which was associated with cut features such as pits.
Burnt Mound 1:	This mound (F90 and F4) was composed of two deposits composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. F90 measured 6.15m by 6m with a thickness of 0.14m while F4 measured 8m by 7.5m with a thickness of 0.14m.
Burnt Mound 2:	This mound was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age period. No dimensions of the spread material available.
Burnt Mound 3:	This mound (F61) was contained within an artificial depression and measured 5.7m in width by 1.35m in depth. It was composed of four layers of dark grey sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pits:	At least nine pits were associated with this burnt mound and all contained burnt mound material. A further eleven pits were identified some of which clustered together and were filled with burnt mound material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	Struck flint was recovered from the topsoil
Ecofacts:	Burnt bone was recovered from the fill of one of the pits associated with burnt mound 3.

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from fill of pit (F6) C14 (Beta-247097) 3520±40 BP (1952–1742 BC) Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread 2 C14 (Beta-247098) 3930±40 BP (2566–2294 BC) Charcoal (hazel) from the pit (F81) C14 (Beta-247099) 3920±40 BP (2562–2290 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

A possible wood-lined trough/well was associated with Mound 3: the pit continually filled with water during excavation (an excavation that did not occur during a particularly wet period) and seemed to use the water table to its full potential. No stream or obvious water source was noted in the immediate vicinity though all the surrounding modern field ditches carry significant water and may have been excavated along the lines of former streams. This trough/well was filled with typical burnt mound-like material which also comprised Mound 3, cut into the ground. The form of this trough/well would have greatly facilitated the use of any of the surrounding pits. Mounds 1 and 2 may represent waste material from the primary mound, Mound 3 although the modern ditch F27 that truncated the southern end of Mound 2 may have obscured any evidence for an associated trough.

**References**

Connell, T. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Gainstown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Kennastown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardsallagh	NGR: 287382, 263885
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 52m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The site was divided into ten areas with most displaying evidence for burnt mound activity.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a complex of burnt mound activity that was separated into ten separate areas during the excavation.

#### Site A

- Pit 1: This (F125) was the central feature in the western area of the complex. It measured 11.5m by 8m with a depth of 1.6m and was accessed on its eastern side by a ramp. It contained six fills, the primary of which was a large deposit of peat that contained mollusc shells and animal bone identified as butchered sheep. A chopped red deer antler was also retrieved. A hazelnut shell from this context is dated to the Late Bronze Age. It was sealed by two clay deposits that contained burnt stone, charcoal and animal bone.
- Pit 2/Well: Pit (F134) was located adjacent to the pit (F125) and was interpreted as a well. It measured 2.15m by 1.7m with a depth of 1.35m. It was filled with organic material and occasional burnt stone.
- Pit 3/Well: Pit (F135) was also interpreted as a well. It measured 2.4m by 1.37m with a depth of 1.1m. It was filled with organic material and occasional burnt stone.
- Pit 4: This pit (F156) measured 1.5m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.9m. Its primary fill was composed of peat that contained unworked wood, roots, roundwood

posts and stakes. The upper fills were composed of clays with burnt stone and additional timber pieces.

**Intercutting Pits:** This complex was located 16m to the east of the previous pits. It comprised the remains of three large inter-cutting pits, F168 (2.07m by 0.90m by 0.45m; Figure 16), F136 (2.00m by 1.70m by 1.06m) and F143 (2.50m by 1.40m by 1.29m), which were uncovered below F112, a layer of silty clay and burnt stone fragments.

**Linear features:** These two complexes were almost joined by three cuts F12, F31 and F44 which were aligned end-to-end to form a segmented linear feature with an overall length of c.15.30m. This extended east–west between the two pit complexes but did not intersect any of the large pits. Fill F53, from the section F12, contained hazel charcoal which was radiocarbon dated to 1130–920 BC.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Spreads:** Two burnt spreads (F300 and F301) were revealed in this area. F300 measured 6.5m by 4m with a thickness of 0.1m while F301 measured 4.63m by 4.3m with a thickness of 0.1m. Both were composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A similar small deposit filled a shallow cut, a sample of which is dated to the Late Neolithic period.

## **Site C**

**Burnt Mound:** The mound (F200) was almost circular in shape and measured 13.75m by 13m with a thickness of 0.17m. It was associated with seven smaller spreads of similar material composing of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. Four post-holes cut into the mound and were grouped in two pairs.

**Trough 1:** F221 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.3m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.33m. It was overlain by the burnt mound and contained similar material, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Trough 2:** This trough (F222) measured 2.25m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.59m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

**Trough 3:** F223 measured 2.6m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.58m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

## **Site D**

**Burnt Spreads:** Four small deposits of burnt mound material were noted in this area composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. All were less than 2m in length and no more than 0.2m in thickness.

**Pit 1:** Three pits were identified in this area. F281 measured 1.9m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.25m. It contained a fill composed of black silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone. The edge of the pit was cut by eighteen stake-holes arranged in clusters of four or five at the corners of the pit. A sample from this pit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Pit 2:** Pit (F274) measured 3.02m by 1.64m with a depth of 0.2m. It contained a fill composed of black silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone.



Pit 3: F280 measured 1.54m by 0.56m with a depth of 0.2m. It contained a fill composed of black silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone.

#### **Site E**

Burnt Spreads: Two burnt spreads were revealed in this area and eleven smaller deposits of similar material measuring less than 1m<sup>2</sup> which may have resulted from later agricultural processes. F242 was the largest deposit and measured 7.4m by 0.98m with a thickness of 0.14m.

Large Pit: The spread deposits were associated with one large pit (F245) that measured 3.5m by 2.05m with a depth of 1.50m. It contained seven fills with the lower deposits composed of waterlogged material that contained plant material and burnt stone. A sample of hazelnut shell is dated to the Early Bronze Age. A worked stake was the only find recovered from the bottom of the pit.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A plano-convex knife was recovered from the topsoil on site.

Ecofacts: Animal bone identified as butchered sheep remains was recovered from the large pits in Site A. Plant remains were also recovered from the pits.

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Shell (hazelnut) from fill of pit (F125) Site A  
C14 (Beta-247079) 2810±40 BP (1110–843 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of linear feature  
C14 (Beta-247078) 2860±40 BP (1191–914 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough (F221) Site C  
C14 (Beta-247080) 3870±40 BP (2468–2208 BC)  
Shell (hazelnut) from the fill of trough (F245) Site E  
C14 (Beta-247081) 3700±40 BP (2203–1973 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough (F281) Site D  
C14 (Beta-247082) 3790±40 BP (2402–2045 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread (Site B)  
C14 (Beta-247083) 4060±40 BP (2852–2476 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site was divided into 10 areas (Areas 1–10) of archaeological material located across three adjoining poorly drained pasture fields, sloping north–south. The majority of the areas contained the remains of burnt mound-type features. The largest area (Site A) comprised a grouping of large pits interpreted as wells, another large pit interpreted as a well that was recut twice, a segmented curvilinear gully, and other linear features and pits associated with charcoal-enriched clay deposits containing burnt stone fragments. The only other substantial area (Site C) comprised a large, levelled spread of burnt stone material (13.75m by 13m by 0.17m), which overlay two troughs containing burnt sandstone fragments, a tree bole possibly re-used as a boiling pit, and two pairs of postholes. The other areas of the site were relatively small. Radiocarbon dating results confirm a late prehistoric date range for the site, spanning the late Neolithic period, the Early Bronze Age, the Middle Bronze Age and the Late Bronze Age.

#### **References**

Wiggins, K., Ginn, V., and Martin, K. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kennastown 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Kennastown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardsallagh	NGR: 287616, 264517
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 49m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Ken Wiggins	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a ploughed-out burnt mound and pits.
Burnt Mound:	The concentration of limited burnt stone deposits in the northern part of the site was mostly contained by natural hollows in the subsoil. The material was distributed over an area measuring c. 15m east–west by 13m and consisted of seventeen deposit of black silty clay, charcoal and burnt stone.
Pit 1:	This pit (F40) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.07m. It contained two fills composed of silty, charcoal and oxidised clay inclusions.
Pit 2:	This pit was exposed in the southern portion of the site. It was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.02m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.14m. The fill was composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and burnt stone.
Pit 3:	Pit (F35) was rectangular in shape and measured 0.62m by 0.28m with a depth of 0.4m. The fill composed of brown silt, charcoal and burnt stone.
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (ash) from the burnt spread C14 (Beta-241085) 3890±40 BP (2474–2210 BC)

### References

Wiggins, K., Ginn, V., and O'Hara, R. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Kennastown I, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Knocks	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Dunshaughlin	NGR: 295647, 251919
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 93m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Stuart Elder	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2005/2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the southern extent of a flood plain, approximately 400m from a tributary of the River Skane		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a possible burnt mound site enclosed by a large circular ditch of contemporaneous date.
Ditch:	The ditch had an external diameter of 30m and varied between 0.7m and 1.45m in depth. The ditch appears to have been deliberately backfilled shortly after its construction, as there was little evidence for silting deposits. The ditch had a V-shaped profile in some places, and a U-shaped profile in others, and appears to have been cut in a series of segments, which were later joined together, forming a penannular enclosure. A gap, c. 1.90m wide, in the northeast of the ditch represents the entrance as it was by the time of the final phase of construction, though due to the segmented nature of the ditch, may not have originally been the sole means by which to enter the site. Animal bone was recovered from the ditch segments, some of which displayed evidence of cut marks. Pig bone and a long bone fragment are dated to the Late Bronze Age.
Burnt Spread:	Inside the enclosure, in the north-west quadrant, a spread (F28) was revealed on a low natural rise approximately 12m in diameter. This was covered by a deposit of dark grey silt that contained charcoal and heat-shattered stone that measured 12m by 14m with a thickness of 0.1m.

- Pits 1-15:** Fifteen pits were discovered, many underneath the spread F28. These were sub-circular/oval or sub-rectangular in shape and ranged in size up to 1.83m x 1.58m and varied in depth from 0.12–0.45m. One of the smaller sub-circular pits had a clay lining, and retained water during the wetter periods of the excavation, whereas the other features were free-draining. One of the pits contained red deer antler and dog teeth.
- Trough 1?** This possible trough (F70) was oval in shape and measured 1.38m in diameter with a depth of 0.12m.
- Trough 2?** Trough (F73) was also oval in shape and measured 1.83m by 1.58m with a depth of 0.43m. This pit had a square-sectioned length of timber wedged into the sides two-thirds of the way along its length, which had the appearance of closing off the northern third of the pit.
- Pit 16:** A circular pit (F195) was revealed adjacent to the inner edge of the enclosure ditch. It contained a single charcoal-rich fill that contained burnt stone. Animal bone was recovered from the pit along with along with the shaft of an adult human femur.
- Post and Stake-Holes:** Twenty-four post-holes were uncovered during the excavation, many did not form any coherent plan. The stake-holes were also erratic, forming only a vague northwest–southeast alignment to the east of the pit complex, and providing no obvious indication as to function.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** twenty five pieces of flint flake debitage were recovered from the site, fourteen modified tools, two unworked pieces and a single core. The tools consisted of knives and possible scrapers. A single arrowhead was retrieved.

**Ecofacts:** A human femur bone was recovered from one of the pits. Animal bone was identified as red deer antler, dog, pig, sheep and cattle. It was recovered from the ditch fills and the pits.

### **Dating:**

Bone (animal) from the fill of the ditch  
 C14 (Beta-220134) 2710±40 BP (968–801 BC)  
 Bone (animal) from the fill of the ditch  
 C14 (Beta-220135) 2740±40 BP (970–820 BC)  
 Charcoal (elm) from the fill of the pit (F118)  
 C14 (Beta-241278) 3760±40 BP (2293–2036 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation revealed a burnt stone and clay silt spread which covered several pits, postholes and stake-holes, and which was enclosed by a ditch. The enclosing ditch, with its northeast entrance, appears to have originally been constructed in at least eight segments, and at a later date these segments were dug through to create a semi-continuous ditch. Some of the pits, including F60, appear to be similar in nature to the types of trough features found on burnt mound sites, and suggest that some form of activity related to the heating of water through pyrolithic (heated stone) means was taking place on the site. This is further evidenced by the presence of heat-shattered stone in the sealing spread F28. Current interpretations indicate that some of the features on the site were open and in use during the Early Bronze Age, and that a second phase of use occurred in the Late Bronze Age. The earlier phase of use has been tentatively interpreted involving cooking while the later phase of use was represented by the enclosure.

## References

Elder, S. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Knocks 1, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

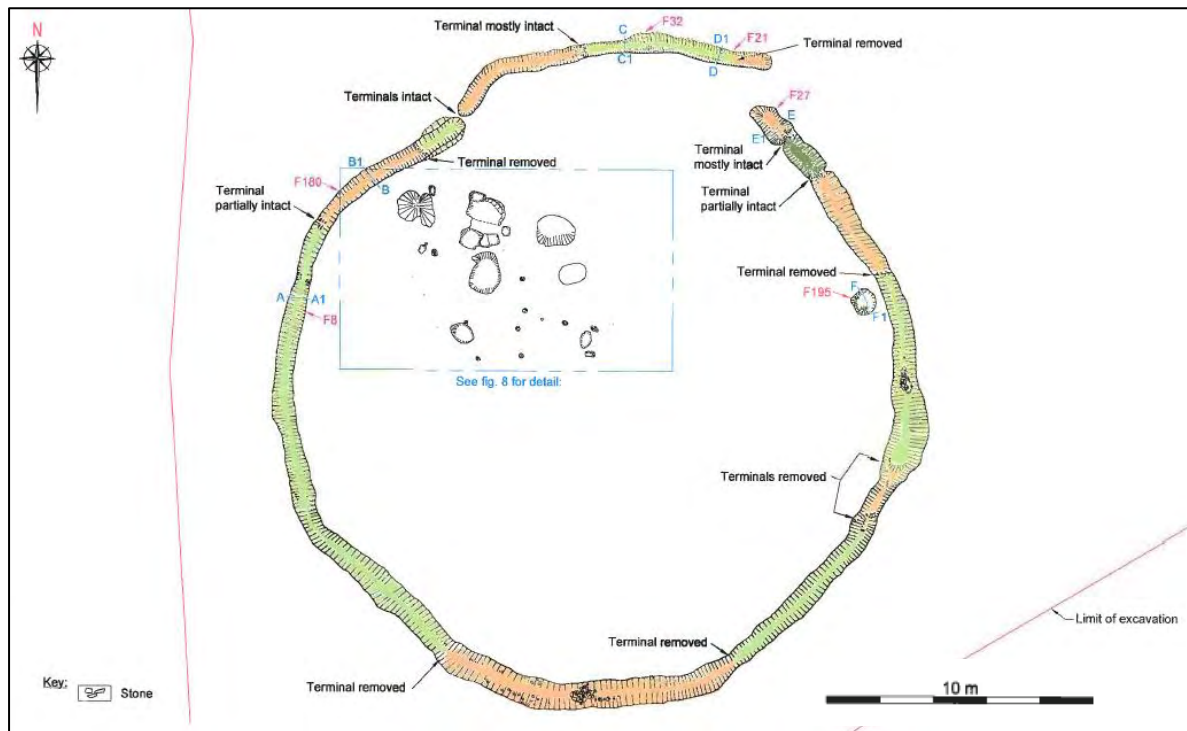


Fig. 10.132 Cooking pits surrounded by Late Bronze Age ditch at Knocks 1, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Raynestown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Rathbeggan	NGR: 298224, 248835
	Barony:	Ratoath	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Stuart Elder	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the southern extent of a flood plain, approximately 400m from a tributary of the River Skane		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed numerous pits filled with deposit of heat-shattered stone. The site was once covered by a spread of charcoal-rich material containing fire-cracked stone, but this appears to have been almost completely removed through the actions of modern agricultural practice.
Burnt Mound:	Removed by later agricultural processes.
Pits 1-16:	A total of 16 pits were observed during excavation. The pits ranged in size from 0.52m in length by 0.24m in width (F54) up to 3.32m length by 2.02m width (F61) and 0.08–0.56m (F54 and F67, respectively) in depth, and varied greatly in profile. These were mostly oval or suboval in shape with one rectangular- (F20: north–south: 1.78m by 1.20m by 0.24m) and one subcircular- shaped (F34: 0.80m by 0.80m by 0.14m) and contained up to six fills (F61: 3.32m x 2.02m x 0.32m), although most had one or two. The lower fills in these pits were silty or sandy and the upper fills generally contained substantial quantities of burnt stone and charcoal flecks. Two cattle teeth were recovered from the fill of pit F7. A sample of charcoal from pit (F24) is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Two of the pits (F20: 1.78m by 1.20m by 0.24m and F7: 1.50m by 1.14m by 0.56m) appear to have been joined by the insertion of a narrow, pebble-filled (F21) channel (F22: 1.32m

by 0.77m by 0.20m) between them, which had a constriction in the central portion. One of the fills of F20 produced animal bone.

**Post-Holes:** Five post-holes and one stake-hole were revealed during the excavation. No formal structural plan could be identified.

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** One flint flake was recovered from one of the pits.

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone from the site was identified as cattle and pig and included bone and teeth recovered from the pits.

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (*maloideae*) from the fill of the pit (F24)  
C14 (Beta-241285) 3780±40 BP (2343–2041 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

A series of 16 pits and five postholes, filled with charcoal-rich deposits and containing burnt and fire cracked stone, were revealed. Excavation showed that a few of the pit features were cut by others, and one pair was linked by a narrow channel, and used perhaps for some industrial-type function. Most of the pits were stratigraphically isolated and were either sub-circular or oval in shape, although one was rectangular. The site was once covered by a spread of charcoal-rich material containing fire-cracked stone (burnt mound material), but this appears to have been almost completely removed through the actions of modern agricultural practice. The scale and number of the pits suggest that the site at Raynestown 2 represents a more stable or regularly used area of burnt mound activity possibly for cooking.

**References**

Elder, S. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Raynestown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Plate 10.109 Cooking pits at Raynestown, 2, Co. Meath.

Location:	Townland:	Townparks	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Navan	NGR: 284895, 267249
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: 55m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the southern extent of a flood plain, approximately 400m from a tributary of the River Skane		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity each producing a number of pits or troughs.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed as a spread of dark silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 12.5m by 5m with a thickness of 0.17m. A heavily corroded ring-brooch was recovered from the upper levels of this deposit near the topsoil.
Trough:	The trough (F48) extended outside the limits of excavation. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.68m (exposed length) by 1.45m with a depth of 0.38m. The trough was clay-lined and contained a single fill composed of burnt mound material, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 1:	Pit (F51) was irregular in shape and measured 2m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.25m. The base of the cut produced evidence to suggest it was exposed to heat while its fill was composed of dark silt and charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.



Pit 2: Pit (F109) was also irregular in shape and measured 1.24m by 0.65m with a depth of 0.18m. This pit also displayed oxidisation at its base and contained one fill composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 3: F117 was also irregular and measured 1.14m by 0.55m with a depth of 0.11m. It contained dark silty clay, orange clay patches and frequent heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

Stake-Holes: A cluster of nineteen stake-holes were also revealed at the site and did not form any discernable pattern or alignment.

## **Site B**

Burnt Spread: This spread material was identified 70m south-west of Site A. It measured 8m by 6.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.11m and was composed of dark brown silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A number of similar deposits filled natural depressions also on site.

Pits 1-6: The six pits were clustered within an area measuring approximately 5.5m in diameter under F60. They were all roughly oval in shape and ranged 0.12–0.36m in depth. Their fills contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and heat-cracked stones. Pit F88 (1.30m length x 1.10m width) contained a charcoal-stained and heat-scorched base (F140) indicating in situ burning had previously occurred. The main fill (F81) consisted of burnt mound material.

Stake-Holes: Fifteen small stake-holes were identified at the site but they did not form any discernable pattern or alignment.

Channels: Three linear gully features were covered by F60: F96, F91/F120 and F99. All three cuts ran in line with one another in a north-west to south-east direction and formed a U-shaped segmented gully feature on the southwestern side of Area 2. Together all three gullies extended to a length of 10.70m. The middle gully F91/F120 truncated the edge of pit F90 and is likely to have been associated with its use.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: Late Medieval ring brooch from upper burnt mound layer close to topsoil.

Ecofacts: None

## **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the possible trough (Site A)  
C14 (Beta-237330) 3620±40 BP (2131–1886 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (F67) Site B  
C14 (Beta-237331) 3800±40 BP (2456–2059 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (F82) Site B  
C14 (Beta-237330) 3790±40 BP (2402–2045 BC)  
Charcoal (*maloideae*) from the fill of linear gully (Site B)  
C14 (Beta-237330) 3780±40 BP (2343–2041 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation revealed two shallow charcoal-rich burnt stone spreads located in two separate concentrations termed 'Area 1' and 'Area 2' located approximately 70m apart. Both spreads overlay trough and pit/stakehole features. The majority of the underlying features were filled with burnt stone material similar to the overlying charcoal-rich deposit. The three elongated gully segments F96, F91/F120 and F99 would have been used in conjunction with the pit features in Area 2. They are likely to have functioned as water collection gullies for use within the pits. The longest of the gullies F91/F120 truncated the edge of pit F90 and the angle of its cut would have allowed for water to flow directly from the gully into the pit.

## **References**

Martin, K. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Townparks 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Clowanstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Trevet	NGR: 295518, 257771
	Barony:	Skreen	Altitude: 117m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Matt Mossop	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the western edge of a raised bog, where a thick, shell-rich marl sealed probable gravels and sands laid down at the base of a small lough.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Mesolithic fishing camp		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. The sites were recorded as five upstanding mounds prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a Mesolithic fishing camp and five Neolithic burnt mounds that overlay a number of troughs and pits that contained cultural material dating to the period.
Burnt Mound 1:	This mound (A) was the most elaborate of the group and was constructed within and above a natural hollow. The mound was composed of ten burnt layers composed of charcoal and heat-shattered limestone and sandstone. Some contained sherds of Neolithic carinated pottery. A polished stone pendant, flint artefacts and a bone pin were also recovered from this mound that measured 10.3m by 6.6m with a thickness of 1.13m. A wooden vessel dating to the Neolithic was deposited into the mound when the site was abandoned.
Burnt Mound 2:	This mound (B) formed a low crescent shape and was located 7.5m from Mound A. It measured 12.5m by 10m with a thickness of 0.2m. The mound consisted of a hearth that was sealed by three deposits of black silty material, charcoal and heat-shattered limestone and sandstone. A number of flint artefacts were recovered from the upper fill of the hearth along with animal bone. Prehistoric pottery was also recovered.

Burnt Mound 3:	As with Mound A, this mound (C) was also located in a hollow that contained some heat-affected stone, crushed calcined bone and prehistoric pottery. This deposit was wrapped in bark and was dated to the Early Neolithic period. This was overlain by further deposits of marl and heat-affected bone that contained burnt flint and prehistoric pottery that was in turn sealed by two further deposits that measured 18m by 10m with a thickness of 0.33m. This material also contained further flint tools.
Burnt Mound 4:	Mound (D) measured 15m by 7m and was also positioned within a small hollow. The hollow was filled with brown peaty material, angular stone, burnt bone fragments, a sherd of Neolithic pottery and hazelnut shells. Three layers of burnt mound material were noted consisting of heat-affected stone. These contained further flint artefacts, pottery and burnt bone.
Burnt Mound 5:	Mound E measured 1.5m by 1.5m with a thickness of 1m. It was constructed within a root bowl that may have been modified prior to the deposition of material. Seven deposits were recorded composed of peat and clayey silts, stone and burnt bone and heat-shattered stone. Pottery and stone tools were also recovered. This mound was sealed by a spreads of stone material that measured 18.2m by 10m with a thickness of 0.27m. It extended to seal Mound C also.
Trough 1:	The troughs appeared to be contemporary with the developmental phases of the burnt mounds, particularly Mounds A and C and trough F147 is demonstrably earlier than F145 and F128. Trough (F74) was cut into the underlying peat and was the largest on site. It measured 8.2m by 2.6m with a depth of 0.7m. It contained three fills, the majority of which was composed of heat-shattered sandstone. A sample of charcoal from this trough is dated to the Early Neolithic period. A flint blade, a possible sickle and animal bone was also recovered.
Trough 2:	This trough (F128) was cut into the stone consolidation layer. It was rectangular in shape and measured 4.05m by 2.07m with a depth of 0.65m. The trough was filled with silty peat, heat-affected stone and wood fragments and one piece of flint debitage.
Trough 3:	Trough (F145) measured 4.98m by 2.38m with a depth of 0.34m. It was also cut into the stony layer and was filled with silty peat, burnt stone, bone fragments and wood fragments.
Trough 4:	Pit (F147) was rectangular in shape and measured 3.8m by 2.1m with a depth of 0.4m. It was cut into peat and a scatter of burnt bone. The trough contained three fills, composed of peaty material, burnt stone and animal bone. Several lithics were also retrieved.
Trough 5:	Trough (F172) measured 4.5m by 2.8m with a depth of 0.4m. It contained a dressed timber plank that was overlain by a deposit of silty peat, burnt stone, animal bone and wood fragments.
Trough 6:	Trough (F282) was rectangular in shape and measured 4.4m by 2.45m with a depth of 0.68m. It appeared that the trough was cleaned out after use as it was filled with firm mid-brown peat.
Pits:	Eight shallow pits, had average dimensions of 2.3m by 1.35m by 0.19m. They were mainly cut into peat layer F17, located across the southern half of

the site and may therefore have functioned as peat cuttings. Four of the pit fills contained burnt bone, five contained burnt angular stone, and three had burnt wood in their fills which may be representative of surrounding activity.

**Finds:**

- Artefacts: Neolithic pottery was recovered from the burnt mounds. Polished stone axe, bone pin and stone pendants. Large number of stone tools also recovered. Hammer stones.
- Ecofacts: Burnt, crushed, calcined and unburnt animal bone identified as cattle, sheep/goat and pig were recovered from the burnt mounds and troughs. Plant and cereal remains also recovered including flax.

**Dating:**

- Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from upper Mound A deposits  
C14 (Beta-246988) 4710±40 BP (3633–3372 BC)  
Nutshell (hazel) from Mound A deposit  
C14 (Beta-246991) 4900±40 BP (3770–3637 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from basal Mound A deposit  
C14 (Beta-246993) 4990±40 BP (3941–3660 BC)  
Bone (animal) from Mound C deposit  
C14 (Beta-246989) 4800±40 BP (3658–3384 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from basal deposit of trough (C74)  
C14 (Beta-246996) 5070±40 BP (3964–3778 BC)  
Wood (alder) from vessel in Mound A  
C14 (Beta-237056) 4880±40 BP (3765–3538 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Five Mounds were situated at the western edge of a raised bog, including organic sediments up to 3.45m deep, overlying thick shell-rich marl, sealing probable gravels and sands laid down at the base of a small lough. Full archaeological resolution revealed a late Mesolithic fishing platform, mooring and four conical fish-traps as well as a complex Neolithic burnt mound with a number of well-preserved wooden artefacts and other finds. The Neolithic developments included numerous deliberate deposits of marl mixed with burnt flint, bone and pottery. Ritual activity was observed not least by the inclusion of a sizeable wooden container which was cut into the centre of the primary mound upon its decommissioning. Seven, sub-rectangular troughs varying from 3.8m to 6.5m in length by 1.8m to 2.6m x c.0.4m average depth, related to the successive phases of burning. Many of the troughs had primary layers of burnt sandstone and limestone and most had been backfilled with peat. A shallow, bowl-shaped pit was positioned downslope of each trough except one. The troughs were positioned progressively further downslope and away from Mound A so that the furthest one was over 20m away. The furthest troughs may relate to Mound C. Mounds A, C, D and E were all sealed with burnt cairn material forming a monument over each. A more extensive stone spread then sealed the cairn material including a number of lithic and bone finds as well as evidence for at least seven animal skulls (Mound C) and further crushed cremated bone including predominately cattle, sheep/goat, occasional pig, bird and small mammal.

**References**

Mossop, M. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Clowanstown I, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

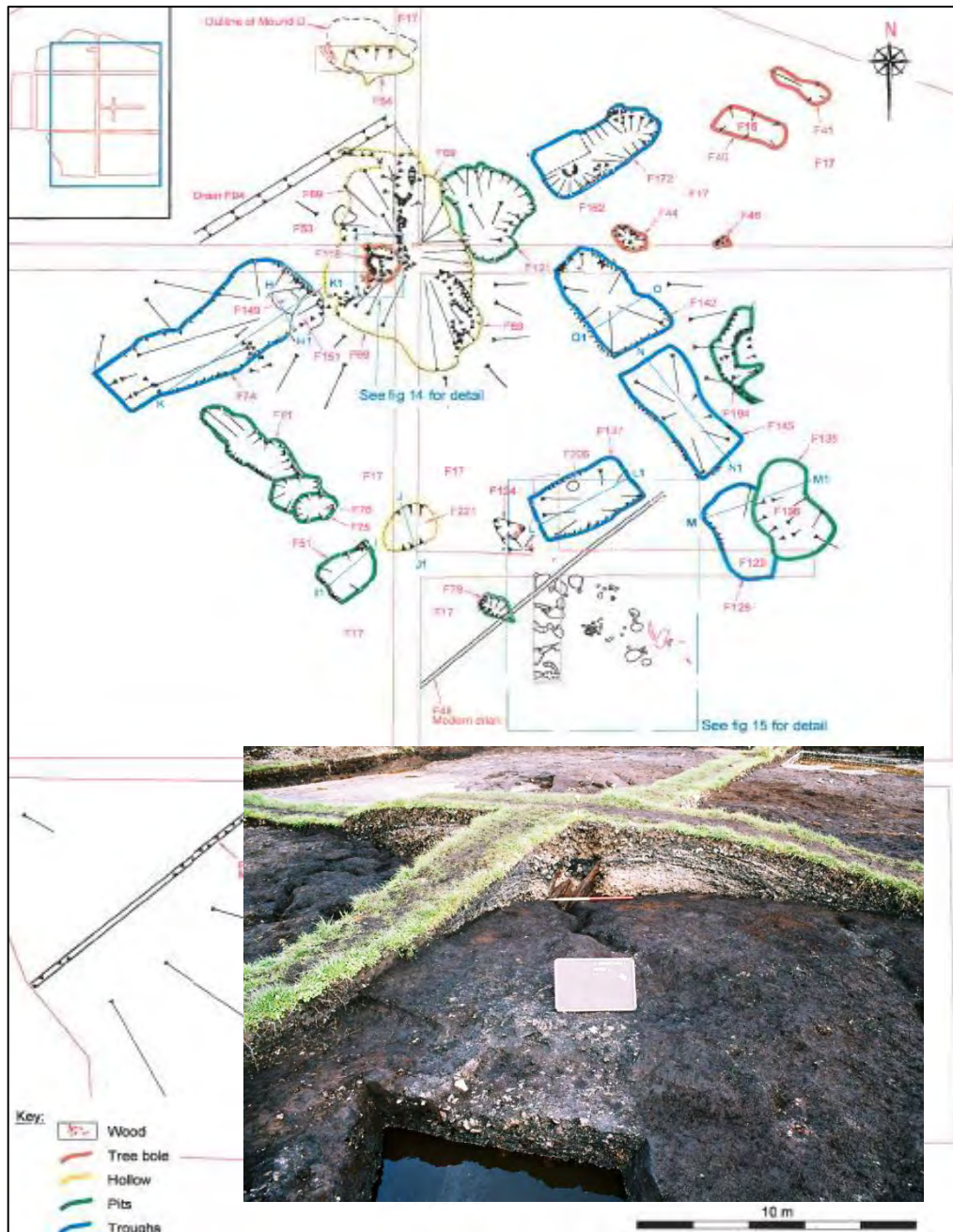


Fig. 10.133 Troughs and pits excavated beneath burnt mounds at Clowanstown 1, Co. Meath.

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Location:	Townland:	Clowanstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Trevet	NGR: 295772, 257211
	Barony:	Screen	Altitude: 125m OD
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Matt Mossop	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in pasture at the southwest edge of a former bog.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway. The sites had no surface expression prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a number of areas of burnt mound activity consisting of spreads and pits dating from the Neolithic to Bronze Age periods.

##### **Site A**

Burnt Spread: The spread (F33) measured 4.5m by 3m and was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. A cattle molar was recovered from the deposit.

Pit: Pit (F28) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.95m by 0.81m with a depth of 0.31m. It was filled with grey clay, silt and charcoal, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

##### **Site B**

Hearth: The hearth (F15) was formed in a tree bowl and measured 1.7m in diameter with a depth of 0.19m. It was filled with charcoal-rich silt and small stones. The base of the feature was oxidised due to exposure to heat. Calcined bone was recovered from the base of another tree bowl and it is dated to the Middle Neolithic. Flint artefacts were recovered from some of the other tree bowls.

##### **Site C**

Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F42) was crescent-shaped in plan and measured 12m by 8m with a thickness of 0.08m. It was composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	The trough (F100) was sub-oval in plan and measured 2.3m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.41m. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and burnt stone. A sample from the fill of this feature is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Charred cereal remains were also recovered from the pit.
Pits 1-3:	Three circular pits (F38, F40 and F93) were positioned on the other side (south southeastern extent) of the mound varying from 0.6m to 1.65m in diameter and 0.12m to 0.33m in depth. Each of these pits had concave sides with flat bases and each contained dark charcoal-stained silty-clay with burnt angular stones. Charcoal from the fill of pit (F40) is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Charred cereals were also recovered. Oat grain from the fill of the pit F93 is dated to the Medieval period. These pits and the burnt spread were considerably damaged by ploughing activity which may explain the erroneous date.
Spread:	This deposit (F117) was composed of grey silt and measured 7.5m by 7m with a thickness of 0.05m, a sample of which is dated to the Early Neolithic period. A number of flint objects were recovered from a number of smaller associated spreads.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	A large number of flint tools dating from the Neolithic/Bronze Age were recovered from across the three areas.
Ecofacts:	Cattle molars were recovered from the site along with burnt and cremated bone.

#### **Dating:**

Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (Site A)  
C14 (Beta-241288) 3960±40 BP (2576–2341 BC)  
Bone (burnt) from fill of tree bowl (Site B)  
C14 (Beta-241291) 4570±40 BP (3496–3103 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough (Site C)  
C14 (Beta-241289) 3770±60 BP (2457–2026 BC)  
Charcoal (willow) from the spread (F117) Site C  
C14 (Beta-241292) 5000±60 BP (3948–3661 BC)  
Grain (oats) from the fill of pit (F93) Site C  
C14 (Beta-241293) 970±60 BP (AD 937–1213)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

A number of burnt stone spreads and extant ridge and furrow were located in pasture at the southwest edge of a former bog. Four areas were excavated at Clowanstown 2 providing evidence of human activity from the Early Neolithic to the present day. Neolithic activity included a burnt stone spread and occasional lithic working associated with hunting, cooking and field clearance. The lithics included scrapers, blades and a hollow-based arrowhead. Early Bronze Age activity centred on three burnt stone spreads representing at least two classic type burnt mounds, with associated troughs, pits and a posthole. This activity was also apparently associated with field clearance. An additional pit filled with burnt stone and charcoal returned a medieval date. The excavator states that the burnt stone spread overlying these pits was heavily disturbed by ploughing and root activity. Furthermore, he suggests that the pit dated to the medieval period may have become contaminated with recent material.



## References

Mossop, M. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Clowanstown 2, Co. Meath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Plate 10.110 Burnt stone deposit and cooking pits at Clowanstown 2, Co. Meath.

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Location:	Townland:	Ardraccan	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	Ardraccan	NGR: 281974, 268861
	Barony:	Lower Navan	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Ciara MacManus	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Ardraccan 6 is located in the southern end of a triangular-shaped field of pasture, both sides of which slope downwards to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt stone and a trough.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound deposit C3 was roughly sub-rectangular in shape, with the southwest quadrant being sub-circular. It was generally aligned on a north-south axis. It was, on average, 14m by 11.5m and 1.1m deep. The deposit consisted of frequent burnt and heatshattered stones and deposits of charcoal.
Trough:	Trough C6 was located at the centre of the southern half of the burnt mound deposit, and 3m northwest of pit C9. It measured 2.6m by 1.65m and was 0.45m deep. It was a circular feature, with steep sides, a flat base and a sharp break of slope at the top and bottom. Its upper fill, C7, was a loosely compacted black, silty clay. The basal fill, C8, was a loosely compacted dark brown peaty/clay. Within the cut of the trough were four wooden stakes suggesting the feature was timber lined for pyrolithic water-boiling.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### References

MacManus, C. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ardraccan 6, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Ballybeg	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 278413, 271650
	Barony:	Balrathboyne	Altitude: NA
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Ballybeg 1 is located in the northern section of an irregularly shaped field which was previously undulating pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt stone and stake-holes.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound material was divided into four quadrants by the initial test trenching. The upper layer, C5 (8m by 4.5m), consisted of charcoal-enriched soil that contained heat-shattered stones. The basal layer, C12 (5.5 by 4.2), consisted of a firmly compacted charcoal-enriched soil that included grey silty soil inclusions that were possibly ash. These were the layers of a burnt mound spread that filled a natural depression, C4, in the subsoil.
Pit:	This pit (C25) was oval in shape and measured 0.91m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.27m. It was filled with deposits of charcoal and burnt stone.
Stake-Holes:	This group of six stakeholes, C13, C15, C17, C19, C21, C23, was associated with pit C25. They were all filled with a charcoal-enriched soil and subsoil.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### **References**

Lynch, P. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ballybeg 6, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cookstown Great	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Ballyrathboyne	NGR: 275870, 273471
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 60
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Gill McLoughlin	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Cookstown Great 2 is located in the southeast end of an irregularly shaped field of undulating pasture which is bounded to the southwest by a disused railway line.		
Cultural Landscape:	The closest RMP site to Cookstown Great 2 is (ME017:020), a barrow site, which is located c. 1.4km to the north. There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt stone, a possible well and a number of pits.		
Burnt Spread:	The main burnt mound deposit, C10, measured 19m by 15m and was situated on slightly raised ground on the edge of an area that sloped down to a stream. This deposit had been quite disturbed by agricultural activity over time as can be seen from the finds which consisted of clay pipe fragments, modern pottery and iron nails. Two small spreads of burnt mound material were also identified outside of the main spread.		
Well/Trough:	A large deep pit, C143 (3.9m by 2.95 by 0.84), sealed below the burnt mound deposit was interpreted as a waterhole or trough. It may have been intended for the collection of water for use in a smaller or more regular trough for another activity, e.g. cooking. There was a stream close to this site where water would have been readily available so this may indicate a different purpose for such a large pit. During excavation this pit was constantly filling with water from below so it certainly could have functioned as a waterhole.		

**Pits:** Three smaller pits interpreted as possible troughs where cooking or some other activity could have taken place were identified at the site. These pits were quite similar in dimensions and character. They were all between 0.2m and 0.25m deep and had possibly been truncated from above by agricultural activity. Four other pits (C50, C60, C150 and C154) were interpreted as being associated with the burnt mound activity. These features were all quite regular in shape although none were particularly substantial pits. They measured between 0.18–0.4m deep and were all sealed below the burnt mound material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Clay pipe fragments and post-medieval pottery

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:** None

**Excavation Interpretation**

The main feature at this site was a spread of burnt mound material situated on slightly raised ground on the edge of an area that sloped down to a stream. A large deep pit, C143, sealed below the burnt mound deposit was interpreted as a waterhole or trough and this may have been intended for the collection of water for use in a smaller trough, possibly for cooking. Being closer to the troughs this waterhole would have been a more practical water source than numerous trips to the stream. Although the stream was close by, it may have been quite an effort to bring water up across the steep damp ground for use. During excavation water filled this large pit quite readily from below so it certainly could have functioned as suggested above. Three smaller pits, C86, C119 and C133, interpreted as possible troughs where cooking or some other activity could have taken place were identified at the site. These pits when filled with water could have been used for cooking by adding hot stones to bring the water to the boil. The pits appear to be too shallow for this purpose so it is assumed that they have been truncated from above.

**References**

McLoughlin, G. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Cookstown Great 2, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Cookstown	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Ballyrathboyne	NGR: 275488, 273708
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 66
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Gill McLoughlin	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Cookstown Great 3 is located in the centre of two roughly rectangular fields of good pastureland		
Cultural Landscape:	The closest RMP site to Cookstown Great 2 is (ME017-020), a barrow site, which is located c. 1.2km to the north-east. There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible prehistoric structures		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity close to a number of prehistoric structures on higher, more well drained areas nearby.

### **Site A**

Burnt Spread: There were a number of small burnt spread deposits consisting of charcoal-rich soil and heat-affected stone in this area. These deposits were situated in small natural hollows and undulations in the ground and were the remnants of a burnt mound that had been largely removed, presumably by agricultural activity. The largest of these deposits measured 2.2m by 1.94m by 0.16m.

Water-holes: Two large deep pits, C35 and C125, were interpreted as waterholes or troughs possibly intended for the collection of water for use in smaller or more regular troughs. C125 was a large oval pit measuring 3.3m by 2.6m and was 0.84m deep. Most of the fills were a result of natural silting over time indicating that this pit was left open to the elements after abandonment. Located c. 5m southwest of C125 there was a second, slightly smaller waterhole, C35 (2.3m by 1.9m by 1m). This pit had one fill, C126, a grey

clayey silt, indicating that, like C125, this pit was allowed to silt up naturally after the pit went out of use.

**Troughs:**

Six smaller pits interpreted as possible troughs where cooking or some other activity could have taken place were identified at the site. Most of the pits were variations of oval or circular shapes. Two oval pits were situated adjacent to waterhole C125 and may have been used in conjunction with that pit. The lower fill of C125, C100, also partly filled the pit closest to it, C94. C94 was the shallowest of this group of pits at just 0.3m deep. C101 was also oval but was more substantial with a depth of 0.7m. The fills of all six pits were consistent with natural silting indicating that they were left open after they had fallen out of use

**Site B**

**Burnt Spreads:**

There were a number of small burnt spread deposits consisting of charcoal-rich soil and heat-affected stone in this area. These deposits were situated in small natural hollows and undulations in the ground and were the remnants of a burnt mound that had been largely removed, presumably by agricultural activity. The main burnt mound deposit was quite irregular and patchy. It measured 17m by 7.5m and had a maximum depth of 0.2m. All the other spreads measured less than 2.5m in length.

**Trough:**

A large deep pit, C210, was interpreted as a waterhole or trough. It measured 2.22m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.72m. C210 was filled with charcoal-rich soil and heat-affected stones and appeared to have been deliberately backfilled after use. A sub-oval posthole, C238, was located at the east end of C210 and a smaller oval stakehole, C248, was located at the northwest end. It is possible that these features may have had some function associated with waterhole C210.

**Troughs/Pits:**

Four smaller pits interpreted as possible troughs where cooking or some other activity could have taken place were identified at the site. Three of the pits, C210, C243 and C245, were sub-circular in plan and one, C204, was sub-rectangular. The dimensions and character of each of the pits were quite similar. They were all situated within c. 4m of the large waterhole and may have been used in conjunction with that pit. With the exception of C244 each of the pits appeared to have been left open when they went out of use and silted up naturally until burnt mound material made its way into the upper fills. The fill of C204 contained a piece of chert which may have been worked (C206).

**Structures:**

Situated on the lower part of the slope, on the edge of the wetter ground close to the stream there was evidence of two small circular or D-shaped structures within 10m of each other. Structure C was a post-built structure with a central hearth and Structure D was constructed of smaller posts or stakes. Both structures were c. 4m in diameter. One of the posts in Structure C contained a sherd of probable Bronze Age pottery. These structures may have been intended to function for a short time only and as such are not very substantial. They may have functioned as temporary accommodation

associated with the burnt mound activity located a short distance to the northwest and southwest. The focus of Structure D was a large sub-circular pit, C141, interpreted as a possible roasting pit or hearth pit. This feature was quite similar to the circular pits found associated with the burnt mound activity to the northwest in Area B, which were interpreted as troughs or cooking pits. This pit was slightly different due to the fact that the soil was oxidized around the edges of the pit. This could indicate that the heat-affected stones which were the main fill may have been used directly in the pit for roasting or some other function rather than to heat water. The purpose of a layer of flat stones sealing the pit is unclear but it was the final activity to take place at the pit. It is possible that this pit could have been the focus of a sauna or sweat-house. The hot stones could have either been heated in the pit or heated on a fire outside the hut and brought in. The flat stones at the top of the pit may have been to hold the heat. The stones could have been used as they were for dry heat or water may have been poured over them at intervals to release steam.

#### Finds:

Artefacts: Chert flake recovered from site B

#### Dating:

None

#### References

McLoughlin, G. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Cookstown 3, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd

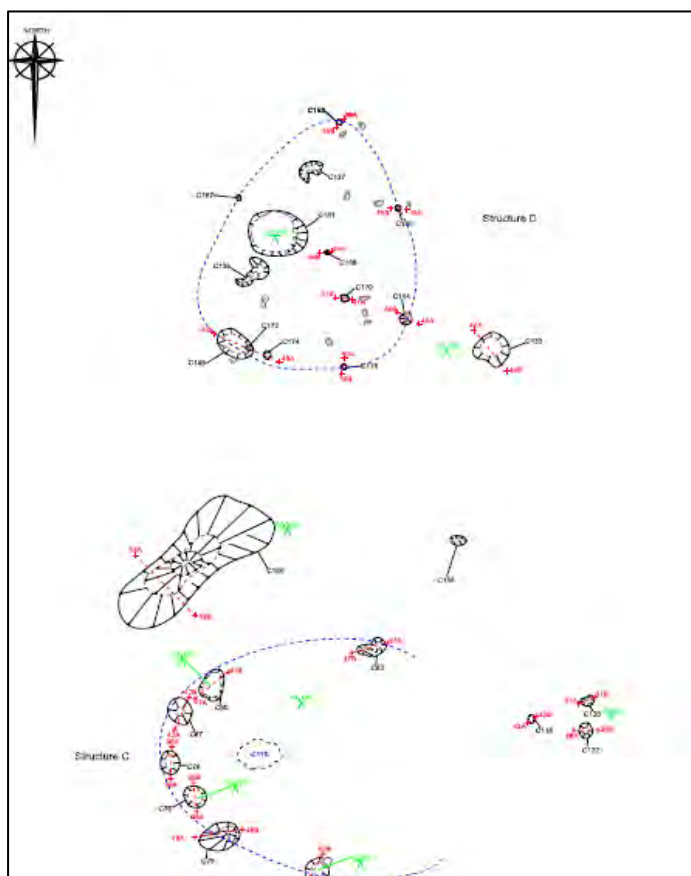


Fig. 10.134 Structures and trough pits at Cookstown 3.



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Location:	Townland:	Newrath Little	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 272822, 275472
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 66
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	James Kyle	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Newrath Little 3 is situated at the northwest end of an irregularly shaped field of which the northern field boundary is the townland boundary for Newrath Little, and the eastern boundary is the townland boundary of Newrath Big.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed pits and troughs associated with pyrolithic technology.
Burnt Mound:	The spread/mound material has clearly been truncated from the site, most probably by the deep ploughing techniques associated with modern intensive arable farming practices. Alternatively, it may also have been removed as part of the construction of the 19th century field boundary/drain network present on site.
Trough:	The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 2.03m by 1.56m with a depth of 0.32m. It was an east–west orientated trough, which would have contained wooden planks on the sides, held in place by the four corner postholes C35–C38, and on the base which displayed the imprint of wooden planks. The fill of the trough was composed of black silty clay and heat-shattered stones.
Water-channel:	This linear feature was in close association with trough C15. This feature has been interpreted as a possible channel dug to bring water within close proximity of the trough C15. The feature extended outside the excavation

area to the west, possibly indicating the presence of further archaeological deposits.

**Pits:** This subgroup is composed of a series of pits, probably associated with trough C15, due to their proximity, and, therefore, probably date also to the Bronze Age. In the case of the shallower examples C20 and C23, it is possible that these are not actually pits but rather hollows into which material from this phase of activity has been deposited.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:** None

**Excavation Interpretation**

The presence of the water channel and the pit/trough cluster further up slope suggest that the site was subject to shifting water levels. At one time a channel was required to bring water to the site, and at another time the location of the activity had to be moved to accommodate the changing water level. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location that has been considerably truncated by later activity.

**References**

Kyle, J. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Newrath Little 3, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

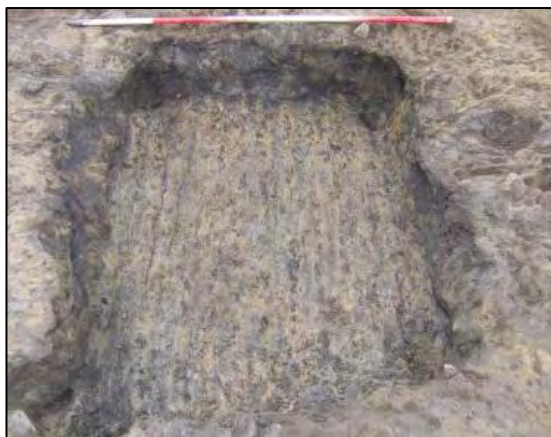


Plate 10.111 Trough with plank impressions and corner stakes at Newrath Little 3 along with burnt stone deposit

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Location:	Townland:	Newrath Little	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 272971, 274714
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 66
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Newrath Little 2 is located on the southern corner of a roughly rectangular field of undulating pasture west of Newrath House.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, troughs, stake-holes and gully systems.
Burnt Mound:	Deposit C20 consisted of 0.05–0.1m deep, mid-yellowish grey silty sand with frequent heat-affected stone inclusions. This is characteristic of burnt mound material, resulting from the deliberate deposition of waste, fired stones on the ground surface associated with burnt mound activity. The shallow depth of this burnt mound was probably a result of modern agricultural practices which have ploughed out and disturbed the deposit C20.
Trough 1:	Trough C14 was located to the southwest of trough C10. It measured 1.6m by 1.47m with a depth of 0.45m. The primary fill within the trough was a dark greyish black clayey silt with frequent charcoal inclusions, C17. This layer was part of a lining, which was visible around the outer edge of the trough and was likely to represent a timber lining which had decayed in situ. The other fills in the trough were composed of various burnt stone deposits.
Trough 2:	Trough C10 was located immediately south of gully C6. It was circular and measured 1.54m by 1.52m with a depth of 0.19m. The primary fill of the

trough, C12, was a mid-grey clayey silt with frequent heataffected stone inclusions and the upper fill of the trough, C9C was a blackish dark grey sandy silt with frequent heat-affected stone inclusions. This suggests that trough C5 was backfilled with burnt mound material when it fell into disuse. There was no surviving evidence for a lining around the base or sides of the trough.

**Trough 3:**

Trough C5 was located to the northeast of trough C10. It was circular and measured 1.6m by 1.47m with a depth of 0.45m and was filled with a blackish grey sandy silt with frequent heat-affected stone and occasional charcoal inclusions, C3, which suggested that it was backfilled with burnt mound material after it had been abandoned. As with trough C10 there was no evidence for a lining and the base of the trough was below the water table, so it is possible that the trough had no lining and naturally filled with water. Trough C5 was cut at the western edge by a small gully C8.

**Stake-Holes:**

Subgroup {1004} consisted of a group of seven stakeholes, C19, C27, C29, C32, C34, C38 and C40, and two gullies, C25 and C30, located southeast of trough C5. There was no obvious arrangement to the stakeholes, although their proximity to troughs C5 and C10 and gully C6 suggest that they could have been part of small temporary working structures associated with burnt mound activity.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:** None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed numerous troughs and potential water-channels implying the movement of water between features. These gullies probably functioned as water over-flow drains or emptying features after the boiling process took place. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location possibly used for cooking.

**References**

Whitty, Y. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Newrath Little 2, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Nugentstown	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Balrathboyne	NGR: 276909, 272764
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 66
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Nugentstown 2 is located in the northern section of a large roughly rectangular field of good pasture that was damp in places. It is bounded to the north and east by tributaries of the River Martry.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt stone material.
Burnt Spread:	The layer of burnt mound material C3 consisted of a moderately soft black/red brown charcoal-enriched soil that appeared to be the basal layer of a burnt mound. It measured 8.3m by 4m with a maximum thickness of 0.05m. This burnt mound spread filled a natural depression, C9, in the subsoil. C6 was an irregularly shaped hollow in the subsoil that was filled with a loose, charcoal-enriched soil that contained heat-shattered stones. This feature was 12m to the north of C3 and may have been associated with it.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### **References**

Lynch, P. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Nugentstown 2, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Phoenixtown	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Martry	NGR: 279374, 270947
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 66
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Phoenixtown 1 is located in the southeast corner of an elongated rectangular field, c. 550m north of a small tributary stream of the River Blackwater. The pasture land in this area is quite damp and the site of Phoenixtown 1 is located c. 400m from two ponds in an adjacent field.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Neolithic pits		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt stone, a trough, pits and possible structure. Adjacent Neolithic features were also excavated on site.		
Burnt Spread:	C8 was by far the larger spread and sealed all of the features, measuring 19.75m by 9.25m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. C9 was further to the east and did not seal any other features. This deposit measured 6m by 3m and composed of similar material of burnt stone and charcoal. It is possible the two spreads were once one spread and that the burnt stone between them has been ploughed out. There were no finds recovered from either spread.		
Trough:	Pit C124 could possibly have functioned as a trough. It was circular in shape and measured 1.54m by 1.48m with a depth of 0.55m. It was circular in plan with a flat base and filled with C97 a loose dark brown-black sandy silt with stone inclusions up to 20%. This pit could have been used for boiling water.		
Pits:	11 pits were reevealed on the site overlain with burnt mound material. These were mostly circular in shape with carrying depths of dimensions. Most were filled with deposits of burnt stone and some could have functioned as additional boiling troughs.		

**Structure:** Subgroup {1006} consists of five single-filled postholes, C135, C161, C116, C126, and C117, which were all covered by the burnt mound. These postholes were situated about 1.5m southwest of pit C190. They made up a possible sub-circular structure (2.25m north–south by 2m east–west) with a post every 1m. A possible entrance was noted at the southwest where there is a gap in the posts of 2.1m. This structure was presumably related to the activities associated with the mound. It could possibly have been used as a shelter during bad weather or as a sweat house with the hot water from the trough being used to heat a small room; possibly the depression at the centre of the arrangement of posts was used to hold stones.

**Trough 2:** The trough C30 was very shallow with a rectangular shape and was situated to the south of C8 the main spread of the mound. The feature measured 2.44m by 1.31m with a depth of 0.1m. It appears likely that a trough in this position would have filled naturally with water. There was a stakehole in each of three corners of the trough but the northwest corner had been completely truncated by a modern drain and had there been a stakehole there it would have been cut away. Presuming there was a stakehole in this corner these stakes appear to have formed the corner supports for a trough lining.

**Pits:** There were a number of pits that were not covered by the main burnt spread C8. C35, C47, C101, and C16 were all to the northwest of the main spread and were all filled with spread-like material. These peripheral features may reflect fluctuations in the ground water level, or perhaps more likely they were used later in the life of the site, when the mound had already filled into some of the original pits and covered the ground around them, with the result that new pits could most easily be opened up outside of the main burnt mound area.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A number of flint flakes were recovered from some of the pit features

**Ecofacts:** None

**Dating:** None

## **Excavation Interpretation**

The burnt mound sealed a series of features, pits and possible postholes, some of which may have represented a small sub-circular hut structure. This small circular structure may have been used for shelter as the area is quite exposed, or perhaps it might have been used as a sweat-hut, in which case it could have been the focus of the site. Two probable troughs were identified, including one definite sub-rectangular trough, truncated by a post-medieval field drain. Similar features were also found surrounding the burnt mound, with similar fills and almost certainly dating to the same period of activity.

## **References**

Lyne, E. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Phoenixtown 1, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Phoenixtown	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Martry	NGR: 279462, 270776
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 66
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Phoenixtown 6 is located in a wide rectangular shaped field c. 400m north of a small tributary stream of the River Blackwater.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread and troughs.
Burnt Spread:	C3 was a burnt spread measuring 11.5m by 9m, consisting of heat-shattered stones and charcoalrich greyish black sandy silt. With a depth of 0.1m it extended 11.5m in length and extended partially outside the CPO.
Troughs:	Three possible troughs were recorded C19, C22 and C27, all of which were sealed by a burnt spread/mound C3. Troughs C19 and C22 partially extended beyond the edge of excavation, and due to this it was not possible to excavate them fully. Trough C19 was an oval shaped pit filled by burnt spread material C18. This possible trough was 0.7m deep and contained a substantial lens of brown sand. Connected to this trough was a large sub-oval shaped feature, C27, filled with typical burnt spread type material. This quite shallow feature, rather than being a trough, might have functioned as a drainage system for trough C19. Separate from these two features is another trough C22, most of which was outside the edge of excavation.

**Finds:** Barbed and tanged arrowhead from burnt spread

**Dating:** None

### **References**

Lyne, E. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Phoenixtown 6, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



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Location:	Townland:	Townparks	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Kells	NGR: 273219, 274563
	Barony:	Upper Kells	Altitude: 66
	County:	Meath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Townparks 4 is located on the western side of a roughly rectangular, damp field under rough pasture and meadow delineated by mature hedgerow.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of new sites were uncovered during this project including further burnt mound activity in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the M3 Clonee to Kells Motorway.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread that extended outside the CPO.
Burnt Spread:	Deposit C3 was a spread of burnt mound material located in the northwest edge of the site, which would have been deposited as waste material from a pyrolithic activity. The deposit measured 3.25m by 2.1m with a thickness of 0.1m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:** None

### **References**

Whitty, Y. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Townparks 4, Co. Meath*. Preliminary excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Dromore West	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Ematris	NGR: 259654, 315717
	Barony:	Dartree	Altitude: NA
	County:	Monaghan	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Unknown	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Unknown	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This site was identified at the edge of an area of deep peat.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: A linear feature and two pits all filled with black soil and heat cracked stones were uncovered. The excavator suggests that the pits may have functioned as the troughs of a *fulacht fia* and due to agricultural activity the burnt mound of this had been reduced to thin spreads of burnt material which filled sub-soil features (Halpin 2009, 397).

### **References**

Halpin, E 2009. Archaeological excavations at Dromore West, Co. Carlow. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2006*, 19. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Monanny	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Donaghmoyne	NGR: 284266, 305232
	Barony:	Farney	Altitude: 35m OD
	County:	Monaghan	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Carrickmacross- Aclint Re-alignment	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This site was located adjacent to, and on the northern side of a small river.		
Cultural Landscape:	A group of important prehistoric sites were identified at Monanny, immediately north of Carrickmacross Co. Monaghan. This included an early Neolithic settlement including three rectangular houses with associated pits, hearths and a number of Bronze Age burnt mounds and pits.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A second <i>fulacht fia</i> was situated c. 40m to the W (see below)		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Carrickmacross- Aclint Re-alignment. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and a trough which may have been plank-lined.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was truncated on its southern side but measured 15m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.5m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of black silty sand and charcoal.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 3m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.5m. The trough was cut into the natural clays and gravels and filled naturally with water. A single oak plank lined the base of the pit and this timber produced an Early to Middle Bronze Age date.
Dating:	Wood (oak) plank from the trough lining C14 (WK- Unknown) 3221±122 BP (1900–1100 BC)

### **References**

Walsh, F. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Monanny 2 Co. Monaghan*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Monanny	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Knock	NGR: 284167, 305190
	Barony:	Costellow	Altitude: 35m OD
	County:	Monaghan	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Carrickmacross- Aclint Re-alignment	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This site was located adjacent to, and on the northern side of a small river.		
Cultural Landscape:	The only stray finds recorded locally are three late Bronze Age axes found ‘in the vicinity of Monaghan’. Recently a group of important prehistoric sites were identified at Monanny, immediately north of Carrickmacross Co. Monaghan. This included an early Neolithic settlement including three rectangular houses with associated pits, hearths and a number of Bronze Age burnt mounds and pits.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Neolithic settlement and Bronze Age burnt mound at Monanny I , 500m to the north-east.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Carrickmacross- Aclint Re-alignment. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, two hearths, two post-holes and two troughs, one of which was plank-lined. A number of pits were also excavated.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3 and C4) spread over an area measuring 15m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. It sealed most of the cut features identified on site and consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and black compact silty clay.
Trough 1:	The trough (C17) was sub-square in plan and measured 2.4m by 2.8m with a depth of 0.51m. It had vertical sides and an irregular base and was cut below the water-table. The partial remains of a plank-lining survived in the base of the pit consisting of elm, ash and oak. The lining was only present in the eastern portion of the trough. Fourteen timbers survived which were all irregularly split with no woodworking evident. A sample of ash produced a Late Bronze Age date. The fill of the trough consisted of black silty clay and

heat-shattered sandstone. A flint thumbnail scraper was recovered from this deposit.

- Stakes: Eight irregularly spaced stakes were uncovered immediately east of the trough and all were of hazel. Possibly the remains of a wattle screen (Walsh 2008, 12).
- Pit 1: This pit (C5) was located north-east of hearth (C6). It was sub-oval in plan and measured 1m by 0.88m with a depth of 0.15m. The fill consisted of black sandy clay and stones.
- Hearth 1: This area of burning (C6) was located between pits C5 and C8. It was a sub-circular area of burnt red clay and measured 1.04m by 0.65m
- Pit 2: This pit (C8) was located south of hearth C6. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.37m by 1.09m with a depth of 0.18m. It contained a fill consisting of burnt mound material.
- Pit 3: This pit (C33) was located at the northern extent of the burnt mound. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.2m by 1m with a depth of 0.6m. It contained a fill consisting of charcoal rich material and shattered stone.
- Hearth 2: This area of burning (C9) was located immediately adjacent to the trough C17. It was a sub-circular area of burnt red clay and measured 1.25m by 0.75m. A single post-hole cut the hearth and may have been associated with another post-hole located 3m to the north-east.
- Pit 4: This pit (C43) was located immediately south of trough C17. It was oval in shape and measured 0.97m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.38m. It naturally filled with water and contained a fill consisting of burnt mound material.
- Trough 2: This trough (C18) was located north of the timber-lined trough. It was also sub-square in plan with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The base of the trough was defined by an outcrop of bedrock. It measured 1.74m by 1.55m with a depth of 0.51m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and dark silty clays.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: Flint thumbnail scraper was recovered from the fill of trough C17 and a flint flake was recovered from the topsoil.

Ecofacts: All of the wood identified from the trough and associated stakes were of native origin and are indicative of mixed fairly open woodland around Monanny in the Middle – Late Bronze Age.

## **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

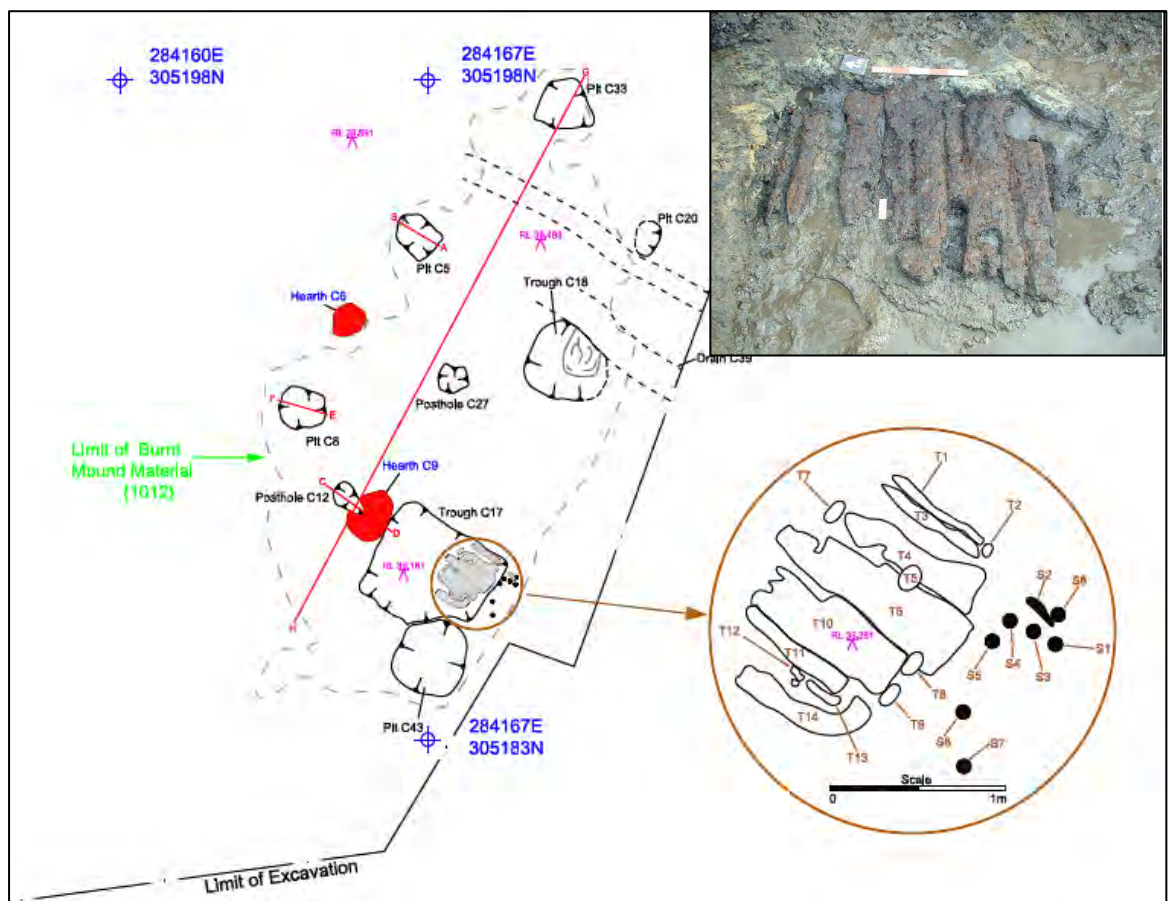
Absolute dating: Wood (ash) plank from the trough lining C17  
C14 (WK- 17349) 2900±83 BP (1320–890 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

The burnt mound fits in well with the general typology of other previously excavated examples throughout the country. This group displays all common characteristics of such a site plus a number of interesting additions such as hearths and pits. The timber-lined trough was located approximately 3m west of the edge of the present river bed. The base of the trough was below the water table and as a result allowed it to be constantly full of water, even in the driest conditions. All of the wood identified from the trough and associated stakes were of native origin and are indicative of mixed fairly open woodland around Monanny in the Middle – Late Bronze Age. The second trough on site utilised the natural bedrock and therefore did not require to be lined.

## References

Walsh, F. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Monanny 2 Co. Monaghan*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Annahagh	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Monaghan	NGR: 268667, 334061
	Barony:	Monaghan	Altitude: 63m OD
	County:	Monaghan	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Monaghan Town Bypass	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	This site occupied a moderately low-lying area on the western edge of an area of boggy ground, draining into a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	The only stray finds recorded locally are three late Bronze Age axes found ‘in the vicinity of Monaghan’. Recently a group of important prehistoric sites were identified at Monanny, immediately north of Carrickmacross Co. Monaghan. This included an early Neolithic settlement including three rectangular houses with associated pits, hearths and a number of Bronze Age burnt mounds and pits.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A similar burnt mound is located 65m to the south-east.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Monaghan Town Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone and two troughs.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound (C3) was sub-circular in shape and measured 9m by 7.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black course sandy silt.
Burnt Spread:	This spread (C7) may be dispersed material from the previous spread. It was irregular in shape and measured 9.25m by 3.25m with a thickness of 0.17m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black course sandy silt. A flint blade was recovered from this spread material.
Trough 1:	This trough (C13) was sub-rectangular in shape with rounded corners, steep sides and a flat base. It measured 1.6m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.23m. It was filled with an ash-rich deposit which in turn was sealed by infilled burnt mound material.

Trough 2: This trough (C15) was sub-circular with rounded corners, gradual sides and a concave base. It measured 1.74m by 0.73m with a depth of 0.17m. It was filled with an ash-rich deposit which in turn was sealed by infilled burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Flint blade was recovered from the burnt spread material C7

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C13  
C14 (WK- 18357) 3306±41 BP (1690–1490 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site comprised a burnt mound, defined by 2 spreads of charcoal-rich silt and heat-shattered stone sealing two pits (troughs), all of which were truncated by recent agricultural activity. Some troughs in the archaeological record were lined with wood or stone, but there was no evidence of such a lining in either C13 or C15. Also, during excavation it was observed that neither trough naturally filled with groundwater, suggesting that any water was brought from elsewhere – perhaps the wetland to the east of the site. There is nothing to stratigraphically link the two trough features. They may have been contemporary, or one or either could have been earlier or later than the other, either way they both produced the by-product of cooking with heated stones, evident here as the burnt mound which characterises the site.

### **References**

Walsh, F. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Annahagh 1 Co. Monaghan*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.112 Burnt stone deposit and possible roasting pit at Annahagh 1, Co. Monaghan.



Location:	Townland:	Annahagh	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Monaghan	NGR: 268775, 334034
	Barony:	Monaghan	Altitude: 63m OD
	County:	Monaghan	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Monaghan Town Bypass	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	This site occupied a moderately low-lying area on the western edge of an area of boggy ground, draining into a stream. The surrounding topography provides a certain amount of shelter in the landscape.		
Cultural Landscape:	The only stray finds recorded locally are three late Bronze Age axes found ‘in the vicinity of Monaghan’ (MG, 2000). Recently a group of important prehistoric sites were identified at Monanny, immediately north of Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan. This included an early Neolithic settlement including three rectangular houses with associated pits, hearths and a number of Bronze Age burnt mounds and pits.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A similar burnt mound is located 65m to the north-west.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Monaghan Town Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone and two troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) was irregular in plan and measured 17.5m by 10m with a thickness of 0.4m. . It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black coarse sandy silt. A small fragment of flint debitage was recovered from the spread. Charcoal was identified as alder and returned an Early Bronze Age date.
Trough 1:	This trough (C3) was sub-rectangular in shape with steep sides and a concave base. <i>In situ</i> burning was noted at the base of the feature. It measured 1.8m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.4m and contained a fill consisting of burnt mound material.

Trough 2: Trough (C15) was sub-circular in shape with gradual sides and a flat base. It measured 1.78m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.28m. The fill of the trough consisted of an ashy deposited overlain by washed in burnt mound material.

Pit: This pit (C13) was sub-circular in shape with steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.62m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.42m. The fill consisted of sandy silt, peat and heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A single piece of flint debitage was recovered from the burnt mound C4

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel and oak) from the fill of trough C15  
C14 (WK- 18355) 3736±42 BP (2290–2020 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site comprised a ‘burnt mound’ defined by a large spread of charcoal-rich silt and heat-shattered stone sealing 2 pits (troughs), all of which was truncated by recent agricultural activity. Some troughs in the archaeological record were lined with wood or stone, but there was no evidence of such a lining in either C13 or C15. Also, during excavation it was observed that neither trough naturally filled with groundwater, suggesting that any water was brought from elsewhere – perhaps the wetland to the east of the site. There is nothing to stratigraphically link the two trough features. They may have been contemporary, or one or either could have been earlier or later than the other, either way they both produced the by-product of cooking with heated stones, evident here as the burnt mound which characterises the site.

### **References**

Walsh, F. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Annahagh 2, Co. Monaghan*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.113 Burnt mound deposit and possible roasting pit at Annahagh 2, Co. Monaghan

Location:	Townland:	Tullyhirm	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Monaghan	NGR: 268500, 334500
	Barony:	Monaghan	Altitude: 63m OD
	County:	Monaghan	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Monaghan Town Bypass	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	This site occupied a relatively level area north of an area of damp boggy ground.		
Cultural Landscape:	The only stray finds recorded locally are three late Bronze Age axes found ‘in the vicinity of Monaghan’ (MG, 2000). Recently a group of important prehistoric sites were identified at Monanny, immediately north of Carrickmacross Co. Monaghan. This included an early Neolithic settlement including three rectangular houses with associated pits, hearths and a number of Bronze Age burnt mounds and pits (Walsh 2006). Two burnt mounds (Annahagh 1 and Annahagh 2) were also identified during the Monaghan Town Bypass scheme, positioned 0.5km to the southeast.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Monaghan Town Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone and a single pit which probably functioned as a boiling trough. A number of agricultural features were also excavated.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was irregular to sub-circular in plan and measured 5m by 2m with a thickness of 0.25m. . It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black coarse sandy silt. Charcoal was identified as alder and oak and returned an Early bronze Age date.
Trough:	The trough (C5) was sub-rectangular in plan with rounded corners, vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.3m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.25m. The fill consisted of an ash-rich which was sealed by burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder and oak) from the burnt stone spread C3  
C14 (WK- 18354)  $3757 \pm 64$  BP (2140–1740 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

The site comprised a spread of charcoal-rich silt and heat-shattered stone sealing a pit, and two large field clearance pits filled with charcoal flecked silty peat. Given the shallow nature of the pit it is possible that a dry heat was employed for pyrolithic cooking.

**References**

Walsh, F. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Tullyhirm 2, Co. Monaghan*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cloghvally Upper	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Magheross	NGR: 268775, 334034
	Barony:	Farney	Altitude: NA
	County:	Monaghan	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N2 Carrickmacross Re-alignment	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	This was located at the meander of, and on the southern bank of a small river called the Longfield River.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site is located mid way between two other burnt mounds excavated on the N2. The first burnt mound was part of the Site 110 Monanny 1 excavation (03E0888) and the second was part of Site 111, Monanny 2 (03E1254). Evidence for Bronze Age settlement can be found throughout Monaghan with flat cemeteries, cist and pit burials in abundance, although it is not well represented in the Carrickmacross area. Stray finds from the crannóg (MO031:083) in Monalty Lough c. 700m southeast of the town suggest that the lakes rather than the land may have been occupied by Bronze Age settlers in the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N2 Carrickmacross- Aclint Re-alignment Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt mound deposit. No cut features were identified. The burnt mound (C3) was quite disturbed by dredging activities related to the adjacent river but the surviving spread measured 9.5m by 6.25m with a thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich clay. No finds or artefacts were recovered.

**Dating:** Charcoal (oak, ash, alder and blackthorn) from the spread material C3 C14 (WK-17351) 3400±46 BP (1830–1600 BC)

### References

Walsh, F. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Tullyhirm 2, Co. Monaghan*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cloughjordan Road	Six inch map no: 46
	Parish:	Knock	NGR: 202810, 181050
	Barony:	Costelloe	Altitude: NA
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Unknown	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	National Archaeological Services	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical setting of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Archaeological testing of the site revealed the remains of a possible burnt mound in a number of exposed trenches. Large hollows were revealed in these trenches filled with deposits of burnt stone and animal bone. A possible hearth was also revealed as a thin deposit of ash in section. As only trenches were excavated across the area it was difficult to ascertain the full extent of the site. The only finds from the site were animal bones.

### **References**

Halpin, B. 2007. Cloughjordan Road, Monegall. *Fulacht fiadh?*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004*, 369. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Banagher	Six inch map no: 29
	Parish:	Banagher	NGR: 130400, 360500
	Barony:	Banagher	Altitude: NA
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Banagher town inner relief road	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	The Archaeology Company	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated in Banagher town adjacent to a natural spring.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Banagher town inner relief road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound truncated by a boundary ditch and a road.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was truncated by later features but was roughly circular in shape and 15m in diameter. It was composed chiefly of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of charcoal-enriched soil. The mound overlay ten pits, circular in plan and concave in profile (no dimensions available). A single chert lithic was recovered from the mound.

### **References**

Stevens, P. 2009. Site I, Inner Relief Road, Banagher. Burnt mounds and pits. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2006*, 448. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Puttaghan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbride	NGR: 33800, 26600
	Barony:	Ballycowan	Altitude: NA
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Tullamore Bypass	
	Site Director:	Tom Janes	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was identified on gently undulating farmland which was under pasture at the time of testing.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site however the Early Medieval Period is represented by the presence of a rath or ringfort in the neighbouring townland. Several burnt mound sites were revealed during this project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Tullamore Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed spread of heat-shattered stone. No other features were identified.
Burnt Spread:	The spread material (C003) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 3.5m by 3m with a thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of charcoal-rich material and frequent heat-affected stone. The underlying geology showed evidence of <i>in situ</i> burning. A heavily rusted metal object was recovered from the spread. A possible nail was recovered from the spread. This feature, given its shallow nature and lack of related features may indicate that it is related to modern agricultural activities. The ferrous object may indicate a modern date for this feature.

### **References**

Corbett, G. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Puttaghan Upper, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Ardan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbride	NGR: 34500, 27050
	Barony:	Ballycowen	Altitude: NA
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Tullamore Bypass	
	Site Director:	Linda Hegarty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located towards the south-eastern corner of a modern field division on a gentle south-facing slope. At the time of excavation the eastern and south-eastern part of site was flooded due to the presence of a number of natural springs and the low lying nature of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Situated 1.5 km north of the <i>fulacht fia</i> excavated at Ardan, in the townland of Lug, is a Bronze Age cemetrey site OF009-036. South of this cemetrey a disturbed cist OF009-039 was uncovered by a local farmer circa 1950. The only other site recorded in the vicinity of the site is a ringfort OF017: 002.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> excavated 50m to the south		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Tullamore Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound, four troughs and a number of pits.
Burnt Spread:	The spread material (C12) was irregular in plan and measured 7.7m by 4.5m with a thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of charcoal-rich material and frequent heat-affected stone in a matrix of black silty clay. The spread of mound material was truncated on its southern side.
Trough 1:	The trough (C20) was oval in plan with gradual sloping sides and an irregular base. It measured 1.96m by 1.7m with a maximum depth of 0.3m. The trough had two fills with the basal deposit consisting of black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The upper deposit consisted of compacted dark grey sandy clay with large amounts of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough 2:	This trough (C13) was located 1.6m north of the previous trough and was sub-oval in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.94m by 1.43m with a depth of 0.3m. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of

a basal deposit of grey sandy clay and heat-shattered stone, above which was a compact layer of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

- Trough 3: This trough (C15) was located 1.3m north-west of trough C13. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.5m by 1.16m with a depth of 0.41m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of grey/black sandy clay.
- Trough 4: Trough (C6) was located at the west of the site and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.32. The basal fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal, occasional burnt bone and quartz debris along with a minute amount of burnt human bone.
- Pit 1: This pit (C25) truncated the eastern edge of trough C20. It was circular in plan and measured 0.6m in diameter with a depth of 0.12m. It contained a single fill consisting of compact peat with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
- Pit 2: This pit (C21) was circular in plan and measured 0.55m by 0.52m with a depth of 0.18m. It contained a loose compact sandy clay with charcoal and small stones.
- Pit 3 and 4: These two pits (C10 and C11) were initially identified as a kiln structure however upon excavation they emerged as two conjoined and truncated pits. C10 was sub-oval in plan with concave sides and a rounded base and measured 2m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.47m. A natural spring was noted in the base of the feature and three fills were noted consisting of silty clays with pebbles, charcoal flecks, burnt and unburnt bone and chert debris. A sub-rectangular pit (C11) truncated C10. It measured 2.1m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.34m. It contained a fill consisting of silty clays with pebbles, charcoal flecks, burnt and unburnt bone and chert debris, similar to the previous pit.
- Finds:** Chert and quartz flakes from fill of pits C6, C10 and C11. Burnt and unburnt human bone from pits C6, C10 and C11.
- Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C20  
C14 (UB- 8275) 3268±40 BP (1634–1444 BC)  
Charcoal (birch) from the fill of trough C13  
C14 (UB- 8274) 3273±43 BP (1613–1429 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The shallow burnt mound and the presence of four troughs indicate that the site represents the remains of a pyrolithic water-boiling area. The burnt and heat-shattered stone within a charcoal-rich silty matrix is typical of the composition of a burnt mound. The burnt mound material from (12) is spread out across the site, suggesting it had been partially leveled and dispersed, presumably as a result of ploughing of the field. This material would have accumulated gradually as a result of dumping. The extent of the mound in relation to the volume of the troughs would point to their being re-used on a number of occasions. However individual tip-lines were not visible within this particular mound.

### **References**

Twomey, J. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ardan, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ardan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbride	NGR: 34500, 26900
	Barony:	Ballycowen	Altitude: NA
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Tullamore Bypass	
	Site Director:	Linda Hegarty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a gentle south- facing slope and under pasture at the time of excavation. At the time of excavation the eastern and south-eastern part of site was flooded due to the presence of a number of natural springs and the low lying nature of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Situated 1.5 km north of the fulacht fiadh excavated at Ardan, in the townland of Lug, is a Bronze Age cemetery site 0F009-036. South of this cemetery a disturbed cist 0F009-039 was uncovered by a local farmer circa 1950. The only other site recorded in the vicinity of the site is a ringfort 0F017-002.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>fulacht fia</i> excavated 50m to the north		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Tullamore Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound, five troughs, two pits and a possible hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The spread material (C12) was irregular in plan and measured 23.8m by 9.5m with a thickness of 0.18m. It consisted of charcoal-rich material and frequent heat-affected stone in a matrix of black silty clay. The site was inundated with water during excavation due to the low-lying area and low watertable. A large flint flake was recovered from the spread material.
Trough 1:	Trough (C11) was located centrally below the spread and was irregular in plan with near vertical sides and an irregular base. It measured 2.64m by 2.21m with a depth of 0.43m and contained five fills consisting of silty sands, charcoal, heat-shattered stone, chert debris, burnt bone and burnt hazelnut fragments. This trough dated to the Early Bronze Age.

- Trough 2: This trough (C13) was located 1.5m south-east and had near vertical sides and a flat base. It was rectangular in plan and measured 2.65m by 1.56m with a depth of 0.21m. This trough contained a single fill of burnt mound material consisting of dark silty sand, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 3: This trough (C34) was located 2.5m south-west of trough C13. It was oval in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.56m by 1.23m with a depth of 0.35m. Two fills were noted in the trough, with a basal deposit of compacted yellow clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The upper deposit consisted of burnt mound material.
- Pit 1: Located 0.18m west of trough (C34) was a small pit (C15). It was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.86m by 0.78m with a depth of 0.19m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Trough 4: Trough (C5) was located 6.6m north-east of trough C11. It was irregular in plan and measured 1.69m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.66m. The sides were vertical in some areas however they were undercut in the north-west and non-extant to the north. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of dark silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 2: Trough (C5) was truncated on its northern side by a pit C9. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.86m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.31m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of dark silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 5: Trough (C8) was circular in plan with vertical sides and measured 2.3m by 2.18m. It had a depth of 0.8m and contained five fills consisting of various silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone with some chert debris. An Early Bronze Age date was retrieved from a charcoal sample.
- Possible Hearth: An area of scorched clay (C18) was identified 0.6m west of the trough C8. It was irregular in plan and measured 1.17m by 0.93m.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: A large rectangular flint flake was recovered from the burnt mound (C3)
- Ecofacts: Small quantities of burnt bone and hazelnut fragments were recovered from trough C11.

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough C11  
C14 (UB- 8276) 3668±36 BP (2141–1944 BC)  
Charcoal (willow) from the fill of trough C8  
C14 (UB- 8277) 3438±36 BP (1834–1664 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The shallow burnt mound (3) and the presence of five troughs indicate that this site, represents the remains of a pyrolithic water-boiling area. The burnt and heat-shattered stone within a charcoal rich silty matrix is typical of the composition of a burnt mound. Two dates were retrieved from troughs (11) and (8) at E2846; both single entity AMS two sigma dates of 2141-1944 cal BC and 1834-1664 cal BC, placing this site in the Early Bronze Age. The trough (11) was the most centrally located feature on site, and the area to its immediate west, northwest, and north saw the greatest concentration of burnt mound material. This would suggest that it may have been the primary trough on the site. The presence of charcoal in all its fills, as well as burnt bone and hazelnut shell in the basal fill (24), may be evidence for domestic activity taking place in the environs of the site.

## References

Hegarty, L and Twomey, J. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ardan 2, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Burrow or Glennanummer	Six inch map no: 02
	Parish:	Kilcumreragh	NGR: 223351, 237903
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: 61m OD
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Tim Coughlan	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a small ridge protruding from low lying boggy land. A small stream flows to the south of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	The area immediately surrounding Kilbeggan contains direct evidence for a range of Bronze Age sites including barrows, cists and an early Bronze Age pit burial (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 138). Important late Bronze Age settlements were uncovered in advance of the N6 including the possible house at Creggan Lower 1 and the house, boundary fences and pits at Tober 1, 1km to the west. A similar burnt mound was revealed 100m to the north-east while a more complex <i>fulacht fia</i> and possible sweatlodge was revealed further to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Contemporary <i>fulacht fia</i> excavated 100m to the north-east		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound and a well preserved plank-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material (C9 and C10) represented disturbed mound material consisting of dark grey sandy material with stone and charcoal inclusions. Both deposits measured 7.65m by 5.22m.
Burnt Spreads:	Two deposits of burnt mound material were exposed south-east of the main mound material. C17 and C18 measured 8.5m by 3.65m with a thickness of 0.26. They consisted of orange/brown/black sandy clay with frequent stone.
Trough:	The trough (C6) was rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base and measured 2.1m by 1.13m with a depth of 0.24m. The trough was lined with ten split alder planks with an additional five stakes cut into the base. Alder would have been selected as it would produce larger planks and would have been easily split and worked for use as timber lining in troughs. The

trough fill consisted of material similar to the burnt mound and the charcoal was identified as hazel, ash, alder, oak and holly.

**Pit:** This pit (C8) was located north-west of the trough and was oval in shape. It measured 3.95m with a depth of 0.18m. The fill consisted of burnt mound material with some wood deposits at the base.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (pomoideae) from the fill of trough C6  
C14 (UBA- 6804) 2999±26 BP (1372–1129 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavations at the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound and a timber-lined trough used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The original burnt mound had been significantly disturbed, probably due to modern agricultural practices, and was recorded in two separate deposits. A cut of unknown function was also recorded on site and was filled with burnt mound type material. No finds were recovered during the excavation. Burrow or Glennanummer 1 was part of a cluster of burnt mounds including Burrow or Glennanummer 2 and 3 as well as a significant number recorded in nearby townlands. The wood analysed from the lining and base of the trough was identified as split alder and the stakes were identified as ash. The analysis of this timber suggested the presence of people skilled in timber splitting techniques in the area.

### References

Coughlan, T 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Burrow or Glennanummer 1, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

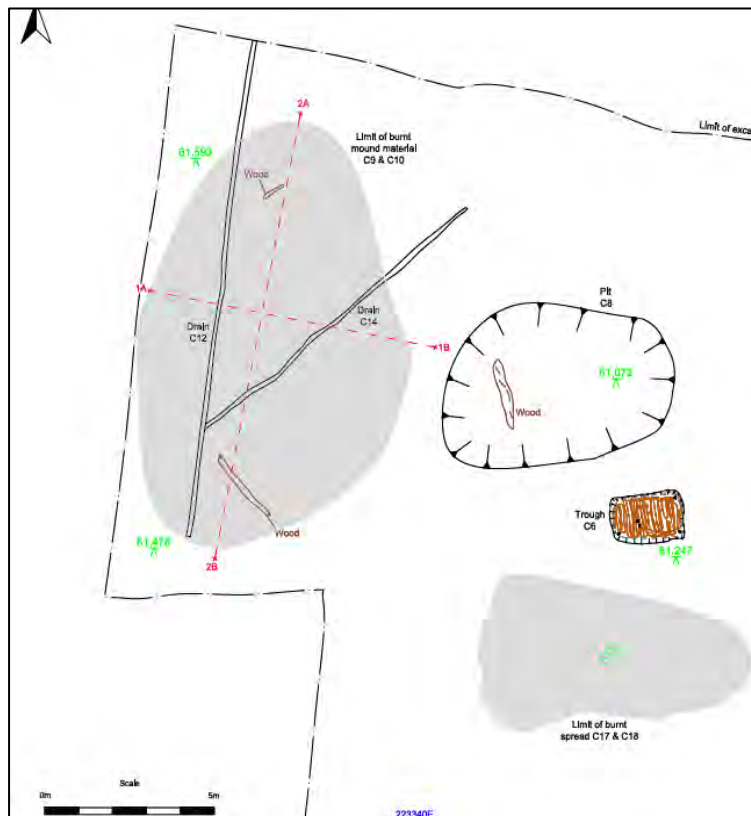


Plate 10.114 Plank-lined trough at Burrow or Glennanummer 1, Co. Offaly.

Location:	Townland:	Burrow or Glennanummer	Six inch map no: 02
	Parish:	Kilcumreragh	NGR: 223450, 237951
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: 61m OD
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Tim Coughlan	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a small ridge protruding from low lying boggy land. A small stream flows to the south of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	The area immediately surrounding Kilbeggan contains direct evidence for a range of Bronze Age sites including barrows, cists and an early Bronze Age pit burial (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 138). Important late Bronze Age settlements were uncovered in advance of the N6 including the possible house at Creggan Lower 1 and the house, boundary fences and pits at Tober 1, 1km to the west. A similar burnt mound was revealed 100m to the south-west while a more complex <i>fulacht fia</i> and possible sweatlodge was revealed further to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Contemporary <i>fulacht fia</i> excavated 100m to the south-west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound, a plank-lined trough and a stone platform.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material (C8) consisted of an oval spread of heat-shattered stone (possibly limestone due to underlying geology) in a matrix of charcoal and dark peaty, silty soil. It measured 7.3m by 4.44m with a maximum thickness of 0.23m.
Trough:	The trough (C7) was located towards the south-east corner of the site and was disturbed by a recent land drain. It was rectangular in shape and was not set into a pit cut into the natural subsoil. Instead, the structure lay on the ground surface. It measured 1.9m by 1.2m with a surviving depth of 0.3m. The trough structure consisted of tangentially split oak and alder planks held in place by a series of stakes. Only the base and small portions of the side



walling survived which overlay a compacted mossy material, presumably functioning as a filtration system. Occasional hazelnut shells were identified. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone.

**Platform:** This stone platform (C6) was situated north-west of the trough. It consisted of an irregular spread compacted spread of heat-shattered stone with a number of number of worked timbers at its south-eastern extent, acting as a revetment. A number of cattle bones were retrieved from the stone platform which displayed evidence of butchery.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the stone platform (C6). The sample submitted for analysis was identified as a distal humerus diaphysis of cattle. The diaphysis of this humerus had been chopped up indicating that this animal had been slaughtered.

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (alder) plank from the trough structure C7  
C14 (UBA- 9374) 2963±20 BP (1268–1118 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavations at the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound, a wood-lined trough and a stone platform. Alder wood retrieved from trough C7 returned a 2 Sigma calibrated date of 1268–1118 BC placing this feature within an Irish middle Bronze Age context. The stone platform was an irregular spread which consisted mainly of burnt stone. Three worked timbers recorded around its south-eastern extent may have represented a timber revetment placed around the edge of the platform to hold the material in place. Cattle bone retrieved from the stone platform showed evidence of butchery marks and may indicate that meat was being cooked on the site. Burrow or Glennanummer 2 was part of a cluster of burnt mounds including Burrow or Glennanummer 1 and 3 as well as a significant number recorded in nearby townlands

### **References**

Coughlan, T 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Burrow or Glennanummer 2, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Fig. 10.135 Burnt mound, stone platform and timber trough at Burrow or Gelnnanummer 2, Co. Offaly.



Location:	Townland:	Burrow or Glennanummer	Six inch map no: 02
	Parish:	Kilcumreragh	NGR: 223671, 238072 223636, 238065
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: 65m OD
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Tim Coughlan	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a small sloped ridge protruding from low lying boggy land. A small stream flows to the south of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	The area immediately surrounding Kilbeggan contains direct evidence for a range of Bronze Age sites including barrows, cists and an early Bronze Age pit burial (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 138). Important late Bronze Age settlements were uncovered in advance of the N6 including the possible house at Creggan Lower 1 and the house, boundary fences and pits at Tober 1, 1km to the west. A similar burnt mound was revealed 100m to the south-west while a more complex <i>fulacht fia</i> and possible sweatlodge was revealed further to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two phases of activity on the site. Two burning pits were revealed dating to the Early Bronze Age while a series of interconnecting troughs and a possible sweatlodge structure dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

### Site A

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound material was deposited across the site probably due to later agricultural activity, however, the main spread (C3) measured 16.32m by 7.7m with a thickness of 0.34m. It consisted of black silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. A flint blade was recovered from this spread. C4 measured 5m by 3m with a thickness of 0.24m while C9 measured 5.1m by 3.5m with a thickness of 0.3m. Both consisted of black silty clay,

charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Five other smaller deposits of burnt mound material were excavated on the site representing dispersed debris from the heating process.

- Trough 1: This pit (C27) was identified as the primary trough on site and was rectangular in plan and situated at the top of a gentle slope. It measured 2.5m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.38m. Four post-holes cut the base of the trough with one located in each of the corners. All were filled with burnt mound material suggesting they were removed after the site was abandoned (Coughlan 2009, 5). Burnt bone was also recovered from one of these post-holes. The trough was filled burnt mound material and was dated to the Middle Bronze Age. A water channel (C17) connected this trough with another (C31) which was situated downslope.
- Stake-holes/Post-Holes: Eight post-holes and one stake-hole were recorded to the north-east of trough C31. They formed a linear pattern and may have been related to the activities carried out in the trough.
- Water channel: Channel (C17) had a north to south orientation, running along the western sides of troughs C27 and C31 and was likely to have acted as a water channel. The fill consisted of burnt mound type material. A late Bronze Age date was obtained from a sample of alder charcoal. Another possible channel was interpreted as a natural feature related to the movement of water downslope.
- Trough 2: This trough (C31) was roughly oval in shape and situated downslope from trough C27 and adjacent to pit (C20). All three features were connected by a water channel (C17) allowing water to flow downslope from each trough. The trough measured 3.8m by 2.8m with a depth of 0.4m. Five fills were noted in this trough, mostly consisting of burnt mound material. An assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the fills consisting of domesticated meat-producing animals (cattle, sheep/goats and pig). The remains of two domesticated dogs were also identified within the assemblage.
- Structure/Trough 3: This trough (C20) was located at the lowest point of the site at the end of a shallow slope and was connected to two troughs to the north, C27 and C31, which directed water toward it. It measured 3.5m by 3.5m with a depth of 0.3m. Twenty-five stake-holes were recorded around the base of the pit. These stake-holes were likely to have had a structural function, supporting some type of light walling or wattling. This walling would have enclosed or semi enclosed the area of the trough and this evidence suggests that this trough may have been used for bathing or as a sweat-house (Coughlan 2009, 7). The fill of the structure consisted of burnt mound material. Two animal bone pendants were recovered from this fill.
- Stake-Holes: A group of five stake holes were located around the edge of structure/trough C20. They may have been used to support a structure in conjunction with the stake-holes found around the base of structure/trough C20. All stake-holes were filled with burnt mound-type material (Coughlan 2009, 7).

Pit 1: This pit (C36) was located east of the trough/structure C20. It was oval in shape and measured 2.95m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.18m. The fill consisted of black silty sand, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 2: This pit (C41) was oval in shape and measured 1.7 by 1m with a depth of 0.21m. The fill consisted of brown clayey sand, charcoal and small stones.

## Site B

Burning Pits: Pits C14 and C21 were located in Area B, a separate area of activity located to the west of the main burnt mound and trough activity. Both were mostly filled by burnt mound type material. C14 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.25m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.2m. An Early Bronze Age date was obtained from a sample of ash charcoal. C21 was oval in shape and measured 2m by 1.75m with a depth of 0.2m. Coughlan suggests that the pits may have functioned as burning pits due to their fills. There was no evidence of an *in situ* burnt mound also suggesting that these may have functioned as pot-boilers rather than water filled troughs (Coughlan 2009, 4).

## Finds:

Artefacts: A flint blade was recovered from the burnt mound (C3). Two bone pendants were recovered from the fill of trough/structure C20.

Ecofacts: Cattle, sheep/goat and pig bones were identified within the fill of trough C31. The bones of two domesticated dogs were also identified. Burnt bone was recovered from the fill of an internal post-hole in trough C27.

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from fill of post-hole in trough C27  
C14 (UBA- 8606) 3032±38 BP (1408–1132 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from fill of water channel C17  
C14 (UBA- 8609) 2864±29 BP (1126–931 BC)  
Charcoal (willow) from fill of stake-hole adjacent to trough C31  
C14 (UBA- 8608) 3057±44 BP (1428–1135 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from fill stake in trough/structure C20  
C14 (Beta- 249540) 2880±40 BP (1200–930 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from fill of pit C36  
C14 (UBA- 8607) 2916±34 BP (1257–1009 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from fill of pit C14 Site B  
C14 (UBA- 8605) 3748±26 BP (2277–2040 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

Evidence for both early and middle–late Bronze Age activity was recorded on site. The early Bronze Age activity was small scale and consisted of two burning pits. Ash charcoal from burning pit fill C15 returned a date of 2277–2040 BC. The middle–late Bronze Age activity consisted of a burnt mound, three troughs, pits and postholes. Charcoal samples taken from a number of features returned Middle Bronze Age dates. Animal bone recovered from trough C31 indicated the presence of cattle, sheep/goat and pig and suggests that animals were being kept for their meat or that rich meat cuts were being imported on-site. The three troughs were recorded on a slope and were interconnected, most likely for water management purposes.

Tertiary trough C20 may have been covered or semi-covered by a light walling or wattling and may have been used as an area for bathing or as a sweathouse. Two bone pendants found within the fill of this trough add weight to its interpretation as a bathing place. The presence of cattle, sheep/goat and pig bone within the secondary trough C31 indicates that at least one of the troughs was being used as a cooking place, probably wood-lined trough C27. The location of a contemporary Bronze Age house 1.6km to the west at Tober creates a very interesting picture of the immediate landscape. It is possible that the inhabitants of the Tober site were directly associated with the activities in Burrow and Glennanummer.

### References

Coughlan, T 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Burrow or Glennanummer 3, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

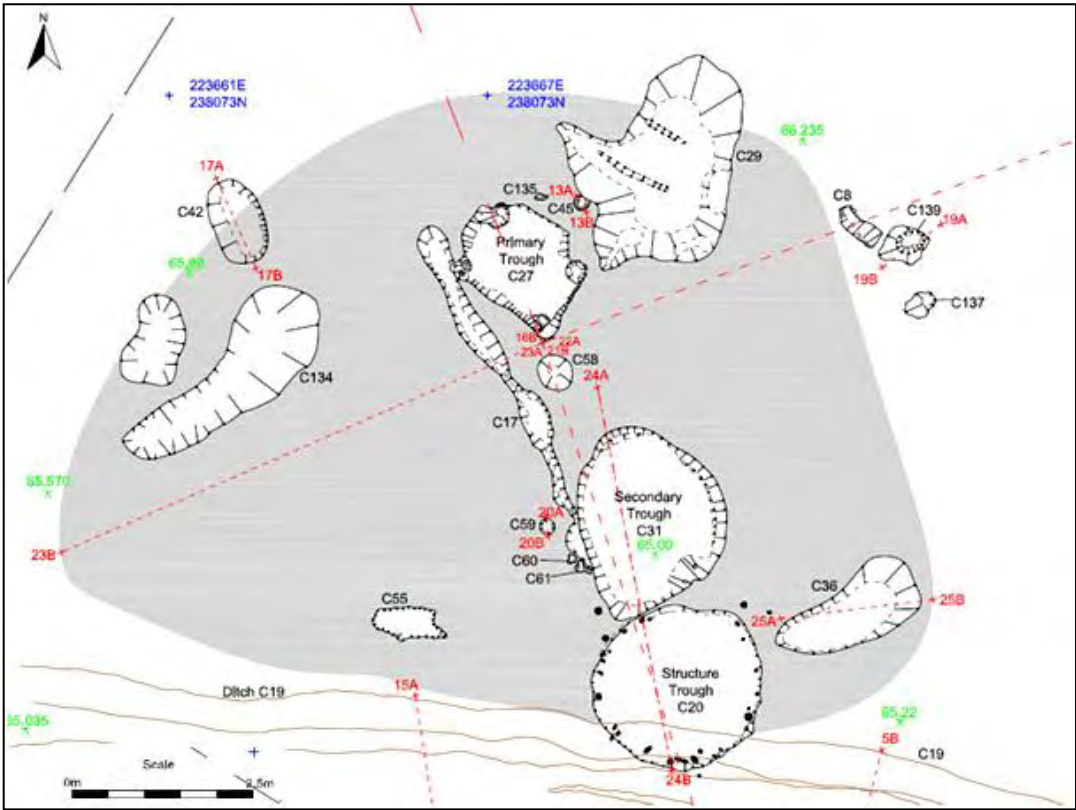
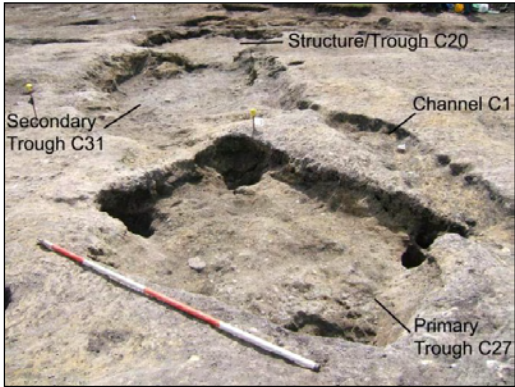


Fig. 10.136 Connected troughs and possible sweatlodge at Burrow or Glennanummer 3.





Location:	Townland:	Russagh	Six inch map no: 02
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR: 226348, 237528
	Barony:	Kilcoursey	Altitude: 59m OD
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ellen O' Carroll	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on flat pastureland. A small river is located 50m to the south of the site. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain by occasional moraines and small glacial hillocks and covered by grey brown podzolic soils		
Cultural Landscape:	This road scheme joins a number of recent large-scale commercially driven archaeological excavations, most notably the gas pipeline to the west (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007) which runs mostly parallel a short distance to the north of the N6The burnt mound sites at Russagh comprised pits associated with mounds of heat shattered stone. These were simple sites in comparison to many of the neighbouring burnt mound complexes such as those located at Burrow or Glennanummer approximately 2.5km to the west and those at Kilbeg, a similar distance to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound and a single pit which may have functioned as a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C6) was heavily disturbed and survived as a small sub-circular spread of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone. It measured 2.3m by 1.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.05m. The spread contained fragments of red brick and was cut by a field boundary.
Pit/Trough:	This pit (C11) was sealed by the spread material and was sub-rectangular in shape. It had steep sides with a flat base and measured 2.2m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.22m. The fill of the trough consisted of charcoal and heat-shattered stone, material similar to the spread. O' Carroll notes the presence

of depressions in the corners which may represent stake-holes (O' Carroll 2009, 3).

**Finds:**

Artefacts: 16<sup>th</sup> Century coin and modern brick representing disturbance

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the topsoil consisting of cattle and sheep/goat.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread (C6)  
C14 (UBA- 9163) 2850±32 BP (1118–923 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation at Russagh 2 revealed the remains of a number of features indicating the presence of a heavily disturbed burnt mound. It was truncated by post-medieval agricultural activity. The primary phase of activity consisted of a burnt spread and possible trough containing large quantities of charcoal. Stake-holes in the corners of the trough indicate it was once timber-lined and functioned as a water-boiling pit. The surrounding burnt spread (C6) contained fragments of red brick indicating large-scale disturbance during the post-medieval period.

**References**

O'Carroll, E 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Russagh 2, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Russagh	Six inch map no: 02
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR: 226487, 237525
	Barony:	Kilcoursey	Altitude: 57m OD
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ellen O' Carroll	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on boggy pastureland immediately east of a tributary of the Gageborough River. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain by occasional moraines and small glacial hillocks and covered by grey brown podzolic soils.		
Cultural Landscape:	This road scheme joins a number of recent large-scale commercially driven archaeological excavations, most notably the gas pipeline to the west (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007) which runs mostly parallel a short distance to the north of the N6The burnt mound sites at Russagh comprised pits associated with mounds of heat shattered stone. These were simple sites in comparison to many of the neighbouring burnt mound complexes such as those located at Burrow or Glennanummer approximately 2.5km to the west and those at Kilbeg, a similar distance to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound and a single pit which may have functioned as a trough.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) was heavily disturbed and survived as a small irregular spread of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone. It measured 9.7m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.08m. The spread contained fragments of red brick and was cut by a field boundary.		
Trough:	The trough (C6) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.32m by 0.65m with a depth of 0.14m. Two fills were noted in the trough with the primary deposit consisting of black, charcoal rich material, and the upper fill consisted of		

compact brown clay resulting from later subsidence. Charcoal from the trough was identified as holly, oak and ash.

**Post-Hole:** A possible post-hole was identified on the north-eastern edge of the trough.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (holly) from the fill of the trough C6  
C14 (UBA- 8611) 2879±29 BP (1191–939 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The excavation at Russagh 3 revealed the remains of a number of features indicating the presence of a heavily disturbed burnt mound site. This site consisted of a burnt spread, a trough (C6) containing large quantities of charcoal and an irregular pit. A probable posthole was recorded in the northeast corner of the trough suggesting it may have been lined for pyrolithic water-boiling. The surrounding burnt spread (C4) contained fragments of red brick indicating largescale disturbance during the post-medieval period.

### References

O'Carroll, E 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Russagh 3, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

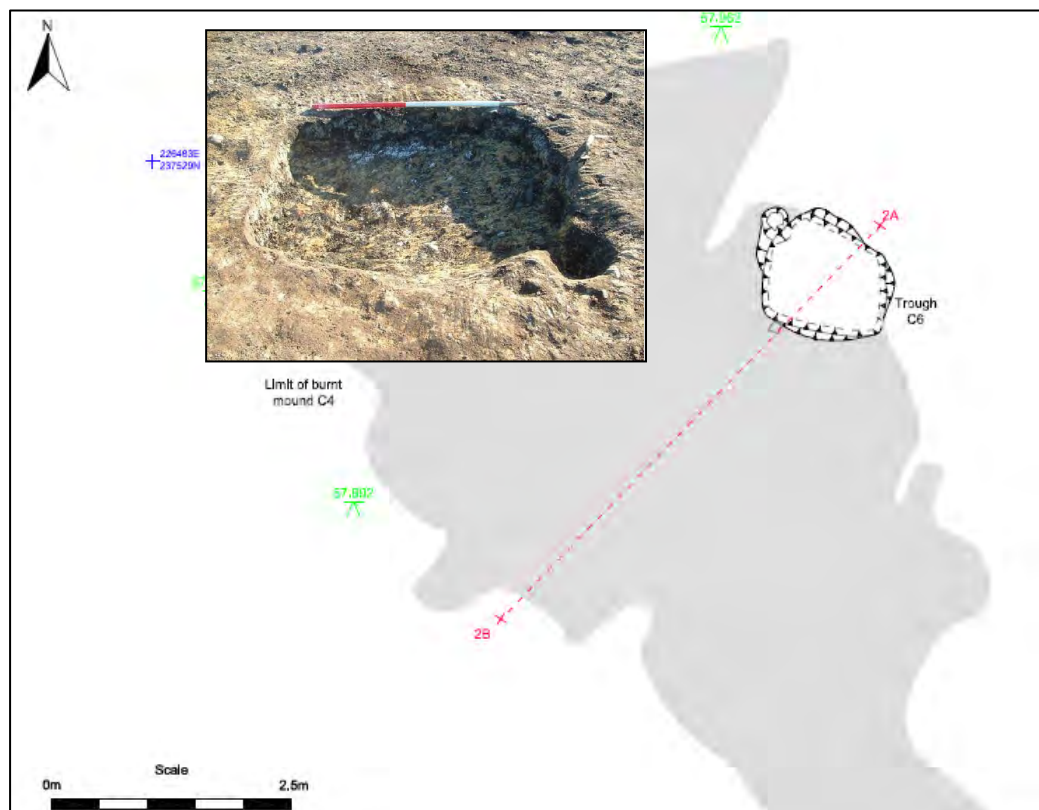


Fig. 10.137 Burnt stone spread and unlined trough at Russagh 3, Co. Offaly.

Location:	Townland:	Culleenwaine	Six inch map no: 46
	Parish:	Culleenwaine	NGR: 201615, 181327
	Barony:	Clonlisk	Altitude: 116m OD
	County:	Offaly	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	John Tierney	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on flat low lying land which is primarily used for grazing. The field is enclosed by a low bank and deep drain to the east and the south which is also the townland boundary between Moneygall and Culleenwaine.		
Cultural Landscape:	Two new <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were recorded at Clashnevin 1 E3586, Culleenwaine E3741 and six at three separate locations in Greenhills, E3638, E3637 and E3658. Evidence of nine roundhouses or partial round structures were recorded; two at Castleroan E3909, Derrybane 2 E3591 and Drumbaun 2 E3912 and one at Clash E3660, Drumroe E3773 and Moatquarter E3910.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	18 Neolithic pits		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation revealed a concentration of prehistoric activity in an area that measured c. 35 m by 45 m. The archaeology comprised three spreads of burnt mound material, three troughs, 27 pits, 11 stake-holes, three ditches and two possible hearths. The earliest activity on the site is dated to the Neolithic and is unrelated to the pyrolithic activity.
Burnt Mound:	In the modern period a field boundary bisected the site, and the mound of burnt material in particular, in two. The mound was therefore spread over a large area and separated into three mounds. Spread 1 measured 10m by 9 with a thickness of 0.3m. Spread 2 measured 16m by 10m with a thickness of 0.26m while the third spread measured 8m by 9m with a thickness of 0.39m. A total of twenty burnt mound layers were recorded and were composed of charcoal-enriched soil and heat-shattered stone. A convex end scraper was recovered from one of the deposits and some fragments of burnt

bone. Neolithic artefacts were also recovered which were likely disturbed from their original locations.

- Trough 1: Trough (C19) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 0.8m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.56m. Four stake-holes cut the base of the pit suggesting it may have originally been timber lined. The pit was filled with burnt mound material.
- Trough 2: This trough (C205) was also sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.48m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.4m. Two stake-holes cut the base of the feature and a large sandstone slab was revealed at one of the shorter ends. This may indicate the trough was lined with both timber and stone with the slabs used for the shorter ends. The pit was filled with burnt mound material.
- Trough 3: This trough measured 1.64m by 1.63m with a depth of 0.23m. It was overlain with burnt mound material and the fill was composed of similar heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
- Pits: Three pits (C104, C113 and C233) were located to the north-east of trough C205. They were spaced at regular intervals and were probably associated with the trough. Two pits (C33 and C109) were located on the western side of trough C23 and may have functioned in tandem with the trough.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: 17 lithics were recovered from the site, 10 of these were dated to the Neolithic. The flaked assemblage contained one chert blade, seven flakes, three pieces of debitage and six retouched artefacts including two arrowhead production attempts and two convex end scrapers

Ecofacts: Burnt animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough 2 (C205)  
C14 (UB- 15074) Unknown BP (2464–2294 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation at Culleenwaine revealed the remains of a number of features indicating the presence of a heavily disturbed burnt mound. The three troughs and smaller pits indicate that there was extensive use of hot stone technology at this site and that it was probably used for heating water. No water course was recorded in the area of the excavation but the land had been reclaimed in the recent past. The presence of the flint and chert scrapers suggests that hide-processing and wood- and/or bone-working were some of the activities that could have been carried out at these sites.

#### **References**

Tierney, J 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Culleenwaine, Co. Offaly*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Tintagh	Six inch map no: 33
	Parish:	Boyle	NGR: 180674, 307416
	Barony:	Boyle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Curlew Road Bypass	
	Site Director:	Hilary Opie	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a boggy upland hollow, created by a natural spring well that still fed the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> , however a cairn of probable Bronze Age date is located c. 1300m to the south (RO006-003).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during fieldwalking in advance of the Curlew Road Bypass. It was identified as an extant kidney-shaped mound with a slight depression between the arms.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone, two conjoined trough, another separate trough and a single pit. At least two phases were identified.
Burnt Mound:	The extant mound measured 11m by 8m with a maximum height of 0.9m. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal, peat and black, gritty soil.
Troughs 1-2:	Two conjoined troughs (F9 and F10) were identified between the arms of the mound. F9 was oval in shape and measured 3m by 1.55m with a depth of 0.45m. F10 was also oval in shape and clearly cut F9, however Opie states that they were probably used at the same time (Opie, 1996). F10 measured 1.9m by 1.45m with a depth of 0.3m.
Trough 3:	A later phase of activity was represented by another trough F8. It was circular in shape and measured 2m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.5m.
Pit 1:	No details available

**Finds:**

Artefacts:                      None

Ecofacts:                      None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              Site not scientifically dated.

**Excavation Interpretation:**

This site survived as an extant burnt mound prior to excavation and was identified during fieldwalking in advance of the road development. This excavation was undertaken prior to the code of practice now in place between the National Roads Authority and the Minister. The burnt mound consisted predominately of sandstone which is the most common material used in pyrolithic water-boiling. The troughs were also located between the arms of the burnt mound which is also common with regard to extant examples. No organic lining is mentioned by the excavator, however, little information is available for the site. That said, it is likely that the site functioned as a water-boiling location and is probably of Bronze Age date.

**References**

Opie, H. 1997. Tintagh. Fulacht fiadh. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1996*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Erris	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Boyle	NGR: 181867, 303578
	Barony:	Boyle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Curlew Road Bypass	
	Site Director:	Hilary Opie	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated c. 40m north of a stream and lay in very marshy, boggy ground.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is little recoded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> , however a cairn of probable Bronze Age date is located c. 1300m to the south (RO006-003).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Brushwood Trackway		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the Curlew Road Bypass. It was identified as a spread of burnt and blackened heat-shattered sandstone. The site had no surface expression prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone. No cut features were exposed however a stone and brushwood trackway was identified.
Burnt Mound:	The low mound was circular in shape and measured 9m by 10m with a maximum height of 0.6m. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal, peat and black, gritty soil.
Trackway:	To the south of the site a trackway was identified consisting of stone and brushwood held in place by stakes. Only a small portion was still intact, as it was truncated by a drain. It measured 5.5m by 1.5m. It was constructed on top of the same marshy peat layer that the mound was sitting on, indicating that the two were probably contemporary (Opie, 1996).

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
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Ecofacts:                      Some animal teeth and burnt bone fragments (context unknown)

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              Site not scientifically dated.

**Excavation Interpretation:**

This excavation was undertaken prior to the code of practice now in place between the National Roads Authority and the Minister. The site was identified during topsoil stripping in advance of construction work and had no surface expression prior to archaeological monitoring. A substantial mound of heat-shattered stone was identified consisting of sandstone which is the most common material used in the heating process, particularly in the Co. Cork. No cut features, such as troughs or pits were identified during the excavation, however it is not known if the entire site was revealed. Therefore it is possible that troughs may lie outside the excavation area. A possible brushwood trackway was also revealed south of the site which the excavator suggests may be contemporary. Similar timber trackways have been found at a number of excavated *fulachtaí fia* including Kiloteran, Co. Waterford and Gortroe Co. Mayo. Some animal bone was also recorded from the site suggesting it may have functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling area for cooking.

**References**

Opie, H. 1997. Erris. Fulacht fiadh. In I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1996*. Wordwell, Bray.



Location:	Townland:	Hughstown	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Tumna	NGR: 188996, 300960
	Barony:	Boyle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Boyle to Carrick-on-Shannon Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Mary Henry	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was found in a low-lying, peaty area bordered on its north side by a narrow stream running in an east-west direction.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N4 Boyle to Carrick-on-Shannon Realignment Scheme. The site had no surface expression prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two areas of archaeological significance consisting of a burnt mound and a well preserved plank and wattle-lined trough. The other area consisted of a number of stone surfaces.
Burnt Mound:	The low mound was oval in shape and measured 10m by 7.6m with a maximum height of 0.12m. It consisted of two deposits consisting of dark sandy material with charcoal and medium sized heat-shattered stones.
Trough:	The trough was uncovered in the north-eastern area of the site when the mound was removed. It was oval in shape and measured 2.1m by 1.3m. The base of the feature was lined with three ash planks with the central plank splayed. Toolmarkings were evident on all three planks. The sides of the trough were constructed from wattle, a series of twenty-four hazel uprights with rods interwoven around them giving an interlace effect. Henry states that the external face of the walls were packed with peat probably acting as a sealant to retain water within the trough (Henry, 1999). The basal planks were sealed by a thin layer of light grey sand and a deposit of heat-affected stones.
Post-Holes:	A large number of post-holes were uncovered to the west of the trough.

**Platform:** A number of stone pathways/surfaces were revealed west of the trough and mound. They consisted of small-medium sized stones and a number of sparse larger stones. The stone surfaces extended in an east-west direction and were packed quite close to each other. It is unclear whether this is related to the burnt mound activity.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Some animal bones (domestic and wild) were uncovered in an organic layer that sealed the stone platform. Some of the remains displayed evidence of butchery marks.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Collapsed piece of timber from the trough  
C14 (Lab-Unknown) 3783±56 BP (2456–2035 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site had no surface expression prior to archaeological investigation. It consisted of a large spread or levelled burnt mound which sealed a plank and wattle-lined trough dated to the Early Bronze Age period. This radiocarbon determination is consistent with other wattle-lined troughs in Ireland which have all been dated to this period. A large number of post-holes at one end of the trough also suggests the presence of some kind of structure associated with the activities carried out at the site, possible a windbreak or revetment for the mound. A stone surface was also revealed at the site, however it was not determined whether it was contemporary with the use of the *fualcht fia*. Given that stone surfaces such as these are commonly found at these sites, it is possible that the surface is associated with the site, providing a dry surface in an otherwise wet environment. The butchered animal bone found associated with the context also suggests pyrolithic cooking may have been practiced.

**References**

Henry, M. 1999. *Archaeological excavations at Hughestown, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cloongownagh	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Tumna	NGR: 190644, 299970
	Barony:	Boyle	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Hughestown to Meera road scheme	
	Site Director:	Anne Marie Lennon and Mary Henry	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services	
	Year:	1999	
Physical Setting:	The site was located above the flood plain, near the terminal point of a raised spur of high ground. It is moderately well drained pasture and meadow land.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval ringfort and Late Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement complex.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N4 Hughestown to Meera road scheme. It was identified as a spread of burnt and blackened heat-shattered sandstone. The site had no surface expression prior to investigations. Other prehistoric and early medieval activity was uncovered at the site in the form of a ringfort which overlay previous Iron Age structures.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	The <i>fulacht fia</i> was identified at the south of the site at the edge of a bog. Excavation revealed a small mound of heat-shattered stone which sealed a single trough and a hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The small, low mound was kidney-shaped and measured 3m by 2.6m. No other details available.
Trough:	The trough was located in front of the mound and was dug into the underlying clay. No stone or timber lining was noted. No other details available.
Hearth:	The hearth was located at the centre of the kidney-shaped mound close to the trough.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
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Ecofacts:                      None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              Context unknown  
C14 (UCD-00144) 1720±60 BP (AD 134–432)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a very small, low mound of heat-shattered stone which overlay a trough and a possible hearth. Unfortunately, little information is available for the site and the context of this Late Iron Age radiocarbon date is unknown. Therefore, a certain degree of caution must be applied.

Location:	Townland:	Cloongownagh	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Tumna	NGR: 190500, 300088
	Barony:	Boyle	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Hughestown to Meera Road Project	
	Site Director:	Judith Carroll	
	Consultants:	Judith Carroll & Company	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located was located in low-lying wet ground between two ridges of higher topography. The area of excavation was a large expanse of flat, wet ground subdivided by many drainage ditches.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is little recoded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> , however a Wedge Tomb is located nearby of probable Bronze Age date (RO006-171). Previous archaeological investigation in the area has uncovered previously unknown burnt stone spreads. An Early Medieval ringfort and Late Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement activity was uncovered during excavations in 1999 (Henry 2000; Lennon; 2002). A <i>fulacht fia</i> was also uncovered here dating to the Late Iron Age (RM 04). Several other similar site-types were revealed during this particular scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N4 Hughestown to Meera Road Project. It was identified as a spread of burnt and blackened heat-shattered sandstone. The site had no surface expression prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone. No cut features were identified and the spread was heavily disturbed by the presence of recent tree boles.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (C7) covered an area measuring 6.6m by 3.9m with a maximum thickness of 0.02m. It was irregular in shape and composed of compact dark brown/black sandy silt with heat-affected stones and charcoal. Dental remains from domestic cattle were retrieved from the spread. The spread was very disturbed by the ingress of recent tree boles.

### Finds:

Artefacts: Chert flake from buried soil horizon

Ecofacts: Cattle teeth were recovered from the spread and cranial remains of domestic horse were recovered from a buried soil horizon also uncovered at the site.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a heavily denuded and disturbed burnt mound. No cut features such as troughs or pits were revealed, however these may have been removed by later activity or may lie outside the area of excavation. No samples were retained for analysis except for animal bone remains. Several cattle teeth were recovered suggesting the site may have been used for cooking. The site was not scientifically dated.

**References**

Carroll, J. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonagownagh Site 5, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Judith Carroll and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cloongownagh	Six inch map no: 06
	Parish:	Tumna	NGR: 190500, 300088
	Barony:	Boyle	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Hughestown to Meera Road Project	
	Site Director:	Judith Carroll	
	Consultants:	Judith Carroll & Company	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located was located in low-lying wet ground between two ridges of higher topography. The area of excavation was a large expanse of flat, wet ground subdivided by many drainage ditches.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is little recoded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> , however a Wedge Tomb is located nearby of probable Bronze Age date (RO006-171). Previous archaeological investigation in the area has uncovered previously unknown burnt stone spreads. An Early Medieval ringfort and Late Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement activity was uncovered during excavations in 1999 (Henry 2000; Lennon; 2002). A <i>fulacht fia</i> was also uncovered here dating to the Late Iron Age (RM 04). Several other similar site-types were revealed during this particular scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N4 Hughestown to Meera Road Project. It was identified as a spread of burnt and blackened heat-shattered sandstone. The site had no surface expression prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone. No cut features were identified and the spread was heavily disturbed by the presence of recent tree boles.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread consisted of two deposits (C4 and C9). They were irregular in shape and measured approximately 8m by 7m with a thickness of 0.03m. Both deposits consisted of charred organic material, heat-shattered stone and dark silty soils. Charcoal from the spread was identified as ash and hazel. One of these samples produced a Middle Bronze Age date.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash and hazel) from the burnt spread  
C14 (Beta-226421) 3210±70 BP (1620–1310 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a heavily denuded and disturbed burnt mound. No cut features such as troughs or pits were revealed, however these may have been removed by later activity or may lie outside the area of excavation. The presence of heat-shattered stone suggesting an activity associated with a pyrolithic technology such as water-boiling, roasting, steaming or baking. Charcoal from the deposit is dated to the Middle Bronze Age period which is consistent with similar sites found in Ireland.

**References**

Carroll, J. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Cloonagownagh Site 7, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Judith Carroll and Company Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Gortlustia	Six inch map no: 29
	Parish:	Bumlin	NGR: 191380, 279458
	Barony:	Roscommon	Altitude: NA
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Scramoge to Cloonmore Realignment	
	Site Director:	John Ó Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on a gentle west-facing slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Scramoge to Cloonmore Realignment. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a single pit which may represent a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material covered an area measuring 7m by 4m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone, limestone, shale and quartz in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay.
Trough/Pit:	The pit was irregular in shape with rounded corners and straight sides. It measured 1.55m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.45m. The fill consisted of fine silty clay with charcoal and mainly heat-shattered sandstone with other stone present also.

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of burnt stone and a single pit that may have functioned as a water-boiling trough. The site was not scientifically dated and no artefacts were recovered.

**References**

Ó Néill, J. 2009. *Burnt Mounds in Northern and Western Europe: a Study of Prehistoric Technology and Society*. VDM Verlag, Germany.

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Location:	Townland:	Clooneybeirne	Six inch map no: 39
	Parish:	Ballintober South	NGR: 188382, 265189
	Barony:	Roscommon	Altitude: NA
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Unknown	
	Site Director:	Leo Morahan	
	Consultants:	Unknown	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site lay at the edge of damp marshy area which sloped down to the south and which originally formed a lake.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Scramoge to Cloonmore Realignment. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a single pit which may represent a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material covered an area measuring 13m by 9m with a depth of 0.4m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay.
Trough/Pit:	The pit was roughly sub-circular in shape with a diameter of 2.5m and a maximum depth of 0.65m. The fill consisted of heat-shattered sandstone, ash and charcoal with larger stone at the base along with fine grey sandy gravel which probably formed from the sudden quenching of the stones.
Hearth:	A possible hearth was identified above the trough which consisted of a very dense area of blackened earth and ash, together with heat-shattered stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	None

### Dating:

Relative dating:       None

Absolute dating:       None

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a low mound or spread of heat-shattered stone that sealed a possible trough and a formal hearth. Although no organic lining was noted during excavation, it is likely that the trough functioned as a water-boiling receptacle due to its depth. A possible hearth was also revealed immediately adjacent to the trough. Although no stone setting was identified, the presence of considerable amounts of charcoal suggests it functioned as a hearth to heat the stones. The site was not scientifically dated.

### **References**

Ó Néill, J. 2009. *Burnt Mounds in Northern and Western Europe: a Study of Prehistoric Technology and Society*. VDM Verlag, Germany.

Location:	Townland:	Currinah	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Ballintober South	NGR: 156643, 2992351
	Barony:	Roscommon	Altitude: 116 OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	Currinah I was situated on the southern bank of a west/east flowing stream. The stream marks the townland boundary between Gortanure and Currinah townlands in Co. Roscommon. The <i>fulacht fia</i> was sited on low-lying pastureland on fairly well-drained boulder clay.		
Cultural Landscape:	The only recorded prehistoric site in the vicinity is a <i>fulacht fia</i> situated 15m to the north (RO008-033).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an irregular mound of heat-shattered stone which overlay a rectangular stone-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material (C3) covered an area measuring 13.2m by 9.3m with a maximum thickness of 0.38m. It was irregular in shape and consisted of charcoal-rich black silty clay with heat-shattered sandstone. The mound was truncated by a stream at its northern edge.
Revetment:	The mound sealed five small boulders which were set in a semi-circular arrangement which may have acted as a revetment for the mound material at the earlier stages of its use.
Trough:	The trough (C14) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2m by 1.34m with a depth of 0.32m. It had a flat base and rounded corners. The featured was partly stone-lined at the base and ends with sandstone slabs. The end stones were placed vertically on their long axis and were similar in size. Eleven post-holes and a single stake-hole were identified at the corners of the trough pit, presumable to stabilize the lining. No stone lining was

evident at the sides of the trough however Kerrigan states that these areas may have been lined with timber with the stakes acting as supports (Gillepse and Kerrigan, 2010, 127). The stone lining was identified as sandstone, basalt and dolerite. The fill of the trough consisted of charcoal-rich black silty clay and heat-shattered stone. A Late Bronze Age date was retrieved from the fill of one of the post-holes.

#### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder/Blackthorn) from fill of post-hole in trough (C14)  
C14 (GRN-30770) 2670±20 BP (839–799 BC)

#### Excavation Interpretation:

The site was exposed as a flattened mound cut by a number of agricultural furrows. A large trough was exposed lined with stone. A number of stake-holes in the each of the corners suggests timber-stakes were used to hold the timber side walls in place. Charcoal from the fill of one of these stake-holes is dated to the Late Bronze Age which is consistent with stone-line troughs as these forms typically date to this period. The remains of a possible stone revetment was also revealed consisting of a semi-circular arrangement of stones. Similar features have been exposed at a number of *fulachtaí fia* including Coarhamore, Co. Kerry, and Cahiracalla Beg, Co. Clare.

#### References

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and tuyères: the archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Dublin.

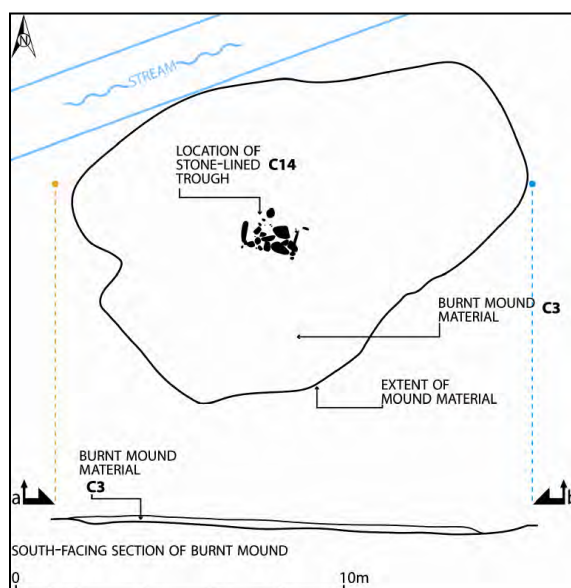


Fig. 10.138 Burnt mound and stone-lined trough at Currinagh, Co. Roscommon.

Location:	Townland:	Currinah	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Ballintober South	NGR: 156683, 299247
	Barony:	Roscommon	Altitude: 116 OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was situated on gentle north facing slope of well drained pastureland, which fell away to the west/east flowing stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	The only recorded prehistoric site in the vicinity is a <i>fulacht fia</i> situated 15m to the north (RO008-033).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an irregular mound of heat-shattered stone which overlay a stone-lined trough and associated platform.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material (C46) covered an area measuring 5.58m by 4.20m with a maximum thickness of 0.35m. It was irregular in shape and consisted of charcoal-rich black silty clay with heat-shattered sandstone. The mound showed evidence of disturbance.
Trough:	The trough pit (C12) was almost square in plan and measured 1.94m by 1.88m with a depth of 0.38m. It was lined at the sides with flat slabs of sandstone and quartzite. The associated pit containing the stone platform measured 1.64m by 1.46m with a depth of 0.06m. The trough pit had small projections at each of the sites. The platform was composed of a horizontally laid single layer of stones. The trough fill consisted of a thick layer of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal rich, black sandy silt. This returned a Middle to Late Bronze Age date. Charcoal was identified as hazel, alder, oak, blackthorn, willow and holly.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder/Blackthorn) from fill of trough (C12)  
C14 (GRN-30769) 2940±50 BP (1306–1005 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The site consisted of a small, dispersed burnt mound that overlay the remains of a stone-lined trough, charcoal from which is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age period. Stone-lined troughs are generally found in later prehistoric *fulachtaí fia* contexts. A platform or working surface was also associated with the trough, possibly used as a kneeler in the wet ground conditions to access the trough. The stone lining would also have maintained the integrity of the pit in such conditions. Similar features were uncovered at Garranes, Co. Cork (O'Brien 2012) and Coarhamore, Co. Kerry (Sheehan 1990). The presence of such features suggests the site functioned as a *fulacht fia* water-boiling site.

### References

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and tuyères: the archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Dublin.

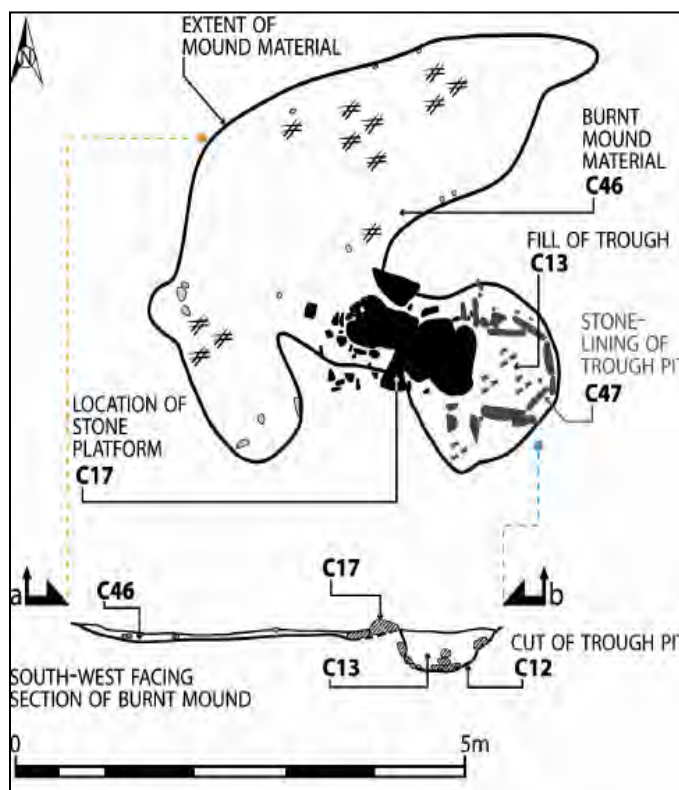


Plate 10.115 Stone-lined trough and paving at Currinah, Co. Roscommon.

Location:	Townland:	Currinah	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Ballintober South	NGR: 157248, 298959
	Barony:	Roscommon	Altitude: 111 OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Charlestown Bypass	
	Site Director:	Agnes Kerrigan	
	Consultants:	Mayo County Council	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was adjacent to an east/west flowing stream in a peat basin, which had been drained and utilised as rough pastureland.		
Cultural Landscape:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> is situated 15m north of Currinah I-II (RO008-033). Currinah IV lay 0.5km east of Currinah I-II and a charcoal production pit (Currinah III)		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N25 Charlestown Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an irregular mound of heat-shattered stone which sealed a well preserved wood and stone-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was irregular in shape with a central depression. It extended north beyond the limits of the excavation. It measured 8.40m by 3.8m with a maximum depth of 0.33m and consisted of charcoal rich silty clay with heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough:	The mound overlay a well preserved wooden trough. It was rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.28m by 1.50m with a depth of 0.25m. The trough structure was constructed of mostly hazel roundwoods and brushwood with the south side enclosed by a large stone. A thick layer of moss lined the base of the trough pit, indicative of a woodland environment and a sandy layer overlay this possibly acting as a filtration system. Moss was also noted packed between the timbers at the sides of the trough walls. The sides of the trough were held in place by a series of stakes in the interior and exterior corners. Additional stakes were noted along the sides of the trough for added support. The large stone at the southern end



was held in place by two wooden stakes. The post/stakes were identified as willow, alder and birch. These species were also used as timbers. The trough was well constructed, with two different techniques used at the north and south parts, changing from hazel rods to split roundwoods lying perpendicular to the rods. Two posts were identified at either side of the southern end, which may have been part of a spit feature (Gillespie and Kerrigan 2010, 137).

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:                      None

#### **Dating:**

Absolute dating:              Post (hazel) at southern end of trough  
C14 (GRN-30768) 2925±20 BP (1208–1049 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The site consisted of a small mound of heat-shattered stone that continued beyond the limits of excavation. The mound was composed of sandstone which is the most suited to pyrolithic water-boiling. The trough was typically located at the centre of the mound within a small depression and was composed of stone and hazel roundwoods. The presence of moss within the trough suggests that fresh, filtered water was an important requirement for the water-boiling process. The location of two posts either side of the trough was also unusual and may have supported a horizontal timber as part of a spit feature. The hazel used in the trough construction was selected deliberately from coppiced woodland for its size. The trough did not fill with groundwater however the water-table may have changed substantially since the Bronze Age. The site was securely dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age from an adjacent post, making it contemporary with site (RM10).

#### **References**

Gillespie, R. and Kerrigan, A. 2010. *Of troughs and tuyères: the archaeology of the N25 Charlestown Bypass*. NRA Scheme Monograph 6. Dublin.



Plate 10.116 Divided roundwood trough with end support stone at Currinah, Co. Roscommon.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbegly	Six inch map no: 54
	Parish:	Moore	NGR: 190038, 230053
	Barony:	Moycarn	Altitude: 49 OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Neil Jackman	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was discovered at the base of a long broad east–west orientated glacial ridge which overlooks the River Shannon to the east and the River Suck to the west. The site was positioned at the foot of the hill in marginal wetland conditions to best exploit the natural high water table and local springs in the area, to ensure a reliable and controllable water source.		
Cultural Landscape:	The Bronze Age, from c.1800 BC, is well represented in material near Athlone. Its early phases are reflected in finds of gold lunulae, copper and bronze flat axeheads and bronze rapiers. From the later Bronze Age there are gold ornaments, including bar torcs, pennanular bracelets, dress-fasteners and a dress-ring. Later Bronze Age weapons and tools from Athlone include bronze spearheads, swords and socketed axeheads (Murtagh 2000, 9).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval water-mill excavated 30m south-west of the site.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound and a wicker-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C5) was irregular in shape and highly disturbed by field drains and later agricultural activity. The spread of material measured 8.2m by 6.3m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of dark charcoal enriched peat with heat-shattered limestone. A smaller deposit of heat-shattered stone was revealed to the south-east and probably represents dispersed material.

**Trough:** The trough (C18) was oval in shape and measured 1.62m by 1.12m with a maximum depth of 0.4m. The pit had steep side and a relatively flat base which was lined with two half split timber planks. The cut was filled by a hazel wattle structure, which was caulked with woodland mosses. The wattle structure consisted of a series of interwoven horizontal rods and vertical sails. The primary fill within the trough consisted of a light coarse sand with stone inclusions which was sealed by a number of peat deposits, silty clays and heat-shattered stone. Apart from the calcareous woodland moss, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, the sample included *Neckera crispa* and a few leaves of *Sphagnum*. The *Sphagnum* probably derived from nearby bog while *crispa* was presumably purposefully collected in nearby woodland. The possibility that the moss material was added several years after the construction of trough should not, however, be lightly dismissed. Of the four dates derived from trough wood, the youngest appears to be somewhat of an outlier. Taken at face value, on the other hand, this date and that from the mosses, supports the idea of use of the trough over many years with the mosses being added towards the end of the use cycle.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None	Ecofacts:	None
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#### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
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Absolute dating:	Wood (hazel) from the trough (C18) C14 (UBA-12826) 3653±26 BP (2134–1944 BC) Wood (hazel) from the trough (C18) C14 (UBA-12827) 3645±23 BP (2129–1941 BC) Wood (hazel) from the trough (C18) C14 (UBA-12828) 3615±24 BP (2032–1902 BC) Wood (hazel) from the trough (C18) C14 (UBA-12829) 3587±23 BP (2020–1886 BC)
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#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The site consisted of a dispersed mound of heat-shattered limestone. Limestone has been discounted by some as an unsuitable heating agent for water-boiling for cooking as it turns to calcium hydroxide one exposed to prolonged heating. The trough sides were composed of hazel wattling with a plank base and was securely dated to the Early Bronze Age. This is consistent with other similar troughs dated in Ireland.

#### **References**

Jackman, N. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbegly, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

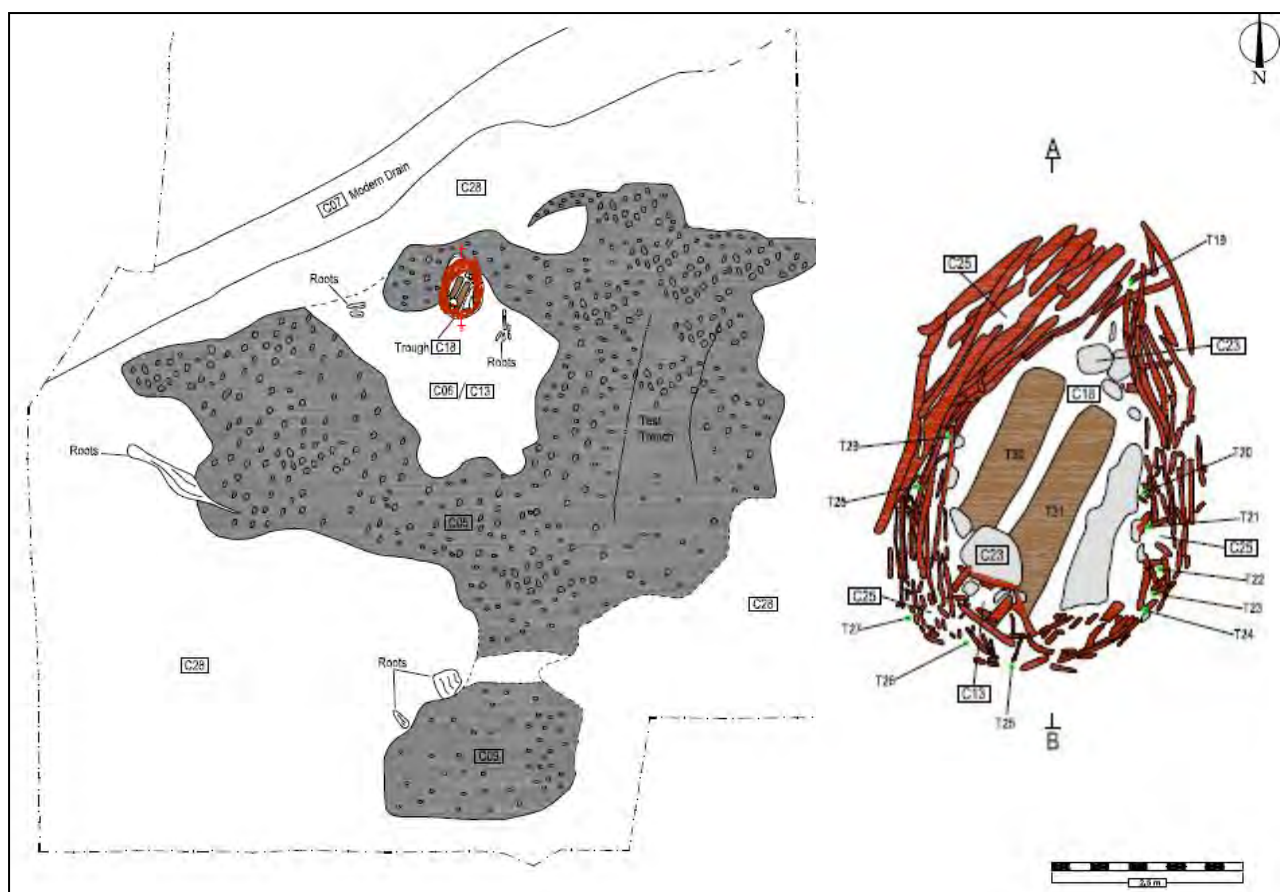


Fig. 10.139. Burnt mound and wattle and plank-lined trough at Kilbegly, Co. Roscommon.



Location:	Townland:	Ardagawna	Six inch map no: 52
	Parish:	Drum	NGR: 199176, 230232
	Barony:	Athlone	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Liam Ó Séaghdha	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was discovered at the base of a hill and was under pasture at the time of investigations.		
Cultural Landscape:	No prehistoric sites were recorded in the area prior to the investigations. The excavation of Ardagawna 1, a multi-period site (A034:E3270), located at the top of the hill revealed other features of a similar Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. There are no other recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated site		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Iron Age roasting pits		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed the levelled remains of a burnt mound that overlay a trough and a number of stake-holes. Adjacent to the site lay a number of pits and deposits of heat-shattered stone interpreted as the remains of roasting pits.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C4) was oblong in shape and measured 6.5m by 3.7m with a maximum thickness of 0.12m. It was composed of heat-shattered limestone and charcoal. An unworked flint nodule was recovered 2m from this deposit. A number of shallow spreads were identified west of the burnt mound and seemed to fill a number of natural depression.
Trough:	The trough (C66) was sub-oval in shape and measured 3.65m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.48m and contained deposits of heat-shattered stone. The feature seemed to be deeper at one end where the cut was deeper and bowl-shaped.
Stake-Holes:	Twenty-four stake-holes were uncovered west of the trough. The most discernable stake-hole arrangement is that of three roughly parallel

south/southwest–north/northeast semi-circular arcs of between three to six stake-holes, open to the south, immediately to the west of the trough.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Unworked flint nodule recovered 2m south of burnt mound

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (blackthorn/cherry) from fill of trough (C66)  
C14 (UBA-11765) 2434±22 BP (746–406 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from stake-hole  
C14 (UBA-11764) 2544±37 BP (802–541 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from burnt mound (C4)  
C14 (UBA-11767) 2435±23 BP (748–406 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site consisted of the levelled remains of a burnt mound that sealed a trough and a number of stake-holes. Three radiocarbon samples obtained from secure contexts confirm that the site was in use during the late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. The presence of a trough suggests the use of a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. The stake-holes revealed at one end of the trough were tentatively interpreted as the remains of a possible screen or windbreak feature however the structure may have equally functioned as a timber revetment to maintain the burnt mound encroachment.

**References**

Ó Séaghdha, L. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Ardagawna, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley.

Location:	Townland:	Culiaghmore	Six inch map no: 52
	Parish:	Moone	NGR: 189223, 229223
	Barony:	Moycarn	Altitude: 52m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gary Conboy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a relatively flat field used for pasture, a spring is located to the north which meant the area was prone to flooding.		
Cultural Landscape:	The Bronze Age, from c.1800 BC, is well represented in material near Athlone. Its early phases are reflected in finds of gold lunulae, copper and bronze flat axeheads and bronze rapiers. From the later Bronze Age there are gold ornaments, including bar torcs, pennanular bracelets, dress-fasteners and a dress-ring. Later Bronze Age weapons and tools from Athlone include bronze spearheads, swords and socketed axeheads. There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed the levelled remains of a burnt mound and a number of troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The mound survived as a levelled deposit of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal. It measured 7.7m by 5m with a depth of 0.1m. The mound material sealed two troughs.
Trough 1:	Trough (C11) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.1m by 1.85m with a depth of 0.19m. It contained five fills consisting of various deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Charcoal from one of these fills is dated to the Early Bronze Age period. Burnt deer antler fragments and burnt bone was recovered from this trough.

Trough 2: This trough (C14) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.93m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.28m. It contained four fills consisting of various deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Charcoal from one of these fills is dated to Early Bronze Age.

Trough 3: A third trough (C19) was identified immediately adjacent to the burnt mound deposit. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.43m by 1.02m with a depth of 0.32m. It contained three fills, ash charcoal from one being dated to the Early Bronze Age.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Burnt deer antler fragments were recovered from the trough (C11). Fragment of a rotary quern from topsoil.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash/hazel) from fill of trough (C11)  
C14 (UBA-11960) 3768±25 BP (2286–2060 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from fill of trough (C19)  
C14 (UBA-11961) 3832±23 BP (2455–2200 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough (C14)  
C14 (UBA-11962) 3660±30 BP (2135–1951 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The site consisted of the levelled remains of a burnt mound and a number of possible troughs. It was securely dated to the Early Bronze Age period with the recovery of charcoal samples from the fill of troughs. The presence of a trough suggests the use of a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. The excavator suggests that the presence of burnt deer antler fragments may indicate a function relating to antler processing. However, with only a small sample recovered, this must remain only a possibility.

### **References:**

Conboy, G.2009. *Archaeological excavations at Culiaghmore, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Taduff East	Six inch map no: 52
	Parish:	Drum	NGR: 189276, 239492
	Barony:	Athlone	Altitude: 47m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gary Conboy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated was situated at the base of a low hill immediately east of a small stream. The field was under pasture at the time of excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	The Bronze Age, from c.1800 BC, is well represented in material near Athlone. Its early phases are reflected in finds of gold lunulae, copper and bronze flat axeheads and bronze rapiers. From the later Bronze Age there are gold ornaments, including bar torcs, pennanular bracelets, dress-fasteners and a dress-ring. Later Bronze Age weapons and tools from Athlone include bronze spearheads, swords and socketed axeheads. There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N6 Ballinasloe to Athlone Road Scheme. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two areas of burnt mound activity. Site (15a) consisted of a levelled burnt mound and a number of troughs while Site (15b) was composed of a similar site, however the troughs were identified north of the spread deposit.

### Site 15a

Burnt Mound: The mound (C3) survived as a levelled deposit of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal. It measured 9.2m by 6.85m with a depth of 0.4m. It extended beyond the area of excavation. Both troughs were overlain with burnt mound material.

Trough 1: Trough (C63) was circular in shape and measured 1.45m in diameter with a depth of 0.22m. It contained three fills consisting of varying deposits of heat-shattered stone.

Trough 2: This trough (C55) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.2m by 1m with a depth of 0.25m. Seventeen stake-holes cut the base of the trough, the majority of which were concentrated in the corners of the pit suggesting the presence of a possible timber-lining that no longer survives. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich deposits.

Hearths: Two hearths (C113 and C24) were identified at the site. The first was located c. 5m to the west of trough 2. It was circular in shape and measured 0.77m with a depth of 0.02m. Another hearth was circular in shape and measured 0.7m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.04m.

### **Site 15b**

Burnt Mound: This mound (C17) was composed of two levelled deposits of heat-shattered stone and was relatively poorly preserved. It measured 5.4m by 4.3m with a thickness of 0.16m.

Trough 1: This trough (C104) was kidney-shaped and measured 1.57m by 1m with a depth of 0.4m. It contained three fills consisting of varying deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A sample of charcoal from one of the fills is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Two stake-holes were excavated to the north of this trough.

Trough 2: Trough (C32) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2m by 1.67m with a depth of 0.46m. It contained five fills consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Two stake-holes were recorded in the base of the feature. A sample of charcoal from the trough is dated to the Early Iron Age.

Pit: A small pit (C11) was revealed immediately adjacent to the trough C32. It was circular in shape and measured 0.78m by 0.57m and contained one fill consisting of brown silty clay.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: burnt bone was recovered from the fill of the trough (C32)

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from fill of trough (C104)  
C14 (UBA-11963) 3727 $\pm$ 31 BP (2263–2030 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from fill of trough (C32)  
C14 (UBA-11964) 2387 $\pm$ 25 BP (702–395 BC)

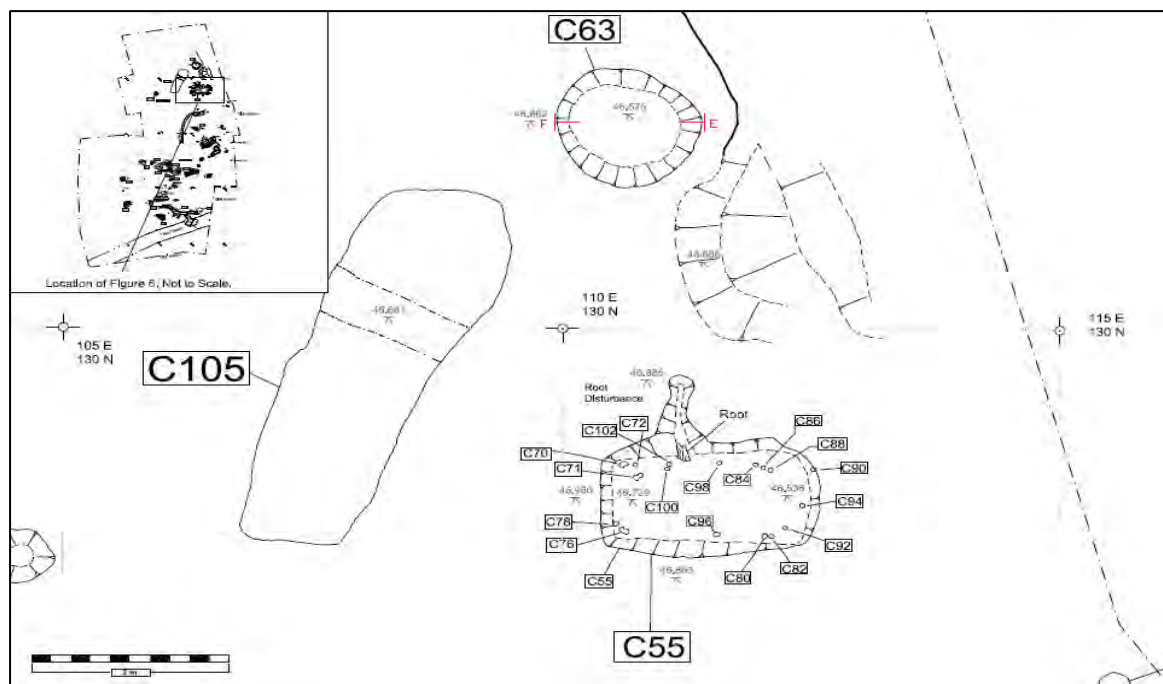
### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Two areas of burnt mound activity were exposed in this area, each one contained evidence for troughs and deposits of heat-shattered stone, suggesting the sites functioned as pyrolithic water-boiling areas. The

trough at Site A, produced a number of stake-holes at the base, suggesting it may have originally been timber-lined. This site was not scientifically dated however, based on morphologically similar troughs, one could suggest later prehistoric date for the site. The trough from the second area was located at some distance from the burnt mound and dated to the Early Iron Age indicating. A similar trough from this area produced an Early Bronze Age date suggesting prolong pyrolithic activity in this location for over 1000 years.

## References:

Conboy, G. Archaeological excavations at Taduff East. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Banada	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 164416, 295132
	Barony:		Altitude: 70 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	James Kyle	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The site is located c. 1.5km east of Ballaghaderreen town on the south bank of the River Lung. The surrounding topography comprises of relatively level boggy fields		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulachta fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008-035001–002). These are situated c. 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Banada 1 was located c. 1.1km north-west of another burnt mound site at Keelbanada which was also dated to the early Bronze Age (2018–1774 BC).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound that sealed a plank and wattle-lined trough. Another possible trough or water cistern was also revealed at the site.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was composed of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal. Some possible truncation was noted during excavation. Only half of the mound was excavation as the site extended beyond the limits of the corridor.
Trough 1:	The trough (C4) was circular in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.7m. A layer of stones was noted at the base of the trough to allow and even surface for construction. The base was lined with two split alder planks. Toolmarks indicated that a large Early Bronze Age metal axe was

used. Seven stakes were identified in the base of the trough and appeared to hold the base planks in place. These stakes may also have been used to hold the wattle (C17) and moss (C12) lining in place. Ash, alder, hazel and oak were used to construct the trough. The trough was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone along with some timber pieces.

**Trough 2:**

This trough (C5) was located immediately south-east of trough 1. It was sub-oval in shape and measured 3.3m by 1.78m with a depth of 0.48m. The feature had a tapered channel to the north which may indicate that the pit was used to collect and possibly store water much the same as a cistern for the main trough. Some worked ash and alder timbers were recovered from the fill of the trough, suggesting the feature may have been timber-lined. There was a concentration of heat shattered burnt material at the base of the feature and nine pieces of timber were dumped onto the northwest of the feature before it was abandoned. The main fill of the trough was peat and indicate that the pit was left open long enough for this to form after abandonment. A timber sample from the trough is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:

None

Absolute dating:

Wood (ash) from fill of trough (C5)  
C14 (UB-16952) 3549±32 BP (2009–1771 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of two possible troughs, one of which was timber-lined. Only half of the mound material was excavated, which was composed of sandstone, the most common material used in pyrolithic water-boiling in Ireland. The base of the trough was plank-lined with the remains of hazel wattling along the side walls. Troughs of this type in Ireland have typically been dated to the Early part of the Bronze Age and this is no exception. Tool marks on several of the planks also suggest considerable expertise in woodworking. The adjacent pit may have served as another trough, however given its size it may have alternatively functioned as a cistern for holding fresh water.

**References**

Kyle, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Banada 1, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Bockagh	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 160548, 297385
	Barony:		Altitude: 150 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	Tom Janes	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The site is located <i>c.</i> 2km north-east of the village of Bohalas and <i>c.</i> 2.5km north-west of Ballaghaderreen. The surrounding topography comprises undulating bogland drained by small water courses, with Bockagh Hill rising to north.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulachta fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008-035001–002). These are situated <i>c.</i> 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Banada 1 was located <i>c.</i> 1.1km north-west of another burnt mound site at Keelbanada 1 which was also dated to the early Bronze Age (2018–1774 BC).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a substantial burnt mound and the remains of a timber and stone-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C8) was kidney-shaped and measured 9m by 7m with a thickness of 0.55m. It consisted of charcoal-rich material, black silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone. An upper layer of similar material was 0.36m thick however it contained less silt and was mixed with and sealed by the peaty topsoil.

**Trough:** The trough (C6) was rectangular in shape with vertical sides and measured 1.1m by 2.32m with a depth of 0.3. A layer of flat, slab like stones was identified across the base of the trough and one, which measured was placed vertically to form part of a stone lining at the southwest of trough. Six stakes (alder, oak, hazel and willow) were driven into the eastern end of the trough to secure the lining, while three pieces of the original alder lining were identified on the north and south sides of the trough. Moss was lined on the base and sides of the cut. One of the stakes from the trough is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age while a sample of willow from the fill is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Wood (alder) stake from the internal side of trough (C6)  
C14 (UB-16953) 2965±32 BP (1258–1130 BC)  
Wood (willow) from the fill of the trough (C6)  
C14 (UB-16915) 3129±32 BP (1489–1317 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed an extant burnt mound that sealed the remains of a trough lined with stone and timber dating to the Middle to Late Bronze Age. The mound exhibited the classic kidney or horseshoe-shape in plan and was composed of heat-shattered sandstone, the most common material used in the pyrolithic water-boiling in Ireland. The majority of burnt mounds excavated in Co. Roscommon are composed of heat-affected sandstone, as it is the most efficient in the absorption and discharge of heat. The use of both stone and timber to line the trough pit is a rare phenomenon in burnt mound studies with most troughs favouring one type of material. However, both stone and timber were used to line troughs at two Late Bronze Age *fulachtaí fia* sites at Currinah Co. Roscommon (RM 09 and RM 11). Moss lining the trough also suggests that the pit was designed to hold water in a pyrolithic water-boiling process.

### **References:**

Janes, T. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Bockagh 1, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10. 117 Burnt mound and stone-lined trough at Bockagh 1, Co. Roscommon.

Location:	Townland:	Bockagh	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 160044, 297621
	Barony:		Altitude: 150 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	James Kyle	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The site is located <i>c.</i> 2km north-east of the village of Bohalas and <i>c.</i> 2.5km north-west of Ballaghaderreen. The surrounding topography comprises undulating bogland drained by small water courses, with Bockagh Hill rising to north.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulachta fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008-035001–002). These are situated <i>c.</i> 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Banada 1 was located <i>c.</i> 1.1km north-west of another burnt mound site at Keelbanada 1 which was also dated to the early Bronze Age (2018–1774 BC). The site was located in an area where other <i>fulacht fia</i> were also identified during the road scheme forming a cluster.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a substantial burnt mound that sealed the remains of a timber-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3, C4 and C6) was composed of three deposits of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. It measured 7.8m with a thickness of 0.93m.
Trough:	The trough (C11) was sealed by the burnt mound material and was rectangular in shape. It measured 1.65m by 0.62m with a depth of 0.3m. The base of the trough cut was lined with moss. This may have been used to level



and secure the timbers but it also may have been used to filter the ground water to make it cleaner. The larger timbers C5 which formed the trough lining, were the best preserved. These consisted of six basal timbers and five upright staves at the east of the trough. The majority of the wood which survived from the trough lining was identified as alder. The jam curves identified on several timbers indicates the use of narrow bladed axeheads. Eighteen preserved stakes were identified running around the inside base of the cut and would have originally acted as pegs to hold the timber structure in place. A deposit of sand was recorded on and throughout the moss lining and probably represents decayed and heat shattered sandstone that had been used within the trough to heat the water.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Wood (hazel) stake from the internal side of trough (C11)  
C14 (UB-16954) 3495±32 BP (1900–1740 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed an extant burnt mound that sealed the remains of a Timber-lined trough dating to the latter half of the Early Bronze Age. The mound exhibited the classic kidney or horseshoe-shape in plan and was composed of heat-shattered sandstone, the most common material used in the pyrolithic water-boiling in Ireland. The majority of burnt mounds excavated in Co. Roscommon are composed of heat-affected sandstone, as it is the most efficient in the absorption and discharge of heat. The trough pit was lined with moss on which several split planks were placed. The jam curves identified on several timbers indicates the use of narrow bladed axeheads. Moss lining the trough also suggests that the pit was designed to hold water in a pyrolithic water-boiling process. A number of preserved stakes survived at the sides of the trough suggesting it may have been wattle-lined, a phenomenon common in the Early Bronze Age.

**References:**

Kyle, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Bockagh 2, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.118 Burnt mound and plank and wattle trough at Bockagh 2, Co. Roscommon.

Location:	Townland:	Bockagh	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 160142, 297679
	Barony:		Altitude: 150 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	James Kyle	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The site is located <i>c.</i> 2km north-east of the village of Bohalas and <i>c.</i> 2.5km north-west of Ballaghaderreen. The surrounding topography comprises undulating bogland drained by small water courses, with Bockagh Hill rising to north.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulacht fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008-035001–002). These are situated <i>c.</i> 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Banada 1 was located <i>c.</i> 1.1km north-west of another burnt mound site at Keelbanada 1 which was also dated to the early Bronze Age (2018–1774 BC). The site was located in an area where other <i>fulacht fia</i> were also identified during the road scheme forming a cluster.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed three areas of burnt mound activity with each producing a deposit of heat-shattered stone and a trough.
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**Site 19a**

Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) appeared to have been quite disturbed in the past possibly through land reclamation and improvement and the higher deposits of the burnt mound showed evidence for both mixing of the subsoil and topsoil through this later disturbance. The largest deposit measured 5.1m by
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3.6m with a thickness of 0.41m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone.

**Trough:**

The trough (C9) was oval in shape with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 2.03m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.57m. It appeared that the trough may have been recut at some stage in its use. This cut was square in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.15m with a depth of 0.28m. The trough was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.

**Site 19b**

**Burnt Mound:**

This burnt mound (C4) was identified to the north-east of the previous site. It measured 6.2m by 4.2m with a thickness of 0.35m and was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. The mound was levelled and cut by a land drain.

**Trough:**

The trough (C11) was oval in shape with steep uniform sides and a flat base. It measured 1.8m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.33m and was filled with deposits of burnt mound material. One stone slab was identified at the east end which may indicate that it was originally stone-lined. A sample of hazel from the trough is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.

**Site 19c**

**Burnt Mound:**

The edge of a third burnt mound was located to the northwest of the area and extended outside of the CPO. The majority of the mound was outside of the area available. No troughs or sub-mound features were identified in the area that was excavated. Two deposits were noted. C5 measured 4.2m by 3.7m with a thickness of 0.67m while C15 measured 5.7m by 3m with a thickness of 0.34m.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

**Dating:**

Wood (hazel) from the burnt mound (C4)  
C14 (UB-16914) 2909±25 BP (1208–1012 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed three areas of burnt mound activity. The burnt mounds in this area were heavily disturbed through land reclamation and improvements. No timber-lined trough structures survived however there is a possibility that one of the troughs may have been stone-lined originally, however, agricultural disturbance may have displace the rest of the setting. A single radiocarbon date was obtained from the Site B, indicating activity during the Late Bronze Age, possibly associated with pyrolithic water-boiling.

**References:**

Kyle, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Bockagh 3 Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Bockagh	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 160218, 297533
	Barony:		Altitude: 150 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	James Kyle	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The site is located <i>c.</i> 2km north-east of the village of Bohalas and <i>c.</i> 2.5km north-west of Ballaghaderreen. The surrounding topography comprises undulating bogland drained by small water courses, with Bockagh Hill rising to north.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulachta fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008-035001–002). These are situated <i>c.</i> 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. This cluster of mounds was excavated close to three other mounds identified at Bockagh 3 and a timber lined trough at Bockagh 2. All these sites were within sight of each other and were spread across a relatively short area at the base of a hill and on the edge of wetland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Three burnt mounds were excavated here within a small area		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed three areas of burnt mound activity with each producing a deposit of heat-shattered stone and a trough.

### Site 20a

Burnt Mound: This mound was kidney-shaped and was composed of five (C9, C8, C7, C3 and C12) deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material. These deposits sealed the timber-lined trough and the adjacent pit. The material measured *c.* 6m by 4m with a thickness of 0.58m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone.

**Trough:** The trough (C16) was located centrally within the kidney-shaped mound. It was oval in shape and measured 2.74m by 1.74m with a depth of 0.64m. The cut was roughly oval with steep sides and a flat base. The side of the cut was lined with split timber planks (C25). The base of the trough was packed with angular stones (C27) which appeared to form a surface as they did not appear to have been heat damaged. This basal stone layer was packed and sealed with a layer of deliberately placed moss. The moss lining was held in place with a layer of timbers which consisted of substantial side and floor timbers (C17) and fragments of wattle, most having tool marks on either end. The timbers were held in place at each corner by two large stakes. The trough was filled with dark brown silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

**Pit:** This pit (C23) was located 1.5m to the south-west of the trough. It was oval in shape with a tapered base and the excavator suggests it may have been used as a cistern to access additional water.

### **Site 20b**

**Burnt Mound:** This mound (C5 and C6) consisted of a disturbed sequence of deposits of silty clay and heat-shattered stone. Although the mound appeared to be a continuation of the Trough 1 mound it appears in the sequence that these deposits sealing Trough 2 and Pit 2 were later. The deposits measured 7m by 4m with a thickness of 0.32m.

**Trough:** This trough (C24) was located on slightly higher ground than the previous example. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.91m by 1.59m with a depth of 0.53m. As they were on higher and drier ground they were more disturbed and truncated and no evidence for any timber lining was identified. The trough was filled with deposit of burnt mound material.

### **Site 20c**

**Burnt Mound:** This mound (C4) was horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 7.7m by 4.9m with a thickness of 0.49m. It was composed of a homogenous mix of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone.

**Trough:** The trough (C19) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.03m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.25m. The timber lining consisted of mostly roundwood which were held in place by two stakes at the southeast, southwest and northwest corners. Moss (C22) was packed between the timbers of the trough and may have acted as a filter for the groundwater seeping into the trough. The split timbers consisted of willow alder and oak while the brushwood was composed of hazel, alder and willow. The presence of inverted and raised signatures on some of the wood indicates that a number of axeheads had been used. In addition, the identification of a number of jam curves which of varying sizes would also seem to suggest the use of small and mid-sized metal axes or palstaves with slightly curved blades. The trough was filled with naturally occurring peat and heat-shattered stone. Wood (hazel) from the trough lining is dated to the Late Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (*Pomoideae*) from the burnt mound (C9)  
C14 (UB-16913) 3858±25 BP (2461–2209 BC)  
Wood (Hazel) from the trough (C16)  
C14 (UB-16955) 2821±21 BP (1041–911 BC)  
Wood (Hazel) from the trough (C19)  
C14 (UB-16956) 2854±24 BP (1115–932 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed three areas of burnt mound activity. The mounds exhibited the classic kidney or horseshoe-shape in plan and were composed of heat-shattered sandstone, the most common material used in the pyrolithic water-boiling in Ireland. The majority of burnt mounds excavated in Co. Roscommon are composed of heat-affected sandstone, as it is the most efficient in the absorption and discharge of heat. Both troughs identified on site were contemporary but lined using different methods and materials. The trough at Site A was constructed using roundwoods while the material in at Site C was composed of splint timbers held in place with corner stakes, a method of construction common to Late Bronze Age troughs. Both troughs contained a moss lining suggesting fresh water was required for Pyrolithic water-boiling.

**References:**

Kyle, J. 2011 *Archaeological excavations at Bockagh 4 Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.119 Roundwood troughs at Bockagh 4, Co. Roscommon.

Location:	Townland:	Keelbanada	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 165185, 294370
	Barony:		Altitude: 75 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	Dave Bayley	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The site was located <i>c.</i> 3km east of Ballaghaderreen town and <i>c.</i> 1.3km south-east of the River Lung. The surrounding topography comprises of relatively level boggy fields.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulacht fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008-035001–002). These are situated <i>c.</i> 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. This cluster of mounds was excavated close to three other mounds identified at Bockagh 3 and a timber lined trough at Bockagh 2. Keelbanada 1 was located <i>c.</i> 200m north-west of another burnt mound site at Keelbanada 2 (RM 22) which was dated to the Early Bronze Age.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the levelled remains of a burnt mound. No other features such as troughs or pits were identified.
Burnt Mound:	The deposit (C3) represented the remains of a truncated and disturbed burnt mound which was dispersed across an area measuring 6.25m by 4.5m with a thickness of 0.08m. It was horseshoe-shaped in plan and was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. Charcoal from the site was identified as hazel, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age. No other cut features were revealed.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread deposit (C3)  
C14 (UB-16917) 3560±33 BP (2018–1774 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site can be interpreted as the remains of a heavily disturbed and truncated burnt mound site composed of a dispersed spread of heat-shattered sandstone. Similar ‘burnt spread’ sites are known various infrastructural developments in recent years and are particularly common on pipeline schemes where the full extent of the site cannot be revealed. They are also common in areas of intensive agricultural activity where deep ploughing and drainage channels have truncated archaeological features thus removing potential troughs.

**References:**

Bayley, D. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Keelbanada 1, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Keelbanada	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 165383, 294268
	Barony:		Altitude: 75 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	Dave Bayley	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The site was located <i>c.</i> 3.2km east of Ballaghaderreen town and <i>c.</i> 1.5km south-east of the River Lung. The surrounding topography comprises of relatively level boggy fields.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulacht fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008-035001–002). These are situated <i>c.</i> 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. This cluster of mounds was excavated close to three other mounds identified at Bockagh 3 and a timber lined trough at Bockagh 2. Keelbanada 2 was located <i>c.</i> 200m south-east of another burnt mound site at Keelbanada 1 (RM 21) which was dated to the Early Bronze Age.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the levelled remains of a burnt mound, two unlined troughs and a number of possible pits/postholes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) survived as a flattened horseshoe-shaped deposit measuring 7.5m by 6.5m with a thickness of 0.1m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone.
Trough 1:	The trough (C9) was located centrally within the burnt mound. It was sub-oval in plan with steep sides and a concave base. It measured 1.65m by 1.04m with a depth 0.55m. The basal layer was a silty sand and was probably formed from material that had crumbled from the heated stones immersed in the trough. The upper deposits were composed of black silty

clay and deposits of heat-shattered stone. No evidence of lining was noted in the trough. Charcoal from the trough is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Trough 2:**

Trough (C18) was situated immediately south-west of trough 1. It was sub-oval in shape with gradually sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.2m by 1m with a depth of 0.35m. The basal layer was a silty sand and was probably formed from material that had crumbled from the heated stones immersed in the trough. The upper deposits were composed of black silty clay and deposits of heat-shattered stone. No evidence of lining was noted in the trough.

**Pit 1:**

C14 was circular in shape with steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.35m by 0.35m with a depth of 0.14m. It was filled with burnt mound material and may in fact represent a post-hole.

**Pit 2:**

C16 was irregular in shape with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 1m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.35m and was filled with burnt mound material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:

None

Ecofacts:

None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:

None

Absolute dating:

Wood (alder) from the fill of trough (C9)  
C14 (UB-16916) 3693±28 BP (2195–1979 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed an area of burnt mound activity possibly used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The burnt mound was heavily disturbed through land reclamation and improvements. No timber-lined trough structures survived however basal deposits in the unlined features suggested it was probably formed from material that had crumbled from the heated stones immersed in the trough.

**References:**

Bayley, D. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Keelbanada, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Toolbracken	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Kilcolman	NGR: 163802, 295873
	Barony:		Altitude: 80 m OD
	County:	Roscommon	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass	
	Site Director:	James Kyle	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2010	
Physical Setting:	The sites are located <i>c.</i> 1.5km north-east of Ballaghaderreen town on a gentle south-east facing slope. The surrounding topography is relatively level pasture with the River Lung situated <i>c.</i> 650m to the south-east.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded burnt mounds or burnt spreads in the immediate vicinity of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. Of note are three <i>fulacht fia</i> recorded by the Record of Monuments and Places in Currinah (RO008-034, RO008C035001–002). These are situated <i>c.</i> 5km to the north-west of Bockagh townland on the northern end of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. This cluster of mounds was excavated close to three other mounds identified at Bockagh 3 and a timber lined trough at Bockagh 2.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Neolithic pits, two Early Bronze Age hearths and early medieval ditches.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The sites were uncovered during topsoil stripping in advance of the N5 Ballaghaderreen Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a number of prehistoric features in the immediate vicinity of an early medieval ringfort. The remains of a burnt mound were also identified along with two possible troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C61) was heavily truncated and survived as a thin spread of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 7.3m by 5.2m with a thickness of 0.08m.
Trough 1:	Trough (C64) was sub-rectangular in shape with steep sides and a slightly concave base. It measured 0.63m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.32m. It was filled with burnt mound material and the excavator notes some level of truncation.

Trough 2: C63 was rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.7m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.25m and represented the base of a truncated trough. It was filled with burnt mound material, a sample of charcoal from which is dated to the Late Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (hazel) from the fill of trough (C63)  
C14 (UB-16919) 2826±32 BP (1111–902 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed an area of burnt mound activity possibly used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The burnt mound was heavily disturbed through land reclamation and improvements. The troughs identified were heavily truncated and no evidence for timber-linings survived. That said, the presence of such features suggests they functioned as troughs for water-boiling.

**References:**

Kyle, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Toolbraken 2, Co. Roscommon*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballaghboy	Six inch map no: 40
	Parish:	Aghanagh	NGR: 178275, 308100
	Barony:	Tirehill	Altitude: NA
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Curlew Bypass	
	Site Director:	John Channing	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1995	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in wet pasture close to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> however similar site was identified and excavated 20m to the east (SL040-238002). Another <i>fulacht fia</i> was revealed along the same project c. 500m south in the townland of Ballinafad.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt mound 20m to the east (SL040-238002).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Curlew Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material and a timber-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material covered an area measuring 12m by 16m. The deposit consisted of heat-affected stones in a reddish/brown silty clay matrix with a high peat content and occasional charcoal. The spread was partially disturbed by machinery prior to excavation.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.8m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.3m. The pit was timber-lined (No further details available). A deposit of clay was noted between the pit cut and the wooden trough. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone. No finds were recovered and the site is not scientifically dated.

### References

Channing, J. 1996. Archaeological excavations at Ballaghboy, Co. Sligo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1995*. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Ballaghboy	Six inch map no: 40
	Parish:	Aghanagh	NGR: 178275, 308100
	Barony:	Tirehill	Altitude: NA
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Curlew Bypass	
	Site Director:	John Channing	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1995	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in wet pasture on the western bank of a stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> however similar site was identified and excavated 20m to the west (SL040-238001). Another <i>fulacht fia</i> was revealed along the same project c. 500m south in the townland of Ballinafad.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt mound 20m to the west (SL040-238001).		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Curlew Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material, an unlined pit and two post-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material covered an area measuring 10m by 6m. The deposit consisted of heat-affected stones in a reddish/brown silty clay matrix with a high peat content and occasional charcoal.
Trough:	The trough was roughly oval in plan and measured 1.4m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.28m. It was cut into the underlying subsoil and did not retain water naturally. The pit contained a fill consisting of burnt mound material. Two circular post-holes were uncovered 1.2m east of the pit.

### **References**

Channing, J. 1996. Archaeological excavations at Ballaghboy, Co. Sligo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1995*. Bray. Wordwell.

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Location:	Townland:	Ballinafad	Six inch map no: 40
	Parish:	Aghanagh	NGR: 177940, 308616
	Barony:	Tirehill	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Curlew Bypass	
	Site Director:	John Channing	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1995	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in wet pasture close to Lough Arrow.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is little recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the <i>fulacht fia</i> however similar sites was identified and excavated C. 500m to the north in the townland of Ballaghboy (SL040-238001 and SL040-238002).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Curlew Bypass. No surface trace of the site existed prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two peat covered stone spreads, two unlined troughs.
Burnt Spread 1:	The spread of burnt mound material covered an area measuring 11.5m by 10m. The deposit consisted of heat-affected stones in a silty clay matrix with a high peat content and occasional charcoal.
Burnt Spread 2:	The second spread lay 5m to the east but may be interpreted as dispersed material from the main spread due to the level of disturbance noted by Channing. The spread measured 5.5m by 2m and consisted of similar material to the main deposit.
Trough 1:	This trough was circular in shape with straight cut sides and measured 1.95m by 1.95m with a depth of 0.5m. It contained a fill of heat-shattered stone.
Trough 2:	This trough was located 1.1m from the first trough. It was oval in shape and measured 1.92m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.25m. It contained a fill of heat-shattered stones.

### Finds:

Artefacts:               None

Ecofacts:               None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:       None

Absolute dating:       None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed two spreads of heat-shattered stone and two pits that may have functioned as water-boiling troughs using a pyrolithic technology. None displayed evidence of being lined internally but this does not preclude the possibility. Equally, the pits may have functioned as ovens using a dry heat however this cannot be confirmed. The site may have suffered considerably from agricultural damage like many similar sites across the country, truncating the pits. The substantial spread of waste-firing material however may indicate a water-boiling function as this technology requires considerable resources.

**References**

Channing, J. 1996. Archaeological excavations at Ballinafad, Co. Sligo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1995*. Bray. Wordwell.



Location:	Townland:	Knoxspark	Six inch map no: 40
	Parish:	Ballysadare	NGR: 177940, 308616
	Barony:	Tirehill	Altitude: NA
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Landfill Development Project	
	Site Director:	Mary Deevy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in wet pasture close to a well.		
Cultural Landscape:	Possible prehistoric activity in the area is highlighted by the presence of a promontory fort and associated hut sites located c. 450m to the north (SL020-166001). Two possible cairns are also recorded in the vicinity.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of a proposed landfill site. Prior to excavation the site survived as grass-covered kidney shaped mound.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, the partial remains of a plank-lined trough and a ring of stake-holes that enclosed a space of 15m (diameter).
Burnt Mound:	The mound of burnt material was kidney-shaped and measured 15.5m by 10m with a maximum height of 0.7m. It consisted of several distinct lenses of heat-shattered local granite and charcoal. The excavator suggests that a number of charcoal lenses could be the remains of informal hearths set on the mound.
Trough:	The trough was located under the southern portion of the mound and consisted of seven horizontal planks laid side by side. They were set into a rectangular cut which measured 1.52m by 1.12m with a depth of 0.12m. Four substantial wooden stakes were revealed in each of the corners. The excavator notes two other stake-holes uncovered cut into a shelf at the northern end of the cut. The trough was filled with burnt mound material and the planks formed the upper fill of the cut possibly suggesting that lining was a later phase of activity on the site.

Stake Enclosure: A discontinuous ring of thirty oak stakes with a diameter of 15m, seemed to enclose the mound. The excavator states that some displaced and fragmentary horizontals may indicate that this was originally a post and wattle structure. The stake enclosure was interpreted as a retaining element for the mound material. However the southern portion enclosed an open space, possibly defining an enclosed space for pyrolithic related activities.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a substantial burnt mound of waste-firing material and a plank-lined trough suggesting that the site was used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The lining method used in the trough construction indicates that the site may date to the Middle to Late Bronze Age as similar troughs of this period also have corner stakes used to support side planks. As the site was not scientifically dated however, this cannot be confirmed. The ring of stake-holes uncovered at the site seemingly surrounding the trough may be evidence of a timber revetment composed of wattle fence and used to maintain the burnt stone and prevent it from approaching the working area of the site.

**References**

Deevy, M. 2002. Archaeological excavations at Knoxpark, Co. Sligo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2000*. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Ballinacar	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Drumcliff	NGR: 168400, 338200
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: NA
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	R291 Sligo to Rosses Point Realignment Road	
	Site Director:	Richard Crumlish	
	Consultants:	Galway Archaeological Services Unit	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	No information available		
Cultural Landscape:	No information available		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the R291 Sligo to Rosses Point Realignment Road. No surface trace of the site existed prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed several burnt spreads of heat-shattered stone, six pits and a number of ditch features.

#### **Area A**

- Burnt Spread 1: This spread was located centrally within the excavated area and covered 50% of the exposed area. It had a maximum thickness of 0.26m. No other details available.
- Burnt Spread 2: The second spread was located to the south-west and measured 0.6m by 0.4m with a thickness of 0.15m. No other details available.
- Burnt Spread 3: The third spread was located to the south-western side of the exposed area also. It measured 0.55m by 0.4m with a thickness of 0.1m.
- Ditch: A ditch was also revealed in this area and measured 6.5m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.52m. It contained a fill consisting of dark silty loam with occasional small stones.
- Pit 1: This pit was oval in shape and measured 1.05m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.5. It was filled with topsoil.
- Pit 2: This pit was revealed below the first burnt spread and was roughly oval in shape. It measured 1.3m by 1.12m with a depth of 0.22m.

Pit 3:	This pit was also revealed below the first burnt spread. It was circular in shape and measured 1m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.25m.
Pit 4:	This pit was rectangular in shape and revealed under burnt spread 1. It measured 1.27m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.31m.
Pit 5:	The fifth pit was roughly circular in shape and measured 1.31m by 1.25m with a depth of 0.37m.
Trough 1:	The sixth pit was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.15m by 0.88m with a depth of 0.22m. It was filled with dark silty loam. The pit was lined at the base by a lattice of wood and wattle work.

## **Area B**

Burnt Spread 4:	This spread measured 2.15m by 1.35m with a maximum thickness of 0.22m. It was revealed at the north-eastern side of the realignment scheme and consisted of the upper fill of a trough.
Trough 2:	The trough was revealed below the spread and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 2.15m by 1.3m with a maximum depth of 0.45m. The basal fill of the feature consisted of black, loose silty loam with frequent amounts of heat-shattered stone.

## **Area C**

Burnt Spread 5:	This spread was located north-east of Area A on the western side of the ditch was also revealed in Area A. The spread had a maximum thickness of 0.16m. No other information available.
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## **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

## **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	None

## **References**

Crumlish, R. 2002. Archaeological excavations at Ballinacar, Co. Sligo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2000*. Bray. Wordwell.

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Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168654, 334754
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 28m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road	
	Site Director:	Brian Halpin	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	

**Physical Setting:** The general topography of the immediate environment can be described as a wide shallow valley opening to the west with two low hills rising to the north and south. A small stream formed the northern boundary of the site. The field in which site was located was very marshy, and the lower levels of the excavation were often below the water table.

**Cultural Landscape:** The well-known megalithic cemetery of Carrowmore is sited approximately 2.5km to the northeast of Caltragh. A prehistoric habitation site was uncovered north of the site (00E0815). A barrow was revealed north of this habitation site (01E0544). Another area in the vicinity, identified as Field G revealed a number of Neolithic stone walls and burnt mounds (00E0819).

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Caltragh Sewerage Scheme. The site survived as a low grass covered mound prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a substantial burnt mound.

**Burnt Mound:** The roughly oval mound of burnt material measured 22m by 18.5m with a thickness of 0.66m. The mound consisted of forty distinct layers of various burnt deposits of shattered granite stone, charcoal and dark silty sand. One of these deposits (Blackthorn) returned a Middle Bronze Age date.

**Stone Setting:** Halpin notes the presence of three large and three medium sized unburnt stones that seemed to have been deliberately place on top of the mound which were later covered by the final stages of burnt material (Halpin, 2005).

## Finds:

Artefacts: Six lithics were recovered during excavation. One flint flake was a stray find while the remaining five were recovered from the underlying peat. They consisted of two chert scrapers, a flint blade and two flint flakes.

Ecofacts: Three pieces of animal bone were recovered from modern contexts on the site whilst two more were retrieved from the underlying peat. These consisted of two bovine long bones.

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Blackthorn) from the mound material  
C14 (UCD- 0241)  $3335 \pm 50$  BP (1741–1516 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial burnt mound composed of forty distinct layers of burnt stone and charcoal suggesting prolonged intermittent use during the Bronze Age. This activity probably centred around the use of pyrolithic water-boiling for cooking however no trough was encountered during the excavation. Limited investigation of the area may explain this absence and it is likely that such a feature lies immediately outside the excavated trenches. The retrieval of numerous lithics and animal bone may indicate a domestic activity probably associated with the processing and cooking of animals.

## References

Halpin, B 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry and Associates.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin.

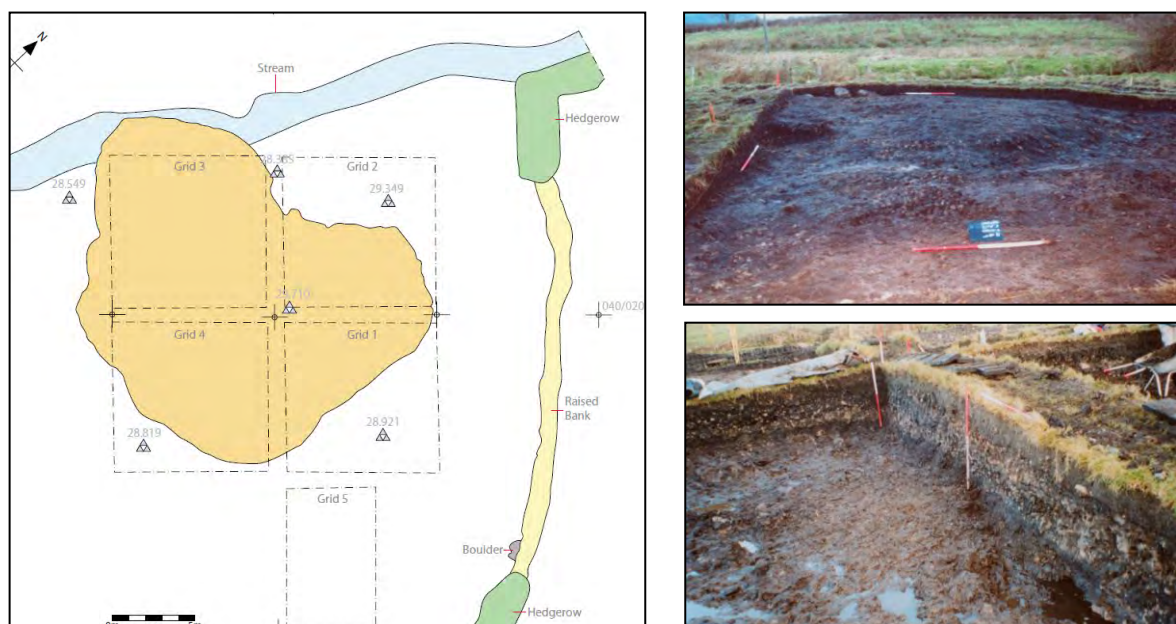


Fig. 10.141 Extant burnt mound at Caltragh, Co. Sligo. 2011

Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168220, 334440
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 32m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road	
	Site Director:	Sébastien Joubert	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	Ground conditions can be best described as wet and marshy with poor drainage. In places there is a dense reed and rush growth. The area is low-lying with a stream extending through the valley. Both of the hills overlooking the valley are well drained, reasonably fertile and given over to pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	The well-known megalithic cemetery of Carrowmore is sited approximately 2.5km to the northeast of Caltragh. During the excavation of Field G, the area where Site No. 6 is located, a further four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were recorded.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Neolithic dry-stone wall.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road. The site survived as a low grass covered mound prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a substantial burnt mound which overlay an earlier Neolithic dry-stone wall.
Burnt Mound:	The mound of burnt material measured 15.4m by 11.8m with a maximum thickness of 1.2m. It was oval in plan and made up of several layers of heat-shattered stone, charcoal, ash and dark silts. The initial build up of mound material occurred 6m from earlier walls. The second phase resulted in the material being dumped closer to the walls and consisted of six layers of burnt material. Another six layers were deposited during the third phase which engulfed the walls. Although the mound spread to the north and east of the wall at this point, it appears that its southern and eastern sides were maintained as they were during Phase Two. The latest deposition on the mound consisted of a charcoal rich silty material. Joubert suggests that at this stage the height of the mound may have hindered the users (Joubert

2002, 23). The burnt stone was identified as granite, granite gneiss and quartzite which does not represent the local geology.

**Stone Setting:** A setting of stones was revealed at the interface between phase two and three on top of the mound. The stones were disturbed and extended for approximately 5m. A crushed canine burial was recovered from amongst the stones. It does not appear likely that this feature was associated with the pyrolithic process, as the earliest deposit of Phase Three (C.10) sealed it (Joubert 2003, 25).

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Ten lithics were recovered from the mound material consisting mainly of chert flakes and debitage.

**Ecofacts:** Forty-eight pieces of animal bone were recovered from the burnt mound.

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal from the mound material  
C14 (UCD-0239) 3260±45 BP (1737–1459 BC)  
Charcoal from the mound material  
C14 (UCD-0240) 3315±50 BP (1680–1430 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a substantial burnt mound composed of several distinct layers of burnt stone and charcoal suggesting prolonged intermittent use during the Bronze Age. While an earlier Neolithic wall probably acted as a convenient revetment for the mound at the beginning of its formation, excavation revealed the mound to overlie the wall during later phases. This activity probably centred around the use of pyrolithic water-boiling for cooking however no trough was encountered during the excavation. The absence of a trough may suggest an above ground vessel was used for water-boiling. Alternatively it may have been destroyed by agricultural process or may lie outside the area of excavation. Although this seems unlikely as an extensive area was opened. The presence of butchered faunal remains and lithics may indicate the site was used for processing and cooking of animals.

### **References**

- Joubert, S. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry and Associates.
- Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin.



Location:	Townland:	Magheraboy	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168320, 335000
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: NA
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Caltragh Sewerage Scheme	
	Site Director:	Mary Henry	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the base of a shallow low-lying valley in close proximity to a stream. The area was also very marshy.		
Cultural Landscape:	A number of similar site-types were revealed in the vicinity during groundworks in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road. The neighbouring townland of Caltragh also produced a number of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and prehistoric habitation sites.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Caltragh Sewerage Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations. The site was not fully exposed during excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a portion of a burnt mound. No cut features were identified however they may lie outside the area of investigation. The spread of burnt mound material measured 12.5m by 3.9m with a maximum thickness of 0.24m. It consisted of burnt and heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and dark sandy soil. The excavator notes that the presence of sandstone is interesting as the nearest source for this material is several miles away. No finds were recovered and the site was no scientifically dated.

### References

Henry M. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Maheraboy, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry and Associates.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168820, 334440
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 29m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Sébastien Joubert	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site (Field G) lies approximately 2.5km to the northeast of the megalithic cemetery of Carrowmore with good views of Knocknarea to the west. General topography of the area comprises a wide shallow valley opening to the west with two low hills rising to the north and south. A stream runs through the valley.		
Cultural Landscape:	During archaeological monitoring of the Caltragh Sewerage Scheme, a number of sites were found and excavated including three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and a prehistoric habitation site immediately north of Field G. Investigative works on the N4 SIRR revealed extensive archaeological remains. Fieldwalking, surveys, testing, probing and geophysical investigations confirmed the presence of new sites including further <i>fulacht fia</i> , a possible pond barrow and significant prehistoric activity in Field G and confirmed that the prehistoric habitation site found on the Caltragh Sewerage Scheme extended beyond the confines of the pipe corridor.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Megalithic tomb, Neolithic stone walls, cremation burials and several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone which overlay an earlier stone wall. The only feature possibly associated with the mound was a hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The low mound of burnt material overlay peat and an earlier stone wall. The spread measured 5.6m by 6.6m with a thickness of 0.28m. The spread was composed of heat-shattered stone, ash, charcoal and dark silty soils. Worked chert and flint along with pieces of animal bone were found to be sparsely

deposited within the mound. Some of the animal bone was burnt and showed signs of butchery.

**Hearth:** A hearth was uncovered associated with the burnt mound which was constructed within the stone wall. Joubert states that the stones appeared to be repositioned to form an oval measuring 1.32m by 1.25m. The stones forming the perimeter of this feature showed some signs of heat fracturing and discoloration (Joubert 2004, 63).

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Worked chert and flint were recovered from the mound material

**Ecofacts:** Fragments of animal bone were recovered from the mound material some of which showed evidence of butchery. Some pieces were also burnt.

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (Alder) from the mound material  
C14 (UCD- 0237) 3620±66 BP (2195–1861 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of heat-shattered stone that overlay an earlier wall. A hearth associated with the waste-firing material was incorporated into the wall and used in the pyrolithic process. No definitive trough was uncovered during the excavation therefore it is possible the hearth functioned as some form of roasting oven. The presence of butchered and burnt animal bone would support the suggestion that the site was used for small scale cooking episodes during the Early Bronze Age.

**References**

Joubert, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry and Associates.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin

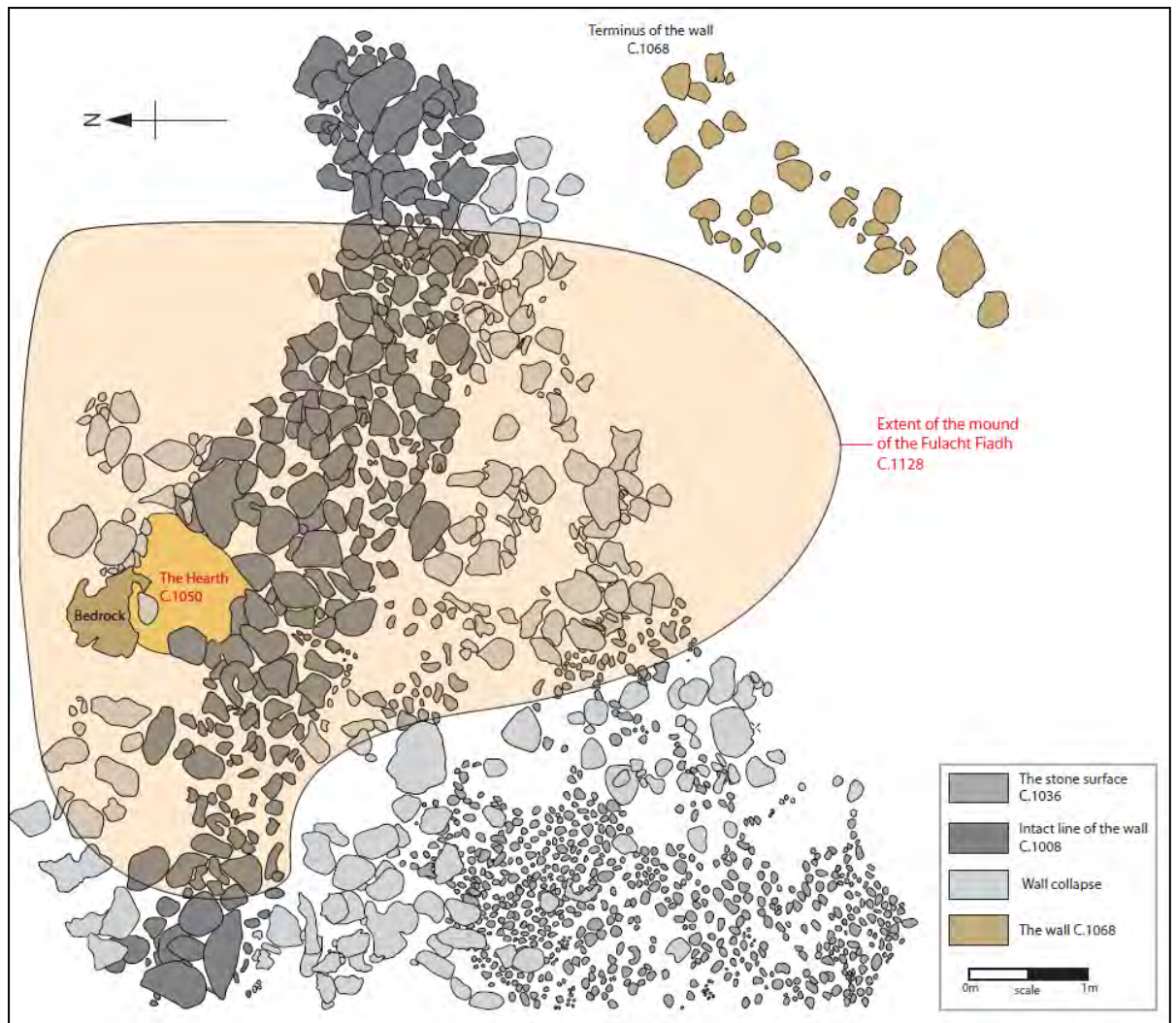


Fig. 10.142 Burnt spread and possible roasting hearth built into earlier wall at Caltragh.



Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168820, 334440
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 29m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Sébastien Joubert	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site (Field G) lies approximately 2.5km to the northeast of the megalithic cemetery of Carrowmore with good views of Knocknarea to the west. General topography of the area comprises a wide shallow valley opening to the west with two low hills rising to the north and south. A stream runs through the valley.		
Cultural Landscape:	During archaeological monitoring of the Caltragh Sewerage Scheme, a number of sites were found and excavated including three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and a prehistoric habitation site immediately north of Field G. Investigative works on the N4 SIRR revealed extensive archaeological remains. Fieldwalking, surveys, testing, probing and geophysical investigations confirmed the presence of new sites including further <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , a possible pond barrow and significant prehistoric activity in Field G and confirmed that the prehistoric habitation site found on the Caltragh Sewerage Scheme extended beyond the confines of the pipe corridor.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Megalithic tomb, Neolithic stone walls, cremation burials and several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone which overlay an earlier stone wall which acted as a retaining feature for the mound. No cut features were identified.
Burnt Mound:	The mound of burnt material lay on an earlier stone wall which in turn lay on a natural rise. The mound measured 5.5m by 3.5m with a thickness of 0.22m. It consisted of mottled black/orange mixture of heat-affected stone, charcoal, ash and sandy clay. The main body of the mound was located west

of the burnt mound where the wall seemed to act as a retaining element (Joubert 2004, 65).

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) from the mound material  
C14 (UCD- 0249) 3650±50 BP (2194–1834 BC)

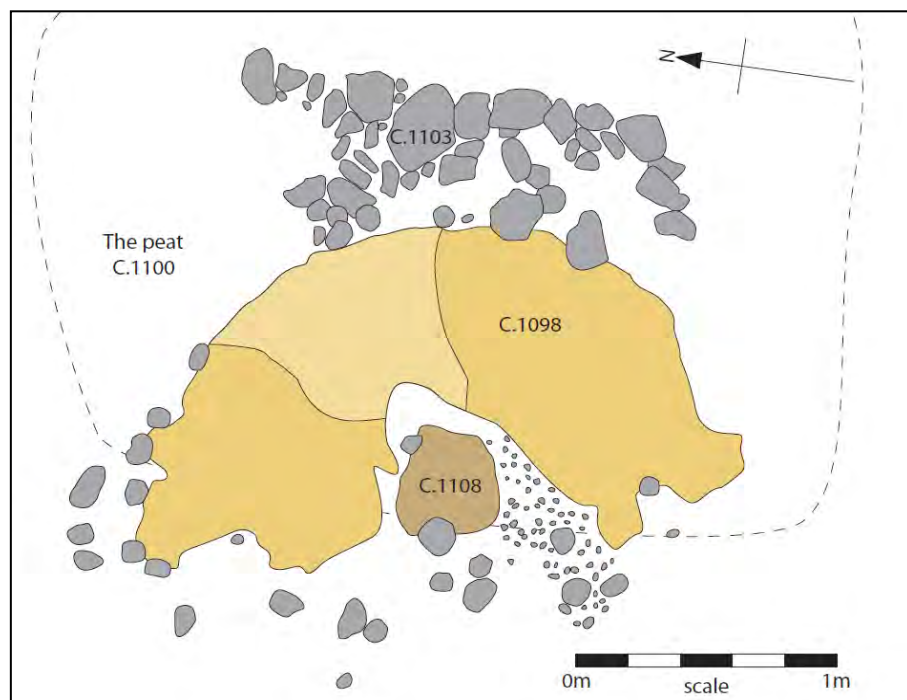
### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of heat-shattered stone that lay adjacent to a small wall that was earlier in date. The excavator suggests that the wall probably served to retain the shallow mound of waste-firing material associated with pyrolihtic technology. No trough was revealed during excavation or any associated pits therefore it is difficult to assess whether this activity was related to water-boiling or roasting. It is possible these features may have been destroyed by later activity on the site or may lie outside the investigated area.

### **References**

Joubert, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry and Associates.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin



Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168820, 334440
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 29m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Sébastien Joubert	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site (Field G) lies approximately 2.5km to the northeast of the megalithic cemetery of Carrowmore with good views of Knocknarea to the west. General topography of the area comprises a wide shallow valley opening to the west with two low hills rising to the north and south. A stream runs through the valley.		
Cultural Landscape:	During archaeological monitoring of the Caltragh Sewerage Scheme, a number of sites were found and excavated including three <i>fulachtaí fía</i> and a prehistoric habitation site immediately north of Field G. Investigative works on the N4 SIRR revealed extensive archaeological remains.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Megalithic tomb, Neolithic stone walls, cremation burials and several <i>fulachtaí fía</i> .		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a heavily truncated spread of burnt mound material. It measured 2.85m by 1.25m with a thickness of 0.13m. The deposit consisted of heat-shattered stone, ash and charcoal. Joubert states that the spread was heavily disturbed in later periods, particularly by a boreen. It is possible however that the spread continues to the north into Field H where other similar site-types have been uncovered (Joubert 2004, 66).

#### **References**

Joubert, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry and Associates.



Location:	Townland:	Keelty	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Drumcliff	NGR: Unknown
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 200m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Castletown Group Water Scheme	
	Site Director:	Christopher Read	
	Consultants:	North West Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the south-west facing slope of Kings Mountain.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the burnt mound however the Early Medieval Period is well represented by the presence of ringforts and early church sites in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Castletown Group Water Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations. The site was only partly excavated and the mound extended beyond the limits of the excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Partial excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound of heat-shattered sandstone and a possible trough.
Burnt Mound:	The excavated portion of the mound measured 7m by 6.2m. It extended to the north-west and south-east. A layer of re-deposited natural was revealed sealing the eastern side of the mound, probably a result of dumping related to an adjacent field drain. The mound consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a charcoal enriched matrix.
Trough:	A possible trough was revealed on the eastern side of the mound which extended beyond the limits of the excavation. It was irregular in shape and measured 1.5m by 0.92m with a maximum depth of 0.4m. The fill consisted of burnt mound material. No finds were recovered from the site and it was not scientifically dated.

### **References**

Reed, C. 2004. Archaeological excavations at Keelty, Co. Sligo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2002, 464*, Bray. Wordwell.



Location:	Townland:	Cummeen	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	Killaspugbrone	NGR: 166250, 336250
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Mary Henry	
	Consultants:	Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a Greenfield site near a large enclosure which was 130m in diameter.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the burnt mound however the site was situated adjacent to a large enclosure of unknown date.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of heat-shattered stone and a number of cut features which may have functioned as troughs for heating water or pits for roasting/baking. The burnt spread was almost circular in plan and measured 2.6m by 2.4m with a maximum thickness of 0.06m. It consisted of black sandy silt with heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal. Pit 1 was revealed 0.2m west of the burnt spread. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.65m by 0.8m. The fill was similar to the spread however it contained larger pieces of heat-affected sandstone and greater concentrations of charcoal. A further pit was revealed closer to the spread. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 0.35m by 0.22m with a depth of 0.03. The fill consisted of dark silty sand with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. No finds were recovered from the site and it was not scientifically dated. The site probably served as a small cooking area for roasting activities employing pyrolithic technology.

### **References**

Henry, M. 2004. Archaeological excavations at Cummeen, Co. Sligo. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2002*, 462. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168000, 334330
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 30m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Stephen Linnane	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site (Area 1E Ext) was located on the northern up-slope of the Caltragh Valley, just above the suspected water line for a marsh believed to have once contained a lake. Wood species identification from samples found within the settlement site confirm that a wet environment was prevalent during occupation		
Cultural Landscape:	The excavation of Field G lying directly south of Area 1E Ext revealed a Neolithic drystone wall, the remains of a megalithic tomb, four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and a post-medieval path and borín (Licence No 01E0395 Ext). To the west, four more <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated: three during the current phase of works (Licence No 03E0543) and one excavated previously (Licence No 00E0859). Less than 500m to the north of Area 1E Ext, the remains of two clusters of burial pits were excavated by the author (Licence No 03E0546).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Three roundhouses and cremation burial.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed three Bronze Age roundhouses and a cremation burial. To the south of this settlement the remains of a truncated pyrolithic site was exposed which was roughly contemporary with the hut remains.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived under a series of silt and ash deposits interpreted as material relating to flooding events associated with the nearby relict lakeshore. The site was badly disturbed and truncated by a relatively modern boreen which also affected a similar site-type in Filed G. Two in situ deposits of burnt material survived. The first measured 3.8m by 8.5m with a thickness of 0.16m. It consisted of loose friable dark silt with frequent

inclusions of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The other deposit measured 3.04m by 6.10m with a maximum thickness of 0.24m. It consisted of much the same material as the previous deposit.

- Trough 1: This possible trough (C399) was oval in shape and measured 2.2m by 1.9m with a depth of 1.3m. The sides of the feature were vertical and the base was flat. The pit was truncated by the borín to the south. Four fills were noted in the trough consisting of varying degrees of dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone with charcoal.
- Trough 2: This was another trough (C515) identified on site which was partially truncated. It was circular in shape and measured 1.4m in diameter with a depth of 0.8m. It had sloping sides and a flat base. Four fills were noted in the pit consisting of varying degrees of dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone with charcoal.
- Pit 1: This pit (C362) was sub-oval in shape and measured 0.85m by 0.67m with a depth of 0.16m. The fill consisted of dark silty clay.
- Pit 2: This pit (C536) was oval in shape and measured 0.89m by 1.23m with a depth of 0.13m. It had vertical sides and a flat base. The fill consisted of black sandy silt with heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 3: This pit (C500) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.18m by 0.66m with a depth of 0.3m. The feature was truncated, therefore it was heavily disturbed.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:** Charcoal (Unknown) from the fill of the trough (C399)  
C14 (Beta- 194435) 3360±110 BP (1910–1410 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The burnt mound was heavily damaged by a small nineteenth century road which disturbed much of the remains. However, two deposits of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling were revealed. A number of associated pits were also found and could have been related to roasting. Although the radiocarbon date has a very high standard deviation, it is assumed that the site is broadly contemporary with the nearby habitation structures indicating a possible relationship between the two sites.

#### **References**

- Linnane, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Mary Henry and Associates.
- Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168000, 334330
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 33m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Stephen Linnane	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	

**Physical Setting:** The site (Area 1D) was located on the northern up-slope of the Caltragh Valley, just above the suspected water line for a marsh believed to have once contained a lake. The boggy marshy soils that are present within confined areas of the townlands impacted by the development, such as parts of Caltragh, Tonafores and Magheraboy, have a very limited use potential and the widespread presence of *fulachtaí fia* within the townland of Caltragh would suggest that this might have also been the case in prehistory.

**Cultural Landscape:** The site was located within a complex of features dating from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Neolithic stone wall and a series of Bronze Age cremation burials

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a burnt stone spread and an associated trough which sealed a Neolithic stone wall and a series of Bronze Age cremation burials.

**Burnt Mound:** The spread of burnt mound material measured 10m by 25m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It was irregular in shape and composed of near black sandy silt with high concentrations of heat-shattered stone. The spread overlay the earlier wall feature which may have acted as a revetment feature.

**Trough:** The trough (C144) was bowl-shaped with a diameter of 1.2m and a depth of 0.38m. The fill consisted of black sandy silt with heat-shattered stone. Cut into the base of the bowl-trough and in the immediate vicinity were a series of three postholes and five small stake-holes.

Channel: Extending from the north of the trough was a meandering channel which measured 3.9m with a depth of 0.18. The fill consisted of similar material to that of the trough.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Minature stone axe and a series of stone beads from the cremation burials excavated close to the site.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) from the fill of the trough  
C14 (Beta- 197658) 3260±60 BP (1630–1400 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed an extensive spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal, presumably the waste-firing debris associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. The full extent of this deposit was not revealed during the excavation but the majority of lay within the confines of the road corridor. The deposit overlay a pit feature interpreted as the remains of a trough to hold water for boiling. This interpretation was based on the identification of several stake-holes cut into the base of the feature, implying it may have been timber or wattle-lined. A channel was also associated with the pit and was possibly used as an overflow drain directing excess water away from the trough. While the depth of the pit may suggest it functioned as a pit for roasting, the presence of a water-channel and internal stake-holes implies that it likely held water for boiling.

### **References**

Linnane, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin



Plate 10.120 Burnt mound with associated pit and water-drain at Caltragh, Co. Sligo.

Location:	Townland:	Caltragh	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168780, 334550
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Stephen Linnane	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The <i>fulacht</i> at Site 1F(A) was situated in a classic location at the base of a sloping hillside and next to an area of marsh. The boggy marshy soils that are present within confined areas of the townlands impacted by the development, such as parts of Caltragh, Tonafoertes and Magheraboy, have a very limited use potential and the widespread presence of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> within the townland of Caltragh would suggest that this might have also been the case in prehistory.		
Cultural Landscape:	The field directly south of Area 1E Ext revealed a Neolithic drystone wall, the remains of a megalithic tomb, four <i>fulachta fia</i> and a post-medieval path and borín (Licence No 01E0395 Ext). To the west, four more <i>fulachta fia</i> were excavated: three during the current phase of works (Licence No 03E0543) and one excavated previously (Licence No 00E0859). Less than 500m to the north of Area 1E Ext, the remains of two clusters of burial pits were excavated by the author (Licence No 03E0546).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Several burnt stone spreads		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed several burnt stone spreads and a number of trough features.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C203) spread over an area measuring 13m by 11m with a maximum depth of 0.20m. It consisted of black silty clay with charcoal and large amounts of heat-shattered sandstone with some limestone and granite also.
Trough:	The trough (C222) was rectangular in shape with rounded corners and a flat base. It measured 2.3m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.33m. A single post-hole

was recorded in each of the four corners which may have been supports for a timber-lining which no longer survives (Linnane 2004, 35). The fill of the trough consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Stake-Holes:	Situated to the east of the northeastern corner of the trough was a dense cluster of stake-holes. There were 36 stake-holes and they varied considerably in form and size but on average were circular. It is unlikely that the stake-holes were all contemporary and creating a coherent pattern from their distribution is near impossible. All of the stake-holes are contained within a rectangular area measuring c.1.10m by c.0.80m. Another scatter of 24 stake-holes were revealed south and west of the trough while another group were uncovered at the south-eastern corner.
Possible Channel:	A possible water channel was revealed under the burnt mound material close to the trough. The ditch like depression ran for 4m before petering out before the trough. The excavator suggests that this way have provided water for the trough (Linnane 2004, 35).
Pit 1:	This pit was located to the south of the stake-hole cluster. It measured 0.5m in diameter with a depth of 0.2m
Pit 2:	This pit was oval in shape and measured 0.4m by 0.32m with a depth of 0.18m.
Pit 3:	This pit was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.3m with a depth of 0.15. All of the pits contained fills consisting of charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone.
Post-Hole:	A post-hole was uncovered to the north of the trough.
Ditch:	An irregular cut ditch was exposed to the north of the trough and ran for a distance of 6m. At the base of the ditch were five irregular depressions, which may have housed posts but this was not at all definite. The bowl-shaped depressions were on average c.0.60m in diameter and had an average depth of c.0.30m. The fill consisted of dark grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking and inclusions of heat-fractured sandstone.

## **Site B**

Burnt Spread 2:	This spread (C304) was situated 25m to the south of Site A. It was roughly oval in shape and measured 16.5m by 11.5m with a thickness of 0.25m. It consisted of black silty clay with charcoal and high concentrations of heat-shattered sandstone. Some limestone and granite was also present. Linnane suggests that this spread may have been re-deposited material from Site A (Linnane, 2004, 38).
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## **Site C**

Burnt Spread 3:	This spread (C404) was located 20m south of Site B. It was roughly oval in shape and measured 16.5m by 11.5m with a thickness of 0.25m. It consisted of black silty clay with charcoal and high concentrations of heat-shattered sandstone. Some limestone and granite was also present. Linnane suggests that this spread may have been re-deposited material from Site A (Linnane, 2004, 38).
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### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) from fill of the trough Site A  
C14 (Beta- 197659) 2750±60 BP (1000–800 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a large deposit of burnt stone that overlay many cut features, some of which may have functioned as water-boiling troughs while others may have been used for the production of dry heat. The main trough was well defined but suffered considerable damage from later ploughing. Four internal corner stakes however suggests that it was plank lined with corner stakes, a method common in the Late Bronze Age (see Chapter 5). Numerous stake-holes may have also had some related function to the activities carried out in the trough however it is difficult to determine how they may have functioned. They may have been related to a hearth or some revetment feature. The other spread deposits found adjacent to the site are interpreted as re-deposited material from the main mound.

### **References**

Linnane, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Caltragh, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin



Plate 10.121 Burnt spread deposit and rectangular trough with stake-holes at Caltragh, Co. Sligo.



Location:	Townland:	Magheraboy	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168750, 335650
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: NA
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Sue McCabe	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located to the southwest of Sligo adjacent to Summerhill College, in low-lying pasture fields bordering housing estates and several institutional buildings on the periphery of the town. These fields were waterlogged and boggy, though enjoying a clear view of Ben Bulben to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	The fields, which until recently were under pasture, rise sharply to the south up a steep hill on which extensive archaeological remains were excavated during the current phase of works. These included a palisade enclosure, a ringfort, an Iron Age hut site, and several earlier prehistoric features and artefacts including an extensive lithic assemblage. A total of 14 <i>fulachtaí fia</i> have been excavated as part of the resolution of archaeology along the route of the N4 SIRR. The <i>fulachtaí fia</i> at Area 2D were on the periphery of boggy ground, with the remains of a relict river course adjacent to one.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Another <i>fulacht fia</i> excavated 60m to the north of this site.		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material and multiple pits with and stake-holes which may have been used as troughs.			
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material (C6) measured 14m by 13.5m with a thickness of 0.2m. It consisted of compact black charcoal enriched soil with frequent inclusions of heat-shattered limestone.		
Trough 1:	This pit (C39) was oval in shape and measured 1.95m by 1.57m with a depth of 0.35m. It had steeply sloping sides with a flat base. Several stake-holes were cut into the base and sides of the trough. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered limestone, degraded sandstone and burnt chert. A chert blade was found in the fill of this feature.		

- Channel: This channel (C252) was associated with the trough C39. It extended from the north-eastern edge of the pit.
- Pit 1: This pit (C65) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.1m. The pit had gently sloping sides and a flat base. A single stake-hole was cut into the base of the pit. Two fills were recorded with the basal deposit consisting of a thin clay layer while the upper deposit consisted of a black charcoal enriched silt. A single animal tooth was recovered from this fill.
- Pit 2: This pit (C74) was irregular in shape and measured 1.48m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.34m. The fill consisted of mottled silty clay and heat-affected sandstone.
- Pit 3: This pit (C77) was irregular in shape and measured 1.12m by 0.42m with a depth of 0.13m. The pit was lined with a compact smooth clay. The fill consisted of black charcoal enriched silty clay with heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 2: This pit (C17) which may have functioned as a trough, was sub-oval with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 2.25m by 1.15 with a depth of 0.22m. Seven stake-holes were revealed cut into the base of the trough. The fill consisted of black charcoal enriched silty clay with heat-shattered stone.
- Channel: A linear channel (C110) was exposed extending from the south-eastern side of the trough C17. It measured 0.4m by 0.1m with a depth of 0.05m. A stake-hole was cut into the base of the feature.
- Pit 4: This pit (C13) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.22m. The base of the pit was lined with a smooth clay. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of dark charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone. Unworked chert fragments were noted in the fill.
- Pit 5: This pit (C36) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.96m by 0.99m with a depth of 0.35m. Three fills were noted in the pit consisting of sandy silts and heat-shattered stone. Two pieces of unworked chert were recovered.
- Trough 3: The trough (C37) was circular in shape and measured 1.45m by 1.56m with a depth of 0.54m. Sides were steeply sloped except on the west side, which was gently sloped and had a step. Base was flat. A total of 26 stake-holes were cut into the base and sides of this feature.
- Trough 4: This trough (C43) was circular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.4m. Three stake-holes were cut into the sides and base of the feature. The fills consisted of sandy gravels with heat-shattered stone inclusions.
- Channel: The trough was associated with a channel or gully (C225).
- Pit 6: This pit (C22) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.36m. Two fills were noted consisting of sandy clays with charcoal and occasional heat-shattered stone.

- Pit 7: This pit (C151) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.10m by 0.09m with a depth of 0.25m. The fill consisted of black silty sand with charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 8: This pit (C45) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.18m by 1.01m with a depth of 0.18m. The fill consisted of charcoal enriched clay with heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 9: This pit (C2) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.12m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.25m. The fill consisted of brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal and burnt stone inclusions.
- Pit 10: This pit (C16) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.32m. Three fills were noted in the pit consisting of silty sands, charcoal and heat-affected stone.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: Several scrapers and a chert blade were recovered from the fills of pits (C72, C41, C13, C36, C16, C1 and C39)
- Ecofacts: Animal teeth recovered from pit (C16) and pit (C65)

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) burnt spread C6  
C14 (Beta- 194430) 3940±70 BP (2580–2200 BC)  
Charcoal (oak) from pit/trough (C39)  
C14 (Beta- 194429) 4040±50 BP (2630–2450 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a large deposit of burnt stone that overlay many cut features, some of which may have functioned as water-boiling troughs while others may have been used for the production of dry heat. The more definitive of troughs were well defined circular examples with a number of stake-holes around the base, indicating the former presence of an organic lining, possible composed of wattlework. Troughs of this type are particularly common during the Early bronze Age in Ireland and the radiocarbon evidence from the site would seemingly conform this. The recovery of a number of animal teeth would also imply that much of the animal bone remains may have suffered from the acidic soils leaving only the denser bone intact. Some of the troughs also had a evidence of water channels or drainage features suggesting that the troughs may have originally filled naturally with water. It is difficult to establish if many of the pit features are contemporary and it is likely that they reflect many periods of re-use at the site.

### **References**

- McCabe, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Magheraboy, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services.
- Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Maheraboy	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168750, 335650
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 22m OD
	County:	Sligo	

Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road
	Site Director:	Sue McCabe
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd
	Year:	2003

**Physical Setting:** The site was located to the southwest of Sligo adjacent to Summerhill College, in low-lying pasture fields bordering housing estates and several institutional buildings on the periphery of the town. These fields were waterlogged and boggy, though enjoying a clear view of Ben Bulbin to the north. A relict stream was identified during excavation.

**Cultural Landscape:** The fields, which until recently were under pasture, rise sharply to the south up a steep hill on which extensive archaeological remains were excavated during the current phase of works. These included a palisade enclosure, a ringfort, an Iron Age hut site, and several earlier prehistoric features and artefacts including an extensive lithic assemblage.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Another *fulacht fia* excavated 60m to the south of this site.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material and multiple pits with and stake-holes which may have been used as troughs. Two phases of activity were identified at this site.

**Burnt Mound:** The spread of burnt mound material (C11) measured 17m by 10m with a thickness of 0.3m. It was irregular in shape and consisted of compact black charcoal enriched soil with frequent inclusions of heat-shattered sandstone. A single animal bone was recovered from the deposit. The spread sealed several pits and stake-holes.

### **Phase 1**

**Hearth/Oven:** This pit (C115) was located to the extreme south of the site outside the extent of the burnt mound material. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.32m. The feature showed evidence

of *in situ* burning. It contained four fills consisting of charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from this feature.

Natural Depressions: A series of natural depressions were associated with this phase of activity. They were filled with burnt mound material.

## **Phase 2**

Hearth: This pit (C118) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.4m by 2m with a depth of 1.4m. The base of the feature was lined with large limestone slabs. The slabs overlay a pit (C401) dug into the base of the feature (C118). The hearth pit was filled with a deposit of scorched re-deposited natural and heat-affected stone. The pit cut a curvilinear feature (C399).

Curvilinear Channel: This channel/pit (C399) was cut by pit C118. It measured 2.8m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.12m. The fill consisted of silty sand and small stone inclusions.

Trough 1: This pit (290) was roughly circular in shape and measured 2.02m in diameter with a depth of 1.1m. It had vertical sides and a flat base. This pit was cut by a later trough C301. The fill consisted of dark silty sands and heat-shattered stone.

Stake-Holes: A cluster of nine stake-holes were revealed on the eastern edge of trough C290.

Trough 2: This trough (C330) was irregular in shape and measured 2.4m by 1.6m with near vertical sides. A small step of natural subsoil separated this trough with that of trough C290. The fill was quite similar to trough C290 also. Three stake-holes cut the base of the feature.

Trough 3: The pit (C331) was sub-circular in shape with steeply sloping sides and an uneven base. It measured 1.72m by 1.22m with a depth of 0.72m. A lip of natural subsoil separated this and the previous pit C330. Three stake-holes cut the edges of the pit. The fill of the trough consisted of charcoal enriched soil and heat-effected stone, similar material to that of the previous troughs.

Trough 4: This trough (C301) was sub-rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.72m by 1.17m with a depth of 0.38m. A single post-hole was recorded in each of the four corners of the trough. The trough cut pit C290 suggesting this is a later addition to the site. The trough fill consisted of large heat-shattered stone pieces and charcoal enriched soil. A Late Bronze Age date was returned from this pit.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: Chert lithics were recovered from the possible trough, (C301), the upper layers of the silt fill of the relict stream course (C254 in C93) and pit C284 (fill C285).

Ecofacts: Animal bone (teeth) were recovered from three contexts (C287, C278 and C90).

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) from fill of hearth feature (C118)  
C14 (Beta- 194428) 3650±40 BP (2120–1890 BC)  
Charcoal (Unknown) from trough (C301)  
C14 (Beta- 194427) 2910±60 BP (1270–910 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation revealed a large deposit of burnt stone that overlay many cut features, some of which may have functioned as water-boiling troughs while others may have been used for the production of dry heat. The more definitive of troughs were well defined, rectangular examples, a number of which abutted each other and represent a number of different phases of water-boiling activity. The radiocarbon evidence suggest that at least two phases are present, separated by almost 900 years. The later date from the site is confirmed by the presence of a trough with four internal stake-holes, a lining method common in that period see Chapter 5).

### References

McCabe, S. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Magheraboy, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin



Plate 10.122 Burnt spread and different phased trough cuts at Magheraboy, Co. Sligo.

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Location:	Townland:	Tonafortes	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168781, 332918
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 25m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Ed Danaher and Lynda Cagney	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	

**Physical Setting:** The *fulachtaí fia* were situated c.10m from each other to the east and west of a marshy patch of land, the recent product of land reclamation at a height of about 25m (82ft) above OD, over 120m northwest of the henge monument. The area between them had previously been the site of a seasonal pond until about 20 years ago when the current landowner drained and backfilled it.

**Cultural Landscape:** The fields, which until recently were under pasture, rise sharply to the south up a steep hill on which extensive archaeological remains were excavated during the current phase of works. These included a palisade enclosure, a ringfort, an Iron Age hut site, and several earlier prehistoric features and artefacts including an extensive lithic assemblage.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** A portion of a henge monument was also excavated 120m to the south-east.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a substantial henge enclosure, only a portion of which was excavated, and two *fulachtaí fia*. These contained spreads of burnt mound material which sealed several cut features. One of these spreads was severely damaged by agricultural activity.

### **Site A**

**Burnt Spread:** This spread of burnt mound material (C526) was heavily disturbed by field clearance activity in recent times. Danaher states that the full extent of the spread could not be determined but it survived to a depth of 0.4m (Danaher and Cagney 2005, 82). It consisted of compact dark silty soil with charcoal and frequent heat-shattered sandstone and occasional pockets of ash.

**Possible Trough:** A possible trough (C535) was associated with the spread. It was sub-rectangular in shape but was truncated by a field clearance pit, therefore its full dimensions could not be ascertained. It had a maximum depth of 0.4m. It was filled with a loose peaty deposit that contained charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Spread:** This spread of burnt mound material (C559) measured 6.2m by 3m with a maximum thickness of 0.25m. It consisted of loosely compacted dark brown stony deposit composing of 70% heat-altered quartzite, granite and dolerite. The deposit also contained charcoal and was the main spread of burnt mound material on the site.

**Trough:** The trough (C546) was located to the south-east of the burnt spread. It was sub-oval in shape and cut into impermeable marl. The trough measured 2.2m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.38m. It would appear that it was deliberately backfilled after a certain, possibly short, period of usage. The limestone and sandstone boulders may represent the last heated stones placed into the trough while a charcoal-rich lens comprising hazel, blackthorn/cherry/plum and oak underlying these may be the remains of hearth material. No evidence of *in-situ* burning was evident from the trough. A series of stake-holes were uncovered surrounding the trough which Danaher suggests may have supported a canopy/tent over the pit (Danaher and Cagney 2005, 42). An Early Bronze Age date was returned from the pit which was contemporary with the formation of the henge.

**Pit 1:** This pit (C563) was located east of the trough and was sub-oval in shape. It measured 0.65m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.2m. It contained two fills consisting of refuse material associated with the burnt mound.

**Finds:** A flint flake was recovered from the heavily disturbed Site A. A chert flake and an eolith came from Site B in a disturbed area.

**Dating:** Charcoal (hazel, blackthorn/cherry) from fill of trough (C546)  
C14 (Beta- 196297) 3820±40 BP (2400–2140 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation:**

The burnt mound remains were heavily damaged by later disturbance at the site however two deposits of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic processes were revealed. A number of associated pits were found and could have been related to dry roasting, however the example at Site B may well have functioned as a trough. Given the small scale nature of the evidence and the radiocarbon evidence, it is possible the activity is related to the nearby henge monument which returned broadly similar dating evidence. This activity may have been associated with feasting events at particular times of the year however given the nature of the archaeological remains this is difficult to confirm.

## **References**

E. Danaher and S. McCabe 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Tonaphortes, Co. Sligo*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Consultancy Services.

Danaher, E. 2007. *Monumental beginnings: the archaeology of the Sligo Inner Relief Road*. NRA Scheme Monograph 1. Dublin



Location:	Townland:	Tonafortes	Six inch map no: 14
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 168781, 332818
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 24m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road	
	Site Director:	Sue McCabe	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	Site 1G was situated east of undulating pasture fields in an area which shows evidence of having been heavily disturbed during the construction of the N4 SIRR. To the immediate south and north of the site, artificial hills were created from spoil removed during road works. Evidence from excavation of the site itself confirms heavy disturbance by machinery in the recent past.		
Cultural Landscape:	Archaeological remains survive in close proximity to this site. The remains of a henge monument are located to the immediate north.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A henge was excavated immediately to the north. Two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were also excavated 500m to the north.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 Sligo Inner Releif Road. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound. No cut features were identified.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material measured 0.8m by 1m with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of charcoal rich material with frequent heat-shattered stone. It was heavily disturbed.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References:**

McCabe, S. 2005. *The excavation of a spread of burnt mound material at Area 1G, Tonafortes, Sligo*. Final report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Drumaskibbole	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	St. Johns	NGR: 169420, 33086
	Barony:	Carbury	Altitude: 19m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	R284 Drumaskibbole to Ballygawley Realignment	
	Site Director:	Tom Rogers and Ronan Jones	
	Consultants:	Moore Group Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site itself is in the base of a small steep valley between two drumlins with land rising to the north and south sharply and falling to the north west. The small valley in which the excavation took place was formed by the deposition of hillocks or drumlins of unsorted glacial material on all sides apart from the north west where the ground drops gently away. Inevitably water was to drain through the valley to the north-west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric monuments in the vicinity of the site prior to archaeological excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Stone pathways		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of the R284 Drumaskibbole to Ballygawley Realignment. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread of heat-shattered stone which sealed two wooden troughs and a possible third. Stratigraphically later stone pathways were also revealed during the excavations.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound (C6) measured 19m by 11m with a maximum thickness of 0.5m. Much of the mound consisted of several layers of charcoal enriched material with heat-shattered stone with 15-20% ash and varying concentrations of charcoal. The stones were largely metamorphic gneiss and schist which formed a quartz rich sand when degraded.

**Trough 1:** This trough was located at the centre of the burnt mound just to the east. The trough pit (C22) was sub-square and measured 1.25m by 0.97m with a depth of 0.8m. The wood lining of the trough itself consisted of four side planks arranged in a square around three base planks. The western side board was propped from the outside by two other wooden pieces which may have once been a single element. No joints were evident nor were the planks tightly fitting, implying either shrinkage of the wood or the generous use of a clay

lining. There was no evidence of clay at the base but there was a fine sand, between the base planks which probably represents the finest of residues from the shattering of the stones.

**Trough 2:**

The second trough (C27) was located in the south-western quadrant of the burnt mound. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.8m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.3m. The structure consisted of four thick wooden planks were set, on their sides, into slots in the natural to form a rectangle. No lining was noted in the base of the feature. At the WNW end, the end plank was held up by a wooden peg set into the natural. The planks were relatively thick ranging from 0.3m to 0.6m. The trough was filled with charcoal enriched material that contained heat-shattered stone.

**Possible Trough 3:**

A plank and wattle feature (C39) was exposed at the very northern area of the excavated area. The feature consisted of three radially converted planks surviving as four elements. These planks were laid in a semi-circular cut which sloped downwards from south to north. The base and walls of the cut were the natural white marl and the planks followed the contour of the pit tongue and groove style. A series of vertical hazel rods served as an internal marker of some kind within the feature. There was one longitudinal element woven through the top of the vertical rods. The fill consisted of a loose heat shattered limestone, consistent with the washed-out burnt mound material found throughout the site.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed an extensive mound of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling. Several timber-troughs were also revealed on site confirming that the site functioned as a water-boiling area. Three of these trough were lined using different construction methods possibly imply that the site was multi-phased separated by periods of inactivity. There are no radiocarbon dates from the site to confirm if this was the case. No finds or animal bone remains were recovered.

**References:**

Rogers, T and R. Jones. 2003. *The excavation of fulacht fia at Drumaskibbole, Co. Sligo*. Final report prepared by the Moore Group Ltd on behalf of Sligo County Council.



Plate 10.123 Roundwood and plan-lined troughs at Drumaskibbole, Co. Sligo.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyglass	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Kilmacshalgan	NGR: 144401, 330215
	Barony:	Tireragh	Altitude: 110m OD
	County:	Sligo	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Wind Farm Development	
	Site Director:	Dominic Delany and Ronan Jones	
	Consultants:	Dominic Delany and Associates	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in the foothills of the Ox mountains where the landscape changes rapidly from upland, characterised by blanket bog covered mountains, to low-lying flat Atlantic coastal fields. The Dunneil River lies to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	The archaeological record of Tireragh is dominated in the low-lying areas by ringforts and enclosures with occasional promontory forts and megalithic burials. There is a general paucity of recorded monuments in the upland parts of Tireragh but there are a small number of pre-bog features as well as megalithic tombs and <i>fulachtaí fia</i> . There is a <i>fulacht fia</i> (SL018-087) located approximately 980m east of the excavation and another (SL018-088) located approximately 1km east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was uncovered during archaeological monitoring in advance of a wind farm. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a substantial burnt mound which sealed two timber-lined troughs at separate elevations.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound (C3) covered an area measuring 27m by 17m with a maximum height of 0.6m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich matrix. Delaney states that there was no great variation in the character or composition of the burnt mound material and no discrete depositions were recorded. A chert scraper was recovered in the vicinity of the mound.

**Sand Layer:** This layer of sand was revealed north of the upcast material associated with the trough. It measured 2.1m by 1.9m and consisted of light brown loosely compacted sand with coarse granular sand with tiny sandstone elements. Delaney suggests that this may have acted as a platform for activities associated with the trough (2009, 14).

Trough 1: Trough C12 was trapezoidal in plan and measured 2m by 0.8m. The trough consisted of three dozen individual wooden elements ranging from worked large roundwoods to small irregular pieces used as packing. The majority of elements were roundwoods with at least one worked end. Some of these roundwoods had been partially converted or split with tearing or trimming while others had very little work apart from branch trimming. Pegs/stakes were used as stabilising elements in the construction/fitting of the wooden structure. Moss was noted between the timbers. Delany states that the trough was separated into two compartments (2009, 14). The trough contained a fill consisting of burnt mound material.

Trough 2: This trough cut (C22) was roughly oval in shape and measured 2.1m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.71m. It was lined with roundwoods resting one on top of the other. However this trough also employed substantial planks. Stakes and pegs were also used to secure the larger elements. There was a large single element with over 30 toolmarks which was used as a backboard in the trough. Another feature of the trough was a frontispiece which was a slightly worked tree trunk. The overall level of wood workmanship was markedly higher in this trough. Further material was used as packing between the timber elements. The trough was filled with burnt mound material.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Chert scraper found near to the burnt mound (C3)

Ecofacts: The wood used in the construction of the troughs is from native tree species such as alder and possibly oak. The pegs appear to be hazel.

#### **Dating:**

Absolute dating: None

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed as a substantial burnt mound and two timber-lined troughs. Trough A was on a higher level and when first encountered appeared to slightly overlap trough B, suggesting B was older. However the upper trough also appears to be truncated by the lower trough which would make A older. This sequence is complicated further by the fact that some of the roundwood walling on the upper trough overlies the walling on the lower trough causing the initially encountered overlap. There is a question then as to the stratigraphic relationship between the two. The intuitive response to such closely aligned features is that they were in use together. This could most easily be explained by *post-facto* displacement of the upper wood. When these elements were removed there was a substantial build up of sedimentary silt but not peat, indicating either that some time had elapsed between trough B being exposed and trough A being built or that displacement of trough A occurred a considerable time after both had fallen idle. The fact that the space between the two was filled by silt rather than peat indicates a relative contemporaneity. Dating of individual elements will answer some of these questions.

#### **References:**

D. Delany. 2009 *The excavation of fulacht fia at Ballyglass, Co. Sligo*. Final report prepared by Dominic Delany and Associates Ltd. on behalf of Sligo County Council.



Plate 10.124 Extant burnt mound and two roundwood troughs at Ballyglass, Co. Sligo.

Location:	Townland:	Derryfadda	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 222777, 166009
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 125m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Cara Murray and John Ó Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	The site is located overlying a glacial ridge on the eastern side of Derryville Bog which belongs to a string of raised bogs east of a line from Thurles through Templemore to Roscrea in County Tipperary. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Trackway (96E202) dating to the Iron Age which overlay the <i>fulacht fia</i> and a platform (96E202) located south of TY01 was also dated to the Iron Age.		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was identified during testing in advance of the Lisheen Mine, a large lead/zinc mine located near Moyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, a timber-lined trough and a hearth.		
Burnt Mound:	The spread of mound material was irregular in plan and measured 14m by 19m and consisted of heat-shattered sandstone and limestone within a charcoal loamy clay matrix. The material was scattered but the excavators state that no further troughs were encountered suggesting the firing debris was deliberately dumped in these areas (Cross May <i>et al</i> 2005, 243).		



Trough:	The trough (C10) was rectangular in plan and cut into the underlying subsoil. It measured 2.4m by 1.75m and was 0.6m deep. An oak lining was noted on the sides and base of the pit while paired uprights were noted in the corners. Occasional roundwoods were also noted at the sides of the trough. All the planks were radially split apart from one tangentially split ash. Some crab apple and hazel roundwood was also uncovered along the sides. The trough volume was calculated at 1,764 litres.
Re-cut:	After a period in which the trough had become backfilled with burnt mound material, the trough was re-cut by another pit which measured 1.84m by 1.24m and was 0.35m deep. A small number of large stones were noted at the base of this feature which may represent another lining.
Hearth:	A possible hearth was located east of the trough and measured 1.2m by 0.8m and consisted of a lense of dense charcoal which was 0.25m in thickness.
<b>Finds:</b>	
Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None
<b>Dating:</b>	
Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	It is unknown what material was dated from the site C14 (Beta-102305) 2980±70 BP (1400–990 BC)

## References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 245. Wordwell, Dublin.

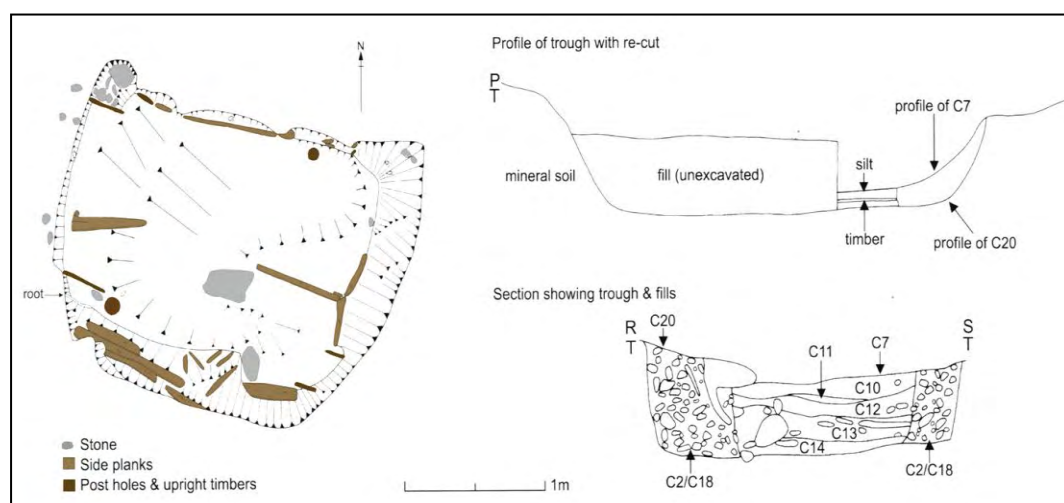


Fig. 10.143 Remains of timber trough at Derryfadda, Co. Tipperary.



Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 222223, 166226
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 124m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1996	
Physical Setting:	The site is located west of the study area, on a gentle undulating slope, 10m south-east of the western terminus of a Middle Bronze Age causeway ( Killoran 18, 96E203). The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area. The trough was cut into a natural spring.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Trackway (Killoran 35, 96E296) dating to the Middle Bronze Age overlay this site.		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was identified during testing in advance of the Lisheen Mine, a large lead/zinc mine located near Moyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a circular mound of heat-shattered stone, a sub-circular trough cut into a natural spring and an informal hearth.		
Burnt Mound:	The low semi-circular mound surrounded the trough on three sides and measured 5-7m in diameter. It consisted of silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. The northern portion of the mound overlay a low glacial ridge that extended across the eastern face of the trough which Stevens suggests may have provided a dry working platform (Cross et al 2005, 277).		

**Trough:** The trough cut natural boulder clays and also cut a spring that provide water for the pit. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m in diameter with a depth of 0.4m. Stevens notes that the trough contained a pinkish-grey silty clay in some areas which may have been an attempt to line the trough, however the presence of a spring would negate the need to seal the trough. There were two fills within the trough, the lower fill contained silty sand, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The upper fill consisted of large heat-shattered sandstone with silty clay and charcoal.

**Hearth:** An informal hearth was located to the south-east of the trough. It consisted of a sub-rectangular deposit of dark blue clay rich in charcoal. It measured 1.8m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.1m.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: It is unknown what material is dated from the site  
C14 (UB-4186) 3651±34 BP (2138–1935 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt mound site with a deposit of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling pit. A possible hearth site was also exposed confirming this suggestion.

**References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 245. Wordwell, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 222205, 166572
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 126m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	John O' Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on the western margins of the bog, on a slope that carried discharge from the Killoran bog system down into Derryville Bog. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Trackway (Killoran 241, 97E158) dating to the Middle Bronze Age overlay this site. Two other trackways were excavated here (Killoran 243, 97E158 and Killoran 314, 97E158) which took advantage of dry areas that the top of the mound presented.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Lisheen Mine, a large lead/zinc mine located near Moyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a circular mound of heat-shattered stone, an elaborate plank-tiled trough, a pit and a possible hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was revealed as a circular deposit of 90% heat-shattered sandstone and 10% limestone. It measured 19.5m by 19m and a maximum thickness of 0.95m. It was contained within a peaty, charcoal-rich material consisting of sand and silt. Charcoal was identified as hazel, crab apple, oak, alder, yew, wild cherry, blackthorn, elm, ash and willow.

**Trough:** The trough (C31) was rectangular in plan and measured 2m by 1.35 and was 0.6m deep. Two phases of construction were noted in the trough with the initial phase consisting of a plank-lining along the sides which appeared to be tenoned and pegged into place. A number of pegs and loose planks associated with this earlier lining had been disturbed. The trough was later relined with planks also and was well preserved consisting of mortised and unmortised timbers along with several lap joints. Some planks had been mortised at both ends and pegs driven down between the planks of the two linings to hold the planks in place. The timber was a mixture of radially and tangentially split oak and ash. A deposit of 98% sandstone was preserved in the base of the trough and appeared to be the remnants of the last heating attempt. The trough was backfilled with a mixture of charred and uncharred wood in a peat rich in charcoal and fragments of heat-shattered stone. Both burnt and unburnt ash and hazel were noted in the deposit along with blackthorn, wild cherry and crab apple.

**Hearth:** No formal hearth was identified on site however a dense deposit of charcoal was recorded east of the trough that may represent an area of burning.

**Pit:** A small pit (C39) was recorded west of the site. It measured 1.1m by 0.85m and was 0.25m deep. Little charcoal was recorded in the fill.

## Finds:

**Artefacts:** Saddle Quern

**Ecofacts:** The wide range of wood found as charcoal, including dry ground species such as elm and wet ground species such as alder and willow appears to derive from various woodland types in the area (Cross May et al 2005, 269). Charcoal was identified as hazel, crab apple, oak, alder, yew, wild cherry, blackthorn, elm, ash and willow. The timber lining was identified as ash and oak.

## Dating:

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Wood (trackway overlying burnt mound)  
Dendro (Q-9542)  
1547±9 BC

## References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 267. Wordwell, Dublin.



Plate 10.125 Plank-lined trough at Killoran.

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 222211, 166765
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 125m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	John O' Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site lay at the northwestern limits of the study area and had been completely buried by the pear. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was identified during testing in advance of the Lisheen Mine, a large lead/zinc mine located near Moyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small mound of heat-shattered stone, a wicker-lined trough and a stone and timber platform.		
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material (C1) covered an area measuring 5.5m by 6.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.5m. It consisted of charcoal-rich loamy clay that contained 90% heat-shattered sandstone and 10% limestone. The charcoal was identified as ash, willow, alder and hazel.		
Trough:	The trough (C2) was located north of the mound and immediately west of the platform. It was rectangular in plan and was cut through the peat and into the underlying subsoil. It measured 1.8m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.6m. The trough was wicker-lined and had subsequently collapsed on three sides due to the weight of the peat. The base of the trough was lined with straight rods		

laid transversely. The north side and the loner eastern and western sides survived as piles of wicker wands inside the line where the trough walls had been. On the southern side, an in and out weave pattern around double sails could be identified. O' Néill observed that all of the rods composed of coppiced hazel, but no pattern emerged from the cutting season compared with the basal rods which were felled in autumn (Cross May et al 2005, 273).

**Platform:** A stone platform was revealed below the north-eastern corner of the mound material which measured 5m by 2.3m. It consisted mainly of sandstone boulders and cobbles. Sometime after, timber was added which O' Néill states was derived from the marginal forest and mostly felled in autumn. Alder and birch woodchips were also found near the platform.

**Hearth:** Where the mound met the platform, a 0.4m wide setting of stones (C9) contained a deposit of charcoal which may represent the hearth used to heat the stone for the activities carried out at the site.

**Stake-Holes:** A number of stake-holes were also revealed below the mound material.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** None

**Ecofacts:** Charcoal from the mound material was identified as ash, willow, alder and hazel. The timber located on the cobbled platform was identified as alder, ash, hazel, birch, crab apple and willow and was derived from marginal forest mostly felled in autumn. The wicker rods used to construct the trough were hazel. No cutting season was identified leaving Ó Néill to suggest they were stockpiled over a period of time. The basal rods in the trough were felled in autumn (Cross May *et al.* 2005, 273).

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** It is unknown what material is dated from the site.  
C14 (Beta-111378) 2940±60 BP (1305–940 BC)

### **References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 272. Wordwell, Dublin.



Plate 10.126 Wattle and brushwood trough at Killoran.

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 222223, 166679
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 125m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	John O' Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site lay at the northwestern limits of the study area and had been completely buried by the peat. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A trackway (Killoran 230, 97E160) was excavated south of the site which produced a Middle Bronze Age date. A number of pits containing burnt stone and charcoal were found below this track which may be related to the <i>fulacht fia</i> discussed here.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Lisheen Mine, a large lead/zinc mine located near Moyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, a trough consisting of a hollowed-out oak trunk and a wooden platform.
Burnt Mound:	The mound material covered an area measuring 8.8m by 8.4m and consisted of charcoal rich clay in a matrix of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone.
Trough:	The hollowed-out trough was housed in a pit which measured 2.8m by 1m and was 0.5m deep. The trunk itself measured 2.7m long by 0.6m and survived to a depth of 0.15m. The trough would have had a capacity of 1,

100 litres. The south-eastern portion of the pit was disturbed by a later drain and the wider end was in a poor state of preservation. O' Néill notes that the top end had been axed and the underside was debarked while the heartwood had been adzed from the cleft face of the trough to a maximum depth of 0.15m. No individual tool marks were observed (Cross May et al 2005, 274). A deposit of heat affected stone was uncovered in the trough consisting of 60% sandstone and 40% limestone which probably represented the last heating episode in the trough.

**Platform:**

A wooden platform was uncovered to the east of the site and measured 4m by 3m. A middle Bronze Age date was obtained from timber used in the construction. It consisted of a loose arrangement of timbers which O'Néill states was used to extend the size of the dry area around the activity area. Most of the wood was identified as crab apple, however, alder and ash was also present.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: The hollowed-out trunk was identified as oak while the timber used in the construction of the platform was mainly crab apple with some alder and ash present also. The crab-apple was all felled in spring, while the rest of the wood was felled in autumn (Cross May *et al.* 2005, 274).

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: It is unknown what material is dated from the site  
C14 (Beta-111377) 3050±60 BP (1425–1120 BC)

**References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 275. Wordwell, Dublin.

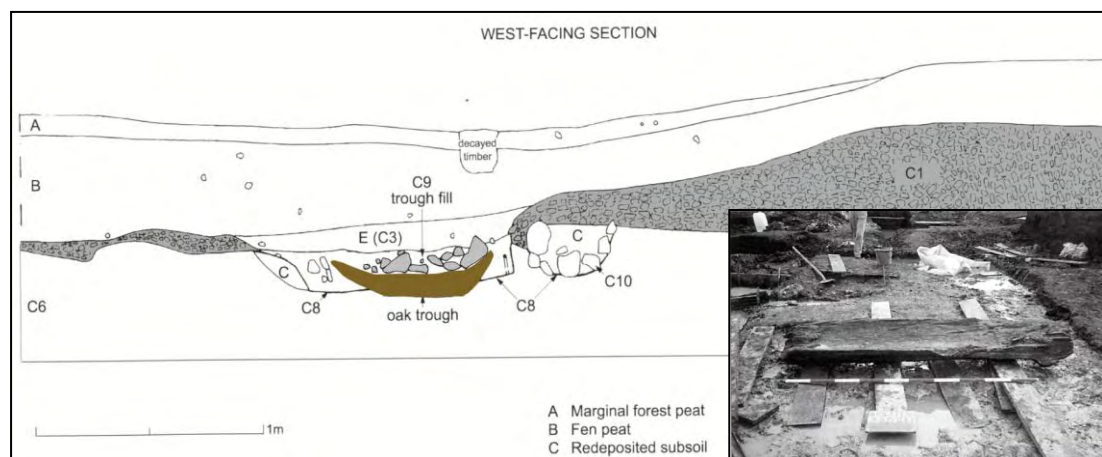


Fig. 10.144 Profile section of mound and dug-out trough at Killoran, Co. Tipperary.



Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 222229, 166600
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 125m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the east facing slope of shallow sloping glacial till at the contemporary edge of Derryville bog.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This site formed a cluster of three <i>fulachtaí fia</i> with sites TY03 and TY04 which both produced Middle Bronze Age dates.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during trench cutting for the TMF embankment road as part of the Lisheen Mine Project. The site was only recorded in section due to health and safety restrictions.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and an earth-cut trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 10.6m east-west and had a maximum depth of 0.51m and consisted of charcoal and sand within a matrix of 90% heat-shattered sandstone and 10% limestone. It overlay glacial till, close to the contemporary edge of the bog margin.
Trough:	The trough was roughly u-shaped and measured 1.67m wide with a maximum depth of 0.3m. It had gently sloping sides and a regular base. The trough was filled with material similar to the burnt mound.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*. Wordwell, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 220603, 166853
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the break of a slope of a glacial knoll, overlooking a peat filled depression to the west and Derryville bog to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A similar site (Killoran 21, 97E372) was excavated on the same glacial knoll 80m to the south-west overlooking the same peat filled depression.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of a 10m wide haul road for the Lisheen Mine Project.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a ploughed out mound of heat-shattered stone and an earth-cut trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread was roughly crescent shaped and measured 8m by 7m and was 0.3m in thickness. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone which spread downslope over the trough. A thumbnail scraper was recovered from this material.
Trough:	The trough (C4) was roughly square in plan and measured 1.5m by 1.5m and survived to a depth of 0.3m. No lining was evident and the fill consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and silty clay.
<b>Finds:</b>	Thumbnail scraper from mound material
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*. Wordwell, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 221285, 166626
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site overlooked a small stream and was located on the western break of the slope of a low plateau on which Killoran 4, 5 and 6 were also located. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This site was one of three excavated on a low plateau overlooking a small stream. A cremation cemetery is located 45m to the west (Killoran 4, 97E051). To other Bronze Age cremation pits are located in the immediate vicinity (Killoran 6 and 7, 97E372).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of a waste rock stockpile area for the Lisheen Mine Project.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a truncated mound of heat-shattered stone, a sub-oval trough and an area of burning which may represent a hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The ploughed-out remains of the burnt mound was roughly horseshoe shaped and measured 10m by 8m and was 0.11m in maximum thickness. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone and spread out downslope over the trough (Cross May <i>et al</i> 2005, 288).

**Trough:** The trough (C5) was oval in shape and measured 1.53m by 1.14m and was 0.24m deep. Two stake-holes were associated with the trough, one cut internally on the eastern wall and the other located immediately west of the trough. The pit was filled with heat-shattered stone, charcoal and silty clay which contained a fragment of animal bone. The trough produced an Early to Middle Bronze Age date.

**Hearth:** The hearth consisted of a burnt area of charcoal rich sand which was fire-reddened around the edges. It measured 2.8m by 1.7m and was located 4m south of the mound material.

## Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Fragmentary animal bone remains were uncovered in the trough which was identified as a sheep/goat tooth.

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

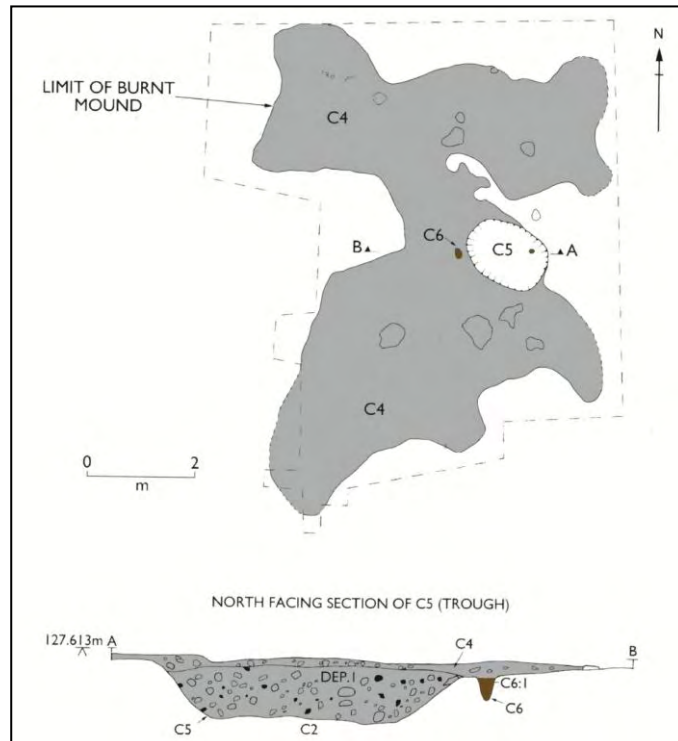
Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of trough C5  
C14 (Beta-1113545) 3300±80 BP (1750–1410 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt mound site with a deposit of waste-firing material associated with pyrolithic water-boiling pit. A possible hearth site was also exposed confirming this suggestion.

## References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 287. Wordwell, Dublin



Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 220062, 166934
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 125m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the west facing slope of shallow sloping glacial till and was surrounded to the north by bog.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This site was one of three excavated in close proximity to one another, however this site was the only one to produce a trough. Killoran 12 was located 160m to the east (97E372) and Killoran 13 was situated 100m to the east also (97E372).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of a haul road for the Lisheen Mine Project.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a ploughed-out mound of heat-shattered stone and a circular depression which possibly represented a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was roughly horseshoe-shaped and measured 14.8m by 5.7m with a maximum thickness of 0.24m. Stevens notes that no surface remains of the mound were evident prior to excavation (Cross May <i>et al.</i> 2005, 295). The material consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough:	The trough was roughly circular and measured 3.9m in diameter with an overall depth of 0.33m. The pit had an irregular base with gently sloping sides and was filled with burnt mound material.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 287. Wordwell, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 221210, 166999
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the base of a gentle south-facing slope, overlooked by higher ground to the south and surrounded to the north and west by bog. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This <i>fulacht fia</i> was located 10m north of Killoran 25 (97E372) and 60m north-east of Killoran 22 (97E372) in a cluster of similar structures. Several isolated cremations were also located at Killoran 24, 60m to the southeast which were Late Bronze Age in date (97E372).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of an access road within the magazine for the Lisheen Mine Project.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a truncated mound of heat-shattered stone and three inter-cutting troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of mound material was truncated by several plough furrows and was roughly circular in plan. It covered an area measuring 10.8m by 8m and survived to a depth of 0.15m. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone in a matrix of silt and charcoal which spread downslope over the troughs.

Trough 1: Trough C1 was sub-circular and measured 2.3m by 1.8m and survived to a depth of 0.45m. It was severely truncated by a machine excavated trench on its southern end. Half of the base was covered in a 10mm thick grey clay while the upper fill consisted of heat-shattered stone. A late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date was obtained from this feature.

Trough 2: C2 was oval in plan and partially cut trough C1. It measured 2.1m by 1.8m and was 0.47m deep. A stake-hole was uncovered in the north-eastern corner of the base. Stevens notes a clay revetment at the southern end of the trough which sealed the edge of the earlier trough C1 allowing clean water into the trough, uncontaminated by the charcoal fill of C1. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone, charcoal and silty clay.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal from the trough C1  
C14 (Beta-117547) 3930±70 BP (2585–2195 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The two troughs were both used and deliberately backfilled, in common with the other dryland sites, and had capacities of 1,000 litres. The troughs may represent a time-lag between phases of use. The earlier trough appears to have the remnants of a clay lining. This use of clay as a sealant is also demonstrated in the second trough. It seems that clean water was important to the users of the site. Overall, the site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location where the troughs were filled manually.

### **References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 298. Wordwell, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 221682, 166355
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on largely flat ground, rising very gently on all sides. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> excavated 120m to the north (Killoran 26). A similar site dating to the Middle Bronze Age was revealed 240m to the south-east (Killoran 27), while a Middle Bronze Age cremation cemetery 130m to the west (Killoran 10).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing for a proposed car park in the area of the site owner's compound for the Lisheen Mine Project.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a multi-period site which included a truncated mound of heat-shattered stone a re-cut trough complex and a second trough, both backfilled and sealed by the burnt mound.
Burnt Mound:	The mound itself was plough-out and truncated by several modern drains. It was roughly circular in plan and measured 15m by 5m and was 0.17m in thickness. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone in a matrix of charcoal and silty clay.



Trough 1: Trough C12 was the earliest trough on site and was rectangular in plan. It measured 1.6m by 1.55m with a depth of 0.47m. A large pit was noticed in the base of the trough which Stevens suggests was a well or spring for water percolation. Large flagstones were also noted in the base of the pit which may have acted as a stone lining. Two stake-holes found in the corners may have functioned as additional supports for such a lining. The upper fill of the trough contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

Pit complex: A large pit complex was excavated immediately north of the trough C12. Stevens suggests that C2, C15 and C10 were in fact several attempted trough constructions consisting of oval or rectangular pits cut and re-cut to form a large irregular trough with a flat base containing a circular post-hole, C11 and an oblong depression C9. C9 possibly represented a spring with an associated post-hole and stake-hole which was widened to allow access.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation revealed a multi-phased burnt mound site. The troughs were all backfilled , in common with the other dryland sites, with the exception of C10 which may not have been a trough. The earlier trough appeared to have the remnants of a stone lining, and both C12 and C11 had a considerable peat content in their fills suggesting that they were left open for a period.

### **References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 300. Wordwell, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 220529, 166807
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site lay at the base of the north-facing slope of a glacial knoll, at the edge of a small peat-filled hollow.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Killoran 1 (TY07) was excavated 90m to the north-west.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing for a proposed sand and gravel quarry for the Lisheen Mine

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a truncated mound of heat-shattered stone, a circular trough and several associated pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread covered an area measuring 9.5m by 8m with a maximum depth of 0.13m. It was heavily ploughed out resulting in the spread being quite patchy in places. The material consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 10% limestone.
Trough:	The trough was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.94m by 1.76m with a depth of 0.5m. The trough contained thirteen deposits, most of which consisted of a clayey material with large stone boulders and charcoal. Only a small amount of burnt stone and charcoal were noted.
Pit:	A small pit was located 2m south-east of the trough. It measured 1.17m by 0.45m and was 0.29m deep with a single fill of burnt mound material.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 300. Wordwell, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 221125, 166905
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated at the base of a west-facing slope, 5.5m west of another <i>fulacht fia</i> at Killoran 22 Structure 2 and 73m west of a burnt mound at Killoran 25. An Early Bronze Age fulacht fiadh lay 127m to the south-west also at Killoran 17. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in the vicinity of the site. Killoran 22, Structure 2 was located 5.5m to the east while Killoran 25 was uncovered 73m to the west and Killoran 17, 127m to the south-west.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of a drainage channel for a sand and gravel quarry in association with the Lisheen Mine complex.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily ploughed-out burnt mound which sealed a trough that contained a small quantity of animal bone.
Burnt Mound:	The plough-out burnt mound spread covered an area measuring 10m by 8m and survived to a depth of 0.1m. It was badly damaged by mechanical excavators during topsoil stripping. The material consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone in a charcoal and silty clay matrix.

- Trough 1:** The trough was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.25m in diameter with an overall depth of 0.25m. Three fills were noted during excavation. The lower deposits consisted of a sandy silt with charcoal inclusions. The middle fill contained burnt mound material of heat-shattered stone while the upper fill consisted of peat with gravel and large stones. Two sheep teeth were recovered from this upper fill. Stevens notes that the trough showed signs of a burnt lining of light brushwood, impressed into the sides.
- Trough 2:** A second possible trough may have been destroyed by a later drain to the east of trough 1. This trough was irregular in profile and measured 1.4m in diameter and 0.58m deep.

### Finds:

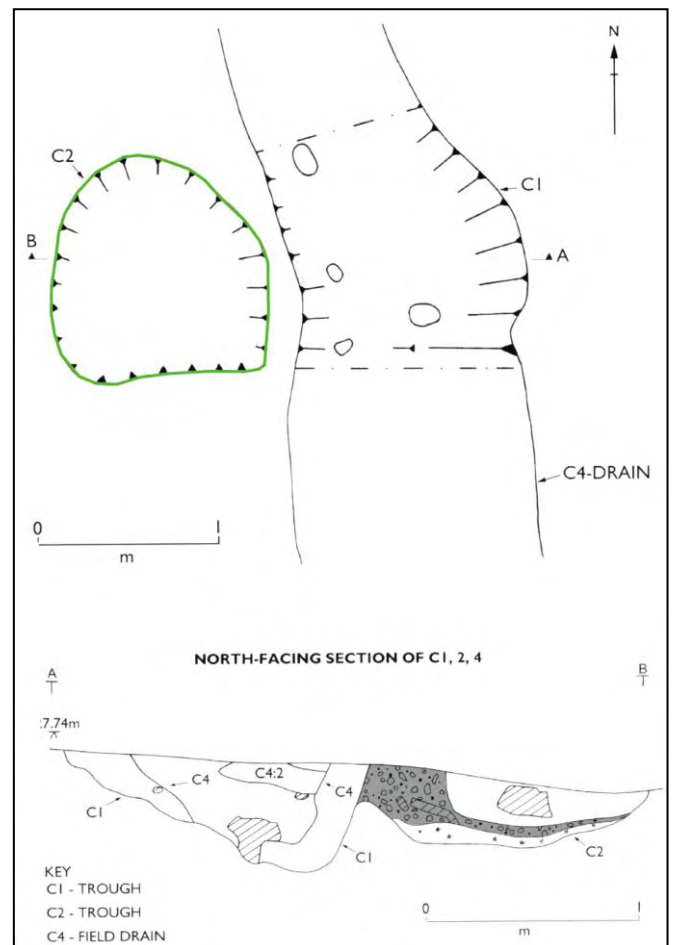
- Artefacts:** None
- Ecofacts:** Two sheep teeth were uncovered in the upper fill of the trough. Possibly molars.

### Dating:

- Relative dating:** None
- Absolute dating:** None

### References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 300. Wordwell, Dublin



Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 221125, 166905
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated at the base of a west-facing slope, 5.5m west of another <i>fulacht fia</i> at Killoran 22 Structure 2 and 73m west of a burnt mound at Killoran 25. An Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> lay 127m to the south-west also at Killoran 17.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in the vicinity of the site. Killoran 25 was uncovered 73m to the west and Killoran 17, 127m to the south-west.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of a drainage channel for a sand and gravel quarry in association with the Lisheen Mine complex.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a ploughed-out burnt mound which partially sealed a sub-circular trough.
Burnt Mound:	The remains of the burnt mound covered an area measuring 10m by 8m and had a maximum thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone.
Trough:	The trough consisted of a shallow sub-circular pit measuring 1.7m by 1.44m with a depth of 0.12m. It had steep sloping sides and a flat base and contained a single fill of burnt mound material. A stake-hole was uncovered in the north-west corner of the feature.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 300. Wordwell, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 221676, 166443
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.t	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on flat ground within glacial till subsequently overgrown by bog. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	The site lay within a cluster of excavated <i>fulachtaí fia</i> . Killoran 19 (TY11) was located 120m to the south while a Middle Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 150m to the north-west at Killoran 26 (TY14).		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was identified during testing in advance of an administration building and car park within the plant site for the Lisheen Mine complex. No trace of the site was visible prior to construction.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a ploughed-out burnt mound and a trough which had been re-cut several times.		
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material had been heavily disturbed by mechanical machinery during topsoil stripping but seemed to cover an area measuring 13m by 7m and survived to a depth of 10mm. It consisted of 80% heat-shattered sandstone and 20% limestone within a charcoal and silty clay matrix.		
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.36m by 2m and survived to a depth of 0.46m. It had straight sides which were fire reddened		

and a flat base. The cut was filled with a uniform layer of charcoal and charred wood which the excavator interpreted as a burnt timber lining. This charcoal layer was sealed by a hard packing of re-deposited clay subsoil against the sides.

**Re-cut:** A second phase was represented by a smaller area within the trough that was delimited by the re-deposited clay packing. This area measured 1.44m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.35m. Three fills were noted in the trough. The lower deposit consisted of burnt mound material, the middle fill contained large burnt stone cobbles (50% sandstone and 50% limestone) and the upper fill consisted of peat which sealed the trough.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown species) from the trough  
C14 (Beta-117549) 2780±90 BP (1145–795 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a spread deposit of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is further supported by the identification of a single boiling trough that displayed evidence of being later re-cut and re-lined. The lining in the earlier trough had been burnt and it is unknown whether this was part of a deliberate act after the initial site was abandoned. The trough must have been an important location for pyrolithic water-boiling.

**References**

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 305. Wordwell, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 220565, 166574
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on flat ground within glacial till subsequently overgrown by bog. The topography in the area is characterised by a generally flat plain with gentle north-south undulations, sloping gradually to the south where the rivers Drish and Suir drain it. Lower Carboniferous Limestone underlies the area while to the west lie the Upper Carboniferous sandstone and coal-bearing sequences of the Slieve Ardagh Hills area.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project. In total, thirty-four trackways, six <i>fulachtaí fia</i> , six platforms, three stake rows, two causeways, one burnt mound, a possible hut site, a charcoal spread and a bank feature were excavated in Derryville Bog. A further thirty-three sites were excavated on the dryland areas west of Derryville bog and consisted of two settlement sites, two cremation cemeteries, eighteen <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and six possible burnt mounds.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	The site lay within a cluster of excavated <i>fulachtaí fia</i> . Killoran 19 (TY11) was located 240m to the south while a Late Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 150m to the south-east at Killoran 26 (TY14).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of an administration building within the plant site for the Lisheen Mine complex. No trace of the site was visible prior to construction.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a truncated spread of burnt mound material, a large circular pit and a later rectangular trough with a wooden step feature.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread was heavily damaged by machine during topsoil stripping but appeared to cover an area measuring 10.7m by 6m by 0.2m. The material consisted of heat-shattered stone and occasional cobbles (50% sandstone and 50% limestone) set within a charcoal-rich silty clay.
Pit/Trough 1:	A large sub-oval pit interpreted as a trough was the earliest feature on site. It measured 3.45m by 2.72m and was 1.22m deep. It had gently sloping sides



that led directly to the vertical sides of the later trough. The fill of the pit consisted of silt and re-deposited subsoil, sealed by a deposit of sandy silt and heat-shattered stone (30% sandstone and 70% limestone).

#### Trough 2:

The large sub-oval pit was cut by a later sub-rectangular trough that measured 1.64m by 1.24m and was 0.37m deep. The base of the trough was flat and the sides were near vertical. The fill of the trough contained slumped layer of organic material which contained wood fragments and animal bone along with heat-shattered stone, of which 70% consisted of sandstone. The western end of the trough contained a timber step feature consisting of a large radially split oak plank that had two square mortise holes at either ends into which two large oak uprights were slotted. This peg produced a Late Bronze Age date. Several other timber pieces survived on the northern end.

#### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Sheep bone and teeth were recovered from the later fill of the earlier trough/pit and the later trough. This bone consisted of a carpal fragment, a humerus fragment and two ribs.

#### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Oak peg from trough  
Dendro (Q-9697) 939±9 BC  
Oak peg from trough  
Dendro (Q-9698) 932 BC

#### Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed a spread deposit of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is further supported by the identification of a single boiling trough that displayed evidence of being later re-cut and re-lined.

#### References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 305. Wordwell, Dublin.

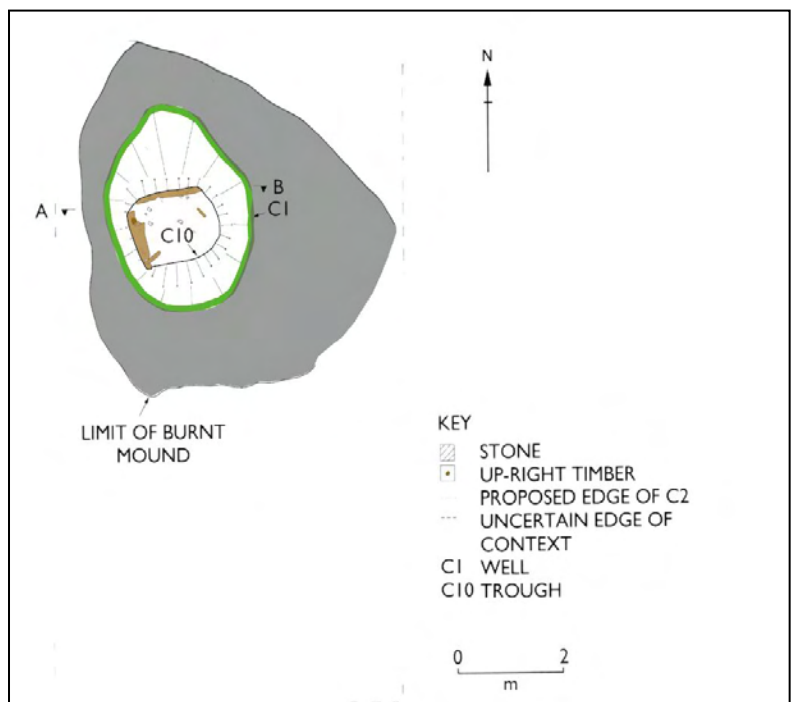


Fig. 10.145 Remains of timber trough within pit at Killoran.

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Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 220979, 166453
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 127m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	

Physical Setting: The site was located on level ground subsequently covered by peat.

Cultural Landscape: This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine.

Adjacent excavated sites: The site lay within a cluster of excavated *fulachtaí fia*. Killoran 22 (TY12) was located 60m to the north-west while Killoran 30 (TY14) was excavated 90m to the south-west. Killoran 25 was also situated 170m to the north-east.

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing for a proposed sand and gravel quarry for the Lisheen Mine.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a heavily plough-out spread of burnt mound material which partially sealed a trough and a possible hearth.

Burnt Mound: Steven's noted that the burnt mound was almost entirely removed by the mechanical digger during topsoil removal and was only partially visible in patches covering an area measuring 12m by 11m with an overall depth of 0.1m. The surviving material consisted of heat-shattered stone.

Trough: The trough was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.91m by 1.78m with an overall depth of 0.23m. It had irregular sides and a flat base with a fill consisting burnt mound material sealed by a layer of charcoal-flecked clay.

Possible Hearth: A possible hearth was located north of the trough. It was irregular in plan and contained burnt mound material of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

### References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 307. Wordwell, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Killoran	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Moyne	NGR: 221117, 166808
	Barony:	Eliogarty	Altitude: 128m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on level ground subsequently covered by peat and drained and ploughed in antiquity.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was one of sixty-seven sites excavated as part of the Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	The site lay within a cluster of excavated <i>fulachtaí fia</i> . Killoran 22 (TY12) was located 110m to the north-east while Killoran 29 (TY13) was excavated 90m to the north-east. Killoran 25 was also situated 170m to the north-east.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing for a proposed sand and gravel quarry for the Lisheen Mine.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily plough-out spread of burnt mound material which partially sealed a single pit.
Burnt Mound:	Steven's noted that the burnt mound was almost entirely removed by the mechanical digger during topsoil removal and was only partially visible in patches covering an area measuring 7.6m by 6.7m with a maximum thickness of 0.01m.
Pit:	The pit was oblong in shape and measured 1.76m by 1.04m with a depth of 0.37m. It contained several fills of burnt mound material. The basal fill was a sand lens overlain by a hard oxidised layer of sand, charcoal and clay. The pit may have functioned as a roasting oven.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

Cross May, S., Murray, C., Ó Néill, J. and Stevens, P. 2005. *The Lisheen Mine Archaeological Project*, 307. Wordwell, Dublin.

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Location:	Townland:	Knockaunkennedy	Six inch map no: 21
	Parish	Upper Ormond	NGR: 190170, 177970
	Barony:	Lisbunny	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard O' Brien	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site is located c. 3 miles east of Nenagh Town, Co. Tipperary on marshland which is prone to flooding.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site at Knockaunkennedy forms part of an extensive archaeological landscape in the vicinity of the town of Nenagh. Given the likely prehistoric date of the features at Knockaunkennedy the site excavated there may be related to a number of sites, also dating to this period, in the vicinity. To the northwest, 1km from the site, is a standing stone (TN021-046). To the southwest, at Knockalton Upper, a tentative dwelling was excavated, also of likely prehistoric date (98E047) and at Knockalton Lower (98E0471) a ditch, also of possible prehistoric date was excavated .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Prehistoric ditches were excavated 150m to the west in the townland of Knockalton Lower.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Nenagh Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a number of cut features that probably functioned as troughs.

### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: This mound lay at the northwest of the site, in the area directly over the large pit [14]. It was roughly oval shaped in plan and measured 9.6 by 11.2m in width and a maximum of 0.43m in depth. It was comprised of two layers of burnt stone in matrices of dark brown/black silty clay, (10)/(23) and (13)/(74) Other lithic artefacts, in the form of a core (98E0472:74:1), a blade and a flake (98E0472:1:1 and 2) were recovered from the burnt mound and the overlying topsoil. These artefacts were likely to have been the product of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age activity

**Trough:** The trough exposed on site was rectangular in shape and measured 2.4m by 1.2m and was 0.32m deep. O'Brien notes post-holes at each of the internal corners suggesting that this trough may have been timber lined when it was in use. A pit interpreted as a possible pot-boiler was revealed at the north-west edge of the trough along with a shallow linear cut that the excavator states may have been the remains of a windbreak. Several other additional pits/troughs are also noted north-east of the mound material (O'Brien 1998).

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** This truncated spread of burnt mound material was located 10m east-south-east of site A and consisted of oval spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. It measured 11m by 9m with an overall thickness of 0.2m.

**Trough:** O'Brien notes a number of pits/troughs related to this burnt spread unfortunately these are not mentioned in great detail. The main trough at this site had several internal post-holes as with Site A suggesting it was once timber-lined. Stake-holes were also revealed clustered around several pits/troughs on site (O'Brien 1998).

**Metalled surface:** The northern area between both sites had a metalled stone surface surrounding some of the pits, perhaps indicative of connecting pathways.

**Hearth:** Adjacent to the north side of the road-take, an isolated feature [97] was excavated. This feature was oval in plan with gradually sloping sides and a rounded base. It measured 0.62 by 1.23m in width and 0.13m in depth. It contained two fills, the lower of which, (99) consisted of a layer of orange/red oxidised clay that was overlain by a deposit of light grey clay with frequent charcoal flecking.

**Finds:** A number of lithic finds were recovered from the burnt mound and cut features. Animal bone and antler fragments were recovered from various contexts across the site, some of which was butchered.

**Dating:** Wood (alder) from the fill of pit  
C14 (UBA-15644) 848±29 BP (AD1055–1261)  
Seed (nutshell) from the fill of pit  
C14 (UBA-15645) 823±27 BP (AD1168–1263)  
Charcoal (prunus) from the hearth  
C14 (UBA-15643) 2989±40 BP (1380–1060 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation revealed a burnt mound and a cobbled surface, at least one trough and a number of pits (Leahy and Sheehan 2010). A hearth was also excavated under this licence on the opposite side of the road and was dated to the middle Bronze Age (UBA-15643). Animal bone and a number of chert and flint lithics were also retrieved. Two pits on the site were dated to the medieval period (UBA-15644, UBA-15645). The excavator suggests that while the dated samples from the site indicate a medieval date, the relationship of these features to the burnt mound itself was unclear. It remains possible that the trough and burnt mound belonged to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age, as was suggested by the lithics.

## **References**

Leahy, D. 2010. *Excavations at Ballintotty (Knockaunkennedy), N7 Nenagh Bypass, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Development Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Lahesseragh	Six inch map no: 21
	Parish:	Upper Ormond	NGR: 185280, 177030
	Barony:	Nenagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass	
	Site Director:	Richard O’ Brien	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The site is located c. 2 miles south of Nenagh Town, Co. Tipperary on marshland which is prone to flooding.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Bronze Age habitation site excavated c. 400m to the east (RMP TN 020-137)		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Nenagh Bypass. No surface trace of the site was evident prior to investigation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound of heat-shattered stone which was not fully excavated. A possible mound revetment was uncovered at the edge of the mound along with a hearth/fire spot. No trough was identified, however this, may lie under the unexcavated portion of the mound.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 22m by 28m with a maximum depth of 0.9m. It consisted of charcoal and heat-shattered stone and was severely disturbed by a number of modern field drains and two concrete pump stations which were constructed on the mound itself. Due to this, much of the centre of the mound was not excavated.
Revetment:	O' Brien notes a possible stone revetment at certain areas around the mound edges. It consisted of a number of isolated large stones at the north-west, north and north-east corners (1998).
Hearth:	A hearth was revealed at the south-east extremity of the mound spread, sealed by the burnt stones. This consisted of an area of dense charcoal.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (*maloideae*) from one of the burnt mound layers  
C14 (UBA-15839) 2855±38 BP (1187–911 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

In the case of Site D only a single, very shallow pit was found in association with the burnt mound, within the area excavated. This might suggest that further elements of this site exist in the vicinity but beyond the limits of the road take. However the degree of agricultural disturbance could also be a factor in the reduced numbers of features uncovered at the site.

**References**

Leahy, D. 2010. Archaeological excavations at Lahesseragh D, Co. Tipperary. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Development Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Drummin	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Nenagh	NGR: 18580, 18078
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass N52 Link Road	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the west slope of a low lying ridge running north-south across the proposed roadway and close to a stream running along the field boundary to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	An Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 75m to the west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during a field walking survey by Archaeological Development Services Ltd. in August 1999 as a burnt stone spread measuring approximately 12m by 10m in diameter.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread of heat-shattered stone, a possible trough and a pit.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (F1) covered an area measuring 14.5m by 8m with an overall thickness of 0.2m. The full extent of the mound was not revealed during excavation and probably continues into the neighbouring field. Cultivation furrows were also noted by Murphy through the burnt spread resulting in considerable interference (2000, 28). The material consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of black soil.
Possible Trough:	A possible trough (F2) was revealed at the north-western corner of the burnt spread. The pit was cut into the boulder clay and measured 3.6m by 2.4m with a depth ranging from 0.2-0.4m. A straight edge was visible along the western edge of this feature (F2) but the feature sloped inwards from the east and south sides where large to medium sized stones were visible in the base. The trough continued northwards below the baulk and appeared to be getting deeper suggesting perhaps that the major part of the trough occurs in the field to the north (Murphy 2000, 28).



**Pit:** A pit (F9) was uncovered immediately west of the spread. This pit was irregular in shape and measured 1.05m by 1.4m and had a maximum depth of 0.3m. It had gently sloping sides which led to a relatively flat base. The fill of the pit consisted of material similar to the burnt spread.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Partial excavation of this site revealed large deposits of waste-firing material associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. A single, possible trough that was not fully exposed may have functioned as a boiling pit. Further features probably lie outside the roadtake.

**References**

Murphy, D. and Clarke, L. 2000. *Archaeological excavations at Drumin, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd

Location:	Townland:	Coolaholloga	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Nenagh	NGR: 18569, 18076
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass N52 Link Road	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a relatively wet area to the west of the Gortlandroe stream at the eastern base of a small ridge on which Site A1 (multi-period settlement site) was uncovered.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 75m to the east (00E0210). A Late Iron Age/Early medieval settlement site was excavated on the brow of this ridge also.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was first recognised during a field walking survey by Archaeological Development Services Ltd. in August 1999 as a burnt stone spread measuring approximately 5m by 7m in diameter.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread of heat-shattered stone and nine shallow pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (F3) covered an area measuring 15.65m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.12m and consisted of fire-cracked sandstone charcoal stained clay. A particularly dense area of charcoal (F4) was evident within the northern section of the burnt spread (F3) and had approximate dimensions of 5.5m north-south and 5m east-west.
Pit 1:	Pit F5 was elongated in shape and measured 4m by 1.25m with an average depth of 0.5m. ). A steep slope was evident along the northern, eastern and western edges with a more pronounced gradual slope along the southern and south-eastern edge.
Pit 2:	A shallow depression (F6) was revealed 2m east of F5. This feature had dimensions of 3.5m north-south and 1.25m east-west and had an average depth of 0.25m.

- Pit 3: An irregular shaped pit (F7) was located 0.4m north-east of F6. This feature had dimensions of 2.5m north-south and 1.25m east-west and had a maximum depth of 0.45m. Two fills were noted in this pit which differed from the others which contained only burnt mound material. The top layer (secondary fill) consisted of material from the burnt spread (F4) which had a maximum thickness of 0.2m. The bottom layer (F14) consisted of a brown silty peat which had a maximum thickness of 0.25m.
- Pit 4: Beneath the northern-most tip of the burnt spread an oval shaped pit (F8) was revealed. Located 5.2m north of F6, this feature (F8) had dimensions of 1.4m north-south and 1.2m east-west. The sides of this feature (F8) sloped gently towards the base along the southern, western and northern edge. The eastern edge however was almost vertical. The maximum depth of this pit was 0.3m.
- Pit 5: Two metres east of F6 a kidney shaped pit was revealed (F9) with dimensions of 0.7m north-south and 1.6m east-west. This pit (F9) had a maximum depth of 0.4m and all sides of this feature sloped towards the base with a more gradual slope along the eastern and south-eastern edge.
- Pit 6: An irregular shaped pit (F10) was found 1m south of F9 and 0.4m north of F11. This feature had dimensions of 1.45m northeast-southwest and 3m northwest-southeast. The sides of the pit sloped gently along the eastern, western and southern edge but a straight edge was visible along the northern edge. The maximum depth of F10 was 0.6m.
- Pit 7: An irregular shaped pit (F11) measuring 2.5m northwest-southeast and 1.7m northeast-southwest was found 0.4m south of F10. The edges of this feature sloped gently towards the base of the pit F11 along the southern and south-western edge, whilst a vertical edge was obvious elsewhere. The maximum depth of F11 was 0.5m.
- Pit 8: The pit F12 was circular in shape and had a diameter of 0.9m. Located 1m east of F11 and 0.15m south-east of F10 this feature (F12) had a maximum depth of 0.3m. The edges of this feature sloped gently towards the base except along the eastern edge which was almost vertical.
- Pit 9: The final feature revealed was an elongated pit (F13) 1.75m north-east of F7 and approximately 2.5m south-east of F8. Measuring 1m north-south and 3.75m east-west, the pit had a maximum depth of 0.4m. A gentle slope was visible along the eastern, western and southern edges of the pit.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (unknown) from the spread F3  
C14 (Lab Unknown) 3760±50 BP (2281–2044 BC)

## References

Murphy, D. and Clarke, L. 2000. *Archaeological excavations at Coolaholloga, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Richmond	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Monsea	NGR: 18461, 18044
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass N52 Link Road	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the edge of a natural ridge which ran beyond the edge of the road-take.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 75m to the east (00E0210). A Late Iron Age/Early Christian settlement side was excavated on the brow of this ridge also.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was first recognised during a field walking survey by Archaeological Development Services Ltd. in August 1999 as a large spread of burnt stones in boggy ground.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread of heat-shattered stone which was dispersed by modern ploughing. An oval trough was also uncovered along with eight pits and areas of charcoal stained clay.
Burnt Spread:	The main burnt mound spread (F6) covered an area measuring 7m by 6m and survived to a maximum thickness of 0.48m. It consisted of black charcoal stained clay and heat-shattered stone. The spread sealed the trough F26 and the pit F33. The spread was roughly kidney-shaped and was thickest towards the north-eastern and north-western extents. Further spreads were also uncovered and appear to have been of the same context and are probably related to the main burnt spread F6 which may have been dispersed during previous ploughing.
Trough:	Pit F26 was interpreted as a trough and was located beneath the burnt spread F6 towards the eastern extent and consisted of a cut for an oval shaped pit filled with F6. It measured 3m by 1.8m and ran in an east-west direction. The western end was 0.53m deeper than the eastern end. The majority of the pit had shallow sides however some were steep in places.

- Pit 1: F27 was situated at the eastern-most extent of the site. This roughly oval shaped pit measured 0.8m by 0.7m and was 0.20m deep. This feature was cut into the natural boulder clay and had steep sides and a flat bottom. The fill consisted of dark brown sticky clay with frequent inclusions of angular hand-sized stones and moderate inclusions of heat shattered stone.
- Pit 2: Pit F23 was situated to the north of F27. It was circular in plan and measured approximately 1m in diameter and 0.7m in depth. The fill consisted of dark brown clay containing frequent angular stone and moderate heat cracked stone.
- Pit 3: The cut for another pit (F23) was situated to the north of F27. This pit was circular in plan and measured approximately 1m in diameter and 0.7m in depth. The fill consisted of dark brown clay containing frequent angular stone and moderate heat cracked stone. There were a small number of isolated charcoal flecks also.
- Pit 4: Pit (F28) lay immediately north-west of F23. It measured 1.2m by 1.4m and was cut into the natural boulder clay and was oval in shape. It had gently sloped sides and reached a depth of 0.2m. The fill of this pit consisted of loose dark brown loam containing frequent roots and moderate angular stone. It also contained a large boulder which would appear to have fallen into this pit at a later date. A single find of flint waste was recovered from this fill.
- Pit 5: Pit F32 was situated to the south of the main burnt spread F6. This was a large roughly oval shaped pit, which measured 2.2m by 1.6m and was 0.6m deep. It contained two fills. The secondary fill consisted of compact brown clay with frequent rusty brown coloured organic inclusions. A fragment of barbed wire from this deposit suggests a modern date.
- Pit 6: Pit F19 consisted of a large deep circular elliptical cut located towards the northern end of the site. It had sloping sides, which were most extreme on the north-eastern side of the pit. It had a roughly flat base and was cut into the natural boulder clay. This feature was just over 1m in depth. The pit contained three different fills. The most recent of these F20 consisted of loose brown grey loam, which contained frequent hand-sized angular stone, and moderate heat cracked stone inclusions. There were also numerous large rocks just below the topsoil. The secondary fill of this pit F10 consisted of a grey coloured loose sandy loam. There were moderate inclusions of charcoal flecks and heat cracked stones. Bone was also retrieved from this feature. F21 was the primary fill of this pit and consisted of a light brown clay containing a small amount of charcoal. There were moderate inclusions of large stones and a small quantity of animal bone was also found within this fill.
- Pit 7: F12 was exposed to the north-west of F19 and consisted of a shallow oval shaped pit, which was cut into natural boulder clay. It had roughly vertical sides and a slightly curved bottom. It measured 0.38m by 0.68m and contained the fill F17, which consisted of grey malleable sandy clay containing frequent inclusions of charcoal flecks and moderate inclusions of heat cracked stones.

- Pit 8: Pit F31 was located to the north of pit F19. It was oblong in shape and measured 1.8m by 1m. It was 0.2m deep. This pit was cut into the natural boulder clay and had gentle sloping sides. The fill consisted of a dark brown clay containing frequent stone inclusions. There were no finds from this context.
- Pit 9: Pit F29 was located between F31 and F19. It measured 1.3m by 1.2m and was cut into the natural boulder clay. It was 0.3m deep and had steep sides. This fill of this pit, consisted of a dark brown black clay containing frequent heat shattered angular stone.
- Pit 10: The final pit F33 was revealed to the south of F26 following the removal of F6. This circular cut was also filled with burnt mound material F6. It had a diameter of 1m and was approximately 0.3m deep. This pit was steep sided and was also cut into the natural boulder clay.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Small fragment of flint waste from pit F28. A fragment of a stone axe was found 20m to the north-west.

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from charcoal spread F16 and pit F19.

### **Dating:**

Charcoal (unknown species) from fill of pit F19  
 C14 (UCD-104) 640±60 BP (AD 1270 – 1415 BC)  
 Animal bone from charcoal spread F16  
 C14 (UCD-128) 525±44 BP (AD 1309–1448 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

This site was identified during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N7 Nenagh Bypass. Excavation revealed a dispersed spread of heat-shattered stone and ten pits, one of which has been dated to the medieval period. A similar date was obtained from a charcoal spread adjacent to the mound material. The dated pit was the largest found in this site and was over 1m deep. It contained heat-shattered stone, charcoal and fragments of animal bone. A sample of charcoal from this fill was dated to AD 1270–1415. A sample of animal bone from a small charcoal deposit immediately west of the main mound material was dated to AD 1309–1448. The charcoal deposit, from which the bone was dated, may have been dispersed mound material. In the absence of heat-affected stone, however, the small spread remains problematic. The site was also heavily disturbed, which is attested to by the presence of agricultural furrows, a fragment of barbed wire from one of the pits and a relatively modern date of AD 1697–1955 (UCD-0125).

### **References**

Murphy, D. and Clarke, L. 2000. *Archaeological excavations at Richmond (Site J), Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Richmond/Gortlandroe	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Monsea/Nenagh	NGR: 18460, 18016
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass N52 Link Road	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	They were located along the townland boundary dividing Gortlandroe from Richmond. A small stream originally formed the townland boundary here and would have been the source of water. The area here was extremely wet especially along the western side of the road corridor. Either side of the marshy low lying area is a small ridge. Three of the burnt spreads were located on the southern ridge, one on the top and the other two on the north facing slope while the fourth spread was located on the slope of the northern ridge.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The spreads were first recognised during a field walking survey following ploughing by Archaeological Development Services Ltd. in August 1999 as four individual burnt spreads in close proximity to each other.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed four individual burnt spreads with various underlying features including troughs, pits, drains and possible structures.

### **Site TY24a**

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound spread (F4) was revealed on top of the ridge in the south-eastern corner of the site. It measured 15m by 18m and continued eastwards beyond the road corridor. The spread consisted of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal rich clay.

Trough 1: The trough (F32) was first revealed as a dark brown peaty clay/loam spread at the base of the mound F4. This layer sealed the remains of a wooden trough (F32) and the underlying remains of the fill of an earlier trough (F35). No trough dimensions are noted however the layer of peat which sealed this trough measured 4.5m by 1.5m. Large fragments of wood along the eastern

and western edges of the cut. At the bottom of the peat layer (F5) and immediately above the fill F35, a spindle whorl was recovered.

- Trough 2:** An earlier trough (F35) was revealed below this later wooden example. A large cut which measured 8.7m by 6.2m at the top and 5.50m by 3m at the bottom was revealed (F35). At the base of this cut the remains of a second trough was uncovered. This consisted of two timber posts with pointed ends which were broken in pieces. The trough cut was rectangular in shape with straight sides and a flat base. The fill consisted of material similar to the burnt spread.
- Pit:** Associated with this earlier trough was a large irregular pit that was connected to the trough F35 by a linear trench or channel. F52 was an irregular shaped feature with a circular pit at its centre and a semi-circular extension to the west and to the east-south/east. This feature also extended in a linear fashion to the north-east where it was subsequently cut by the trough F35. The fill of f52 consisted of burnt stone and had a maximum length of 3.5m and a maximum width of 4.3m and the depth of this feature varied between 0.05m – 0.3m. The centre of this feature (F52) which was almost circular in shape was straight sided except along the north-east where a slight slope was obvious, and where the feature extended north-east where the ground was relatively flat. A series of post-holes also cut the pit F52. These postholes (F51) were found within the east, south-west and west section of F52, were sealed by the burnt stone spread F4 and were cut into the natural boulder clay F2. The remaining postholes (F51 D-M) were found south-west, south-east and south of F52.
- Hearth:** A possible hearth (F52) was revealed south of F52. This feature (F50) measured 0.84m by 0.82m, overlay the natural boulder clay and was sealed by the burnt mound spread.
- Pit/Trough:** A rectangular shaped pit (F53) was also revealed west of the trough F35. It measured 1.05m by 1.4m and had a depth of 0.25m. It cut the natural boulder clay and was fill with burnt mound material. A straight slope was evident along all sides of this feature (F53) except along the south-east where a slight slope was obvious. A post-hole was noted in the south-west corner of the pit.
- Pit:** An irregular shaped pit was uncovered west of the burnt spread F4. It measured 1.6m by 1.45m and was filled with re-deposited natural. The pit was not sealed by burnt mound material.

#### **Site TY24b**

- Burnt Mound:** This spread of mound material (F6) was revealed north of the spread F4. It was located at the base of a hillock and consisted of heat-shattered stone sandstone and charcoal rich clay. The spread measured 7.5m by 9m.
- Trough1:** A circular trough (F36) was revealed west of the spread F6. It measured 2.4m by 2.10m with a depth of 0.75 and was located at a natural spring, a factor which contributed to its difficult excavation (Donald 2000, 58). Timber was noted in the base of the feature suggesting it may have originally



been lined. The fill of the trough (F36) consisted of two distinct fills. The primary fill was a blue silty clay which varied in thickness from 0.05m to 0.3m. This fill would have sealed the timber which would have lined the trough. This fill (F34) was in turn sealed by a layer of brown heavy peaty type clay (F7). This fill contained few inclusions with the exception of a few medium sized decayed stones.

**Trough 2:**

A second trough was exposed below the burnt stone spread. This feature (F41) was circular in shape and had a diameter of approximately 2m. The bottom of the trough was not reached due to the presence of a spring but it sloped from south to north varying in depth from 0.3m to 0.78m respectively. An almost vertical edge was visible on all sides of the trough which was filled with burnt mound material (F6) and re-deposited natural marl (F3).

**Site TY24c**

**Burnt Mound:**

A third spread (F11) was revealed on the northern ridge of the site north of spread F6. The spread was irregular in shape and measured 6m by 6.4m with a maximum thickness of 0.10m. This spread also consisted of fire cracked sandstone and charcoal stained clay with occasional lumps of charcoal.

**Trough:**

The trough (F31) was revealed immediately south of the burnt spread and was cut into the natural grey marl. It measured 1.45m by 1.6m with a maximum depth of 0.7m. Three fills were noted in the trough with the upper deposit consisting of a dark brown peaty clay. The second fill consisted of a black silty clay flecked with charcoal and frequent amounts of fire cracked sandstone (over 20%). The final layer F30 which was sealed by F29 consisted of a yellow silty sand which lay above the grey marl F3 which contained animal bone and tiny traces of timber.

**Post-Holes:**

A series of post-holes were revealed north-east of the trough F31 which were sealed under the burnt spread F11. A second cluster were revealed north of the trough.

**Possible Structure:**

A rounded trench F40b was revealed east of the spread with a second F40a set at a 45 degree angle to F40b. Both trenches were cut into the natural boulder clay and measured approximately 3m in length by 1m in width and survived to a depth ranging between 0.2m-0.38m. Three post-holes were associated with these trenches.

**Site TY24d**

**Burnt Mound:**

This spread of burnt stone (F12) was uncovered on the southern ridge of the site. It measured 8m by 6m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m and consisted of heat-shattered sandstone

**Trough:**

A stone-lined rectangular trough (F13) was exposed beneath the northern extent of the spread F12. The pit measured 1.5m by 1.2m with an average depth of 0.3m. This feature (F13) contained collared stones placed vertically and horizontally in the ground and in all likelihood represented the remains

of a stone lined trough (Murphy 2000, 63). The fill of this trough (F13) consisted of burnt material but it also contained a high density of charcoal.

**Post-Holes:** Four post-holes were revealed at the north-eastern edge of the trough F13. Immediately north and west of the trough, further post-holes were uncovered which were filled with burnt mound material.

**Possible Hearth:** A possible hearth (F17) was revealed along the southern edge of the stone-lined trough. It consisted of a deposit of hardened orange coloured oxidised clay. Irregular in shape it had approximate dimensions of 0.5m by 0.3m. A deposit of F17 was also uncovered to the north-west of the stone lined trough F13. This deposit was also irregular in shape and had a maximum length of 0.8m and a maximum width of 0.5m. This feature (F17) tapered in width as it progressed towards the south-west. Numerous post-holes were also revealed in this area.

**Structure 1:** A scatter of eleven post-holes were excavated south of the hearth which formed a rough circle.

**Structure 2:** Immediately east of the trough F13 a rectangular sunken hardened surface was uncovered (F16). Murphy suggests that this was a floor surface of a hut that was cut into the boulder clay and sealed by the burnt mound material (Murphy 2000, 64). The feature measured 2.2m by 1.4m with a maximum depth of 0.14m. Along the west, north-east and northern edges of F16 it was cut by a series of postholes. The postholes both large and small were circular and oval in shape. Cut into the natural boulder clay (F2) the fill of the postholes consisted of burnt mound material (F12). The depth of the postholes varied between 0.04m – 0.12m. Three particularly large postholes were located in the south-east, north-east and north-west corners of F16. The postholes F22 probably formed part of a small structure around the sunken floor area.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Stone spindle whorl from trough F35

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone was recovered from fill of trough F31

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal from fill of trough F31 Site TY24c  
C14 (UCD-153) 3670±60 BP (2139–1949 BC)  
Charcoal from spread F6 Site TY24b  
C14 (UCD-152) 2740±72 BP (816–971 BC)

### **References**

Murphy, D. and Clarke, L. 2000. *Archaeological excavations at Richmond/Gortlandroe, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Solsborough	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Nenagh	NGR: 18432, 17968
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass N52 Link Road	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site is located on the northern edge of a small ridge which drops towards the modern field boundary which runs along the line of a small stream		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The spread was first recognised during a field walking survey following ploughing by Archaeological Development Services Ltd. in August 1999.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and two pits and a possible trough
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread covered an area measuring 7.5m by 14m and had a maximum thickness of 0.28m. The spread (F2) consisted of fire cracked sandstone, occasional lumps of charcoal and charcoal stained clay. F2 sealed two small pits.
Pit 1:	The pit F3 was circular in shape and had a diameter of 1.4m. The sides of the pit sloped gently towards the base and had an average depth of 28cm.
Pit 2:	The second pit (F4) was found 0.65m east of the pit F3 and 1.6m south west of a possible trough (F5). This feature had dimensions of 2m north-south and 2.7m east-west and had an average depth of 0.34m. The sides of the pit sloped gently along the eastern and south western edge but a straight edge was visible on all other sides.
Possible trough:	Just north east of the burnt spread (F2) an irregular shaped feature (F5) was identified. A possible trough, it was cut into the natural boulder clay. This feature (F5) had dimensions of 2m north – south and 1.75m east – west and had an average depth of 0.34m. All sides of the trough sloped gently towards

the base which itself was relatively flat. F5, contained two fills that of a brown peaty soil and that of burnt mound material – the latter was only found in the south western section of the feature.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown species) from spread  
C14 (UCD-120) 2755±55 BP (972–829 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of burnt stone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is supported by the identification of a possible boiling trough. The other pits excavated at the site could have functioned in a similar fashion.

**References**

Murphy, D. and Clarke, L. 2000. *Archaeological excavations at Solsborough, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Grallagh	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Monsea	NGR: 18395, 17906
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass N52 Link Road	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2000	

**Physical Setting:** The field in Grallagh townland where the *fulacht fia* was exposed is quite flat and relatively wet and the townland boundary is located along the west edge of a natural ridge which extends north-eastwards through the field in Solsborough townland where Site C1 (multi-period site) was uncovered during topsoil stripping.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

During monitoring of topsoil stripping in the townland of Grallagh, the remains of a severely ploughed out *fulacht fia* was exposed. The mound was so ploughed out that it was not obvious even in the ploughsoil horizon and was therefore not identifiable during the initial field walking in 1999.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a single pit.

**Burnt Mound:** The spread of burnt mound material was heavily damaged by ploughing. As a result of this agricultural damaged the mound survived as three spreads of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal. F105 measured 5.75m by 2.35m, F106 measured 4.75m by 6.25 while F107 measured 0.8m by 1.15m.

**Pit:** A single pit (F108) was revealed below the spread. It measured 1.6m by 1.25m and had an average depth of 0.25m with straight edges. The fill consisted of material similar to the burnt spreads.

**Finds:** None                      **Dating:** None

Murphy, D. and Clarke, L. 2000. *Archaeological excavations at Grallagh, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Tullaheedy	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Kilmore	NGR: 18413, 17828
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Nenagh Bypass N52 Link Road	
	Site Director:	Donald Murphy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were exposed on the slope of the ridge beside the low lying marshy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two prehistoric enclosures and pits		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during a field walking survey by Archaeological Development Services Ltd. in October 1999 as two burnt stone spreads (Sites T and U), a possible turlough (Site V) and a series of ditches (Site W).

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed several spreads of heat-shattered stone and a large amount of pits. Other prehistoric features were also excavated in the vicinity including two prehistoric enclosures.

### Site TY27a

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound survived as a roughly rectangular shaped spread (F004) which continued to the north-east beyond the limits of excavation. It measured 41m by 21.5m. The spread consisted of a loose black loam containing moderate charcoal flecks and frequent angular heat cracked stones. The removal of this spread revealed 30 pits. Fragments of chert were recovered from the spread of mound material.

Pit 1: The pit feature F364 was exposed near the south end of the spread F004. This pit was sub circular in shape and measured 1.27 metres by 1.59 metres. It was 0.36 metres deep and was cut into natural. The base was flat-slightly concave and the fill, consisted of a dark brown/ black sandy loam, containing frequent angular stones and heat cracked stones and charcoal flecks.

- Pit 2: Pit F370 was located 2m from F364. This was circular and measured 1.2 metres in diameter and it reached a depth of 0.22 metres. This pit was cut into natural and the fill consisted of a compact brown sandy loam with charcoal flecks towards the edges, frequent small-medium sized stones, decayed stones and heat cracked stones.
- Pit 3: To the east of these a sub-circular shaped pit (F349) cut an oval shaped pit (F348). The sub circular shaped pit (F349) measured 1.5 metres in diameter and was 0.35 metres in depth. It had curved sides and a round concave bottom. It was cut into natural and it cut a pit feature F348. The fill consisted of a black coloured loose sandy loam containing occasional charcoal flecks, frequent heat cracked stones and frequent angular stones.
- Pit 4: The oval shaped pit (F348), which this pit cut, consisted of a cut with gradually sloping curved sides with the break of slope at 0.15 metres and a concave base. It measured 1.04 metres by 1.8 metres and its maximum depth was 0.35 metres. The primary fill consisted of loose crumbly light brown coarse sand and gravel with frequent charcoal flecks and frequent angular heat cracked stone. The secondary fill was similar to that of pit F349. Charcoal from the primary fill returned a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date.
- Pit 5: Pit F347 was located north-west of the previous pits. This pit was oval shaped and measured 1.2 metres by 0.87 metres and was 0.21 metres in depth. The fill consisted of a dark brown-black coloured loose loam containing moderate charcoal flecks and frequent heat cracked and angular stone.
- Pit 6: A pit (F409) was located approximately 3 metres north of the previous pit. It was a sub rectangular pit measuring 1.24 by 1.2 metres and reached a depth of 0.36 metres. This feature was cut into natural. It contained a fill which consisted of black coloured loose loam with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate-occasional heat cracked stone and sub angular stone.
- Pit 7: There was another prehistoric pit less than 3 metres from this. This pit (F408) was roughly oval in shape and measured 1.8 metres by 1.14 metres and was 0.18 metres in depth. Its sides were curved and sloped to a flat-irregular base. Its fill consisted of charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 8: Another pit (F413) was located approximately 2 metres north-west of the pit feature 409. This pit was circular in shape and its sides were slightly curved towards the top of the cut, but were vertical otherwise. Its dimensions were 1.34 metres in diameter and 0.42 metres in depth. It was cut into natural and contained a fill, which consisted of black coloured sandy loam containing frequent small-medium sized angular heat cracked stone.
- Pit 9: Approximately 8 metres east of the pit feature F413, another pit (F297) cut a smaller pit feature (F298). The pit F297 had a sub circular shaped cut that measured 1.04 metres by 0.97 metres and was 0.11 metres in maximum

depth. The fill consisted of black coloured loose loam containing frequent angular stone, heat cracked stone and occasional charcoal flecks.

- Pit 10: The pit that this feature cut at its southern extent was oval in shape and had straight-slightly curved sides and a relatively flat base that rose slightly towards the north-west. It measured 0.7 metres by 0.53 metres and was 0.12 metres in depth. It was cut into natural and contained a fill, which consisted of black coloured clay containing moderate-frequent charcoal and occasional heat cracked stone.
- Pit 11: Less than 5 metres north-west of these two pits there was a large pit F359. The dimensions were 2.1 metres by 1.7 metres and it was 0.37 metres deep. The pit was cut into natural and contained a fill, which consisted of black loose loam with frequent angular, sub angular and heat shattered stone and occasional roots.
- Pit 12: A small pit (F360) was located less than 2 metres south-west of the latter pit. It was oval in shape measuring 0.61 metres by 0.37 metres and was 0.18 metres in depth. It was cut into natural and the fill consisted of mid-brown coloured sticky clay containing occasional charcoal flecks and moderate small-medium sized sub angular stones and some decayed stones.
- Pit 13: Just over 3 metres north-east of the pit F360 there was another small pit (F374). This was an oval bowl shaped cut. It had curved sides to the break of slope at 0.27 metres, and rounded corners. It contained a fill consisting of burnt mound material.
- Pit 14: Another small pit (F367) was situated just west of this. This was a shallow oval shaped cut measuring 1.1 metres by 0.9 metres and was 0.15 metres in depth. The fill consisted of dark grey-black coloured crumbly clay with frequent angular heat shattered stone. A corroded hollow metal object was retrieved from the fill.
- Pit 15: Pit (F412) had an oval shaped cut and it measured 0.9 metres by 0.62 metres and was 0.11 metres in depth. It was cut into natural and contained a fill, which consisted of light brown crumbly clay with occasional decayed stone and occasional flecks of charcoal.
- Pit 16: Pit F299 was located 1m from the baulk. This had an oval shaped cut measuring 0.6 metres by 0.3 metres and it reached a depth of 0.16 metres. It had sloped sides except for the southern side, which was straight. The base was very small and flat and the pit was cut into natural. The fill consisted of a grey sand and gravel with occasional small heat shattered stone and charcoal.
- Pit 17: A pit (F365) was located 4 metres north-west of the pit feature F299. The cut for this was roughly oval in shape and measured 1 metre by 1.5 metres and was 0.2 metres in depth. The fill consisted of mid-brown crumbly clay containing frequent small stones and occasional charcoal flecks.



- Pit 18: Another large pit (F410) was located 2 metres south-west of this. This elongated pit measured 2.4 metres by 1.04 metres and was 0.53 metres in depth. It had straight vertical cut sides and a concave bottom, with some bedrock protrusions. The pit was cut into natural and contained a fill, which consisted of a loose black sandy loam with frequent angular, sub angular and heat cracked stone inclusions.
- Pit 19: Another small pit (F366) was located 2 metres north-west of feature F410. This pit was a shallow bowl shape measuring 0.64 metres in diameter and 0.16 metres in depth. The fill consisted of dark grey-black coloured thick lumpy clay with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional large sub round stones.
- Pit 20: Another pit (F411) was located just 2 metres west of the feature F366. This was sub circular in shape and measured 1.26 metres by 1.17 metres and was 0.44 metres in depth. The pit was cut into natural and its fill, consisted of dark grey-black coloured loose sandy gravelly clay containing frequent angular heat cracked stone and moderate angular stone and charcoal.
- Pit 21: Pit (F278) was roughly sub circular in shape measuring 1.2 metres in diameter and 0.45 metres in depth. This pit was cut into natural boulder clay and its fill, consisted of black sandy loam containing frequent angular stone and heat cracked stone and some roots.
- Pit 22: A very small pit (F371) was located just 1 metre west of the pit feature F411. This had an oval shaped cut measuring 0.37 metres by 0.48 metres and was 0.06 metres in depth. Its fill consisted of a dark grey-black sticky wet loam with frequent heat cracked and angular stone and frequent charcoal inclusions.
- Pit 23: One metre south of this there was a slightly larger pit (F407). This had a sub rectangular cut, and measured 0.5 metres by 0.55 metres and was 0.25 metres in depth. This pit was cut into natural and the fill consisted of a dark brown-black coloured crumbly loam containing moderate heat cracked stone and frequent charcoal flecks.
- Pit 24: Pit F372 was located less than 1m west of pit F407. This was roughly circular in shape measuring 0.7 metres by 0.81 metres and was 0.24 metres in depth. It was cut into natural and the fill (F. 288) consisted of a black coloured loose loam containing moderate-frequent charcoal flecks, frequent heat cracked stones and small angular stones.
- Pit 25: An irregular shaped pit was located 2 metres north- west of the pit feature F372. This pit was triangular in shape and measured 1.14 metres by 0.58 metres and was 0.16 metres in depth. Its fill (F286) consisted of a dark grey-black loose loam containing moderate-frequent charcoal inclusions, frequent sub round and angular stones and moderate heat cracked stones.
- Pit 26: A large oval shaped pit (F358) was located just 2 metres west of the latter pit. The pit measured 2.18 metres by 1.73 metres and was 0.17 metres deep. Its

fill consisted of a loose black loam containing frequent angular stone, small heat shattered stone and very occasional charcoal inclusions.

- Pit 27: Pit F357 was oval in shape with curved sides that broke at 0.09 metres and a flat base. It was cut into natural and its fill consisted of dark brown- grey coloured sandy clay with occasional heat cracked stones and angular and sub angular stones.
- Pit 28: Another pit was located just over 2 metres south of this. This pit (F355) was oval shaped and measured 0.56 metres by 0.74 metres and was 0.31 metres in depth. Filled with burnt mound material

### **Site TY27b**

- Burnt Mound: The burnt mound spread F003 was oval in shape and measured 21m by 36m. There was a lot of ground disturbance in the area and Murphy suggests that it is possible that the *fulacht fia* spread F003 had originally joined up with the spread F004 to the north-east of the ditch F051. The ditch appeared to have cut through what was once one large *fulacht fia* spread.
- Pit 1: Pit F405 was located to the east of the site. It was oval in shape and measured 0.23 metres by 0.31 metres and was 0.11 metres in depth. This pit was cut into natural and the fill consisted of a grey sandy loam containing frequent-moderate sub angular stones and occasional small angular decayed stones.
- Pit 2: This pit (F399) was also oval in shape and measured 0.38 metres by 0.26 metres and was 0.07 metres in depth. The base was U- shaped and the pit was cut into natural. The fill consisted of a black coloured wet sandy loam containing frequent decayed, angular and sub rounded stone.
- Pit 3/Structure: Pit F377 was located 7m to the east of F399. This was an elongated shallow oval cut measuring 2 metres by 4.8 metres to a depth of 0.26 metres. This pit was cut into natural however it contained three post-holes, one at the western extent of the pit and the other two at the centre of the pit. The fill of the pit consisted of a loose black sandy loam containing frequent heat shattered stone, and occasional charcoal flecks. Murphy suggests that this may have been a temporary hut or storage area (Murphy 2000, 183).
- Pit 4: Pit F379 was located 3m north of F377. This pit was sub rectangular in shape and it measured 1.89 metres by 1.34 metres and was 0.33 metres in depth. Its sides were slightly curved towards the top and were vertical to the base, which was flat bottomed. This pit cut another (F378).
- Pit 5: This pit (F378) was an elongated elliptical shape in plan and it measured 1.42 metres by 3.3 metres and was 0.25 metres in depth. It had curved sides and base. It was cut into natural and was cut by the pit feature F379. However both pits contained the same fill. This fill consisted of a very loose black coloured loam containing frequent heat cracked stone. Murphy notes that there were 11-13 large flat stones in the fill of the pit which may have

originally formed a stone lining within the pit (Murphy 2000, 184). An Early Bronze Age date was obtained from charcoal within the fill.

- Pit 6: The pit feature F362 was situated 6 metres north of the pit F379. This was a very shallow oval-circular shaped cut measuring 2.76 metres by 3 metres and was 0.10 metres in depth. 26 stake-holes were uncovered in the interior and exterior of the pit. These were mainly concentrated on the southern side of the pit. The fill of the pit consisted of a loose black loam with frequent heat cracked stone and occasional flecks of charcoal.
- Pit 7: This pit (F380) was circular-oval, measured 2.4 metres by 2.23 metres and was 0.09 metres deep. It had curved sides with the break of slope at 0.29 metres and a slightly curved base. It was cut into natural and its fill consisted of loose black sandy loam containing frequent heat cracked stone and charcoal.
- Pit 8: Just over 2 metres north-west of this there was another small pit feature (F391). This was an oval-bowl shaped cut measuring 0.62 metres by 0.5 metres and was 0.18 metres deep. The fill (F390) consisted of dark grey wet loose sand containing moderate charcoal flecks and occasional heat cracked stone.
- Pit 9: Another pit feature (F396) was located just over 5 metres south-west of the pit F391. This was a circular shallow cut into natural, which measured 1.3 metres in diameter. The fill consisted of black coloured sandy clay containing frequent charcoal flecks, moderate heat cracked stone and moderate angular stone.
- Pit 10: Pit F385 was rectangular in shape and measured 0.37m by 0.48m with a depth of 0.15m. It had rounded corners with straight-slightly curved sides and a flat bottom. The fill (F384) consisted of black silty clay containing moderate charcoal flecks and moderate heat cracked stone. It reached a depth of 0.15 m and finds included waste chips of flint and chert.
- Pit 11: Another pit was situated just over 2 m north-west of the latter pit. This pit (F387) had a shallow circular cut measuring 0.5m in diameter and 0.11m in depth.
- Pit 12: Pit F373 was located 3m south east of pit 387. This pit had a circular-oval shaped cut measuring 2 metres by 1.9 metres and was 0.55 metres in depth. It was cut into natural and the fill consisted of loose black loam with frequent heat cracked stone and frequent charcoal inclusions.
- Pit 13: Pit (F361) was oval shaped and measured 2.2 metres by 2.1 metres to a depth of 0.54 metres. The pit was cut into natural and the fill consisted of dark brown-black wet malleable sandy loam containing moderate sub angular stone and moderate-frequent charcoal flecks.
- Pit 14: Approximately 8 metres south-east of this pit there was another pit (F403). This was a shallow irregular shaped oblong cut measuring 2.75 metres by 0.5 metres and it was only 0.02 metres in depth. It had roughly straight sides and

a flat bottom. It was cut into natural and the fill consisted of grey coloured sandy loam containing moderate sub round decayed stone and occasional charcoal flecks and sub angular stone.

**Linear Features:**

Three linear features were uncovered on the site. F401 was a long sub rectangular cut running in an east west direction and continuing beyond the extent of excavation to the west. This measured 8 metres by 0.5 metres and was just 0.02 metres in depth. To the north-west of this, one linear feature (F389) cut another (F395). The most recent of these (F389) ran in a south-east to north-west direction, disappearing into the baulk to the north-west. The cut for this was cigar shaped and it measured 1.02 metres by 4.5 metres and was 0.4 metres in depth. It was cut into natural and it also cut another linear feature F395. This feature ran in a north-south direction. It was an irregular shaped elongated oval measuring 0.72 metres and would have originally been 5 metres long. Both features contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal along with animal bone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Fragments of chert were recovered from the spread F004. Similar material was found in pit F385 (Site TY27b). A corroded metal object was uncovered in pit F387.

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the linear features related to the spread F003 at Site TY27b.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal from pit F348 under spread F004  
C14 (UCD-116) 3940±66 BP (2619–2202 BC)  
Charcoal from pit/trough F378 under spread F003  
C14 (UCD-118) 3520±66 BP (2028–1685 BC)

**References**

Murphy, D. and Clarke, L. 2000. *Archaeological excavations at Grallagh, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Raheen	Six inch map no: 75
	Parish:	Caher	NGR: 202476, 124172
	Barony:	Offa West	Altitude: 78m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a flat pasture field located along the south-eastern foothills of the Galtee Mountains. The closest water source was approximately 300m to the south-west. Modern agricultural and drainage practices are likely to have changed the environment of this site as it is now in a dry location.		
Cultural Landscape:	Excavations at Curraghatoor, near Cahir (approximately 3.5 km south of the proposed route), revealed structures and associated features dating from the Middle to Late Bronze Age . Archaeological excavation carried out on the Cashel By-pass in 2003 revealed extensive Bronze Age activity including an enclosed Bronze Age settlement, cremation burials and houses/structures (Richard O’ Brien, Pers. Comm). Numerous Bronze Age sites were also uncovered during the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown scheme including site 92.3 (E2294), which consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> and two circular structures, located approximately 450m to the southwest. Sites 99.1-4 (E229), which consisted of four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and a burnt mound, were located approximately 1.2km to the northeast		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two phases of burnt mound activity consisting of a large burnt spread, several pits, a trough and a possible structure.

#### Phase 1

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound covered an area measuring 8m by 8.5m and varied in depth from 0.1m to 0.5m. The full extent of the mound was not revealed as it extended beyond the limits of the excavation. Three deposits of heat-shattered stone within black silty clay were observed during excavation.

Charcoal from this material was identified as oak, hazel, fruitwood and alder. A sample of hazel returned an Early to Middle Bronze Age date.

- Stake-Holes: A group of stake-holes were identified at the north-western extent of the site. These formed a rough arc that may have function as a windbreak.
- Possible Structure: A circular arrangement of six post-holes enclosing an area measuring 1.5m in diameter may represent a small structure. Further post-holes in the vicinity may represent associated features such as drying racks or windbreaks.
- Pit/Cistern 1: Pit F90 was revealed at the western extent of the site. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 4.7m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.64m. A sterile fill of silty clay was observed along with some charcoal flecking.
- Pit/Cistern 2: Pit F78 was located immediately south of F90. It measured 3.3m by 1.2m and had a maximum depth of 0.6m. A sterile fill of silty clay was observed along with some charcoal flecking.
- Pit 3: F11 was irregular in plan and measured 1.29m by 0.62m and had a depth of 0.11m. The sides of the cut were uneven along with the base and the fill consisted of dark brown silt with occasional charcoal which was identified as fruitwood.
- Pit 4: Pit F63 was located 2m north-east of F11. It was oval in plan and measured 0.8m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.3m. The fill consisted of yellow/brown charcoal rich silt with frequent small stones.
- Pit 5: Pit F9 was identified 1.7m south-west of F63. It was oval in plan and measured 0.87m by 0.52m and had a maximum depth of 0.58m. The fill consisted of yellow silty clay.

## **Phase 2**

- Trough: The trough (F30) was uncovered at the south-western limits of the excavation therefore, its true dimensions could not be determined. It was rectangular in plan with steep sides and a flat base and measured 1.65m by 0.89m+ with a depth of 0.35m. Molloy notes a slight recess in the base and side along the north-eastern extent of the trough which is suggestive of a wooden lining (2007, 98). Four stake-holes were uncovered within this recess giving further credence to the possibility that the pit was lined. The trough contained two fills with the primary deposit consisting of mid-grey sandy silt with heat-shattered stone and charcoal while the upper fill contained dark grey sandy silt, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A Middle Bronze Age date was returned from this fill. The charcoal was identified as hazel, oak, cherry, and fruitwood.
- Stake-Holes: Several stake-holes were identified along the north-western edge of the trough cut.

**Hearth:** A hearth pit that truncated the burnt mound was located towards the southern edge of the site. It measured 1.18m by 1.1m and was 0.34m deep. The base was fire-reddened and was sealed by a charcoal deposit.

## Finds:

**Artefacts:** None

**Ecofacts:** Charcoal from the site was identified as oak, hazel, cherry, holly and alder. Oak was the dominant species. Both the identifications from Raheen and from the nearby Middle Bronze Age site of Clonmore North (E2294 92.3) indicate that the area was located in or near to oak woodlands.

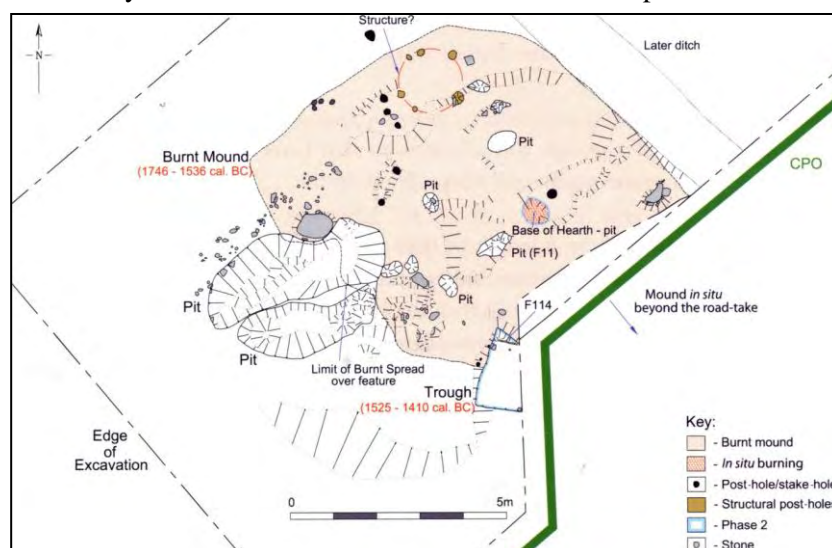
## Dating:

Charcoal (hazel) from burnt mound  
C14 (UB-7225) 3372±34 BP (1748 – 1536 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from upper fill of trough F30  
C14 (UB-7224) 3194±35 BP (1525 – 1410 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

Site 92.3 (E2294), a *fulacht fia*, located approximately 450m to the southwest, also produced a Middle Bronze Age date (Molloy 2007a). It is likely that these two sites were inter-visible in prehistoric times.

Sites 99.1-4 (E2296), which consisted of four *fulachta fia* and a burnt mound, were located approximately 1.2km to the northeast. These sites ranged in date from the Early to the Middle Bronze Age in date. It is interesting to note that the majority of *fulachtaí fia* recorded on the road scheme were identified within a 1.6km range of Site 92.2. This is probably due to the topography of this area, which in the main



was quite low-lying and traversed by mountain streams

running down from the Galtee Mountains. Further north and to the south the site type was dominated by burial and settlement sites, correlating with a general improvement in land conditions.

## References

Molloy, B. 2007. Archaeological excavations at Raheen, Co. Tipperary (E2294). Final excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

McQuade, M., Molloy, B and Moriarty, C. 2009. *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological Excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. NRA Scheme Monographs 4. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

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Location:	Townland:	Lissava	Six inch map no: 75
	Parish:	Caher	NGR: 203326, 125166
	Barony:	Offa West	Altitude: 85m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located on a gradual southwest facing slope, and unusually for a burnt mound, in a slightly elevated position. It was located upslope from the margins of a wet marshy area which in prehistoric times may have extended further north-eastwards and closer to the site. The field in which the site was located would appear to have been drained and reclaimed by modern agricultural practices. Natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow gravelly sandy clay (Molloy 2007, 12).

**Cultural Landscape:** Excavations at Curraghatoor, near Cahir (approximately 3.5 km south of the proposed route), revealed structures and associated features dating from the middle to late Bronze Age. Archaeological excavation carried out on the Cashel By-pass in 2003 revealed extensive Bronze Age activity including an enclosed Bronze Age settlement, cremation burials and houses/structures. Numerous Bronze Age sites were also uncovered during the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown scheme including structures, burials and *fulachtaí fia*.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** This site is one of four *fulachtaí fia* and one burnt mound which were located in close proximity to one another within 550m of road take. Site TY30 was located 100m south-west of this *fulacht fia*.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation. This is one of four sites excavated in this townland.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed two phases of burnt mound activity consisting of a large burnt spread, several pits and intercutting troughs.

#### **Phase 1**

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound (F3) was roughly oval in plan and measured 15m by 11m and varied in depth between 0.08m and 0.24m. The material consisted of heat-shattered stone within charcoal rich silty clay matrix. Charcoal from the



spread was identified as hazel, willow, elm, oak, ash, alder, holly and fruitwood.

**Trough 1:** The trough F18 was rectangular in plan and measured 1.8m by 1.1m and was 0.4m deep with steep sides and a flat base. A narrow gully feature was uncovered in the base of the trough. The fill of this trough consisted of two deposits of heat-shattered stone within a charcoal-rich sandy silt matrix. Charcoal was identified as oak, hazel and willow. Three post-holes were located along the north-eastern edge of the trough. Four further post-holes were located at the south-western edge of the trough.

**Trough 2 (Re-cut):** The trough F18 was cut by another (F9). It was rectangular in plan and measured 3.1m by 2m with a depth of 0.6m. Eight stake-holes were identified along the base of the trough implying that it may have been timber lined originally. This new trough was filled with three deposits of heat-shattered stone within charcoal-rich sandy silt. Oak sapwood charcoal from the latter deposits returned a Middle Bronze Age date.

**Pit 1:** F4 was a circular pit that was located 3.5m south-east of the intercutting troughs. It measured 1.6m by 1.5m and was 0.66m deep. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal which was identified elm, hazel, oak and ash.

**Pit 2:** Pit F21 was similar in profile to that of F4 which lay 4m to the south. It measured 1.72m by 1.54m with a depth of 0.73m. The fills consisted of brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal inclusions.

**Pit 3:** The upper fill (F22) of pit F21 was truncated by pit F24. F24 was oval in plan and measured 0.80m (NE-SW) in length by 0.47m in width and 0.35m in depth. The primary fill (F25) consisted of grey sandy clay containing occasional stones and moderate charcoal inclusions. This fill was sealed by grey/brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions.

## **Phase 2**

**Trough 3:** The third trough (F31) identified on site cut through the burnt mound deposit F3 and the upper fills of the trough F9. Five fills were observed in this cut with the primary deposits consisting of silty grey clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Finds:** Charcoal from the site was identified in six contexts. Eight tree species were found with hazel and oak the dominant ones. Oak, ash, alder, hazel, willow, elm and fruitwood were identified from various samples.

**Dating:** Charcoal (oak) from fill of trough F9  
C14 (UB-7228) 3042±35 BP (1411–1210 BC)

## **References**

Molloy, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Lissava, Co. Tipperary (E2296)*. Final excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

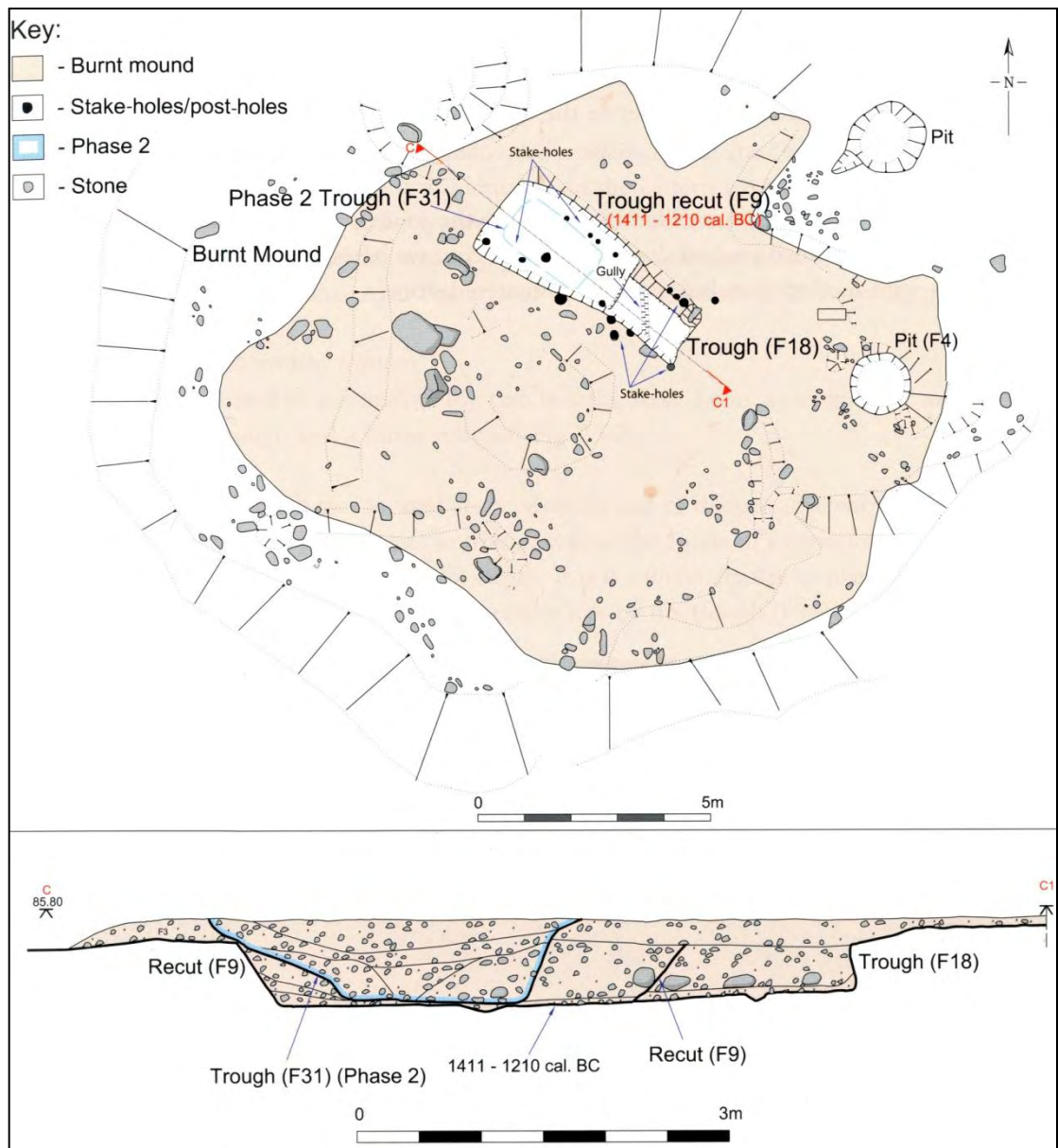


Fig. 10.147 Burnt mound and different trough phases at Lissava, Co. Tipperary.



Location:	Townland:	Lissava	Six inch map no: 75
	Parish:	Caher	NGR: 203258, 125057
	Barony:	Offa West	Altitude: 85m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was situated at the base of a gradual southwest facing slope in wet marshy ground. Natural subsoil consisted of sandy yellow grey clay.		
Cultural Landscape:	Excavations at Curraghatoor, near Cahir (approximately 3.5 km south of the proposed route), revealed structures and associated features dating from the Middle to Late Bronze Age. Numerous Bronze Age sites were also uncovered during the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown scheme including structures, burials and <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This site is one of four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and one burnt mound which were located in close proximity to one another within 550m of road take. This <i>fulacht fia</i> was located 100m to the south-west of TY29.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a trough, a small pit and stake-holes.
Trough:	The trough F3 was sub-rectangular in plan with rounded edges. It measured 1.83m by 0.91m and survived to a depth of 0.43m. Two fills were identified in the trough with the primary deposit consisting of grey silty sand, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Charcoal from the trough was identified as hazel, alder, oak and elm. Pit F6 was located in the south-western corner of the trough F3. It measured 0.6m by 0.45m with a depth of 0.2m.
Dating:	Charcoal (oak) from fill of trough F3 C14 (UB-7229) 3517±35 BP (1934 – 1748 BC)

### References

Molloy, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Lissava, Co. Tipperary (E2296)*. Final excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Lissava	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Caher	NGR: 203258, 125057
	Barony:	Caher	Altitude: 85m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen & Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	It was situated at the base of a gradual southwest facing slope in wet marshy ground. A drain, probably a realigned and artificially deepened stream was located 6m from the edge of the burnt mound.		
Cultural Landscape:	Excavations at Curraghatoor, near Cahir (approximately 3.5 km south of the proposed route), revealed structures and associated features dating from the Middle to Late Bronze Age. Archaeological excavation carried out on the Cashel By-pass in 2003 revealed extensive Bronze Age activity including an enclosed Bronze Age settlement, cremation burials and houses/structures. Numerous Bronze Age sites were also uncovered during the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown scheme including structures, burials and <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This site is one of four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and one burnt mound which were located in close proximity to one another within 550m of road take. This <i>fulacht fia</i> was located 130m to the south-west of TY30.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation. This is one of four sites excavated in this townland.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the partial remains of a burnt mound, a trough, a pit and an isolated post-hole.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was only partially exposed as it lay outside the extent of the road-take. The excavated portion measured 9.7m by 5m with a thickness of 0.65m. Two deposits were noted in the mound material (F3 and F4). The primary layer consisted of heat-shattered stone within a grey charcoal rich matrix. Molloy also noted unburnt stones in this layer also. The upper deposit of mound material consisted of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal rich sandy matrix.
Trough:	Trough F8 was revealed at the southern extent of the site and measured 1.72m by 0.88m with a depth of 0.50m. A large flat stone was recorded at the

northern end of the trough. The pit contained three fills, all of which contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal inclusions. Occasional unburnt stones were noted at the base of the cut. Charcoal from the fill returned an Early to Middle Bronze Age date. The charcoal was identified as oak, hazel, ash and fruitwood.

**Pit:** Pit F11 was located 4.4m west of the trough F8. It was sub-circular and measured 1.05m by 0.5m with an overall depth of 0.38. The full width of the feature could not be determined as it lay beyond the limits of excavation. This pit was filled with mid brown/grey compact silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking and heat-shattered stone.

**Post-Hole:** An isolated post-hole was revealed 5.5m north of the trough F8.

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** None

**Ecofacts:** One sample was examined from the trough fill (F4) from Lissava. Four trees were present, and hazel was the dominant one.

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (oak) from fill of trough F3  
C14 (UB-7229) 3517±35 BP (1934–1748 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt stone spread that extended beyond the limits of excavation. The deposit was composed of waste-firing material associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is confirmed by the identification of a possible boiling pit.

**References**

Molloy, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Lissava, Co. Tipperary (E2296)*. Final excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

McQuade, M., Molloy, B and Moriarty, C. 2009. *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological Excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. NRA Scheme Monographs 4. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Lissava	Six inch map no: 75
	Parish:	Caher	NGR: 203018, 124735
	Barony:	Offa West	Altitude: 81m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The burnt mound identified at Trench A was located along a gradual northeast facing slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	Excavations at Curraghatoor, near Cahir (approximately 3.5 km south of the proposed route), revealed structures and associated features dating from the middle to late Bronze Age. Archaeological excavation carried out on the Cashel By-pass in 2003 revealed extensive Bronze Age activity including an enclosed Bronze Age settlement, cremation burials and houses/structures. Numerous Bronze Age sites were also uncovered during the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown scheme including structures, burials and <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This site is one of four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and one burnt mound which were located in close proximity to one another within 550m of road take. This <i>fulacht fia</i> was located 46m south-west of another (TY33).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation. This is one of four sites excavated in this townland.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, two gully features, a pit and a hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as a horseshoe-shaped spread of heat-shattered stone within a charcoal rich sandy matrix. It measured 11.7m by 7.1m and was 0.2m deep. Charcoal from the deposit was identified as oak, hazel, elm and alder.
Pit/Trough:	A circular pit (F34) was located to the north-east of the slot-trench F45. It measured 1.46m by 1.3m and was 0.82m deep with steep sloping sides and a v—shaped base. The fill consisted of a mixed deposit of yellow mottled clay with frequent inclusions of heat-shattered stone. A post-hole was located at each edge of the pit in corresponding positions.

**Gully:** A linear gully was revealed 3.7m south-east of the slot-trench F18. This feature was connected to the pit/trough F34 and extended downslope in a north-easterly direction. It may have functioned as a run-off channel for water in the trough. This cut was linear in plan and it had a U-shaped profile. It was filled with mid brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecking.

**Slot-Trench:** A possible slot trench (F18) was located 3.7m north of the trough/pit F34). It measured 2.8m by 0.16m with a depth of 0.15. Two post-holes were uncovered cut into the base of this feature which may have functioned as a drying rack (Molloy 2007, 100).

**Hearth:** A possible hearth defined by an area of fire-reddened clay was identified 7m to the south of the trough. It measured 0.77m by 0.61m and was overlain by a thin deposit of charcoal.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Charcoal from the mound spread was identified oak, hazel, elm and alder.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt stone spread that extended beyond the limits of excavation. The deposit was composed of waste-firing material associated with a pyrolithic technology. It is unclear whether this technology involved the use of water or a dry heat. Additional features may lie outside the area of excavation.

**References**

Molloy, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Lissava, Co. Tipperary (E2296)*. Final excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

McQuade, M., Molloy, B and Moriarty, C. 2009. *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological Excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. NRA Scheme Monographs 4. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Lissava	Six inch map no: 75
	Parish:	Caher	NGR: 203050, 124775
	Barony:	Offa West	Altitude: 82m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was located along a southwest facing slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	Excavations at Curraghatoor, near Cahir (approximately 3.5 km south of the proposed route), revealed structures and associated features dating from the Middle to Late Bronze Age . Archaeological excavation carried out on the Cashel By-pass in 2003 revealed extensive Bronze Age activity including an enclosed Bronze Age settlement, cremation burials and houses/structures. Numerous Bronze Age sites were also uncovered during the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown scheme including structures, burials and <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	This site is one of four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and one burnt mound which were located in close proximity to one another within 550m of road take. This <i>fulacht fia</i> was located 46m north-east of another (TY32).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation. This is one of four sites excavated in this townland.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, a trough, two hearth features and two isolated post-holes.
Burnt Mound:	This burnt mound was roughly circular in shape and consisted of five deposits of heat-shattered stone and silty clays. Overlaying the primary deposit (black silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal) was a grey silt layer that Molloy suggests, may have been laid down during a brief spell of flooding on site. The low mound measured 6.5m by 5.37m and had a maximum thickness of 0.3m.
Trough:	The trough (F11) was located immediately south-west of the hearth F27. It was sub-oval in plan, with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 2.2m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.44m. Four stake-holes were cut into the north-eastern corner of the trough which may have held a timber lining in place. Five



deposits were noted in the trough fill with the primary one consisting of heat-shattered stone within charcoal rich black silty sand. The charcoal from this layer was identified as hazel, oak and willow. A Middle Bronze Age date was returned from a sample of willow. The uppermost fill of the trough consisted of a layer of re-deposited natural.

Hearth 1: Hearth F27 was located immediately north-east of the trough and 0.5m west of F29. It consisted of a shallow cut measuring 0.96m by 0.87m with a depth of 0.31m. *In situ* burning was noted in the cut along with black silty clay, frequent flecks of charcoal and occasional fragments of heat-shattered stone.

Hearth 2: A hearth feature (F29) was identified at the north-western limits of the burnt mound and was only partially sealed by the burnt mound material. Burning *in situ* was evident around the sides and base of an oval pit. The pit measured 1.22m in length and 0.77m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.41m. The burning *in situ* was sealed by a layer of charcoal.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Charcoal from the trough was identified oak, hazel, and willow.

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (willow) from primary fill of trough F11  
C14 (UB-7231) 3313±35 BP (1685–1512 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt stone spread that extended beyond the limits of excavation. The deposit was composed of waste-firing material associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This is confirmed by the identification of a possible boiling pit and two hearths.

#### **References**

Molloy, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Lissava, Co. Tipperary (E2296)*. Final excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

McQuade, M., Molloy, B and Moriarty, C. 2009. *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological Excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. NRA Scheme Monographs 4. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Clonmore North	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Caher	NGR: 202085, 123905
	Barony:	Offa West	Altitude: 91m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in a pasture field at the summit of a gradual southeast facing slope along the southern foothills of the Galtee Mountains. A narrow stream running from the foothills of the Galtee Mountains was identified 20m to the northeast of the site. The River Suir was located <i>circa</i> 3km to the southeast. Natural subsoil consisted of compact yellow grey gravelly clay.		
Cultural Landscape:	Excavations at Curraghatoor, near Cahir (approximately 3.5 km south of the proposed route), revealed structures and associated features dating from the Middle to Late Bronze Age. Archaeological excavation carried out on the Cashel By-pass in 2003 revealed extensive Bronze Age activity including an enclosed Bronze Age settlement, cremation burials and houses/structures. Numerous Bronze Age sites were also uncovered during the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown scheme including structures, burials and <i>fulachtaí fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Three structures and associated habitation features were also excavated at this site.		
Pre-Excavation features			
The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation.			
Excavation Record			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, a trough, pit, stake-holes and three structures.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 11m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.25m. It was irregular in plan and consisted of a single deposit of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay. The spread sealed a number of features including the irregular pit and stake-hole cluster. A hollow-based flint arrowhead was found within the mound deposits.		
Trough:	The trough (F41) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.48m by 1.24m with a depth of 0.39m. It had gradual sloping sides and a flat base and was filled with two deposits of heat-shattered stone with clay silts. Molloy notes that the sides of the trough were lined with stones (Limestone). A large flat stone		

was uncovered 0.5m north of the trough which was interpreted as a working surface (McQuade *et al.* 2009, 107). Two fills were noted in the trough which consisted of silty clays, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A series of stake-holes (7) were also noted in the south-western corner of the trough.

- Pit: An irregular shaped pit (F45) was identified at the south-eastern extent of the burnt mound and was sealed by it. It measured 1m by 0.8m with a maximum depth of 0.17m. On fill was noted in the pit which consisted of heat-shattered stone and dark sandy clays.
- Stake-Holes: Two stake-hole clusters were revealed during the excavation. One cluster was excavated towards the eastern side of the spread while the other cluster was situated at the north-eastern side. Molloy notes that no clear plan was observed with either cluster and their function remains unknown (2007, 14).
- Post-holes: Eight postholes were located to the south of the burnt mound. These postholes did not appear to form any plan or pattern and their function is unclear. One sherd of Middle-Late Bronze Age pottery was found in one of these post-holes.
- Structure 1: This structure was partially sealed by the burnt mound. Two post-holes associated with the structure were sealed beneath the spread. It consisted of eleven post-holes arranged in a circular pattern which enclosed an area measuring 5.6m in diameter. A central post-hole was identified in the structure, however no internal features or hearth was revealed. Macro-plant analysis from the post-hole fills identified barley and cereal grains. Charcoal was identified as oak, hazel and birch.
- Structure 2: The second structure was revealed 10m south-west of structure one and consisted of a circular arrangement of post-holes encompassing an area of 6.3m in diameter. A Middle Bronze Age date was obtained from a charcoal sample from one of the post-holes. Similar to structure one, barley and cereal grains were identified along with oak, hazel and birch charcoal. A porch-like feature was also revealed at the entrance to this structure along a possible fence line 1m to the east.
- Structure 3: Another possible structure was identified to the north of structure two and to the west of the first. No particular plan or pattern was evident in the location of these postholes and stake-holes but they may have formed structural components such as fence-lines or flimsy house or hut structures.
- Pit 1: Pit F86 was irregular in plan with steep sides. It measured 0.78m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.26m. The western side of the pit was partially lined with stone. No burnt stone was evident in the fill which consisted of sandy clay and charcoal.
- Pit 2: Pit F84 was located 1m to the north-east of F86. It was circular in plan with a diameter of 0.45m and a depth of 0.12m. No burnt stone was evident in the fill which consisted of sandy clay and charcoal.

Pit 3: Pit F71 was rectangular in plan and had well-defined almost vertical edges and a flat base. It measured 2.7m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.8m. It was similar in plan to a trough, but the fills within the cut would suggest that it in-filled naturally as no burnt stone was evident. It may have functioned as a waterhole for storing water. Stake-holes were located 1m to the west.

Hearth: Two hearth features were located on site.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Hollow-based arrow head from the mound material which was identified as Beaker/Early Bronze Age in date. One sherd of domestic Middle Bronze Age pottery was also found in the fill of a post-hole.

Ecofacts: A cache of barley seed from one of the entrance postholes at Structure II would suggest that cereal processing took place on the site. Eight wood types were identified from the site which include alder, birch, hazel, holly, oak and willow.

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (oak) from mound material  
C14 (UB-7227) 3197±34 BP (1525 – 1412 BC)  
Charcoal from fill of post-hole (structure 2)  
C14 (UB-7227) 3219±34 BP (1605–1418 BC)

### **References**

Molloy, B. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Clonmore North, Co. Tipperary (E2294)*. Final excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

McQuade, M., Molloy., B and Moriarty, C. 2009. *In the Shadow of the Galtees: Archaeological Excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown Road Scheme*. NRA Scheme Monographs 4. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Coolderry	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomenty	NGR: 171895, 167157
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 91m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in an area of low-lying, undulating, damp reedy meadow that was once a bog. The rolling nature of the terrain along the road take in this area is broken on a number of occasions by thinly covered protrusions of bedrock. Locally the topography is interspersed with small sandstone hillocks out-cropping frequently through the gently rolling glacial till.		
Cultural Landscape:	Excavations in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick Motorway identified a number of sites in the vicinity of Coolderry Site 2. Coolderry Site 1, E2318 was located 350 m to the northeast and also consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> comprising a circular arrangement of troughs and pits with fills of heat-shattered stone and charcoal (Long and Clark 2009). A third such monument, Ballyard Site 3, E2310, was identified 120 m southwest of Coolderry Site 2 and consisted of a rectangular wood lined trough, an unlined trough and a stone surface beneath a shallow mound of heat shattered stone and charcoal (Long and Clark 2009).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> (see below)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, a plank-lined trough and a later trough lined with organic matting which was held in place by a series of pegs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound composed of three deposits consisting of peat, silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The upper layer of the burnt mound spread (main deposit) contained reddish and greyish-black sandy-silt, with charcoal (15%) and fire-cracked sub-angular stones (35%). It measured 7.64 m northeast-southwest by 6.3 m northwest-southeast, and it varied in depth from 0.24 m to 0.3 m. Lenses of re-deposited material were also noted in the

mound which may be related to the digging of the troughs and other features (Long 2009, 10).

**Trough 1:**

This trough (008) was located under the western extent of the mound. It was rectangular in plan and measured 1.5m by 1 and had a shallow depth of 0.16. Five horizontally laid ash planks were uncovered at the base of the trough. One plank was discovered vertically at the south-east corner suggesting that the sides of this trough were also lined with timbers originally. No tool marks were evident. One of the timbers produced a Late Neolithic date. The primary fill of the trough consisted of a mid grey clay which was only present in the southern side. Three further deposits of mound material were observed above this layer.

**Trough 2:**

Trough 016 was revealed 2m north-east of trough 008. This was also sealed beneath the burnt mound deposits. The pit was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.82m by 1.18m with a maximum depth of 0.42m. The base of the pit was lined with organic material which was compacted to form a basal matting consisting mainly of leaves, fibres, seeds, hazelnut shells and fragmented natural wood which was pressed into the upper surface. A Late Mesolithic date was returned from a fragment of alder wood from this context. The brushwood matting was held in place by a number of wooden pegs, the majority of these stakes were identified as hazel that was cut in winter. One sample was identified as a piece of forked alder blackthorn. Overlying the matting in the north-western side of the trough were two large flat stones. In the south-eastern corner, a deposit of peaty clay with charcoal was observed. This returned an Early Bronze Age date. A long slender piece of wood was noted in the trough which seemed to divide the two in two unequal parts. This piece of wood was identified as ash though it was badly degraded and there was no evidence of working.

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:**

None

**Ecofacts:**

The planks from trough 008 were identified as ash while the stakes in the later trough were mostly identified as hazel which had been coppiced in winter. Alder blackthorn was also observed. Plant material from the later trough was identified as clover seed, crab apple, sedge and pondweed. Hazelnut shell fragments as well as whole shells were also uncovered in some quantity.

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:**

None

**Absolute dating:**

Alder wood from mat lining (trough 016)  
C14 (UBA-12159) 5479±25 BP (4295–4264 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from trough 016  
C14 (UBA-12158) 3824±24 BP (2429–2151 BC)  
Ash lining from trough 008  
C14 (UBA-12377) 4041±24 BP (2833–2473 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from burnt mound deposit  
C14 (UBA-12157) 3875±24 BP (2465–2286 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The *fulacht fia* at Coolderry 2, Co. Tipperary was identified during excavations in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick dual carriageway (Long 2009). The site consisted of a burnt mound that overlay two troughs, one of which was plank-lined while the other was lined with organic material at the base, held in place by stakes. A fragment of alder wood from this organic matting is dated to the Late Mesolithic period (UBA-12159). A sample from the burnt mound is dated to the Early Bronze Age (UBA-12157), while a Late Neolithic date was obtained from wood in the plank-lined trough (UBA 12377). The excavator suggests that the Mesolithic date could be a result of old wood being incorporated into the trough lining at the time of construction (Long 2009, 13). An Early Bronze Age date (UBA-12158) from the fill of this trough along with the contemporary date from the mound is more likely to date this phase of *fulachtaí fia* activity.

## References

Long, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Coolderry 2, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Plate 10.127 Timber trough with basal organic deposit at Coolderry 2.

Location:	Townland:	Coolderry	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomenty	NGR: 172224, 167304
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 80m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying, damp rough pasture that was formerly bog between the Arra Mountains to the north and west and the Silvermines Mountains to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Additional sites containing ‘ <i>fulacht fia</i> ’ or burnt spread remains were also identified in the adjoining townlands, including: Ballyard Site 3 (E2310), located <i>c.</i> 450 m to the southwest; Cooleen Site 4 (E2315), located <i>c.</i> 2.5 km to the southwest; Lackenavea (Egremont/Dunalley) Site 1 (E2486), located <i>c.</i> 115 m to the north-northeast; Gortybrigane Site 1 (E2487), located <i>c.</i> 371 m to the north-northwest; and Gortybrigane Site 2 (E2488), located <i>c.</i> 900 m to the northwest.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a heavily denuded burnt mound which survived as several small spreads of heat-shattered stone. Three troughs were also discovered during excavation along with several pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as several spreads of heat-shattered stone mixed with silty clays and charcoal. Spread 002 was revealed 1m north-east of the trough 008 and consisted of mottled silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 2.3m by 1.5m and was 0.08m thick. 1m to the south-east was another smaller spread which consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A third spread (016) consisted of similar material and measured 1.7m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.1m. The final spread of burnt material was located at right angle to pit 024 and measured 2.1m by 1.2m and was 0.22m thick. Long notes that three of the spreads occupied very slight natural depressions in the subsoil (Long 2009, 9).



Trough 1:	Trough 004 was sub-oval in shape and measured 2.8m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.36m. The pit had had slightly concave sides and a flat base. Four fills were noted in the trough with the basal deposit consisting of a compact yellow/grey silty clay with contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecking and heat-shattered stones. A sample from this deposit returned a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date. The latter fills contained similar deposits of silty clays and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 2:	The second trough (018) identified on site was located 2m north-west of trough 004. This was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 3.3m by 2.32m with a depth of 0.6m. It had an uneven base and concave sides. The fill consisted of a compact brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions and heat-shattered stone. A sample of alder returned a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date.
Pit 1:	Pit 024 was located 2m south-east of trough 004 and had gradual sloping sides and a flat base. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2m by 1.6m and was 0.16m deep. The fill consisted of a dark brown silty clay which contained charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of alder returned a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date.
Pit/Trough:	A possible trough was located approximately 2m to the west of pit 024. It measured 2.07m by 1.9m and was 0.18m deep. It was oval in plan and contained a fill consisting of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 2:	Immediately south-west and downslope of the trough 018 was another pit (032). It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.3m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.48m. The fill consisted of material similar to that of the burnt stone deposits. A fragment of crystal quartz was found in this fill that displayed no evidence of knapping.
Pit 3:	Pit 010 was located immediately south-west and downslope of 032. It was sub-rectangular and measured 1.1m by 0.6m and survived to a depth of 0.31m. The sides were vertical and the base was flat. The fill consisted of sandy clay with charcoal inclusions.
Pit 4:	Pit 011 was located 3m south-east of pit 010. It measured 1.1m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.25m. The pit had irregular sides and a concave base. No burnt stone is noted in the fills which consisted of silty clays, charcoal flecks and degraded stone.
Pit 5:	Pit 015 was located to the south of 011. It was sub-rectangular in plan, with uneven sides and a flat base. It measured 1.3m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.25m. The fill consisted of degraded stone and sandy silts.
<b>Finds:</b>	
Artefacts:	Crystal quartz fragment from pit
Ecofacts:	Charcoal from the site was identified as alder.

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Alder sample from trough lining 004 C14 (UBA-11720) 3835±37 BP (2495–2153 BC) Charcoal (alder) from fill of trough 018 C14 (UBA-11722) 3841±32 BP (2458–2202 BC) Charcoal (alder) from fill of pit 024 C14 (UBA-11721) 3785±31 BP (2333–2059 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The archaeological remains were found to consist of 2 troughs, 5 pits and 4 spreads which formed a roughly oval arrangement around a centrally located trough. The spreads and cut features all contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of silty clay and were characteristic of activity associated with a *fulacht fia* or burnt spread. The lack of a substantial mound of burnt material on this site may suggest that it had been subjected to extensive post-medieval agricultural practices; the only evidence for this, however, was the excavation of a modern drainage ditch to the north of the aforementioned features. It is therefore likely that the site was very short-lived resulting in a low yield of trough waste material being present.

**References**

Long, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Coolderry 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyard	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomenty	NGR: 171856, 167019
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 74m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying, damp rough pasture that was formerly bog between the Arra Mountains to the north and west and the Silvermines Mountains to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Additional sites containing ‘ <i>fulacht fia</i> ’ or burnt spread remains were also identified in the adjoining townlands, including: Coolderry Site 2 (E2317), located <i>c</i> 102 m to the north; Coolderry Site 1 (E2318), located <i>c</i> 450 m to the northeast; Lackenavea (Egremont/Dunalley) Site 1 (E2486), located <i>c</i> 550 m to the northeast; Gortybrigane Site 1 (E2487), located <i>c</i> 564 to the north; Gortybrigane Site 2 (E2488), located <i>c</i> 935 to the north-northwest; Touknockane Site 1 (E2309), located <i>c</i> 1540 m to the southwest; and Cooleen Site 4 (E2315), located <i>c</i> 2050 to the southwest.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme. No extant remains of the site were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a shallow mound of heat-shattered stone, two troughs, two pits and a stone surface.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was made up of a number of deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. It extended over an area measuring 7.2m by 7m with an overall depth of 0.5m. The mound was truncated on the north-east side by a modern drain.
Trough 1:	Trough 006 was oblong in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.22m and was 0.49m deep. The cut had near vertical sides and a flat base. The north-eastern side of the trough was truncated by trough 008. Four fills were noted in the trough with the basal layer consisting of grey sand which long suggests acted as a buffer between the natural subsoil and the wooden lining (Long 2009, 8). The timber lining consisted of six horizontal planks. Analysis of three

planks revealed that at least three species were used in the construction of the lining (willow, oak and alder). A sample from one of these planks returned a Middle Bronze Age date. The latter fills identified in the trough black charcoal rich silt which contained unidentified animal bone and heat-shattered stone. Grass seed and pondweed along with a cattle humerus was uncovered in the upper deposit.

**Pit/Trough:** Pit 008 truncated the trough (006) and was rectangular in shape. It measured 0.92m by 0.73m and was 0.31m in depth with near vertical sides and an irregular base. Two fills were identified in the pit, with the main deposit consisting of a black/reddish peat which contained wood fragments, charcoal, pondweeds seeds and raspberry seeds. An Iron Age date was obtained from a sample of hazel. The upper fill consisted of black silty clay with charcoal inclusions and burnt mound material.

**Metalled Surface:** A stone surface was also identified on the site which was heavily truncated by a filed drain but abutted the trough 006. It consisted of angular and sub-angular stones. The surface measured 5.10 m in length by 3.60 m in width and was a single layer of stones. A single concentration of prismatic milky quartz crystals were recovered from this deposit. Long states that even though the surface is undated, its situation beneath the burnt spread and apparently leading upslope to the edge of trough (006) would suggest it was contemporary with the activity represented by trough.

**Pit 1:** Pit 013 was located 3.5m south-east of the burnt mound and measured 0.96m by 0.32m and was 0.06m in depth. It contained a single fill which consisted of grey silty clay with charcoal flecks and rounded stones.

**Pit 2:** A second shallow pit was located immediately south of the burnt mound. Pit 018 was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 3.5m by 2m with a depth of 0.2m. It contained a single fill of dark brown sandy silt.

## **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Crystal quartz fragment from stone surface

**Ecofacts:** Animal bone was recovered from the site through hand picking. It was identified in the trough fill. Four bone specimens were analysed however only one was identified as a calf humerus. Three burnt fragments were also found. Environmental analysis was also undertaken which identified pondweeds, grass seeds and raspberry seeds from the trough and pit.

**Dating:** Willow from trough lining  
C14 (UBA-13395) 2842±24 BP (1111–1064 BC)  
Hazel fragment from pit 008  
C14 (UBA-13232) 2075±22 BP (169 – 42 BC)

## **References**

Long, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyard 3, Co. Tipperary* Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Lackenavea	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilmastulla	NGR: 172171, 167597
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 77m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in an undulating landscape in a wet, boggy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	Five sites were recorded within a 1 km radius of Lackenavea (Egremont/Dunalley). Gortybrigane Site 1 (E2487), which consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> and was located approximately 13 m to the west-northwest. Gortybrigane Site 2 (E2488), located approximately 512 m to the northwest and containing a <i>fulacht fia</i> and a substantial ditched enclosure. Coolderry Site 1 (E2318), which consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> and was located approximately 115 m to the southwest (Long and Clark 2009a). Coolderry Site 2 (E2317) which was located approximately 385 m to the southwest and consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> (Long 2009c) and Ballyard Site 3 (E2310), which consisted of <i>fulacht fia</i> and was located approximately 422 m to the southwest.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Mesolithic pit and a possible standing stone with Middle Bronze Age pits. Late Bronze Age cremation pits were also excavated in the area.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the proposed road scheme of three areas of archaeological potential. No extant remains of the sites were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of this area uncovered a Mesolithic pit, a possible standing stone, Bronze Age pits and burnt mound activity. The burnt mound and associated features will only be discussed here. The site consisted of three separate deposits of heat-shattered stone, four pits and a stone surface.
Burnt Mound Deposits:	Three separate deposits of silty clays, heat-shattered stone and charcoal were identified in this area of the excavation. The first spread sealed the pit 1023 and consisted of black sandy silt, heat-shattered stone with charcoal inclusions. A second spread sealed pits 1026 and 1025. It was composed of firm dark greyish silty sand, charcoal flecks and heat-shattered stone. It measured 3m by 2m with a maximum thickness of 0.62m. A third deposit

was revealed 5m to the north-east and measured 9.5m by 6m with a maximum thickness of 0.21m. It consisted of dark brown silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

- Pit 1: Pit 1023 was oval in plan with concave sides and an irregular base. It measured 0.8m by 0.6m with an average depth of 0.22m. It was filled with dark grey silty clay, charcoal inclusions and stones. A Middle to Late Bronze Age date was obtained from this pit.
- Pit 2: Pit 1026 was irregular in plan and located c. 12m north-east of the spread 004. It measured 0.5m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.28m. The north and west side of the cut were lined with stones that were embedded into the natural. The fill consisted of yellowish/brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions and small stones.
- Pit 3: Pit 1025 was oval in plan with irregular sides and a tapered base. It measured 3m by 2m with a maximum depth of 0.62m.
- Stone Surface: A deposit of medium to large sub-angular and sub-rounded stones (1028) was located at the edge of an old stream bed, approximately 1.60 m to the southeast of burnt mound material (1004).

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: Charcoal from the site was identified as alder.

#### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from pit 023  
C14 (UBA-12117) 2846±24 BP (1112–924 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site was found to contain three separate concentrations of heat-shattered stone and charcoal consistent with the remains of *fulachtaí fia*. Four associated pits, one of which returned a radiocarbon date of the Middle to Late Bronze Age, were also identified as was a small stone surface. Evidence of post-medieval land improvement, namely the removal of stones and drainage, were also noted in the area. The site can be interpreted as a ploughed-out pyrolithic site used for water-boiling.

#### **References**

Long, P and Clark, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Lackenavea, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Gortybrigane	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 171719, 167691
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 84m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in an undulating landscape in a wet, boggy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	A number of additional sites with archaeological components were excavated in proximity to Gortybrigane Site 1, E2487 during the same road scheme. These included Lackenavea (Dunalley/Egremont) Site 1, E2486 located directly east of the present site, Coolderry Site 1, E2318, located just over c. 600 m to the southeast, Coolderry Site 2, E2317, located just under c. 600 m to the south, Ballyard Site 3, E2310, located c. 700 m to the south and Gortybrigane Site 2, E2488 located over c. 200 m to the northwest of the present site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early to Middle Bronze Age settlement and late Bronze cremation pits.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the N7 Limerick to Neneagh Road Scheme. Five areas of archaeological potential were identified in the area. No extant remains of the sites were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of this area uncovered an Early Bronze Age settlement site with evidence of further activity in the Middle Bronze Age and Medieval periods. Another area revealed a <i>fulacht fia</i> with further spreads to the north-east while the final area produced evidence of Late Bronze Age cremations. The <i>fulacht fia</i> consisted of a mound of heat-shattered stone and two troughs, one of which was lined with boulders.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (004) measured 11.6m by 7m with a depth of 0.26m. It consisted of greyish/black, firm silty sand in a matrix of charcoal and small heat affected stones (65%). It was situated east of the pit 1006 and filled the trough 1012. Hazel from the burnt material returned a Middle Bronze Age date. Two smaller deposits of mound material were also noted on the site. The spread 1007 was located 4m east of the main mound material and measured 0.9m by 0.8m with an overall thickness of 0.15m. The other

spread (1005) was located 7m north-east and measured 1.1m by 0.8m with a thickness of 0.17m. This returned an Early to Middle Bronze Age date.

**Trough 1:** Trough 1006 was located west of the main mound deposit and was sub-circular in shape. It measured 2.72m by 2.44m with a maximum depth of 0.58m. The pit was lined with naturally occurring boulders on the eastern side which separated it from the other possible trough. The other sides of the trough were lined with sub-angular and sub-rounded stones that covered all sides. The fill of this featured contained burnt mound material which was also noted between the stones.

**Trough 2:** A second possible trough (1012) was located immediately east of 1006. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.6m by 1.4m with a maximum depth of 0.24m. Long notes that the feature was much less well defined as 1006 however it did show signs of being stone lined around the edge of the cut. The fill consisted of burnt mound material.

### **Site TY40b**

**Burnt Spreads:** Excavation in this area revealed two burnt stone spreads and a number of other features. The first spread consisted of two layers with the basal deposit consisting of soft black charcoal and small stones. The upper layer was composed of compact silty sand and small stones. The spread covered an area measuring 0.23m by 0.12m with an overall thickness of 0.01m. The second spread on site was irregular in plan and covered an area measuring 1.1m by 1.3m with an average depth of 0.03m. It consisted of a charcoal rich silt with burnt stone.

**Post-Hole:** A single post-hole was recorded 1.45m north-west of the spreads.

**Pit:** A pit (2014) was also revealed in this area which was sub-circular in plan. It exhibited clear indications of *in situ* burning, with the natural boulder clay oxidised on the sides and base of the cut and the charcoal rich nature of the fills. The feature measured 2.12 m east-west by 0.48 m, with a maximum depth of 0.40 m.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Charcoal from the site was identified as alder and hazel.

**Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from burnt mound (site TY40a)  
C14 (UBA-11750) 3053±25 BP (1403–1262 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from burnt spread (site TY40a)  
C14 (UBA-11749) 3279±27 BP (1624 – 1496 BC)

### **References**

Long, P and O'Malley, M. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Gortybrigane 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Gortybrigane	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 171323, 168266
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 46m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was located at the foot of a sharp decline to the north. It was located on a northwest/southeast orientated ledge of rock, which was bordered by a natural stream on the northeast side and declined sharply into a basin of waterlogged bog on the southwest side.		
Cultural Landscape:	Further sites of archaeological potential were identified in the vicinity of Gortybrigane Site 2 and resolved as part of this project. These included: Gortybrigane Site 1 (E2487) which contained the remains of a prehistoric settlement site with Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery (Area A), a <i>fulacht fia</i> and associated features (Area B), and two small burnt spreads, a posthole with packing stones and a burnt pit (Area D). This site was located approximately 200m to the southeast of Gortybrigane Site 2. Gortybrigane Site 3 (E3428) was found to contain a Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> .		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Prehistoric settlement in the form of a Middle Bronze Age structure and Iron waste pit. Medieval ditched enclosure also identified.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the N7 Limerick to Neneagh Road Scheme. Five areas of archaeological potential were identified in the area. No extant remains of the sites were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of this area uncovered evidence of prehistoric settlement in the form of a Middle Bronze Age structure and an Iron Age waste pit. The burnt mound identified in the excavated area was only partially exposed and consisted of a mound of heat-shattered stone. No cut features were revealed but the spread was seen to continue beyond the area of excavation.
Burnt Mound:	The exposed portion of the mound measured 12m by 8m with a maximum thickness of 0.39m. It was estimated that approximately half of the mound was excavated while portions may have been eroded by the nearby stream which borders the mound. It consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and

dark silty clays that contained small stones and hazelnut shells. A Late Bronze Age date was retrieved from a sample of charcoal. Two smaller spreads of burnt mound material were also identified on site. 007 was located 2.5m north of the main mound and measured 2.1m by 0.8m with a maximum thickness of 0.04. The second spread (004) was located 4.9m to the north-west of the main mound and measured 2.5m by 1.4m with a thickness of 0.1m.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (*Pomoideae*) from burnt mound  
C14 (UBA-11753) 2741±22 BP (927–827 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site consisted of a mound of heat-shattered stone and charcoal associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. It was eroded by a stream on the eastern side. No trough was identified within the limits of the excavation.

#### **References**

Long, P and Clark, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Gortybrigane 2, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Gortybrigane	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 171323, 168266
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 42m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Bruce Sutton	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low lying area of pasture land. The land in the surrounding area rose sharply to the south, east and west, while gradually rising to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	Though Gortybrigane Site 3 was not located adjacent to any other sites excavated as part of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick HQDC, two other sites were excavated within the townland of Gortybrigane. Both of these sites revealed extensive multi period activity including two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> (see above).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two spreads of heat-shattered stone were identified at this site located 15m apart.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The two areas of burnt mound activity were first recognised during archaeological testing in advance of the N7 Limerick to Neneagh Road Scheme. No extant remains of the sites were evident prior to this investigation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two separate phases of pyrolithic activity 15m apart. The earliest phase consisted of two spreads of heat-shattered stone which dated to the Late Neolithic. The next phase of activity was in the Early Bronze Age and consisted of a mound of heat-shattered stone and trough lined with stone, roundwoods and timber planks.

### Site TY41a

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound spread (C6) was circular in plan and covered an area measuring 7.75m by 4.7m with a maximum thickness of 0.26. It consisted of compact black heat-shattered stones (40%) in a matrix of 60% charcoal rich silt. The spread covered the trough and its associated fills and sat on the natural peaty soil below.

Trough: Trough C15 was rectangular in shape with vertical sides, angular corners and a flat base. It measured 1.58m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.36m. The pit cut

was lined with a combination of flat stone slabs, timber planks and roundwood branches. Two, possibly worked, upright limestone slabs were revealed at each end of the trough and Scotland notes that these stones were inserted before the timber lining (2010, 21). A coarse gritty sand layer was observed at the base of the trough which may have been intentional, in order to create a flat basal layer for the timbers. Another possibility is that this layer represents waste material from the hot stone being introduced to the water which has leached through the basal timbers. The wood lining layer (Alder and Ash) was then constructed against the inside edge of cut C15 with the basal timbers placed first with the two main side timbers set upon them along with the secondary side and packing timbers. Two fills were noted in the trough which represented different phases of slippage.

## Site TY41b

**Burnt spreads:** This area consisted of two burnt mound deposits located 5m apart. Spread C10 consisted of compacted black material containing 60% heat-shattered stone and 40% fine sandy silt containing charcoal. It measured 5.05m by 9.02m with an overall thickness of 0.38m. Peat was noted below this deposit. The spread C11 was circular in shape and measured 5.6m by 5m with a thickness of 0.12m. It consisted of dark brown compacted peat and sandy silt, with burnt stone and charcoal.

## Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## Dating:

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from burnt mound C6 Area TY42a  
C14 (Beta-259019) 3750±40 BP (2290–2030 BC)  
Charcoal (elm) from burnt spread C10 Area TY42b  
C14 (Beta-259020) 4150±40 BP (2880–2580 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the area revealed two separate phases of pyrolithic activity located 15m apart. The earliest phase consisted of two spreads of heat-shattered stone dated to the Late Neolithic (Beta-259020). The next phase of activity was in the Early Bronze Age (Beta-259019) and consisted of a mound of heat-shattered stone and trough lined with stone, roundwoods and timber planks. Scotland (2010) suggests that the ‘old wood effect’ may account for the disparity in the dating received, with the alluvial build up being caused by localised flooding in this wetland environment. This may point to the two spreads being related to the Early Bronze Age activity recorded adjacent to the site. However, without any direct stratigraphical relationship, or other dating evidence, no conclusive interpretation can be reached.

## References

Scotland, L. 2010. *Archaeological excavations at Gortybrigane, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cooleen	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 170320, 165708
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 43m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Ross MacLeod	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in an area of low-lying, undulating, damp reedy meadow that was formerly bog. Locally, the topography is interspersed with small sandstone hillocks out-cropping frequently through the gently rolling glacial till. The site was under rough pasture at the time of excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	Five sites were recorded within a 1 km radius of Lackenavea (Egremont/Dunalley). Gortybrigane Site 1 (E2487), which consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> and was located approximately 13 m to the west-northwest. Gortybrigane Site 2 (E2488), located approximately 512 m to the northwest and containing a <i>fulacht fia</i> and a substantial ditched enclosure. Coolderry Site 1 (E2318), which consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> and was located approximately 115 m to the southwest. Coolderry Site 2 (E2317) which was located approximately 385 m to the southwest and consisted of a <i>fulacht fia</i> and Ballyard Site 3 (E2310), which consisted of <i>fulacht fia</i> and was located approximately 422 m to the southwest.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Charcoal production pit excavated 300m to the north-east (E2319).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the shallow remains of a burnt mound, one trough and a number of other pit features.
Burnt Mound:	Multiple mound deposits were noted during excavation with the basal deposit consisting of compact dark clayey silt with charcoal and heat-shattered stone inclusions. It measured 2m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.2m. A second spread was located 2m to the north-east. It measured 5.5m by 2.7m and consisted of a compact yellow/brown clayey sand with frequent heat-shattered stone and charcoal flecking. A firm black clayey silt with charcoal and small pebbles

overlay these deposits. It measured 6.2m by 5m with an overall thickness of 0.2m. A sample of hazel returned an Early Bronze Age date.

- Trough: The trough (019) was located under the south-east portion of the mound. It was sub-rectangular in shape with near vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.4m by 1.2m with an overall depth of 0.5m. Two fills were noted in the trough with the basal deposit consisting of a compact grey silt with occasional heat-shattered stone. The upper deposit contained a dark grey clayey silt with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The trough filled naturally with water.
- Pit 1: Pit 026 was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.9m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.4m. It had steeply concave sides and an irregular base. The pit contained black silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
- Re-cut: Pit 026 was later re-cut by pit 027. This was also sub-circular with steeply sloping sides and a relatively flat base. It measured 1.9m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.4m. The fill contained a dark grey/brown silty clay with frequent heat-shattered stone. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from this pit.
- Pit 2: Pit 008 was located directly north of 026. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 2.1m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.33m. The pit contained a fill of soft dark brown sandy clay which had charcoal and heat-shattered stone inclusions throughout.
- Pit 3: Pit 005 was located 0.9m to the north-east of 008. It was sub-oval in plan with a gradual break of slope at the top, sloping concave sides leading into a slightly concave base. It measured 1.70 m long by 1.60 m wide and was 0.32 m deep. Two fills were noted in the pit with the basal deposit consisting of firm black sandy silt with occasional heat-shattered sandstone. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from this fill. The upper fill contained firm brown silty sand with heat-shattered sandstone.
- Post-hole: A single post-hole was recorded 0.3m north-west of the pit.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: Three species, hazel, alder and Pomoideae, were identified from the charcoal selected for radiocarbon dating.

### **Dating:**

Charcoal (hazel) from burnt mound spread  
C14 (Beta-11853) 3727±31 BP (2263 – 2030 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from pit 027  
C14 (Beta-11854) 3636±31 BP (2131 – 1912 BC)  
Charcoal (Pomoideae) from pit 005  
C14 (Beta-11855) 3847±30 BP (2458 – 2205 BC)

### **References**

Doyle, T. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cooleen 4, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Annaholty	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 169675, 165119 169644, 165071
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 46–47m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Margaret McNamara	
	Consultants:	TVAS Ireland Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located within reclaimed peat-based pasture, at the base of a steep hill. Two separate areas were excavated (A and B). Area A was located on a gentle north-west facing slope which gradually rose to meet the steeper hill. Area B was located to the south-west of Area A on a higher steeper north-facing slope overlooking its neighbour.

**Cultural Landscape:** A number of sites were excavated within 1km of site E3326. These included Annaholty Site 4 (E2312) consisting of two pits containing burnt mound material; Site 2 (E2313), a *fulacht fia*; Site 3 (E2314) containing a burnt mound and Site 5 (E2326) consisting of a spread of burnt material, stakeholes and post medieval drains. All of these sites were located southwest of E3326. Cooleen Site 4 (E2315), a *fulacht fia*, was excavated north-east of E3326.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed two separate areas of pyrolithic technology. Area A consisted of a classic horseshoe-shaped mound and associated wooden trough. A well was also excavated here along with a number of pits. Area B contained a smaller spread and an unlined trough.

### **Site TY44a**

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound was crescent shaped and measured 18.4m by 16.4m with a maximum thickness of 0.7m. McNamara states that the mound consisted of 55 tonnes of burnt heat-shattered stone (2008, 7). The mound was composed of five distinguishable dumps of burnt or heat-affected multicoloured (pinkish red, pinkish orange and grey) sandstone.

**Trough:** The trough was irregular in plan and located between the arms of the crescent shaped mound of burnt stone. It measured 3.3m by 0.5-2m and had a maximum depth of 0.5m. The primary fill consisted of a compact grey clay deposit. The wooden base of the trough survived as a series of timber planks embedded into this grey clay. Two layers of timber planking were noted during the excavation and it is possible that one of these layers may represent an earlier phase. A second more robust layer of planks was laid on top. These timbers were in slightly better condition, but they appeared to have congealed and were warped into a bowed profile. A second deposit was noted over the wooden structure consisting of compact dark brown to black clayey silt with moderate inclusions of heat-affected multicoloured sandstone and charcoal. This deposit represents the last event within the trough. A possible hammer-stone was retrieved from this deposit along with burnt bone.

**Well:** This pit and gully feature was located 0.6m east of the trough. It was key hole shaped in plan consisting of a circular pit and a curvilinear gully or water channel which led to the trough. The pit measured 3m by 2.8m with a maximum depth of 0.73m. The connected water channel measured 1.24m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.05m. The fill consisted of compact grey silty clay with moderate small stones. The secondary deposit consisted of loose greyish/black silt with occasional heat-shattered stone.

#### **Site TY44b**

**Burnt Mound:** This smaller burnt stone spread was sub-oval in plan and constructed onto marl clay deposits at the edge of a natural spring on a steep north facing slope overlooking the larger *fulacht fia* in Area A. The spread measured 8.14m by 5.74m with a maximum height of 0.48m. It consisted of loose friable brownish black mix of coarse sand and silt with moderate to frequent inclusions of heat-affected multicoloured sandstone.

**Trough:** The trough was located under the eastern portion of the spread and was irregular in plan. It measured 2.28m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.35m. The primary fill of the trough consisted of dark brown silty clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

#### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Possible hammerstone from fill of trough (site a). Burnt bone from fill of trough and burnt mound (site a). Hazelnuts were identified in spread (site b). Cereal grains

**Dating:** Date unavailable  
**References**

McNamara, M. 2008. Archaeological excavations at Annaholty (E3326), Co. Tipperary. Unpublished excavation report prepared by TVAS Ireland.



Location:	Townland:	Annaholty	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 169518, 164978
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 48
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinsty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on the edge of a low depression. Locally the topography is interspersed with small sandstone hillocks out-cropping frequently through the gently rolling glacial till.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site was located <i>c.</i> 400 m to the northeast of Annaholty Site 4, E2312 and <i>c.</i> 100 m northeast of Annaholty Site 3, E2314, which were situated on much lower ground, and were also excavated as part of the current project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, trough and a number of pits along with several stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The Burnt stone mound (003) consisted of one deposit of black, loosely-compacted, silty-sand with large amounts of burnt stone and charcoal. It was irregular in shape and measured 14.10m by 12.20m with a maximum height of 0.44m. A Middle Bronze Age date was obtained from a sample of this spread. A number of earlier spread were also revealed under this main mound.
Trough:	The trough (006) was oval in plan and located under the eastern portion of the mound. It measured 2.5m by 1.74m with a depth of 0.8m. It had gradual breaks of slop which led to a concave base. Its sides at the western end were stepped at the top and vertical at the lower part. Its sides at the eastern end were concave at the top and vertical at the lower part. Two fills were noted in the trough which consisted of silty clays, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The lower fill produced a Middle Bronze Age date.

- Pit 1: Pit 008 was located under the western portion of the mound. It was sub-oval in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.38m with a depth of 0.17m. It contained a fill consisting of greyish/brown silty sand with frequent pebbles. It returned an Early to Middle Bronze Age date.
- Pit 2: Pit 012 was located adjacent to 008. It was oval in plan and measured 0.4m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.2m. It contained a fill consisting of greyish/brown silty sand with frequent pebbles.
- Pit 3: Pit 010 was located to the south and was sub-oval in plan. It measured 0.6m by 0.45m with a depth of 0.3m. It contained a fill consisting of greyish/brown silty sand with frequent pebbles and charcoal. Cereal grains were identified in the fill also. Two stake-holes were situated north-west of the pit.
- Pit 4: Pit 026 was located under the north-eastern portion of the mound. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.65m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.28m. The fill consisted of dark silty sand, burnt stone and charcoal.
- Pit 5: Pit 028 was located immediately to the north-east of 026. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.55m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.12m. The fill consisted of dark silty sand, burnt stone and charcoal.
- Pit 6: This pit was one of three clustered 3.5m north-east of the burnt mound. 031, was irregular in plan and measured 1.4m by 1m with a depth of 0.3m. The fill consisted of dark sandy silt, charcoal and stone.
- Pit 7: This pit was one of three clustered 3.5m north-east of the burnt mound. 033, was irregular in plan and measured 0.5m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.15m. The fill consisted of dark sandy silt, charcoal and stone.
- Pit 8: Pit 037 was oval in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.86m with a depth of 0.14m. The fill consisted of dark silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. An Early Bronze Age date was retrieved from this pit.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from pit 037  
 C14 (Beta-11737) 3792±22 BP (2131–1912 BC)  
 Charcoal (hazel) from lower fill of trough 006  
 C14 (Beta-11734) 3161±26 BP (1496–1401 BC)  
 Charred nutshell from burnt mound 003  
 C14 (Beta-11735) 3143±21 BP (1492–1386 BC)  
 Charcoal (prunus) from pit 008  
 C14 (Beta-11736) 3232±25 BP (1604–1434 BC)

## References

O'Neill, N. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Annaholty, Co. Tipperary (E2313)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Annaholty	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 169411, 164887
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 49
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinsty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** The site was situated in the centre of a low depression. The site and its immediate environs were extremely water-logged due to the topography and the number of natural springs which were located close to or in the site itself.

**Cultural Landscape:** The site was located c. 400 m to the northeast of Annaholty Site 4, E2312 and c. 100 m northeast of Annaholty Site 3, E2314, which were situated on much lower ground, and were also excavated as part of the current project.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a linear arrangement of a timber and stone lined trough, a wooden platform and a stone-lined well, all of which were roughly contemporary. Three phases of activity were uncovered.

#### **Phase 1**

**Wooden Structure:** The earliest feature identified on site consisted of a linear or sub-oval feature (027) measuring 3.4m by 2.2m with a depth of 0.9m. It consisted of a mid-brown clay with significant quantities of organic material, stone and worked wood, nine of these were described as stakes and eight as boards. The wood was identified as oak, ash, alder and willow. A Middle Bronze Age date was returned from the basal of the feature.

#### **Phase 2**

**Trough** The trough (014) was located 2m south of the platform. It was sub-oval in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 3.1m by 2.55m with a maximum depth of 0.39m. The sides of the pit were lined with clay and stone packing, while the base was lined with six timber planks. One of these planks returned a Middle to Late Bronze Age date. The fill of the trough consisted

of burnt mound material containing black silty sand, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

- Platform:** The platform (022) was constructed using three planks set side-by-side and was orientated perpendicular to (027). The structure was located immediately adjacent to the well and held in place with timber pegs. The mortise or socket holes for these appear to have been created by a chisel approximately 0.024 m in width by first chiseling one side then flipping the wood over to chisel the reverse side until a sub-rectangular hole was created. Four more stakes were uncovered close to the plank furthest from the well. McKinstry notes that the stakes form a coherent plan and appear to respect the position of the third plank and may have served as a barrier or uprights for a superstructure (2009, 10).
- Well:** The well (015) was located immediately northwest of the platform (022) and was sub-circular in shape. The sides were stepped and sloped gradually in from the edge to the top of the step. Below this level the sides were concave. The cut measured 3.66 m north/south by 2.84 m east/west and 0.85 m deep. The gradually sloping upper part of the sides was lined with a layer of sub-rounded stones of medium size.
- Burnt Mound:** Above the structural elements and fills of the well (015), platform (022) and trough (012) was a deposit (003) of burnt mound material 11.6 m in length, 7.93 m in width and 0.32 m in depth. This was composed of black, loosely compacted, silty sand with large quantities of burnt stone and charcoal and represented the main mound material.
- Finds:** The waterlogged plant remains recovered from these samples are indicative of an assemblage showing wet, open ground, such as sedges, buttercups, bramble, dock and meadow grass, together with pondweed. Five species of wood was identified consisting of oak, alder, ash, willow and hazel.
- Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from burnt mound  
C14 (Beta-12288) 2969±22 BP (1292 – 1121 BC)  
Waterlogged hazel wood from trough  
C14 (Beta-12289) 2759±21 BP (973 – 835 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from well deposit  
C14 (Beta-12290) 2910±23 BP (1208 – 1014 BC)  
Waterlogged ash wood from platform  
C14 (Beta-12375) 2942±33 BP (1265 – 1028 BC)  
Alder wood from trough  
C14 (Beta-12374) 2882±23 BP (1188 – 979 BC)  
Alder wood from linear feature  
C14 (Beta-12376) 3199±33 BP (1524 – 1414 BC)  
Waterlogged alder wood from linear feature  
C14 (Beta-12291) 3070±23 BP (1411 – 1270 BC)

## References

O'Neill, N. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Annaholty, Co. Tipperary (E2314)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

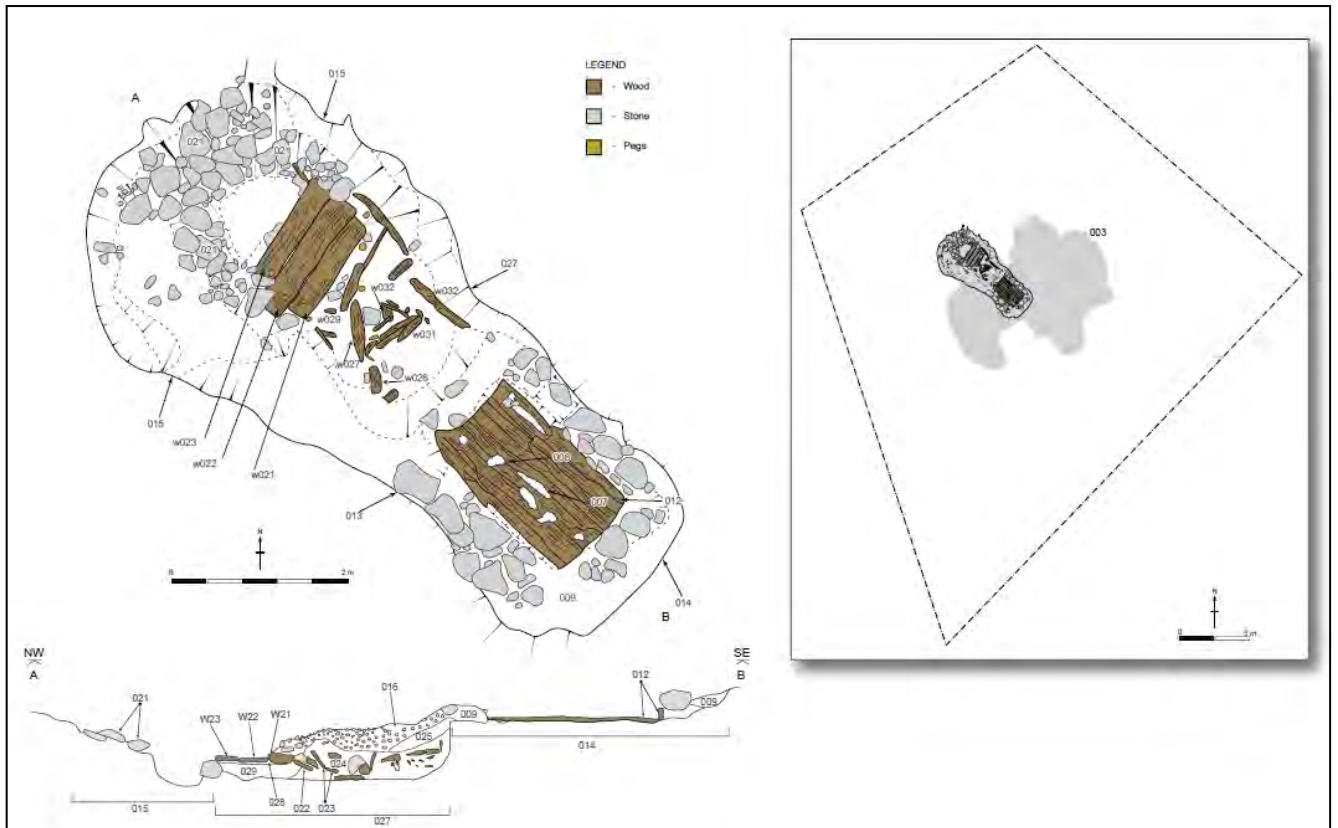


Fig. 10.148 Timber and stone-lined trough connected to platform and well at Annaholty.



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Location:	Townland:	Annaholty	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 169265, 164764
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 49m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinsty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** The site was situated at the edge of a low depression. The site and its immediate environs were extremely water-logged due to the topography which acted like a bowl and retained much of the water which drained into it from the higher.

**Cultural Landscape:** The site was located within close proximity to two other sites, Annaholty Site 3, E2314 which was located c. 133 m to the northeast on much lower ground and Annaholty Site 5, E2326 which was situated c. 266 m to the south on the other side of the local road.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed four spreads of burnt stone material, three pits and a single trough located at the centre of the site.

**Burnt Spreads:** Four small burnt spreads were identified on site with the first (015) sealing the large pit revealed in the centre of the site, interpreted as a possible trough. This spread formed the upper fill of the pit and spilled out around the edges. It consisted of dark brown silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Spread 014 was located 2.3m south of 015 and measured 1.34m by 0.67m with a height of 0.02m. A charred cereal grain from this deposit returned a Medieval date. Spread 016 was located 4m east of 014 and measured 3.4m by 1.4m with a thickness of 0.1m. The last spread identified on site was located between 0.14 and 0.16 and measured 3.9m by 2m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m. Much of the spreads consisted of the same material of dark brown silty clays, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Trough:** The trough (013) was located in the centre of the site and was sub-rectangular in plan with irregular sides and a flat base. It measured 1.65m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.48m. Three fills were noted in the pit with the basal deposit consisting of reddish brown silty clay, heat-shattered stone and

charcoal. The middle fill composed of black silty material with a large amount of charcoal. A Middle Bronze Age date was returned from this fill. The upper layer of the trough consisted of deposit 015.

- Pit 1: Pit 007 was located south of the trough and truncated the third spread. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 0.42m by 0.28m with a depth of 0.14m. The fill consisted of light brown silty clay.
- Pit 2: Pit 004 was located at the southern end of the third spread and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 0.92m by 0.87m with depth of 0.22m.

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: One cereal grain was recovered from the spread and was too badly damaged to be identified to species. Alder was the only species identified from the charcoal analysis.

#### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from middle fill of trough  
C14 (Beta-11751) 3277±21 BP (1612–1501 BC)  
Charred cereal grain from spread 2  
C14 (Beta-11752) 935±20 BP (AD 1034–1155)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

This site is one of a number of *fulachtaí fia* investigated in this townland as part of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick road scheme. Four deposits of burnt stone and several pits were excavated, one of which was dated to the Bronze Age (UB-11751). A single cereal grain was recovered from one of the burnt stone spreads. The dating of a single cereal grain from a burnt spread at this site cannot be regarded as secure. One of the excavated troughs produced a Middle Bronze Age date (UB-11751). That result is more likely to date the *fulacht fia* activity at this location. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location possibly used for cooking.

#### **References**

McKinstry, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Annaholty 4, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Annaholty	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Kilcomentry	NGR: 168772, 164054
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 42
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinsty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** The site was situated on the edge of the Annaholty bog. The land rose gradually out of the bog up to a low rise, though this had not always been the case as a large amount of backfilled sand and gravel had been spread over the site most probably from a nearby quarry.

**Cultural Landscape:** Annaholty Sites 5 and 6 were in close proximity, c. 500 m to the north-east of this site.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a large mound of heat-shattered stone, a wood-lined trough and a large pit cut by several stake-holes. A further two pits were also uncovered during excavation.

**Burnt Mound:** The mound of burnt stone material covered the main features on site and measured 17.10m by 10.75m with a maximum height of 0.6m. Several layers of heat-shattered stone were noted interspersed with natural silting. The basal deposit consisted of compacted peat, charcoal and wooden branches and returned a Late Bronze Age date. The main deposit consisted of black, compacted silt with significant inclusions of charcoal and heat-affected stones.

**Trough:** Trough 018 was sub-rectangular in plan with rounded corners, vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.75m by 1.98m with a maximum depth of 0.56m. A plank lining was uncovered in the base of the cut and remnants also survived at the sides. Five stake-holes were identified in the base of the trough, two in the south-west corner, two in the north-western side and one in the south-east corner. The excavator notes that it was unclear if the base lining of the structure had been made from one single large plank or had



consisted of several. The preservation of the wood was such that a definite interpretation was not possible (McKinstry 2009, 9). A Late Bronze Age date was returned from an ash deposit which surrounded one of the side planks. The fill of the trough contained burnt stone, charcoal and re-deposited natural.

- Pit 1: The pit 007 was located immediately west of the trough (018). It was oval in shape and measured 3.21m by 2.4m with a maximum depth of 0.66m. The base of the pit was cut by eight stake-holes. These were located in or close to the south and south-western side of the pit with one in the north-western corner. Large stones were noted in the basal fill of the feature which were unburnt and lying flat on the base suggesting a possible lining. A Late Bronze Age date was returned from this pit.
- Pit 2: Pit 013 was located immediately south of the trough and pit 007. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.9m in diameter with a depth of 0.7m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of sandy silt, small stones and charcoal flecking.
- Pit 3: Pit 015 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 0.78m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.12m. The fill consisted of a black, charcoal rich sand which contained one piece of wood.
- Pit 4: A shallow pit (021) was uncovered cut into the top of the burnt mound deposit. It measured 1.9m by 0.73m with a depth of 0.18m. This cut was filled by orangey-grey, compact silty sand which contained stone, peat and charcoal inclusions.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Alder wood from large pit 1 (007)  
 C14 (Beta-12810) 2433±26 BP (748–405 BC)  
 Charcoal (alder) from shallow pit 021  
 C14 (Beta-12811) 779±24 BP (AD 121–1275)  
 Hazel wood from basal mound deposit  
 C14 (Beta-12812) 2625±31 BP (835–771 BC)  
 Charcoal (hazel) from trough  
 C14 (Beta-12813) 2696±25 BP (898–808 BC)

#### **References**

McKinstry, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Annaholty 7, Co. Tipperary (E2325)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Garraun	Six inch map no: 25
	Parish:	Kilnarath	NGR: 174708, 169835
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 79m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the margin of a basin of waterlogged bog. It was bounded by a watercourse to the northwest and hedges to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated area prior to excavation however a number of previously unrecorded sites were identified during the current road scheme in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval metal-working site.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a shallow burnt mound and a single trough. An unrelated metalworking site was also excavated at this site.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt stone spread (2003) was located to the north-east of the trough. It was irregular in shape and measured 5.5m by 1.6m with a thickness of 0.21m. The deposit consisted of dark sandy peat, charcoal and heat-affected stone. Charcoal from the mound was identified as alder, birch, elm, hazel, hawthorn, oak and willow or poplar.
Trough:	The trough was located north-west of the site and was sub-rectangular in plan with concave sides and a flat base. Four large stones were noted on the north side of the base of the trough. Three fills were uncovered in the trough which mostly consisted of black silty clays, charcoal and angular stones.
Finds:	None
Dating:	Pomoideae charcoal from fill of trough C14 (Beta-12402) 3247±24 BP (1607–1450 BC)

### References

Long, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Garraun, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Killalane	Six inch map no: 25
	Parish:	Killoskully	NGR: 175376, 170485 175921, 170740
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 75m and 66m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	Site (a) was located northeast of a small stream that serves as the townland boundary with Cappadine; it was situated at the base of a steep east-facing slope and was wet and boggy pasture land prior to excavation. Site (b) was located in a south-sloping field, in a hilly landscape. It was bounded by a water course and hedgerow to the southeast and was damp pasture prior to excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	Further sites of archaeological potential were identified in the vicinity of Killalane Site 2 and resolved as part of this project. These included a series of small fire waste pits and a possible hearth in Cappadine Site 1 (E2496 Area F), identified on the southwest bank of the stream that serves as the townland boundary between Cappadine and Killalane; and Bronze Age settlement evidence at Killalane Site 1 (E3534), located in the east of the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A Late Bronze Age double ditched enclosure with internal structural evidence (E2495) was excavated near both <i>fulachtaí fia</i> . Also, Bronze Age settlement evidence was uncovered 150m to the east (E3534).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two burnt mounds with associated cut features along with a large double-ditched enclosure with internal occupation evidence. Medieval activity was also noted during the excavation however the burnt mounds will only be discussed here.

### Site TY49 a

Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was located 8.6m from the trough and consisted of three deposits of silty sand, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Overall the mound measured 14.4m by 7m with a depth of 0.3m. Three smaller burnt stone deposits were also uncovered east of this main mound. Long suggests that these deposits are likely to be the result of centuries of agricultural activity dispersing the main mound material (Long 2009, 10). Deposit 026 was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.8m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.3m. 027 was located 1m to the east and measured 0.4m by 0.3 with a depth of 0.3m. 007 was a similar deposit which was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.4m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.07m. All of these deposits consisted similar material to the mound deposits- silty sands, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	The trough (019) was located towards the centre of the site and was sub-oval in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.4m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.25m. Two fills were noted in the trough with the primary deposit consisting of brown silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of hazel from this fill returned an early medieval date. The upper fill of the trough consisted of a stony silty clay which contained charcoal, heat-shattered stone and un-burnt stone which extended beyond the limits of the cut. This was interpreted as a small mound associated with the use of the trough.
Pit 1:	Pit 015 was located to in the south-east of the excavated area and was oval in plan with concave sides and a rounded base. It measured 1.35m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.4m. Two fills were noted in the pit with the primary deposit consisting of black silty clay, charcoal flecking and small to large heat-affected stones. The upper fill contained black silty clay, charcoal flecks and heat-shattered stone.
Irregular Feature:	A natural depression or tree bowl was also excavated at the site which measured 4m by 2.5m. Long suggests that it may have been utilised to dump the waste material from the neighbouring trough/pit (2009, 9).

## Site TY49 b

Burnt Mound:	A large burnt spread was identified in the centre of Area F overlying the pit (2024). It had been truncated on the northern side by a cereal-drying kiln, on the western side by linear feature (2012) and on the southern side by linear feature (2023). The natural subsoil beneath this spread appeared to be fire reddened suggesting that burning <i>in situ</i> had occurred. Two deposit of burnt material were noted in the trough which consisted of black, charcoal rich silt in a matrix of heat-shattered stone. The spread roughly measured 6.8m by 4m with a depth of 0.35m. A Middle Bronze Age date was returned from a sample of charcoal.
Pit 1:	Pit 2034 was located towards the centre of the site and truncated the burnt spread. It was irregular in plan similar sides and base. It measured 1.55m by 1m. The fill was disturbed containing a mixture of grey and brown sandy silt.

- Pit 2: Pit 2016 was located roughly 1m north-west of pit 2034. It measured 0.7m by 0.65m and survived to a depth of 0.4m with concave sides and a tapered base. The fill of the pit consisted of disturbed mound material and a notable quantity of animal bone.
- Pit 3: Pit 2035 was sub-oval in plan with irregular sides and base. It measured 2m in length however the width and depth of the feature is unknown. The fill consisted of burnt mound material.
- Pit 4: Pit 2024 measured 0.64m by 0.53m with a depth of 0.11m. It was sub-circular and the fill contained burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: Flint flake was uncovered from the topsoil in site TY50a.
- Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from pit 2016. The assemblage included 12 cattle teeth, 6 sheep/goat teeth and 50 fragments of unidentified bone.

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Pomoideae charcoal from burnt spread (site b)  
C14 (Beta-12034) 3189±24 BP (1501 – 1418 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from fill of trough 019 (site a)  
C14 (Beta-12032) 1095±26 BP (AD 891 – 1012)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

This site was revealed during archaeological testing in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick road scheme. Several cut features were identified, including two pits, one of which was interpreted as a trough. The pit was suboval in plan and contained two fills. The basal fill consisted of brown silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone, while the upper deposit consisted of stonier material, including burnt stone and charcoal. A sample of this charcoal was dated to the early medieval period (Long 2009, 8). A large burnt mound was revealed c. 9m north-west of the trough. Neither the mound material nor the other cut features were selected for dating analysis. Interestingly, a series of charcoal production pits were revealed c. 40m north-east of the site, with one of these returning a date broadly contemporary with the sample obtained from the trough. While it is plausible that the pit functioned as a boiling trough, similar to prehistoric examples, a certain degree of caution should be exercised, given that there is only a single date and in view of the proximity to the charcoal production pits.

### **References**

Long, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Killalane, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Carrigatogher (Harding)	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Burgesbeg	NGR: 181510, 176497
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 72m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Ross MacLeod	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was the mostly westerly site in the grouping and was situated c.30 m to the southeast of the local road. Situated at the higher end of a small field the land drops away gently to the west and was heavily covered with thick growth of thistles indicating that the land had not been grazed for a number of months.		
Cultural Landscape:	Further sites of archaeological potential were identified in the vicinity of Carrigatogher and resolved as part of this project. Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 4 (E2469), located approximately 175 m to the west-northwest of the present site, contained evidence of Neolithic pottery and Early to Middle Bronze Age occupation activity. Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 3 (E2474), located approximately 90 m to the northwest, contained evidence of a large prehistoric complex containing Bronze Age structures, <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and cremation burials. Carrigatogher (Ryan) Site 4 (E2473), located approximately 179 m to the north-northwest, contained approximately half of a large <i>fulacht fia</i> dating to the Final Neolithic/Early Bronze Age period.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Bronze Age occupation site in the form of a ring-ditch and associated structures (E2406).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed an undated trough and a hearth dating to the early medieval period, an Early Bronze Age ring-ditch with associated structural and occupational evidence and two troughs with discrete deposits of burnt mound material. It will only be the *fulachtaí fia* related activity which will be discussed here.

### Site TY50 a

Hearth: Test trenching in this area revealed a hearth and an isolated pit. Hearth pit 006 was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.23m by 1.06m with a depth of 0.37m. The base was heavily oxidised suggest *in situ* burning had taken place here. The fill of the feature consisted of black silty clay with frequent alder charcoal inclusions. A sample of this charcoal returned an Early/High Medieval date.

Pit/Trough: An isolated pit (092) was situated immediately south of the hearth 006. It was oval in plan with steep sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.83m by 1.64m with a depth of 0.54m. Its basal fill consisted of mottled black and dark orangey brown silty sand (091), containing occasional small angular stones, fine pebbles and charcoal fleck inclusions. This was situated directly beneath mid-grey silty clay (090) which also contained charcoal flecks and pebble inclusions. The tertiary fill within this feature was dark blackish brown sandy silt (089). This contained occasional small angular sandstones, charcoal flecks and medium sized pebble inclusions. The upper fill was composed of light yellow clay (088), a layer of re-deposited natural which effectively sealed the feature.

### Site TY50b

Burnt Mound Deposits: Four discrete spreads of burnt mound material were noted in this area of the excavation. None were individually dated but McLeod states that is reasonable to assume that they were related to activity carried out in both troughs. Deposit (128) was situated in a natural depression situated approximately 0.70 m to the east of trough (114) and 1.40 m to the west of trough (132). It measured 0.35 m in length, 0.30 m in width and 0.04 m in depth and was composed of dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions. Deposit (123) measured 3 m in length, 2 m in width and 0.12 m in depth. It was situated approximately 0.30 m to the south-southeast of deposit (121) and consisted of brown silty clay containing small stones and moderate flecks of charcoal. Deposit (117) was composed of yellowish black silty clay with frequent stone and charcoal inclusions. It measured 1.64 m in length (northeast/southwest), 1.14 m in width and 0.53 m in depth and was situated approximately 0.50 m to the northeast of trough (132). The final deposit was situated approximately 2.50 m to the northeast of trough (114). It was composed of blackish grey silt (119), which contained stone inclusions, and measured 1.52 m in length (north/south), 0.76 m in width and 0.26 m in depth.

Trough 1: Trough (132) was sub-oval in plan with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 2.1m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.52m. The fill consisted of black/grey silty clay which contained very occasional cereal grain and heat-affected stone along with charcoal and ash inclusions. Hazel charcoal from this deposit returned a Late Bronze Age date.

Trough 2: Trough (114) was sub-rectangular in plan with steep sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 2.6m by 2m with a depth of 0.44m. The base of the trough was cut by two stake-holes located in two of the corners. Several deposits were noted in the trough with the basal fill consisting of black silty clay,

charcoal and stone. A sample of charcoal from this layer returned a Middle to Late Bronze Age date. Three other separate layers of silty clays were uncovered in the trough which contained charcoal and small stone inclusions.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: A small amount of cereal grain was uncovered in trough 132 (Site TY51b). One was identified as oat while the other may have been wheat.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from hearth (Site TY50a)  
C14 (Beta-11727) 969±19 BP (AD 1017 – 1115)  
Charcoal (hazel) from fill of trough 132 (site TY50b)  
C14 (Beta-11729) 2863±26 BP (1123 – 935 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from stake-hole fill (trough 114)  
C14 (Beta-11732) 2788±26 BP (1007 – 848 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

A number of sites were excavated at this location in advance of the N7 Nenagh to Limerick road scheme. These include a large multi-period enclosure, a late Bronze Age *fulacht fia* and a kiln structure dated to the medieval period. A small area south of this activity produced an isolated pit and an adjacent hearth (Site A). The pit contained a fill consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The medieval date came from a charcoal sample from the adjacent hearth (MacLeod 2009). The site consisted of an isolated pit and hearth. No spread or mound of burnt stones was uncovered. The medieval date came from a hearth located south of the pit. With no dates obtained from the pit, there is no evidence that the two features were contemporary and related to a boiling activity.

**References**

McLeod, R. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Carrigatogher (Harding) 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Carrigatogher (Harding)	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Burgesbeg	NGR: 181530, 176705
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 88m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	TVAS Ireland Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 2 (E3325) was located north-west of a minor road on a plateau in the foothills of the Arra Mountains, overlooking the Kilmastulla valley to the east. The area was formerly the garden of a house that was demolished in advance of development.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several sites were excavated nearby during this scheme. Carrigatogher (Ryan) Site 3, E3327, contained a burnt stone spread and trough (40m north-west) and two roundhouses with associated features (65m north-east). Carrigatogher (Ryan) Site 4 (E2473), 90m north-west, produced a large <i>fulacht fia</i> with associated pits and troughs. Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 3 (E2474), between 45m and 275m west, was a large site that incorporated two roundhouses, several areas of metallurgy with occupation debris, a cremation cemetery and a number of <i>fulachta fia</i> and burnt stone spreads. Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 4 (E2469), 260m south-west, included a roundhouse and a kiln. Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 1 (E2406), approximately 170m south, contained a possible roundhouse, pits and hearths.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations. The entire site appeared to have been truncated by later activity associated with a demolished dwelling and its garden.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt stone spread and six pits, one of which produced evidence to suggest it was timber lined in the past.
Burnt Spread:	The spread of burnt stone material measured 5m by 1.6m and consisted of firm brown sandy silt, charcoal and heat-affected sandstone. The full extent of the spread could not be determined due to the presence of a sewer pipe which extended onto the site from the demolished house.

- Pit 1: This pit was oval in plan and measured 3.6m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.65m. Three fills were noted in the pit with the basal deposit consisting of black silty sand, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. The middle fill contained a grey sandy silt, with large and small stone inclusions while the upper deposit composed of a compact brown silt with burnt stones and charcoal.
- Pit 2: This pit (4) was revealed at the southern end of the site and was truncated by a later drain possibly associated with the demolished house. It was noted that this large pit may originally have been two pits but the drain had hindered excavation (Taylor 2008, 7). It was amorphous in plan and measured 7.44m by 3.07m with a depth of 0.22m. The fill consisted of black sandy silt and heat-affected stone with charcoal inclusions.
- Pit 3: Pit (5) was revealed as a sub-rectangular cut with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.7m by 2.1m with a depth of 0.5m. The single fill consisted of black sandy silt with heat-shattered stone with was concentrated in the eastern portion of the pit.
- Pit 4: This pit (6) was oval in plan with a concave profile and a flat base. It measured 4.2m by 1.65m with a depth of 0.62m. The main pit fill consisted of dark brown sandy clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
- Pit 5: This pit (7) was exposed at the north-eastern end of the site and was sub-oval in shape with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 2.6m by 1.98m with a depth of 0.34m. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of sandy silts, burnt stone and charcoal.
- Pit/Trough: This pit (8) was sub-rectangular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 2.8m by 2.2m with a depth of 0.6m. Three stake holes were recorded in the corners of the pit and Taylor states that it is possibly a stake existed in the fourth corner but evidence of which may have been masked by the loose gravel nature of the natural geology (Taylor 2008, 8). The fill of the pit consisted of back sandy silt, heat-shattered stone and charcoal inclusions.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:** None

#### **References**

Taylor, K. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Carrigatogher (Harding) 2, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for TVAS Ireland Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Carrigatogher (Harding)	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Burgesbeg	NGR: 181397, 176656 a 181306, 176626 b 181292, 176660 c
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 98m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam Hackett	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** Area (a) was situated in a level area at the base of a steeply sloping south-facing hill, directly to the east of the farm access track while Area (b) was situated in the floor of a small upland valley which utilised the run-off rainwater from the surrounding hills that flowed through the cleft. The third area to produced burnt mound material was located in south-western area of the excavation on the lip of a small rise.

**Cultural Landscape:** Several *fulachtaí fia* deposits and possible evidence of prehistoric habitation were revealed during the course of this road scheme nearby.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Two Middle Bronze Age structures and several Middle Bronze Age cremation burials along with a Neolithic occupation area.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the area revealed two areas of burnt mound activity.

#### **Site A**

**Burnt Spreads:** A small deposit of light brown sandy silt (2004) with moderate charcoal inclusions was located in the southern and central part of the area. It measured 1.5 m by 1.2 m with a maximum depth of 0.04 m. Cinders and charcoal were retrieved from this deposit. Irregular spread (2003) was located over spread (2004) which continued to the southwest and was composed of greyish-black, firmly-compacted silty-clay, with very frequent medium sized stone inclusions (of which approximately 30% were heat-affected). Moderate occurrences of charcoal inclusions have been identified as mainly hazel and oak, with a single fragment of ash. It measured

approximately 9.5 m (north-south) by 5 m with an average depth of 0.15 m and had been truncated on its eastern side by a modern drain.

**Spread:** Overlying the features (2014 & 2016) was the deposit (2009). It was a light-grey silty-sand with very occasional inclusions of charcoal flecks and measured 1.84 m (north-south) by 0.78 m with a maximum depth of 0.15m. Overlying this was deposit (2007), a black silty-sand with occasional inclusions of small stones and frequent charcoal flecks and pieces distributed throughout. It measured 2.74 m (northwest-southeast) by 1.95 m and was 0.15 m deep. A radiocarbon date has been returned from hazel charcoal retrieved from this sample with a date of 749-412 cal BC.

**Pits:** Irregular-shaped pit (2032) had been truncated by a modern drain (2036), a drainage channel (2020) and an adjacent pit (2034). It had very gradually sloping sides and an irregular base and measured 3 m (east-west) by 2 m and was 0.39 m deep. It was filled by (2033), light-greyish-brown sandy-clay with very frequent pebbles and stones. The sub-oval-shaped pit (2034), truncated the adjacent pit (2032) on its western side. It measured 2.8 m (north-south) by 1.21 m, with a depth of 0.34 m, and had gradually sloping sides and a flat base.

**Drains:** Drain (2020) was orientated in a northwest-southeast direction and measured approximately 11 m by 0.65 m, with a maximum depth of 0.22 m. This drain was attached to or abutted the drainage channel (2047) to the southeast, however modern disturbances in this area made the relationship between these features unclear. Drain (2047) was a northeast-southwest running channel with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It measured 2.2 m by 0.75 m and was 0.2 m deep. The area of modern disturbance mentioned above ran for approximately two metres to the south of these drains before another drainage channel (2041) became apparent. This was orientated in a northwest-southeast direction and measured 2.7 m in length (extended beneath the southern baulk) and 0.5 m in width and 0.2 m in depth.

**Platform:** Overlying the pits (2034) and (2032) and the stratigraphically later drainage channels (2020) and (2047), was an irregularly-shaped stone platform (2052). This platform measured c. 10.8m (north-south) by 6.4 m (east-west) and consisted of very frequent poorly sorted small to medium sub-angular stones, which were interspersed with very occasional large flat stones

**Pits:** Towards the southern end of drainage channel (2020) were a group of isolated features. Sub-oval pit (2050) was located 1.1 m to the west of (2020). It measured 2.4 m (east-west) by 1.6 m (north-south) and was 0.46 m deep. A grey pyritic shale spindle whorl was recovered from the upper part of this fill.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound covered an area measuring 25 m northwest-southeast by 14 m in a roughly oval shape and was situated on the eastern side of a south-facing valley. The primary deposit of the burnt mound (3005) measured 15 m

(northwest-southeast) by 5.5 m and had a maximum depth of 0.5 m. It consisted of greyish-black silty-clay, with frequent heat-affected stones and occasional charcoal pieces throughout. Overlying (3005) was (3006), a black silty-clay with very frequent heat-affected stones and frequent heavily abraded charcoal inclusions throughout. This measured 17 m (northeast-southwest), 10 m (northwest-southeast) and was 0.25 m in depth. Charcoal from this deposit is dated to the Late Bronze Age.

**Trough:**

The large trough (3015) was located beneath the northern deposits of the burnt mound. It was cut directly into the underlying bedrock and was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 2.9 m by 2.1 m, with a maximum depth of 0.55 m. The sides were nearly vertical, sloping steeply to a flat base. The north-eastern edge of the trough showed evidence of oxidisation on the bedrock, denoting *in situ* burning had occurred. The basal layer of the trough was (3016), was dark blackish-grey gritty clay with inclusions of heat-affected stones on the surface and frequent heavily abraded charcoal throughout. A number of post-holes were identified adjacent to the trough.

**Pits:**

An oval-shaped pit (3014) was located *c.* 1 m to the southeast of trough (3015). It measured 1.6 m (north-south) by 1 m and had a maximum depth of 0.6 m. The fill of the pit was a dark black silty-clay (3013) with moderate charcoal inclusions and frequent heat-affected stones. An isolated pit (3011) was located 12.5 m to the southeast of (3014) beneath the south-eastern extent of the burnt mound material. It was circular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a flat base and measured 0.63 m (north-south), 0.5 m (east-west) and 0.4 m deep. It was filled by (3012), a mid-black silty-clay with frequent heat-affected stones and occasional heavily abraded charcoal inclusions.

**Site C**

**Burnt Spread:**

An irregular spread of burnt material (6006) was located 0.6 m to the southeast of (6007). It consisted of dark brownish-black silty-clay with frequent heat-shattered stones and charcoal throughout and measured 1.2 m (north-south) by 1.05 m and was 0.12 m deep. The eastern edge of the spread was truncated by the modern linear drain. An irregular-shaped spread (6009) consisted of dark brownish-black silty-clay with frequent heat-shattered stones and charcoal throughout. It was located 3 m to the northeast of (6006) and measured 1.16 m (east-west) by 0.65 m and was 0.11 m deep. The spread was also truncated on its eastern edge by the modern linear drain.

**Trough:**

An oval shaped trough type feature (6002) was located 14.4 m southeast of the north-western baulk. It had moderately sloping sides and a rough irregular base was dug directly into the natural bedrock. It measured 1.8 m (north-south) by 1.6 m and had a maximum depth of 0.35 m. Slight-traces of oxidisation were visible around the sides of the feature indicating that *in situ* burning had occurred. The basal fill (6003) was a greyish-black silty-clay, which contained occasional small heat-shattered stones and frequent charcoal inclusions and measured 0.1 m in depth.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Spindle whorl recovered from Site A

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of spread (2007) (Site A)  
C14 (UBA-11988) 2450±19 BP (749–412 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from fill of trough (305) (Site B)  
C14 (Beta-11992) 2806±22 BP (1011–904 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from fill of pit (311) (Site B)  
C14 (Beta-11991) 2757±20 BP (972–835 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from fill of trough (6002) (Site C)  
C14 (Beta-11997) 3908±23 BP (2471–2306 BC)

**References**

Hackett, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Carrigatogher (Harding) 3, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Carrigatogher (Ryan)	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Burgesbeg	NGR: 181474, 176803
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 98m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam Hackett	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** The area of excavation was situated in a natural channel between these undulating outcrops, where run off water from the surrounding higher ground to the northwest is funnelled, solving the problem of locating water on sloping, higher ground

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated area prior to excavation however a number of previously unrecorded sites were identified during the current road scheme in neighbouring townlands

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations. The mound had a large modern concrete built retention well placed almost directly in the centre, and a network of connected stone-filled modern drains truncated the mound and pits to the southeast.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound, a number of pits and drains.

**Burnt Mound:** The exposed portion of the main spread of burnt material was an irregular semi-circular shaped mound measuring 15 m east/west by 7 m north/south. It was situated on the western side of a naturally formed basin or small valley and was made up of three distinct depositional layers and a basal layer of organic material which may have been the original ground surface, lying directly on shale bedrock. The primary layer of the mound (1004) was a loosely-compacted, black sandy-clay with frequent abraded charcoal and heat-shattered stones, 0.30 m deep. The upper layer (1002), averaging 0.30 m deep, was loosely-compacted, black silty-clay with frequent charcoal and heat-shattered stones and root activity from the topsoil above. The movement of cattle and water damage in this area has caused considerable mixing of the upper layer of the burnt mound and the topsoil.

Pits:	<p>A small area of localised pit activity was exposed approximately in the southeast of the excavated area. Within this area was a sub-circular pit (1006), which had steeply sloping sides to the north, south and east. The western side was stepped, and a large angular rock was placed deliberately in this edge, possibly as a kneeling platform or to use as a working surface for the activity carried out in the pit. The base was concave and the pit measured 1.90 m northwest/southeast by 1.80 m and was 0.70 m deep. A large irregular pit (1017) was located 0.70 m to the south of (1006). It was truncated by drains (1012) and (1014). This pit had barely perceptible sides to the east and south and moderately sloping sides to the north; the western side of the cut had been destroyed by the truncation of drain (1014). The base of (1017) was flat, but irregular and the feature measured 5.10 m east/west by 3 m with a minimum depth of 0.04 m. Located 1.50 m to the south of (1017) was (1008), a sub-oval shaped pit which had also been truncated by drain (1014). It had barely perceptible sides and a flat base and measured 4 m north/south by 1.80 m, with a depth of between 0.04 m and 0.16 m. It was filled by (1009), brownish-black silty-clay with frequent charcoal, heat-shattered stone and charred hazel nutshell.</p>
Platform and trough:	<p>Features (1017) and (1008) were abutted by metalled surface (1020) situated between these two features. This measured 2.70 m north/south by 1.70 m and was truncated by drain (1014) on the southwest side. It was constructed of small flat stones firmly bonded into the underlying brownish-grey clay (1024). This clay extended beyond the metalled surface on all sides and measured approximately 3 m in diameter, with a maximum depth of 0.05 m. Upon removal of this surface, a sub-rectangular pit (1022), which measured 1.35 m north/south by 1.30 m, with a maximum depth of 0.55 m, was revealed. It had steeply sloping sides, except to the northwest which was gradual, and a generally flat base. Pit (1022) was filled with brownish-black silty-clay (1023) which contained frequent heat-shattered stones and moderate charcoal pieces throughout.</p>
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	<p>Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (1006)  C14 (UBA-11822) 3874±27 BP (2465–2234 BC)  Charcoal (alder) from fill of pit (1022)  C14 (Beta-11825) 3902±24 BP (2468–2301 BC)  Charcoal (alder) from burnt mound  C14 (Beta-11824) 3642±27 BP (2131–1925 BC)  Charcoal (hazel) from burnt mound  C14 (Beta-11823) 3908±23 BP (2285–2049 BC)</p>

## References

Hackett, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Carrigatogher (Ryan) 4, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Carrigatogher (Harding)	Six inch map no: 20
	Parish:	Burgesbeg	NGR: 180900, 176325
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 96m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	TVAS Ireland Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on gently sloping pasture in the foothills of the Arra Mountains, 500m north-west of the present N7. The site was bounded on the north-east by a small stream that separated it from Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 5, E2285		
Cultural Landscape:	Just 30m north-east of site E2286, Carrigatogher (Harding) Site 5, E2285, was excavated. Middle Bronze Age roundhouse structures, undated pits, postholes, a modern drain and <i>fulacht fia</i> material were recorded in this area. Also excavated nearby during this scheme was Carrigatogher (Abbott) Site 1, E227). The site contained a Middle Bronze Age roundhouse with associated activity located 65m south-west and a sub-rectangular ditched enclosure with internal and external features located 320m south-west of E2286		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Middle Bronze Age settlement.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt stone spread, pits troughs and post-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt stone deposits filled a deep hollow adjacent to the stream edge at the eastern side of the site. It was not clear whether the hollow (201) was entirely natural or whether it had been deliberately deepened and shaped. The burnt stone covered an area measuring approximately 20m by 20m (continuing outside the CPO to the east) and was up to 1.2m deep. It is possible that the deposits may have originally formed a mound that subsequently slipped or was pushed into the hollow, covering the cut features in its base. The main burnt stone deposits were dark grey (green hue) sandy soil with frequent grey stones and fine sand and dark grey to black mixed loam with heat affected orange stones

Trough:	<p>The trough was an irregular feature that had been remodelled several times. The earliest apparent phase of trough (211) was an oval cut, the south-western edge of which survived, measuring 1.70m by at least 0.82m with a shallow concave profile, 0.10m deep. No trace of the fill of this original feature survived, as it was almost entirely truncated by recut 215. Trough cut 215 was a larger irregular oval cut that measured 3.30m by 1.80m and 0.15m deep with gradual sides and an irregular stepped base. The trough was later recut again (219). This phase of the feature was more clearly defined, measured 1.70m by 1.13m and was 0.60m deep. The trough was roughly oval in plan with gradually sloping edges on the north-east and sharper edges on the south-west. In the base of the trough, around the southern edge, were four stakeholes. Presumably the stakes supported a timber lining for the trough. The trough itself was filled with a dark reddish brown clayey silt (851) and a number of the burnt stone deposits. Two parallel lines of stone slabs (299) were revealed set into the fills above the trough cut on a northeast to south-west alignment. These stones appear to be a later attempt to line or stabilise the trough. Clay deposits 859 and 860 around the base of the stone may have been part of the waterproof lining of this phase of the trough.</p>
Stake-holes:	<p>To the east of the trough was a small arc of six postholes and stake-holes. The features formed a 'U'-shaped arrangement measuring 1.6m by 1.6m, potentially a small shelter or rack. It is not clear which of the post and stake-holes were contemporary. A radiocarbon determination was obtained from the waterlogged oak post in posthole 228. The wood is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.</p>
Working Surface:	<p>A flat deposit of stone (285) located to the north-east of the trough was interpreted as a possible walkway or working platform. This deposit measured approximately 3.10m by 2.00m and was 0.15m thick. The nature of the stratigraphy made it difficult to determine if this deposit was contemporary with the trough or a later event. The stone partially overlay a deposit of black pebbly sand (850) so was clearly laid after the first episode of burning.</p>
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	<p>Wood (oak) from fill of stake-hole C14 (Beta-249824) 3020±40 BP (1400–1130 BC)</p>

## References

Taylor, K. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Carrigatogher (Harding) 6, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for TVAS Ireland Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballywilliam	Six inch map no: 26
	Parish:	Burgesbeg	NGR: 179470, 174300
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 85m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	TVAS Ireland Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** Ballywilliam Site 1 was located on undulating pasture in the foothills of the Arra Mountains that rise along a ridge providing good views across to the Silvermines Mountains. The site was made up of ten excavation areas (A-J).

**Cultural Landscape:** Twenty metres to the north-west of site E2479 is site E2483 Ballycuddy More where an undated cremation cemetery, Neolithic domestic activity and burnt stone filled pits were excavated. There were no other recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to the road development.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Middle Bronze Age roundhouse.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the area revealed two burnt mound deposits and a possible prehistoric roundhouse.

#### **Site A**

**Burnt Mound:** The spread had an irregular yet essentially oval shape and measured approximately 7.3 m (east-west) by 10.2 m with an average depth of 0.30 m. A maximum depth of burnt stone of 0.55 m was recorded within the trough which underlay the spread. Originally, the spread may have been mounded in profile, but it had been truncated by modern drainage activity, and possibly flattened in the process.

**Trough:** Feature 6 was sub-circular with a regular bowl-shaped profile, and was interpreted as a trough. This trough measured approximately 1.16 m by 1.31 m and was 0.46 m deep with two fills, 58 and 57. The trough filled naturally with water, and would have provided a good water supply. No lining was evident in the trough nor were any postholes or stakeholes detected within or

surrounding it. This feature has been interpreted as a trough constructed to contain water, that was heated by the addition of hot stones being the primary fill of the trough, deposit 58 formed a spread to the east and north. This deposit may represent waste from the last use of the trough and/or slippage from surrounding upcast burnt stone deposit. Two irregularly shaped pits (10 and 23) of uncertain function were recorded south and north-east of trough 6.

**Pit:** Pit 12 was located approximately 7.3 m south-east of trough 6 and approximately 2.8 m south-east of the spread. This feature measured 1.11 m north-east to south-west by 0.80 m and was 0.12 m deep. Pit 12 filled continuously with water from an underground source, which would suggest that water was an essential element in whatever function it fulfilled. Pit 12 was surrounded, and partially cut by, a sub-circular arrangement of eight stakeholes. The stakeholes were waterlogged and therefore difficult to excavate. All of the stakeholes contained a similar fill of loose brown clayey silt with pebble and wood fragment inclusions. The stakeholes are most likely associated with pit 12 and may have supported a spit-like arrangement, a covering for the pit or the frame of a windbreak.

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** Deposit 156 was the primary deposit of the *fulacht fia*. This deposit was black sandy clay and contained frequent burnt sandstone pieces. Deposit 156 was overlain by deposit 157, an oxidised material of orangey brown sandy clay. The main deposit of the *fulacht fia* (150) was composed of dark brownish black sandy silty clay and had >65% burnt stone and charcoal present throughout. Deposit 150 formed a horseshoe-shape 14 m long, 3.10-4.20 m wide and 0.08-0.30 m thick.

**Trough:** Pit 101 was probably the trough related to the *fulacht fia* deposits. The pit was located approximately at the mid point of the arc of the horseshoe-shape and was facing the stream, the probable water source. Pit 101 was sub-rectangular in plan, had a flat base and contained two fills. The main fill (154) was compacted brown to black sandy silt containing >50% small to large angular burnt sandstone pieces and some charcoal.

**Finds:** Chert flakes were recovered from Site A

**Dating:** No dates available

## **References**

Taylor, K. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballywilliam 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for TVAS Ireland Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballinteenoe	Six inch map no: 25
	Parish:	Kilmastulla	NGR: 176430, 171070
	Barony:	Owney & Arra	Altitude: 59m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Nenagh to Limerick Dual Carriageway	
	Site Director:	Kate Taylor	
	Consultants:	TVAS Ireland Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a ridge of land at the western side of a drumlin known as Doonan’s Hill, the highest part of the hill lay to the north-east. The site overlooked the Kilmastulla River and the railway to the south. Despite its elevation the site was frequently waterlogged.		
Cultural Landscape:	Four <i>fulachtaí fia</i> are recorded within 1km of the site: TN025-070 (960m south-west), TN025-071 (530m south-west), TN025-072 (470m south-east) and TN025-075 (890m south-east).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the Limerick to Nenagh Bypass. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt spread, trough and a number of pits.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt stone deposit (54) was an amorphous spread measuring 3.80m by 1.30m. The deposit of firm blackish grey silty clay with inclusions of burnt stones and charcoal was up to 0.18m thick. A modern drain truncated the northern edge of the spread and caused the immediate area to flood regularly, which hampered excavation.
Trough:	Trough 6 was the most substantial feature excavated. The oval pit measured 1.80m by 1.60m and was 0.65m deep with near-vertical sides and a flat base. The trough fill (56) was moderately firm blackish grey silty clay with heat affected stones and charcoal inclusions. Four stake-holes were revealed in the base of trough 6. These presumably held a timber-lining in place.

### References

Taylor, K. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Ballinteenoe 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for TVAS Ireland Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballytarsna	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Ballysheehan	NGR: 212094, 147522
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 108m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Eoghan Moore	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a southern facing slope, in rough pasture and marshland. The site is bordered to the north and northeast by bog and the Arglo River, which flows 400m east of the site		
Cultural Landscape:	Ordnance Survey maps show a low level of archaeological activity surrounding the site, a possible mound is 300m to the north of the site (RMP TI 053- 024) and a ringfort is located 550m west of the site (RMP TI 053-023).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound, a timber-lined trough and a possible well.
Burnt Mound:	A small, denuded burnt mound [c3], of prehistoric date, was excavated sealing both pits, the waterhole and the trough features. It covered an area measuring 18.50m in length (north – south) by 15.50m in width, and was composed of a black, charcoal rich silt with inclusions of small burnt and fire cracked stones. A possible flint scraper was recovered from the deposit.
Trough:	The earliest construction phase of the site comprised a trough [c7] that was dug into the natural glacial formation [c31] with a contemporary, rectangular, timber lining [c20] inserted. This wooden lining was exclusively oak and wood from this lining produced a radiocarbon date of 2460 – 2140 BC. The rectangular trough [c7] measured 2.1m in length (southeast – northwest), 1.65m in width and 0.3m in (maximum) depth. Within the interior of the trough were three fills of various burnt mound deposits.
Well:	A possibly – contemporary, accompanying feature to the trough, was a circular pit [c5] cutting natural [c31], interpreted as a waterhole. This was uncovered lying immediately to the southeast of the trough, and measured

2m in maximum diameter, while its depth measured 0.55m. In addition, the waterhole contained a single posthole [c29], with an accompanying fill of sand and charcoal [c28], which was sealed by the lowermost fill [c22] of the waterhole.

**Finds:** Flint scraper recovered from the burnt mound deposit.

**Dating:** Wood (oak) from the trough lining  
C14 (Poz-24992)  $3825 \pm 35$  BP (2460–2140 BC)

### References

Moore, E., Breen, T., Green, E., and Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballytarsna, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Plate 10.128 Timber trough at Ballytarsna, Co. Tipperary.

Location:	Townland:	Aughnagomaun/Ashhill	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Ballysheehan	NGR: 213417, 149861
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 116m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Eoghan Moore	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was at the bottom of the slope of a low hill, in two fields previously used as pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	Ordnance Survey maps show a low level of archaeological activity surrounding the site. An enclosure or possible ringfort is located 500m to the northwest of the site (RMP TI053-090) and a possible mound, identified in the assessment, is located 900m southwest of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed a water-boiling trough situated on the edge of a possible palaeochannel. No finds were recovered.

Trough: Excavation revealed the lowermost truncated remains of a trough [c15] that was dug into the natural glacial formation [c2] and contained a number of stake holes at the base. The rectangular trough measured 2.1m in length, 1.2m in width and 0.15m in (maximum) depth. Four of the eight stake holes were located in the four corners of the trough, possibly representing the base of a possible lining. A sample of hazel, ash, alder and oak charcoal from stakehole [c29] produced a Late Bronze Age date. The trough and stake holes were all backfilled by a single burnt stone and charcoal-rich silt fill.

**Dating:** Charcoal (various species) from internal trough stake-hole  
C14 (UBA-10194) 2813±30 BP (1052–896 BC)

### References

Moore, E., Breen, T., Green, E., and Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Aughnagomaun/Ashhill, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Lahardan Upper	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Twomileborris	NGR: 217459, 155854
	Barony:	Eliogarthy	Altitude: 115m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	D.A McCullough	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site occupies an interface between wetter, poorly-drained soils to the east and dryer, more productive, ground sloping up to the west. A small spring is marked on the 2nd edition OS series mapping and is reported to still seasonally rise at the base of the slope.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the area revealed several deposits of burnt stone and charcoal possibly representing the site of a burnt mound. No finds were recovered.

**Burnt Spreads:** Five individual deposits of burnt material [c3, c4, c5, c6 & c8] were found within an area measuring c.15m<sup>2</sup>. Each of these comprised of blackish sandy silt or similar material containing frequent amounts of charcoal and heat – shattered stone. The burnt deposits ranged in size from 0.80m – 3.60m in length, and the maximum depth was 0.12m. Two of the deposits appeared to be leached and therefore may have been waterlogged at the time of deposition or perhaps washed away by heavy rain after deposition.

**Dating:** None

### **References**

Moore, E., Breen, T., Green, E., and Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Lahardan Upper* , Co. Tipperary. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Catalogue No. TY 60

RMP No. NA

Licence No. E2372

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Location:	Townland:	Rathcunikeen	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Twomileborris	NGR: 217582, 155970
	Barony:	Eliogarthy	Altitude: 115m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	D.A McCullough	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site occupies an interface between wetter, poorly-drained soils to the east and dryer, more productive, ground sloping up to the west. A small spring is marked on the 2nd edition OS series mapping and is reported to still seasonally rise at the base of the slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed several deposits of burnt stone numerous troughs and pits.
Burnt Spreads:	No formal mound was revealed in excavation, although many burnt deposits, generally comprising blackish soils mixed with heat affected stone and charcoal, were found across this site. Some of these lay on the surface while others were found as backfill in the troughs and pits. There were occasional variations in the deposits matrix that suggest slightly different deposition methods, but there is little doubt that these deposits originate from a single burnt mound.
Trough 1:	A large sub circular trough [c44] that measured 2.40m in length (east – west), 1.70m in width and survived to a depth of 1m. It had very steep straight sides that broke sharply to a flat circular base. The top eastern edge of the trough, close to the adjacent Trough 2. The earliest deposit within Trough A was a thin layer of mid greyish black sandy clay [c43] that

contained some small heat affected stones and frequent hazel, oak, ash, apple (type), alder and blackthorn (type) charcoal inclusions.

- Trough 2: Trough B [c13] was an east – west orientated trough that had a very regular, rectangular, shape in plan. It measured 2.55m in length, 1.50m in width and 0.37m in depth, and its steep sides broke sharply to a flat base. Trough B was filled by dark blackish grey sandy silt [c12], approx 0.30m in depth, with frequent heat affected stone and charcoal inclusions.
- Pits: This group contained two other pits, located adjacent to the two trough features. The first pit [c67] was a sub circular shaped cut, with shallow, concave sides that broke gradually to a U – shaped base. Similarly, the adjacent pit [c71] also had a very irregular base at a depth of 0.50m. It measured 1.60m in length, 0.80m in width, and had steep, rough irregular sides.
- Trough 3: Trough C [c109] was sub circular in plan, with sides that were mostly steep and straight and broke sharply to a flat sub rectangular base. The trough measured 2.60m in length (north – south), by at least 1.80m in width (east – west) and had a depth of 0.84m. This feature was truncated on the east side, but appeared to have a slight step or shallow grading on the east similar to Trough A, and also had a possible step or shelf on the southern side. A lining of smooth vertical boulders round the lower half on the western side was also apparent. The initial fill [c108] of this trough was located on the slope of the eastern side, and comprised a mid-yellowish grey sandy silt with very frequent and heat affected stones, as well as unburnt stones. After the initial deposit, a thick basal fill [c107] of mid blackish grey sandy silt with very frequent heat affected stone and occasional hazel, oak, apple (type) and cherry charcoal inclusions was deposited.
- Trough 4: This trough was adjacent to Trough 3 and measured a minimum of 2.20m (east – west), by 1.75m in width, and 0.35m in depth. Where visible, it had steep, concave sides that broke sharply to a flat base, although the western side was completely truncated, with only vestiges of a break of slope (where the side of the trough met the base) remained as a very slight ridge. The basal fill of Trough 4 was dark bluish black sandy silt [c74] with frequent heat affected stone inclusions that filled the base and lay up against the sides.
- Trough 5: The large trough [c122] was a sub circular shaped feature and measured a minimum of 1.50m in length (northeast – southwest), by 1.35m in width, and 1.16m in depth. It had steep concave sides that broke sharply to define a flat circular base. The basal fill of Trough E was about 0.25m in depth and comprised dark brownish grey clayey silt [c120] with occasional heat affected stone inclusions.
- Trough 6: A rectangular trough, Trough 6 [c32] was orientated east – west, measured 2.65m in length, by 1.60m in width, and had steep sides, and a flat base. The single fill of Trough F was dark blackish grey sandy silt [c31], approx 0.18m

in depth, with frequent heat affected stone and hazel, oak, ash, apple (type), alder and cherry charcoal inclusions.

**Finds:** Chert flake from topsoil

**Dating:** Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 1  
C14 (UBA-10372) 3348±23 BP (1729–1534 BC)  
Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 3  
C14 (UBA-10373) 3200±20 BP (1505–1448 BC)  
Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 5  
C14 (UBA-10371) 3201±20 BP (1381–1212 BC)

## **References**

Barker, L.W and Green, B. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Rathcunikeen, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Borris	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Twomileborris	NGR: 219814, 157155
	Barony:	Eliogarthly	Altitude: 106m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gary Conboy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on flat land in the townland of Borris. The field was prone to flooding from the river to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two separate burnt mounds 30m apart.

#### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound [c4, c5, c6, c8, c20] was roughly oval in shape and measured 9.4m in length (east – west) and 7.85m in width, and was 0.15m in depth. It consisted of burnt stone and charcoal rich soil.

Trough: The trough was a large irregular shaped-pit, interpreted as a trough [c48], which measured 4.40m in length (east – west), 2.20 in width and 1.60m in depth. It contained six fills [c47, c46, c45, c44, c43 & c42]. The primary fill [c47] was a compact peaty deposit, which contained three pieces of wood. The wood has been identified as being radially split oak planks with some knotting. One of these timbers is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

#### **Site B**

Trough 1 and 2: Troughs 1 and 2 were located within this cluster of pits. Trough 1 represented a circular trough [c25]. This feature measured 1.22m by 1.15m and was 0.24m in depth. It contained one fill [c11], which was rich in oak, hazel and elm charcoal. This trough was in turn cut by a later trough or pit

[c26], which measured 1.97m by 1.72m and was 0.34m in depth and was filled by [c27, c28 & c29].

**Trough 3:** To the north was a linear trough [c31] measuring 2.40m in length, 1.25m in width and 0.18m in depth. The trough was clay lined [c18] and was filled with [c17] consisting of burnt stone and charcoal.

**Pits:** To the south of the cluster was a circular pit [c36] with a flat base, measuring 1.52m by 1.48m and 0.20m in depth. This feature contained a basal fill [c35] of charcoal rich silt and burnt stone. The secondary fill [c34] also contained burnt stone and small amount of charcoal.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 1(Site B)  
C14 (UBA-10197) 3923±29 BP (2486–2299 BC)  
Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough (Site A)  
C14 (Poz-24993) 3440±40 BP (1880–1660 BC)

## **References**

Conboy, G and Green, B. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Borris, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Borris	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Twomileborris	NGR: 219814, 157155
	Barony:	Eliogarthy	Altitude: 116m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gary Conboy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	This site was situated at the eastern end of a large open field that sloped gently eastwards to a small stream draining into the River Clover to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound that overlay a number of trough pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound sealed all three troughs. It measured 14m in diameter and was 0.21m in depth, and comprised loose black deposit [c3] with burnt stone and charcoal rich soil. The mound was disturbed to the northeast and continued (unexcavated) to the south, outside the limit of excavation.
Trough 1:	The trough was sub oval in shape and measured 2.75m in length by 2.7m in width and 1.26m in depth and contained four fills. The primary fill [c46] was loose grey/brown sandy silt with oak, hazel, pomoideae, prunus spp and alder buckthorn charcoal and burnt stone. The secondary fill [c45] comprised loose grey sandy clay with frequent burnt stone and occasional charcoal. Above this was a fill that comprised loose black clay sand [c44] with frequent charcoal and burnt stone.
Trough 2:	Directly to the west of this was a second trough [c47]. This was sub oval in shape and measured 3.28m in length by 2.40 in width and 0.52m in depth

and contained three fills. The primary fill was loose mid brown sandy silt with hazel, oak, ash, and pomoideae charcoal and burnt stone [c49]. A sample of this charcoal produced a middle Bronze Age date of 1367 – 1129 BC.

**Trough 3:**

Directly to the west of this was a third trough [c50]. This was a rectangular trough which measured 2.8m by 1.55m and 0.46m in depth. It contained one fill [c51] which was black deposit rich in oak charcoal and burnt stone. At the eastern and western edges of the trough at the base were two linear slots cut into the natural.

**Finds:**

None

**Dating:**

Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 1  
C14 (UBA-10369) 2994±20 BP (1369–1129 BC)

**References**

Conboy, G and Green, B. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Borris, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

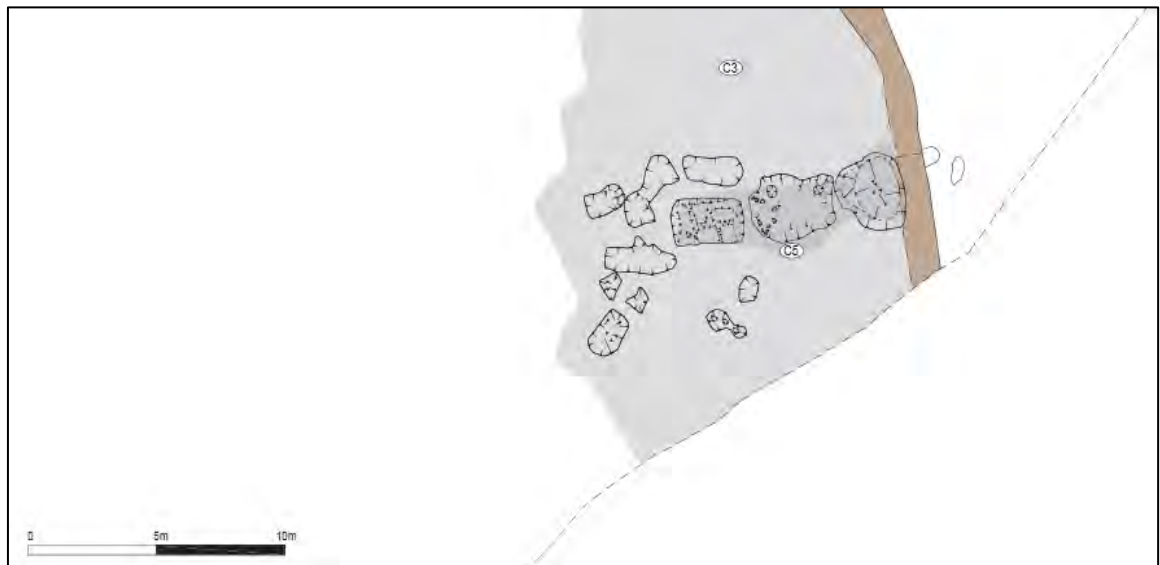


Fig. 10.149 Burnt mound and trough pits at Borris, Co. Tipperary.



Location:	Townland:	Inchirourke	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Twomileborris	NGR: 225210, 161878
	Barony:	Eliogarthly	Altitude: 124m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gary Conboy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low – lying marshy level field used for rough pasture, close to an adjacent area of bog and natural spring.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early medieval pit		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed two areas of burnt mound activity revealed 25m apart.
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#### **Site A**

Burnt Mound:	All features were sealed by a burnt mound spread that measured 14m in length (northeast – southwest) by 11m in width, and 0.35m in depth. The mound consisted of two deposits, an upper deposit [c3] was a loose black charcoal rich deposit of burnt stone, beneath which was a dark grey charcoal rich sandy clay and burnt stone .
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Trough 1:	A roughly oval – shaped trough [c43], which measured 2.2m in length, 2m in width and 0.40m in depth, was truncated on the southwestern edge. This contained three fills; a primary charcoal rich silty sand fill [c42], sealed by a silty sand [c41] with charcoal & burnt stone fill. This latter fill also contained a fragment of quern stone and animal bone unidentified fragments.
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Trough 2:	Immediately to the southeast was another trough [c46] that was rectangular in plan and measured 3.2m in length, 2.0m in width and was 0.40m in depth.
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This trough contained two fills: the primary fill [c45] was a black compact deposit of charcoal rich stone and burnt stone, the upper fill [c44] and was a dark grey charcoal rich deposit of burnt stones.

**Trough 3:** Further to the south of [c46] was a third trough [c51], which was roughly rectangular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.3m and was 0.20m in depth. It contained two fills; a sandy silt [c50] primary fill that was rich in oak and pomoideae charcoal, a sample of this charcoal produced an Iron Age date. This was in turn sealed by sandy silt [c49], with occasional charcoal.

**Pit:** An oval pit [c48], located to the south of trough [c43] measured 1.7m in length, by 1.3m in width and 0.24m in depth, and contained one silty fill [c47]. To the southeast of trough [c46] was the remains of a second, badly – truncated possible pit [c55], filled by a silty fill [c54].

## **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** The mound (Site B) was very badly disturbed by later activity and measured 12m in length, by 5.5m in width and 0.40m in depth. Excavation revealed this mound to be composed of two deposits; a thin lens of dark silt [c11] within a brown peaty deposit [c6] with burnt stone and charcoal, under an upper deposit [c4] consisting of a charcoal rich burnt stone deposit.

**Pits:** A possible pit [c32] had the northern half disturbed by later activity. The truncated feature measured 1.02m in length, by 1m in width and up to 0.25m in depth. This pit contained two fills: a sandy silt [c31] primary fill sealed by sandy silt [c32], with occasional charcoal flecking. A second truncated possible pit [c39] was oval in shape, measuring 1m in length, by 0.9m in width and up to 0.30m in depth. The southern half of this feature was completely removed. This pit was filled by a silty sand primary fill [c38], underlying redeposited natural [c37]. A figure of eight type feature was excavated to the southwest of the site. This was feature was recorded as [c36], measuring 2.4m in length, by 1.02m in width and up to 0.24m in depth. This pit was filled by a sandy silt fill.

**Finds:** Saddle quern fragment recovered from trough 1 (Site a) while animal bone was also recovered from the same context.

**Dating:** Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 1 (Site A)  
C14 (UBA-10198) 2585±29 BP (814–596 BC)  
Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 1 (Site A)  
C14 (Poz-26532) 2460±35 BP (760–410 BC)  
Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 3 (Site A)  
C14 (Poz-26674) 2015±35 BP (110 BC–70 AD)  
Charcoal (various species) from the basal fill of trough 3 (Site A)  
C14 (Poz-27096) 1990±40 BP (100 BC–120 AD)

## **References**

Conboy, G and Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Inchirourke, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Fenor	Six inch map no: 53
	Parish:	Twomileborris	NGR: 226823, 163015
	Barony:	Eliogarthy	Altitude: 118m OD
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme	
	Site Director:	Gary Conboy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in flat marshy land prior to excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two areas of burnt mound activity with related features.

#### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: Site A constituted an undated burnt mound spread with no evidence of a trough or underlying pit. The partially truncated mound was located in the centre of the site and measured 18m in length by 13m in width and up to 0.16m in depth. It consisted of three deposits; the upper layer of the mound [c3] consisted of loose charcoal – rich soil and burnt stone, beneath this on the eastern edge was a thin irregular deposit [c4] of burnt stone and sandy clay which was brown in colour, under the remainder of the upper mound [c3] was a deposit [c5], similar to [c4] but dark grey in colour.

#### **Site B**

Burnt Mound: The pit and trough cluster was sealed by a burnt mound spread of heat – affected stone (mostly sandstone with some limestone 10%), and was located 14m to the southwest of Site A. The mound measured 12m by 11.5m and was up to 0.14m in depth. It consisted of two deposits: a lower spread of

light grey sandy clay [c7] with a small quantity of burnt stone, sealed by an upper layer [c6] of loose charcoal rich soil and burnt stone.

**Trough 1:** A sub – rectangular trough [c38], which measured 1.70m in length, 1.50m in width and was 0.28m in depth, contained one fill [c39] which was rich in oak, ash hazel charcoal and burnt stone. An oval pit [c44] truncated (and therefore post – dated) this trough [c38] on its southern extent. The pit contained a single fill [c45], consisting of dark grey sandy silt with charcoal and burnt stone. Immediately north of the trough [c38] was a second pit [c40], which contained one fill [c41] of brown charcoal rich sandy silt.

**Trough 2 and 3:** To the northeast of this cluster was a second trough [c42], which was circular in plan and measured 1.5m in diameter and 0.20m in depth. It contained one fill [c43] of dark grey, charcoal rich soil with burnt stone. Directly south of this trough was third trough [c34], which was sub – rectangular in shape, measured 1.50m in length by 1.12m in width and was 0.14m in depth, and contained one fill [c35] of dark grey sandy silt with charcoal. South of this trough was the shallow remains of a small circular pit [c36] which contained a single dark brown sandy silt with charcoal fill [c37].

**Trough 4:** To the south/southeast of this cluster of features was a sub oval trough [c48], which measured 1.4m in length (north – south) by 1.2m in width, and 0.10m in depth, and contained a single dark brown charcoal rich fill. At the southern extent of this cluster of pits and troughs, was a disturbed pit [c46] that was a roughly circular pit which measured 0.95m in length (east – west), 0.90m in width and 0.29m in depth, and contained a dark brown fill rich in oak and ash charcoal [c47].

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (oak and ash) from the basal fill of trough 1 (Site B)  
C14 (Poz-26533) 3810±35 BP (2460–2130 BC)  
Charcoal (oak and ash) from the basal fill of trough 4 (Site A)  
C14 (Poz-26675) 3650±35 BP (2140–1920 BC)

## References

Conboy, G and Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Fenor, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cloughjordan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Modreeny	NGR: 226823, 163015
	Barony:	Lower Ormond	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Emer Dennehy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in flat marshy land prior to excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however, a ring-barrow was revealed during the development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of a housing development. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two areas of burnt mound activity, one of which may have functioned as a sweatlodge.

**Site A**

**Burnt Mound:** Located 10m to the south of a small stream, this site presented itself as a circular mound of fire-cracked limestones in a charcoal matrix measuring 19.5m north–south by 16.7m. Upon excavation it was established that the mound was extremely shallow, surviving to a maximum depth of just 0.2m. It was composed of multiple burnt limestone and sandstone deposits concentrated in the north and east of the site. It overlay a large sub-rectangular trough and the remains of a circular hut site. The stratigraphy of the site indicates that the trough and hut site were contemporary and that the site functioned as a sweathouse. The site was extremely well organised; hearths were located at a distance of 3m to the south of the hut, stockpiles were located to the east, while debris was mounded in the north and west.

**Hut Structure:** The hut was sub-circular in plan with internal measurements of 6.5m north–south by 5.5m (7m by 6m externally). It had two entrances, one in the south-east the other in the south-west, each defined by a pair of large post-holes. No internal roof supports were identified, indicating that the hut did not have

a permanent roof structure but rather one constructed from woven matting and/or hides. The trough was located in the south-west of the hut 1m from the entranceway. It was sub-rectangular in plan (2.8m north–south by 1.8m by 0.81m); the base was lined with an oak plank. Three phases of use for the hut site were identified; it appears to have been deliberately dismantled on cessation of use.

## Site B

### Burnt Mound:

This was a large *fulacht fia* located 160m to the north-west of Site 1. It comprised a large subcircular mound of burnt limestones measuring 26m north–south by 20m and was sited on a small rise. Due to the wet location of the site, seasonal or periodic abandonment of work was noted through episodes of peat regrowth within the mound. The integrity of the site stratigraphy was compromised by land reclamation activities and further disturbance caused by the burial of a horse. The use of the site focused around its centre, where the troughs and roasting pits were identified in association with a small windbreak, effectively creating a distinctive work area measuring 10m north–south by 6m. Two troughs and four roasting pits were excavated; not all the cut features were contemporary. Only one trough provided evidence of a wood lining.

### Finds:

None

### Dating:

Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the slot trench (C104) (Site A)  
C14 (Beta-228975) 2850±40 BP (1190–920 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of post-hole (C127) (Site A)  
C14 (Beta-228976) 2920±40 BP (1210–940 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of post-hole (C137) (Site B)  
C14 (Beta-228897) 2880±40 BP (1120–910 BC)

## References

Dennehy, E. 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Park	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Aghnameadle	NGR: 200173, 181436
	Barony:	Upper Ormond	Altitude: 114
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	John Tierney	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	Park 2 was located in a low-lying area on the lower edge of a sandy ridge overlooking a wetter boggy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	The extensive archaeological settlement site Park 1 E3659 extended over, higher drier ground, for a distance of 500 m to the east. Extensive archaeological remains, including five burnt mounds, were recorded in the land adjoining Park to the north and east during an assessment of the site for a motorway service area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was identified during testing in advance of the N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound, well, trough, two pits and stake-holes.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound comprised several layers. The main layer C.3 was a black silty sandy with inclusions of stone. It measured 32.6 m in length by 16.4 m in width and 0.48 m in depth. Four other layers were similar in composition to the primary layer.		
Trough:	The trough C.5 was a large oval pit that was centrally located beneath the mound. It was cut into a slope and was deepest at the western end. The basal fill C.4 was a grey sandy silt. The primary fills were layers of burnt mound material. A Middle Bronze Age date was returned from pomideae charcoal from the fill. Two postholes (C.133 and C.137) were located on the northern and southern side of the trough respectively.		

- Stake-Holes:** A group of 17 stake-holes were located at the western end of the trough. Three of the stake-holes were located between the posts and the edge of the trough, two (C.142 and C.146) on the southern side and one C.139 on the northern. Five of the stake-holes formed an approximate arc on the periphery of the cluster. Four were located within the arc.
- Well:** The well C.119 was located 2 m east of the trough. It was oval in plan. The four fills (C.129, C.130, C.131, C.132) were a mix of sands and silts. Ground water was recorded in the base of the well during the course of the excavation.
- Finds:** Cattle teeth were recovered from the burnt mound layers.
- Dating:** Charcoal (pomideae) from the basal fill of the trough  
C14 (UB-12351) 3197±24 BP (1508–1422 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the well  
C14 (UB-12352) 3220±24 BP (1527–1433 BC)

## References

Tierney, J and Kiely, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Park 2, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.



Plate 10.129 Trough pits and well at Park 2, Co. Tipperary.



Location:	Townland:	Greenhills	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Cullenwaine	NGR: 203215, 181566
	Barony:	Ikerrin	Altitude: 115
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Jacinta Kiely	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	

**Physical Setting:** The site at Greenhills 1 is located on undulating lowland on the northern side of a dry sandy ridge on the edge of a hollow where peat had formed over a clay subsoil. When ground water levels were high the hollow formed a seasonal pond.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however a number of previously unknown sites were revealed during the current development in the townland.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound and nine pits, some of which were connected.

**Burnt Mound:** Eight layers of burnt mound material were concentrated in four discrete small shallow mounds on the northern and eastern slopes of a low ridge. The main concentration of the mound measured 16 m by 10 and was up to 0.5 m in depth. All the layers contained various amounts of burnt pebbles and stones.

**Pits:** A total of nine pits were recorded at Greenhills. Six of the pits (C.8, C.12, C.47, C.49, C.56 and C.58) formed a sub-circular arrangement, two more (C.27 and C.46) were located 2.5 m to the west and the ninth C.25 was located 12.5 m to the east. The fills of the pits were all derived from layers of burnt mound material. Two pairs of pits were connected to one another by means of a narrow channel and it is likely that the channel was used to feed water from one pit to the other. There was a flat stone lying next to one of

the channels which could have been used to block or cut off the water supply when necessary. Pits C.27 and C.46 were located adjacent to one another 2.5 m to the west of the group of six. They were on the same level on the slope as the group of six. Pit C.27 was sub-rectangular in plan (Plate 5) and the base was flat. A Middle Bronze Age date of cal BC 2133-2081 2061-1950 (UB-12353) was returned from the fill of pit C.46. Pit C.25 was located on the eastern periphery of the site. It was separated from the remainder of the pits by a modern field boundary.

**Finds:**

A flint scraper was recovered from one of the mound deposits. Small fragments of animal bone were also retrieved.

**Dating:**

Charcoal (prunus) from the fill of pit C46  
C14 (UB-12353) 3657±24 BP (2133–1950 BC)

**References**

Kiely, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Greenhills 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.



Plate 10.130 Connected trough pits at Greenhills, Co. Tipperary.

Location:	Townland:	Clashnevin	Six inch map no: 21
	Parish:	Ballymackey	NGR: 192462, 178888
	Barony:	Upper Ormond	Altitude: 87
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Jo Moran	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	Clashnevin I was located 5 km east of Nenagh and c. 100 m north of the eastern end of the Nenagh bypass. The surrounding land is in pasture and most of the field boundaries in the vicinity have been removed by the landowner.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however a number of previously unknown sites were revealed during the current development in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound, well and numerous pits, some of which may have functioned as boiling troughs.
Burnt Mound:	A large spread of burnt mound material (C.3) was recorded in the northeast quadrant of the site. The mound measured 17 m in diameter by 0.32 m in depth. A second small layer of burnt mound material was recorded to the south-east. The two layers were part of the same mound of burnt material originally. The mound was truncated by ploughing in the recent past.
Well:	The well (C.25) was 7 m in diameter and was excavated to a depth of 2.5 m. The well was fed by a spring at the base. When the well was fully excavated the spring filled the well in a few hours. The well was sub-circular in plan and broad U-shape in profile. In total 29 fills were recorded in the area of the well. A further ten fills were recorded in the pits that cut the sides of the well and the fills within the well. The fills were primarily silts and clays, deposited during episodes of silting and deposition in the well. Animal bone

was recovered from 13 of the fills. The identified species included cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse and red deer. Organic material, leaves, shells and wood was recovered from the fills at the base of the well (C.213, C.218 and C.227). A medieval date was returned from alder charcoal from one of the basal fills.

**Trough:** The trough (C.24) was located immediately west of the well. It remained dry for the duration of the excavation and was probably originally filled from the well. It was rectangular in plan and measured 2.5 m by 1.5 m by 0.5 m deep. The base of the trough cut gravel subsoil and there was no evidence of stone or timber lining. The eastern end of the trough cut a small pit.

**Pits:** Three pits (C.49, C.50 and C.74) underlay the mound of burnt material. The fills of the three pits were derived from burnt mound material. Pits C.49 and C.50 were located parallel to one another and adjacent to the trough C.24. The base of the pits was irregular. They may not have functioned as boiling pits. Pit C.74 was located over 4.5 m to the south of the trough. Two post-holes (C.75 and C.80) were situated on the north-eastern side of pit C.74. They were in close proximity to one another and to the pit. Three other pits (C.5, C.53 and C.104) were not covered by the layers of burnt mound material and were located to the east and south of the mound respectively.

**Finds:** Animal bone was recovered from the well.

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the well  
C14 (UB-12363) 1014±22 BP (AD 982–840 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

This site was investigated in advance of the N7 Castletown to Nenagh road scheme. Excavation revealed a burnt mound overlying a well, a trough and several pits. The medieval date was obtained from a sample of alder charcoal in the basal fill of the well. The later date obtained from the well was interpreted as evidence of reuse in the medieval period, as there are no immediate water sources in the area. The burnt mound material was dispersed by repeated ploughing, with some of this material overlying the well.

### **References**

Kiely, J and Moran, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Clashnevin 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Camlin	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Corbally	NGR: 213414, 185321
	Barony:	Upper Ormond	Altitude: 87
	County:	Ikerrin	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Colum Hardy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The burnt mound was located in a low-lying area within a later medieval enclosure/ringfort.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however a number of previously unknown sites were revealed during the current development in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed two burnt mound areas and associated features.
Burnt Mound 1 and 2:	The larger burnt mound [c228] was 14m north-south, 8m east-west, and 0.2m deep. It consisted of charcoal blackened blackish brown clay-silt with frequent heat fractured sandstone inclusions. The smaller burnt mound [c233] was 4.65m north-south, 2.8m east-west, and 0.2m deep.
Trough 1:	The trough [c235] was linear with rounded terminals and partially lined with stones. It measured c.5.2m long (north-south), c.1.75m wide (east-west) and 0.38m deep (maximum). Several flat stones were placed on the base of [c235] at its north-western end. The fill [c236] of trough [c235] consisted of compacted blackish brown clay silt with burnt stone and charcoal inclusions. A possible curvilinear slot trench [c254] and two stakeholes [c253 & c255] situated around the west end of the trough [c235] suggest the presence of a screen, possibly to protect the trough. The slot trench [c254] measured 1.7m long, 0.05m wide, and was 0.05m deep. The fill [c240] of trough [c235]

contained a chert core and a flint flake. The flint flake was identified as being part of a larger flint implement such as an axe or large knife.

- Well:** Situated c.2m northeast of the trough was [c246] a sub-oval well c.3m long (east-west), c.2.85m wide (north-south) and c.1m deep. The fill [c247] of well [c246] consisted of firm dark grey black silty sand with inclusions of burnt stones and charcoal. Environmental analysis of a sample of [c247] identified the presence of hazel and alder charcoal. A sample of hazel charcoal from fill [c247] returned a radiocarbon date of 1510-1400 BC. A fragment of animal bone identified as a right cattle pelvis was retrieved from fill [c247]. This well was cut into heavy clay below the water-table. During the excavation the well filled with water from the base. This would have provided a useful water source for the activity in the trough.
- Pits:** Six pits were identified each filled with an amount of burnt stone and charcoal. The pit [c206] was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.15m long, 1.05m wide, and was 0.2m deep. The pit [c207] was keyhole shaped and measured 1.3m long, 0.75m wide, and was 0.25m deep. The pit [c209] was circular and measured 1.16m long, 1.1m wide and was 0.21m deep. The pit [c218] was linear in plan, and measured 2.9m long, 0.5m wide, and was 0.09m deep. The pit [c219] was rectangular in plan, and measured 1.17m long, 1m wide, and was 0.26m deep. The north-western extent of [c219] was truncated by [c218]. The pit [c221] was oval and measured 0.34m long, 0.4m wide, and was 0.16m deep.
- Burnt Mound 2:** The majority of the interior of the enclosure was taken up by a shallow burnt mound [c3] that appeared to have been truncated by the enclosure ditch [c4]. The burnt mound [c3] was very irregular in shape and measured approximately 17m north-south and 21m east-west and only 0.08m deep.
- Trough 2:** The rectangular trough [c23] measured 2.6 by 1.9 by 0.5m and was filled with burnt stone [c26] and a layer of rich charcoal [c27]. Positioned on the southern edge of the rectangular trough [c23] and the oval pit [c20] was a collection of ten stakeholes/pits which possibly was a screen.
- Finds:** Animal bone was recovered from the trough 1 and a flint core and possible blade from the same context. A bronze palstave axe was recovered from the topsoil
- Dating:** Charcoal (willow) from the fill of the trough 1  
C14 (SUERC-31035) 3200±30 BP (1530–1410 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the well  
C14 (SUERC-31036) 3175±30 BP (1510–1400 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the trough 2  
C14 (SUERC-31037) 2845±30 BP (1110–920 BC)

## References

Flynn, C. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Camlin 1, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Greenhills	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Cullenwaine	NGR: 203511, 181636
	Barony:	Ikerrin	Altitude: 118
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Jacinta Kiely	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	Greenhills 2 was located within the grounds of the former Greenhills Demesne, 30 m to the north-east of the complex of courtyard buildings, which were located to the north of the main dwelling house.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however a number of previously unknown sites were revealed during the current development in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound, four troughs and a number of pits.
Burnt Mound:	A total of 11 layers were recorded in the mound of burnt material. Six of the layers were dark silty clay with inclusions of pebbles, stones and charcoal. The other five layers were a mix of grey silt and re-deposited natural. The mound measured c. 20 m by 15m and the maximum was recovered from one of the layers.
Troughs:	The layers of burnt mound material overlay three troughs (C.27, C.41 and C.58) and a fourth C.89 was located 4.5 m to the south-west. They were similar in size and plan. The fills were derived from layers of burnt mound material. The trough C.27 was sub-rectangular in plan. It cut the northern side of trough C.58. The fills were dark peaty silts with inclusions of stone and charcoal. The trough C.58 was oval in plan. The fills were dark grey silty clays. A fragment of flint debitage was recovered from one of the fills of the trough. The trough C.41 was sub-circular in plan. It was located 4 m

to the south-west of the pair of troughs. The fills were a mix of grey sands. The trough C.89 was oval in plan. It was located 3.5 m south-west of trough C.41. The three fills were a mix of silty clays.

- Stake-Holes:** A total of 52 stake-holes were excavated to the east of troughs C.27 and C.58, in an area measuring c. 4 m sq. The majority were located on the east side of the troughs and would have formed hearth-side furniture associated with the troughs. Six of them (C.192, C.191, C.189, C.187, C.186, C.188) formed an arc to the north and east of pit C.111.
- Pits:** A total of 18 pits were located in vicinity of the troughs, though none to the north of the group. The pits were generally small and shallow in depth. 13 of the pits (C.28, C.35, C.55, C.59, C.75, C.77, C.85, C.98, C.108, C.109, C.111, C.124 and C.147) were associated with the mound of burnt material and were filled with the mound material.
- Finds:** Lithics from the site were recovered from the pit features and the burnt mound material. They consisted of an end scraper, quartzite rubbing stone and chert debitage. Some animal bone fragments were also retrieved from the burnt mound layers.
- Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt mound material  
C14 (UB-12355) 3497±25 BP (1889–1748 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the pit (C35)  
C14 (UB-12356) 3930±35 BP (2561–2299 BC)

## References

Kiely, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Greenhills 2, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Greenhills	Six inch map no: 22
	Parish:	Cullenwaine	NGR: 203669, 181667
	Barony:	Ikerrin	Altitude: 119
	County:	Tipperary	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Jacinta Kiely	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	Greenhills 3 was located 50 m east of Greenhills 2 to the immediate east of the former Greenhills Demesne boundary. The site at Greenhills 3 is located on undulating lowland on both sides of a hollow where peat had formed over a clay subsoil.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation however a number of previously unknown sites were revealed during the current development in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N7 Castletown to Nenagh Road Scheme. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed two areas of burnt mound activity, each with burnt stone deposits and trough pits.

### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: Three separate layers of burnt mound material were recorded in Area 1. Layer C.106 was located 8 m north of layer C.100 and C.100 was located 2.6 m north of layer C.101. The layers were very shallow and it is likely that they truncated particularly by land drainage over the last 100 years. If the layers originally formed part of a single mound of burnt material it would have extended at least 35 m north-south by 15 m east-west.

Troughs: Trough C.115 underlay layer C.100 and was 1 m north of pit C.118 and 6.5 m west of pit C.148. A stake-hole (C.155, C.156, C.157, C.158) was located in each the four corners of the trough which indicates that the trough was lined. Four troughs (C.104, C.105, C.136, C.162) underlay layer C.101. The

troughs were set in a square formation which measured 5.3 m by 3.7 m. Four stake-holes (C.142, C.143, C.145, C.146) were recorded in the base of trough C.136. The arrangement of stake-holes did not suggest that the base of the trough was lined.

## **Site B**

### **Burnt Mound:**

The northern mound of burnt material was composed of 19 different layers. The layers measured c. 27 m north-south by 10 m east-west. It is likely that the mound extended more to the west in prehistory but the layers in the low-lying boggy area to the west had been truncated by land drains. A small amount of animal bone was recovered from two of the layers C.7 and C.21. A separate mound of burnt material was located 30 m to the south. It measured 9 m north-south by 7 m east-west. All of the layers were a mixture of sandy and clay silts with inclusions of pebbles, stones and charcoal.

### **Troughs:**

Eight troughs (C.22, C.35, C.83, C.84, C.201, C.226, C.277, C.296) and three pits were located in Area 2. All of the troughs were filled with burnt mound material. Each of the troughs was different to the other seven, in shape or in the way the stakes had cut the base of the trough. One was connected to another via a channel. Seven of the troughs were located on the eastern edge of a low lying boggy area. Three (C.201, C.277, C.296) were located in the lower wetter ground and four (C.22, C.35, C.83, C.84) on the slightly higher drier ground. Evidence of lining was recorded in five of the troughs (C.22, C.35, C.83, C.84, C.226).

### **Finds:**

A flint blade was recovered from Site A while a core and flake were found in Area B. Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material in Site B. An extremely fragmented cow skull with no surviving teeth was found in a pit (C.249) beneath the mound. Another trough (C.277) contained 16 bones, four of which can be taken to species level.

### **Dating:**

Charcoal (prunus) from the fill of trough (C35)  
C14 (UB-12357) 2870±23 BP (1125–943 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the hearth (C34)  
C14 (UB-12358) 3875±25 BP (2465–2243 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough (C104)  
C14 (UB-12359) 3437±24 BP (1876–1683 BC)

## **References**

Kiely, J. 2011. *Archaeological excavations at Greenhills 3, Co. Tipperary*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Tiroony	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Termonmaguirk	NGR: 26226, 37029
	Barony:	Omagh East	Altitude: 119
	County:	Tyrone	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Quarry Extension	
	Site Director:	Robert M. Chapple	
	Consultants:	Northern Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is located 2.4km east of the town of Carrickmore, 350m to the south of the River Altanagh.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of a quarry extension. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound and a number of pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F10) was irregular in shape and measured 10mm by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It was composed of charcoal, ash, balck silt and fire-cracked stones. The sub-soil below the burnt mound displayed evidence of burning, possibly representing a hearth or early fire.
Pit:	A pit (C8) was revealed under the burnt spread. It was circular in shape with a diameter of 1.05m and a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with burnt mound material and possibly represented a trough.
<b>Finds:</b>	Flint scraper was revealed during topsoil-stripping.
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the pit C14 (Beta-229405) 3360±60 BP (1760–1500 BC)

### **References**

Chapple, R. 2007. *Archaeological excavations at Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Northern Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Aghnahoe	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killeeshil	NGR: 266055, 358981
	Barony:	Dungannon Lower	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tyrone	
Excavation Details:	Project:	A4 Dungannon to Ballygawley road scheme	
	Site Director:	Matt Mossop	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	The site lay in a small valley between drumlins, characterised by glaciofluvial sands and gravels, eroded by a tributary of the Ballygawley Water, c. 3.5km north-east of Ballygawley, Co Tyrone.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Corn drying kiln		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of a road development. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound and a number of troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The eastern half of both burnt mounds had been extensively eroded by the stream, presumably in periodic episodes of flooding. A large number of post-medieval furrows and field drains spread both burnt mounds, mixing the burnt stone with the topsoil. Beneath the layers of disturbed burnt-mound material, in situ burnt-stone material was found surrounding a central trough in each case. Both troughs were sub-rectangular with rounded corners and are likely to have been partly wood lined, though no post-holes were recorded in the corners. The decayed remnants of a solitary plank lay diagonally across the base of the trough and, whilst most of this survived as a soil stain, the best-preserved section included wood with a probable axe mark.

### **References**

Mossop, M. 2011. Aghnahoe. Burnt mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2008*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Cavankilgreen	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Carnteel	NGR: 264772, 355114
	Barony:	Dungannon Lower	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tyrone	
Excavation Details:	Project:	A4 Dungannon to Ballygawley road scheme	
	Site Director:	James McKee	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	There is no information as to the physical location of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of road development. No above ground remains were visible prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound and a number of troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt deposit consisted of a burnt mound measuring up to 9m long, 8m wide and with a surviving depth of 0.15m. This deposit sealed a small pit/pot-boiler which measured 0.58m in diameter and 0.16m deep. It was filled with a mixture of fire-cracked stones and a charcoal-blackened loamy sand. Two troughs were excavated. One of these was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.95m long, 1.25m wide and 0.3m deep. Two timber planks were preserved in the base, as well as three to four planks along each long edge; a single stake was found at both the north-west and the south-east ends as well as some timber which was badly preserved in these locations. Some clay was packed around the edges and around the wooden lining. The fills comprised a mix of peaty and silty clays intermixed with fire-cracked stone. Hazelnut shells, cattle, pig teeth and a pig humerus were retrieved from the fills. Another trough measured 0.8m long, 0.5m wide and 0.45m deep. This was also filled with typical burnt-mound material.

### **References**

McKee, J. 2011. Cavankilgreen. Burnt mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2008*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Drumnafern	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Donaghmore	NGR: 275159, 375159
	Barony:	Dungannon Middle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tyrone	
Excavation Details:	Project:	A4 Dungannon to Ballygawley road scheme	
	Site Director:	Frank Malone	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying waterlogged area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation, however, a number of early medieval monuments were recorded.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of road development.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound, well and wooden features.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt-mound material concentrated in a central area measuring 16.8m east–west by 15.2m. A large pit was located in the easternmost part of the site, partially sealed by burnt-mound material. This feature was interpreted as a possible well and is most likely the earliest feature on-site. The broken remains of a large east–west linear wooden feature were located to the north partially sealed by burnt-mound material. Excavation proved the feature to be a possible gangway, 6.95m long and 0.73m wide, comprising one large flat timber laid down to enable crossing boggy ground in the area. A large wooden vessel, placed within a subsoil cut, had been pegged into place and subsequently sealed by peat and burnt-mound material. A large pit surrounded by wooden stakes was located directly north-north-east of the wooden vessel and excavation of this feature revealed five worked wooden timbers lining the south-eastern edge of the pit. Approximately twenty wooden stakes with worked faceted ends had also been driven into the natural subsoil south of these timbers. Finds included a complete and a broken saddle quern, lithics and the wooden vessel.

### **References**

Mallone, F. 2011. Drumnafern. Burnt mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2008*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Drumnafern	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Donaghmore	NGR: 274627, 360085
	Barony:	Dungannon Middle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tyrone	
Excavation Details:	Project:	A4 Dungannon to Ballygawley road scheme	
	Site Director:	Frank Malone	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying waterlogged area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation, however, a number of early medieval monuments were recorded.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of road development.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound and an number of troughs.

Burnt Mound: After cleaning, it became apparent that there were two distinct burnt mounds, both with quite a large depth of burnt-mound material, although one was more extensive. The larger of the two burnt mounds sealed at least one trough and four pits. There were at least four phases of activity evidenced by the intercutting of three of the pits and a trough. The earliest of this sequence was the heavily truncated remains of a pit. This was cut by another pit or possible trough which may have originally been rectangular in shape. This was also heavily truncated. Both of these were then cut by a large rectangular trough measuring at least 2.1m long by 1.05m wide and with a depth of around 0.35m. The base of this trough was lined with large wooden planks. The eastern edge of this trough was truncated by a further sub-rectangular pit or trough. A fourth, circular, pit was located 1.2m to the north. Intermittent use of this site was evident from the presence of a layer of hill-wash between layers of burnt-mound material. This hill-wash sealed the circular pit and was cut through by the later rectangular plank-lined trough. A flint blade and a broken barbed and tanged arrowhead were recovered from cleaning at the base of the burnt-mound material.

### **References**

Mallone, F. 2011. Drumnafern. Burnt mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2008*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Golan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Donaghmore	NGR: 265351, 357639
	Barony:	Dungannon Middle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tyrone	
Excavation Details:	Project:	A4 Dungannon to Ballygawley road scheme	
	Site Director:	Frank Malone	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying waterlogged area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation, however, a number of early medieval monuments were recorded.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Corn drying kiln and charcoal spreads.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of road development.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the area revealed a burnt mound and a number of troughs.
Burnt Mound and troughs:	The spread of burnt-mound material measured 5.3m by 3m and was 0.05m in depth. Two troughs were identified below the burnt-mound material, lying adjacent to the present-day stream. One of the troughs was lined with wood while the other was unlined. Both the troughs were dug into the natural subsoil, below the water table, and so filled naturally with water. The wood-lined trough was east–west-aligned and measured 1.5m in length, 0.7m in width and 0.18–0.22m in depth. The trough had been lined with wood along the north, south and west edges, while the east edge did not appear to have been wooden lined. A possible ard was recovered from the backfill of the trough. The unlined trough was located 4m to the north of the wood-lined trough and was also east–west-aligned. It was truncated and its original dimensions would have measured 1.7m in length, 1m in width and it had a surviving depth of 0.24m. As the cut was below the water table it filled naturally with water and the accumulation of peat at the base of the cut indicates that it may have been left open before it was backfilled with the same burnt-mound material that filled the wood-lined trough. It is possible that this is the earlier of the two troughs.
Channels:	Three channels were located in close proximity to both troughs. The first channel ran north to south from the unlined trough and may have conducted



water to or managed the water table of the trough. The second channel ran from north-east to south-west and connected with the third channel and to the stream. The third channel conducted water to channel two and this in turn connected to the wood-lined trough.

**Platforms:**

Two stone platforms were evident at the southern part of the site and appeared to be contemporary with the wood-lined trough. A series of stepping stones composed of five large stones (0.3m by 0.5m by 0.09m) ran from the southern end of the wood-lined trough along the edge of channel three. These provided a dry form of access to the trough. Another stone grouping was located at the south-western edge of channel three. These limestone slabs were placed at the south-western edge of channel three, 2.5m from the wood-lined trough, and had dimensions 0.5m by 0.3m by 0.09m.

**References**

Mallone, F and Whitty, Y. 2011. Golan. Burnt mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2008*. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Mullaghbane	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Donaghmore	NGR: 265829, 358613
	Barony:	Dungannon Middle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Tyrone	
Excavation Details:	Project:	A4 Dungannon to Ballygawley road scheme	
	Site Director:	Kara Ward	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2008	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low-lying waterlogged area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the area prior to excavation, however, a number of early medieval monuments were recorded.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Corn drying kiln and charcoal spreads.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of road development.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: A spread of burnt-mound material at the south-western end of the site was overlying seven pits, two of which were of substantial enough size to be described as troughs. They both had a sub-rectangular shape whereas the other pits which were more oval or circular in shape and are likely to have been used as pot-boilers. Another spread of burnt-mound material was found some 50m or so to the north. Associated with this were two pits, one of which was sealed by the burnt mound, the other lay to the west of it. A shallow depression was filled by a deposit resembling burnt-mound material and consisting of fire-cracked stones and charcoal-blackened sandy silt. A number of sherds of coarse prehistoric pottery were retrieved from this deposit. This deposit sealed up to 35 stake-holes (some were outlying) and two post-holes and may have been a possible shelter. The remains of a possible trough were uncovered at the base of a slope. The feature was badly truncated and much of what was probably a rectangular cut was gone. The fill was burnt-mound material (fire-cracked stone and charcoal-blackened deposit).

### **References**

Ward, K. 2011. Mullaghbane. Burnt mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2008*. Wordwell, Bray.

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Location:	Townland:	Clonkerdon (in)	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Whitechurch	NGR: 215096, 93970
	Barony:	Decies-Without-Dru	Altitude: Unknown
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Research	
	Site Director:	John Quinlan	
	Consultants:	Independent	
	Year:	1885	
Physical Setting:	Quinlan states that the site was located in a field once used for tillage and the horseshoe-shaped mound was open to a stream which ran from a nearby well.		
Cultural Landscape:	Recorded prehistoric monuments in the immediate vicinity consist of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and burnt stone spreads. There is a burnt mound recorded 300m to the east (WA030-034) and there are several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> situated 800m-1km to the south (WA030-035, 36, 37, 38).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

Prior to excavation the site survived as a horseshoe-shaped mound of heat-shattered sandstone and was covered by a growth of furze. Quinlan notes however that the site had been damaged or ‘tilled like the rest of the field and the stones had been scattered about by the plough and harrow’ (Quinlan 1885, 391).

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone, a well preserved dug-out trough and a large formal hearth.
Burnt Mound:	Quinlan states that the mound of heat-shattered stone had a diameter of fifty-two feet (15.6m) and survived in its classic horseshoe-shape form consisting of broken burnt sandstone. He also notes that the mound had been damaged by agricultural processes (1885, 391).
Hearth:	The hearth was elevated above the trough and was connected by a series of steps which were eight inches high and kept in place by large stones. The floor of the hearth consisted of large sandstone slabs which Quinlan notes were dressed and seemed to neatly fit together. The hearth was delimited by a series of stones which seem to be set on edge. The two large slabs which seem to be protruding from either side of the hearth may have allowed access to the fire for the removal of the heated stones.

**Trough:** The trough consisted of a hollowed out oak tree which measured roughly 6 (1.8m) feet long and 2 foot (0.6m) wide. The fill consisted of burnt stone and Quinlan notes that the lower end near the water was poorly preserved along with portions of the side. Therefore, the true length could not be determined.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Bronze Axes

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation at Clonkerdon uncovered a burnt mound that sealed a hollowed-out oak trough and a substantial formal hearth. Formal hearths in association with wooden dug-outs are quite rare in Irish burnt mound archaeology however a number of parallels can be drawn from the evidence presented by Quinlan.

Although not scientifically excavated, one cannot be sure as to the date of the site.

However, the closest parallel for the site is probably one excavated on the N8 Balincollig to Watergrasshill Bypass (Cotter

2005). Here, a substantial hollowed-out trough was uncovered with an associated stone hearth which dated to the Middle Bronze Age) Similar sites were excavated at Shanacloon and Killeens where large troughs were directly associated with formal hearths (O'Kelly 1954). The later site was also dated to the Middle Bronze Age. In the absence of absolute dating methods, Quinlan dated the site by the recovery of three axe-heads found nearby. The National Museum of Ireland records these as bronze axe-heads, and Cherry (1990) suggests a later Bronze Age date for the artefacts and by extension, the *fulacht fia*.

### **References**

Quinlan, J. 1885. The cooking places of the stone age in Ireland. *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries* **17**, 390–2.

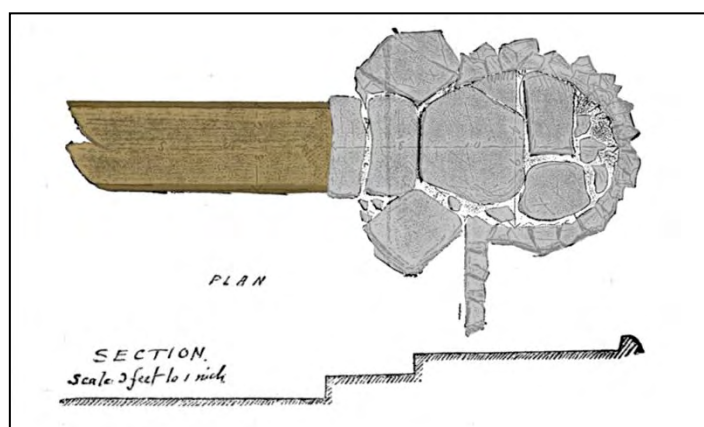


Fig. 10.150 plan and section of stone hearth and dug-out trough at Clonkerdon.

Location:	Townland:	Ahanaglogh	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Ballylaneen	NGR: 238055, 104648
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Dr	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Kilmacthomas road realignment scheme	
	Site Director:	John Tierney	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	1998	
Physical Setting:	The <i>fulacht fia</i> was located at the base of a south-facing slope. The area to the north was drained over time, originally by a series of ditches and more recently by modern clay pipe drains. The land to the east, west and south was flat but prone to flooding during heavy rainfall. The land to the south consists of wet marshy terrain.		
Cultural Landscape:	The N25 Kilmacthomas Road Realignment Scheme resulted in the discovery of a concentration of prehistoric activity in the townlands of Ahanaglogh and Graigueshoneen. Prior to excavations, only two definite prehistoric sites were known from these townlands – a <i>fulacht fia</i> from Ahanaglogh (WA015-048) and a second example from Graigueshoneen (WA015-086). The recent discoveries indicate a palimpsest of activity concentrated at this location dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Bronze Age structures (Beaker settlement) immediately to the north (WA015-048002) and a hearth site 40mm to the north-west (WA015-048006). Other prehistoric features were excavated in the vicinity including a further habitation site c.100m to the west (WA015-016001) and metalworking pits. <i>Fulacht fia</i> 80m to the south-east.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was a recorded monument prior to excavation and survived as a mound of heat-shattered stone which was 30m in diameter and which sloped gently to the south. Only a limited amount of excavation took place at this site. The area of the trough was the focus of the investigations.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Limited excavation of the site revealed a substantial mound of heat-shattered stone and a trough which produced evidence to suggest it was once timber-lined.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was roughly circular in plan and measured 30m in diameter. Tierney noted twenty-seven deposits in the excavated portion of the mound which consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. He also suggests that

the dense charcoal inclusions indicates the possibility of other features which may lie in the unexcavated area.

**Trough:** The trough (C145) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.3m by 1.4m and was 0.6m deep. It was cut into the natural sub-soil and filled naturally with water. Tierney recorded linear sand deposits at the base of the trough which were interpreted as the fine fraction of the heated stones that shattered when they were introduced to the cold water and subsequently fell between the individual planks. No timber lining survived however an ash stake was found in the base of the trough which may have supported some sort of timber structure within the pit.

**Stone:** A large flat stone was found on the edge of the trough which was interpreted as a 'butchers block' or a stone for beating hides or textiles (Tierney, 2008).

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Ash stake from base of trough (C145)

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (Unknown) from basal fill of trough (C145)  
C14 (Beta-187364) 3300±40 BP (1690–1500 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation at Ahanaglogh uncovered a burnt mound that sealed the remains of a trough and a preserved ash stake. The presence of a trough suggests the site may have functioned as a water-boiling location for pyrolithic activities.

**References**

Tierney, J. and Logan, E. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographys No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Ahanaglogh	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Ballylaneen	NGR: 237965, 104635
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Drum	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment Scheme- Kilmacthomas	
	Site Director:	John Tierney	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	1998	

**Physical Setting:** The *fulacht fia* was located on relatively flat ground. The area to the north was drained over time, originally by a series of ditches and more recently by modern clay pipe drains. The land to the east, west and south was flat but prone to flooding during heavy rainfall. The land to the south consists of wet marshy terrain, ideal for pyrolithic activities.

**Cultural Landscape:** The N25 Kilmacthomas Road Realignment Scheme resulted in the discovery of a concentration of prehistoric activity in the townlands of Ahanaglogh and Graigueshoneen. Prior to excavations, only two definite prehistoric sites were known from these townlands – a *fulacht fia* from Ahanaglogh (WA015-048) and a second example from Graigueshoneen (WA015-086).

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Early Bronze Age structures (Beaker settlement) immediately to the north (WA015-048002) and a hearth site 120m to the south-east (WA 015-048006). Other prehistoric features were excavated in the vicinity including a further habitation site c.100m to the west (WA015-016001) and metalworking pits. *Fulacht fia* 80m to the south-east.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The small spread of heat-shattered stone was encountered during topsoil stripping. No surface mound was evident prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Results**

**Summary of Features:** Excavations revealed a small spread of heat-shattered stone and a small trough. A number of post-holes were also recorded 5m north of the trough however these may relate to Medieval iron-working remains immediately north of the burnt spread.

**Burnt Mound:** No mound was evident at the site however, thirty deposits of clays mixed with heat-shattered stone and charcoal were revealed which measured approximately three square meters. Tierney notes that it is possible the burnt mound was disturbed by later agricultural activity (Tierney, 2005).

**Trough:** The trough (C4206) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.68m by 1.48m and was 0.43m deep. Three fills were noted in the trough with the

basal deposits consisting of natural silting. Only one of these deposits contained heat-shattered stone. Subsequent to this, it appears that the trough fills were re-cut by. This trough re-cut considerably altered the primary trough cut and contained seven contexts with heat-shattered stone. The basal fill was very rich in sand, a phenomenon encountered in the burnt mound 60 metres to the east, in one of the troughs in Area 30, 800 m to the east and also in the re-cut trough in 00E0197 over 1 km to the east. Trough filled naturally with water.

**Post-Holes:** 5m north of the trough, a series of post-holes, a driven post and a group of stake-holes were excavated. These features were interpreted as linear fence lines or possibly a rough arc of post-hole and could be associated with the burnt mound or the later metalworking activity immediately north of the site.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Pottery (Beaker) Context unknown

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from basal fill of trough C145  
C14 (Beta-170159) 3790±40 BP (2300–2040 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation at Ahanaglogh uncovered the damaged remains of a burnt mound that was truncated by later activity. The presence of a trough and deposits of heat-shattered stone suggests that pyrolithic water-boiling was carried out at the site. The recovery of beaker pottery also suggests that these activities may have been undertaken near a settlement of the same date.

**References**

Tierney, J. and Logan, E. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographys No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin.



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Location:	Townland:	Graigueshoneen	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Ballylaneen	NGR: 238326, 104775
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Drum	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment Scheme- Kilmacthomas	
	Site Director:	John Tierney	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	1998	

**Physical Setting:** The burnt mound was situated on the side of a natural hollow/pond feature within this field and some other prehistoric settlement remains were found on the W side of that pond. The land to the east, west and south was flat but prone to flooding during heavy rainfall. The land to the south consists of wet marshy terrain, ideal for pyrolithic activities.

**Cultural Landscape:** The N25 Kilmacthomas Road Realignment Scheme resulted in the discovery of a concentration of prehistoric activity in the townlands of Ahanaglogh and Graigueshoneen. Prior to excavations, only two definite prehistoric sites were known from these townlands – a *fulacht fia* from Ahanaglogh (WA015-048) and a second example from Graigueshoneen (WA015-086). Recent discoveries indicate a palimpsest of activity concentrated at this location dating to the Early Neolithic, Middle Neolithic, Late Neolithic, Beaker period, Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Possible Early Bronze Age cremation site on opposite side of pond 40m to the west (WA015-107001). Another *fulacht fia* was excavated 240m to the north-east (WA015-093). An Early Bronze Age habitation site was revealed during further excavations 242m to the west (WA015-048002, 04, 05).

### **Pre-Excavation features**

Deposits of silty clay, containing inclusions of brick, post medieval pottery, glass and clay pipe stems lay above and to the west of a burnt mound in a natural hollow in the field. The landowner stated that the material was deposited in the hollow within the last 20 years to level the field.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavations revealed several spreads of heat-shattered stone, two troughs, a hearth and a series of stake-holes.

**Burnt Mound:** The mound was badly disturbed by recent agricultural activity but survived as a discrete deposit measuring 11.5m by 8. The north side of the mound was particularly dense in charcoal indicating possible fire locations. Stake-holes possibly represented a revetment for the mound.

Trough 1:	This trough (C11293) was the earliest on site and was located 2.5m north-east of trough C11323. It was circular in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.4m and was 0.45m in depth. Eleven stake-holes cut the base of the trough which presumably held a lining in place, possibly of wicker. They were evenly spaced on the south, west and northwest side. A large stone, 0.7m x 0.4m was located on the northeast side of the base. Four silty clays filled the trough. The pit was later re-cut and measured 1.2 by 0.42m by 0.4m. It contained six fills containing burnt fragments of shale, quartz and limestone.
Trough 2:	Trough 11323 was located south of the burnt mound and was rectangular in plan. It measured 2.46m by 1.68m and was 0.54m in depth. As with trough one this trough was later re-cut also. This re-cut measured 4.4m by 1.58m and was 0.64m in depth. Twenty-five stake-holes were recorded primarily in the north-east and south-east corners of the trough. No in situ remains of timber lining of the trough survived. It is hypothesized that the stakes represent repairs to the lining of the trough. Five fills were recorded packed against the sides of the trough.
Hearth:	Tierney notes an area of burnt ground immediately east of trough 2 (C11323) upslope on an area of flat ground. It measured 1.1m by 0.8m and was 0.03m in thickness. It included frequent charcoal and fragments of quartz, limestone and shale, all burnt.
Stake-Holes:	Five substantial closely set stake-holes were discovered aligned east-west at the north-west side of the burnt mound.
<b>Finds:</b>	
Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (Unknown) from basal fill of trough (C11293) C14 (Beta-170162) 3790±40 BP (2210–2010 BC) Charcoal (Unknown) from basal fill of trough (C11323) C14 (Beat-170163) 2880±110 BP (1390–820 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The site contained a number of troughs, a hearth, burnt mound and stake-hole features, all elements consistent with Bronze Age water-boiling technology. It was situated at the edge of a pond that was backfilled during recent land improvement. The stake-holes may represent windbreak structures however they may have equally functioned as a revetment for the mound.

### **References**

Tierney, J. and Logan, E. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographs No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Ahanaglogh	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Ballylaneen	NGR: 237772, 104460
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Drum	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment Scheme- Kilmacthomas	
	Site Director:	Daniel Noonan	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	It was situated in the road take of a proposed slip road to link with the existing road to Stradbally village. The site was located on a gently sloping area of the marshy field. The area is now relatively dry but Noonan notes that there was evidence that it had been wet and marshy throughout most of its history.		
Cultural Landscape:	The N25 Kilmacthomas Road Realignment Scheme resulted in the discovery of a concentration of prehistoric activity in the townlands of Ahanaglogh and Graigueshoneen. Prior to excavations, only two definite prehistoric sites were known from these townlands – a <i>fulacht fia</i> from Ahanaglogh (WA015-048) which was only 150m west-south-west of the site discussed here. A second example is known from Graigueshoneen (WA015-086). The recent discoveries indicate a palimpsest of activity concentrated at this location dating to the Early Neolithic, Middle Neolithic, Late Neolithic, Beaker period, Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> located 200m to the west (00E196). A number of other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in this townland also along with an Early Bronze Age Beaker settlement.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The burnt mound had been severely damaged by land drainage works in the twentieth century. The site was not fully excavated, and the remaining features were left in situ under the road and embankment. There was no surface evidence of a burnt mound prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavations revealed several disturbed and re-deposited spreads of heat-shattered stone and a large trough.
Burnt Mound:	The surviving mound material measured 14m by 8m and consisted of six separate deposits of burnt stone which were mixed with charcoal and silty clays. Two of the deposits contained medium sized stones and the others contained smaller (small stone and pebble sized) heat-shattered stone. This

indicates that the site had been used sufficiently long enough to involve the re-use of stones in the water boiling process.

**Trough:** The trough (C39) was only excavated in section therefore the full extent of the trough is not known. The excavated portion measured 2m by 1.10m and was 0.52m deep. The trough filled naturally with water due to being cut into the natural clays. No Lining was evident and the trough fill consisted of mound material.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Site not scientifically dated

**Excavation Interpretation:**

There was limited survival of the primary mound material because of damage caused by post-medieval damage, however the presence of a trough and surviving mound deposits of heat-shattered stone suggests it functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling location, possibly Bronze Age in date, given the range of similar dated sites in the area.

**References**

Tierney, J. and Logan, E. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographys No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Ahanaglogh	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Ballylaneen	NGR: 237438, 104437
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Dru	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment Scheme- Kilmacthomas	
	Site Director:	Dave Pollock	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	It was situated on an east-facing gentle slope at the foot of Currabaha Hill. The River Mahon, which rises in the Monavullagh Mountains, is the main landscape feature of the study area and runs southwards to Bunmahon where it issues into the sea. In general the ground slopes from the east and west into the roughly central point of the River Mahon. The trough was associated with a natural spring which provided water for the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	The N25 Kilmacthomas Road Realignment Scheme resulted in the discovery of a concentration of prehistoric activity in the townlands of Ahanaglogh and Graigueshoneen. Prior to excavations, only two definite prehistoric sites were known from these townlands – a <i>fulacht fia</i> from Ahanaglogh (WA 015-048) and a second example known from Graigueshoneen (WA 015-086).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Disturbed <i>fulacht fia</i> located 200m to the east (00E192).Two small areas of burnt ground were excavated immediately uphill from the burnt mound and were identified as possibly furnaces. A number of other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in this townland also along with an Early Bronze Age Beaker settlement.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment. Two areas of archaeological interest were investigated here. No surface remains of the mound were evident prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavations revealed an irregular spread of heat-shattered stone, a dried-up spring and a clay-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of mound material was situated in a shallow hollow and covered an irregular area measuring 12.m by 7.5m with a maximum depth of 0.1m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay. Natural peat was found under some deposits of burnt material, but one area of peat was

recorded over the south-eastern part of the mound. This indicated that the site was in use after the peat formation started and that the peat continued to accumulate after the site was abandoned.

**Trough:** The trough (C75) was sub-circular and measured 1.5m in diameter and was 0.5m deep. It was cut into the hillside above the natural spring, through the clay subsoil and into bedrock. The trough was lined with clay and filled with heat-shattered stone.

**Spring:** A dried-up spring was immediately east and downslope from the trough. This feature probably acted as a water source for the trough. Within the cavity a central feature may represent the remains of a pit/trough c. 1 m diameter which has been damaged by puddling and the flow of water.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal from basal fill of trough C75  
C14 (Beta-170029) 3420±130 BP (2040–1420 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site comprised an Early Bronze Age *fulacht fia* and a dried up spring which may have provided water for the site.

**References**

Tierney, J. and Logan, E. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographys No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Graigueshoneen	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Ballylaneen	NGR: 238664, 104913
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Drum	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment Scheme	
	Site Director:	Michael Tierney	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The burnt mound was situated on the edge of a shallow, flat, open valley, with a southerly aspect. Tierney states that there was strong evidence to suggest that the site was damp or flooded in prehistory, with peat layers noted along the southern edge of the area.		
Cultural Landscape:	The N25 Kilmacthomas Road Realignment Scheme resulted in the discovery of a concentration of prehistoric activity in the townlands of Ahanaglogh and Graigueshoneen. Prior to excavations, only two definite prehistoric sites were known from these townlands – a <i>fulacht fia</i> from Ahanaglogh (WA 015-048) and a second example from Graigueshoneen (WA015-086). The recent discoveries indicate a palimpsest of activity concentrated at this location dating to the Early Neolithic, Middle Neolithic, Late Neolithic, Beaker period, Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	An Early Bronze Age (Beaker) settlement was excavated c. 700m to the north-east (WA015-094001) while another contemporary <i>fulacht fia</i> and possible burial were excavated c. 400m to the south-west (WA015-107001, 2).		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment. The archaeological stratification was heavily truncated by post-medieval activity due to the presence of drains and ploughmarks cutting the mound material. The full extent of this site was not revealed during the excavation.			
<b>Excavation Results</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavations revealed a large mound of heat-shattered stone, nine possible troughs, stake-hole clusters and a possible structure defined by a double are of stake-holes.		
Burnt Mound:	The mound material was crescent shaped in plan and measured 15m by 13m and was 0.10–0.20m in thickness. It consisted of deposits which were rich in charcoal and stones that were subjected to intense heat which shattered as a		

result. All of the troughs were sealed by mound material something which Tierney suggests was a deliberate act because the mound only seemed to be disturbed at the upper levels. He also notes that some effort was taken to clear the area of waste after use in the trough due to the presence of heat-shattered stone up to 5m from the nearest trough.

- Trough 1: The two largest troughs on site appeared to be the earliest (C247, C162). Trough C247 measured 1.86m by 1.57m and was 0.6m in depth. This trough was not backfilled and appeared to contain a primary deposit of heat-shattered stone, some of which were large indicating that they were not cleaned out after their final use. This trough filled naturally with water.
- Trough 2: Trough C162 was another large trough on site which was again not backfilled like the rest of the boiling pits. It measured 1.54m by 1.4m and was 0.6m deep. Four stake-holes were noted in the base of this trough which may have added additional support for a timber lining.
- Trough 3: Trough C176 measured 2.12m by 1.7m and was 0.34m deep. The feature had steep sides and a single stake-hole was recorded at the base. This trough was interpreted as being deliberately backfilled with burnt mound material.
- Trough 4: Trough C248 measured 1.83m by 1.37m and was 0.46m deep. It had a steep sided cut with a gentler gradient on the east side possibly as a result of being cleaned out on several occasions. The trough showed evidence of being clay lined and filled naturally with water. It was sealed by burnt mound material.
- Trough 5: The five remaining troughs were smaller in size. Trough C244 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.3m by 1.1m and was 0.45m deep. Tierney notes that this trough may have been clay lined and was deliberately backfilled as with the rest of the pits on site.
- Trough 6: Trough C207 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.26m by 1.2m and was 0.3m deep. This trough was the only pit which did not have gently sloping sides which were interpreted as areas where the stones were removed from the trough.
- Trough 7: Trough C190 measured 1.18m by 0.9m and was 0.3m deep. This pit was also deliberately backfilled with burnt mound material. No lining was evident.
- Trough 8: Trough C242 measured 0.9m by 0.7m and was 0.3m deep. This pit was also deliberately backfilled with burnt mound material. No lining was evident.
- Trough 9: Trough C107 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 0.9m by 0.7m and was 0.3m deep. This pit was also deliberately backfilled with burnt mound material. No lining was evident.
- Stake-Holes: A concentration of nineteen stake-holes was recorded north of the trough C176. One of these stakes produced an Early to Middle Bronze Age date. Tierney states that no clear patterns were noted during the excavation. However, plans do show them concentrating in a 4 m<sup>2</sup> rectangular space. There is a possibility that this is a small shelter or screen of some kind,



maybe even just to give shelter to a couple of people from inclement weather (Tierney and Logan, 2008).

**Possible Structure:** Another concentration of stake-holes was recorded to the north-east of the excavated area. These were aligned in a two-row arc with the stakes evenly spaced. The integrity of the arc was broken by a modern feature. If one continues the line of the arc, assuming a degree of uniformity to it, one ends with a circle of five to six metres in diameter.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Two fragments of a possible quern stone which were heat affected (Burnt Mound). A flint scraper (Clay Layer). 28 sherds of domestic Beaker potter from the mound deposits and overlying clay. Hammerstone from context C161. Possibly worked quartz flake also.

**Ecofacts:** None

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal from fill of trough C176  
C14 (Beta-170030) 3260±140 BP (1890–1210 BC)

### **References**

Tierney, J. and Logan, E. 2008. *Archaeological excavations Graigueshoneen*, Co. Waterford. Final excavation report prepared by Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.

Johnson, P., Kiely, J. and Tierney, J. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographys No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin



Plate 10.131 Burnt mound and numerous trough pits at Graigueshoneen.

Location:	Townland:	Carriganonshagh	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Rossmine	NGR: 240358, 105412
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Drum	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment-Kilmacthomas	
	Site Director:	Daniel Noonan	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	This site was located towards the middle of the road realignment, but nearer the eastern side, in the townland of Carriganonshagh. It was situated towards the base of a gently sloping hill, on the side of the valley of a small stream, which issued into the River Mahon to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	The N25 Kilmacthomas Road Realignment Scheme resulted in the discovery of a concentration of prehistoric activity in the townlands of Ahanaglogh and Graigueshoneen. Prior to excavations, only two definite prehistoric sites were known from these townlands – a <i>fulacht fia</i> from Ahanaglogh (WA 015-048) and a second example from Graigueshoneen (WA015-086).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment. The site was located in a proposed 'cut' area of the development and as such it had to be fully excavated. The spread of mound material was cut by a number of post-medieval field drains. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	Excavations revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone, two possible hearths, a line of stake-holes and a single trough.
Burnt Mound:	The spread of burnt mound material (C13) measured 8m by 8m and survived to a thickness of 0.3m. It consisted of eleven separate deposits of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay. The <i>in situ</i> burnt mound material was located in the centre of the southern part of the site, directly north of the possible trough discovered.
Hearths:	Three areas of <i>in situ</i> burning (C4, C7 and C28) were identified 4m north and upslope of the trough. They were c. 1m in diameter and characterised by charcoal and oxidation of the clay subsoil.

**Trough:** The trough (C43) was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.58m by 1.5m and was 0.7m deep. It had rounded corners with a steep break of slope and a flat base. The trough was crudely made, being more of a rough scoop out of the waterlogged ground, partially lined with flat stones, and filled with three deposits of heat-shattered stones.

**Stake-Holes:** North of the hearth features a number of stake-holes were found. These probably formed part of an east to west, linear fence structure or windbreak when the site was in use. They were located for the most part between 0.18 and 0.22 m apart, but in some cases the distance was greater.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

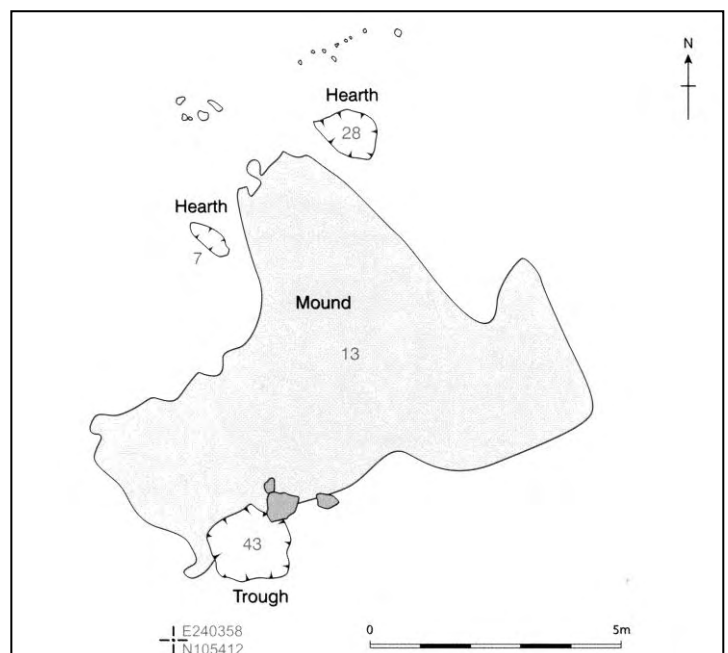
Absolute dating: Site not scientifically dated

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a deposit of heat-shattered stone associated with a pyrolithic water-boiling technology. This was confirmed by the identification of a possible boiling pit and a hearth used to heat the stones for this process. The stake-holes possible represent some sort of screen to protect the fire from the prevailing winds.

### **References**

Johnson, P., Kiely, J. and Tierney, J. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment.* NRA Scheme Monographs No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin



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Location:	Townland:	Scrahane	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Rossmine	NGR: 241420, 106683
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Drum	Altitude: 60
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment Scheme-Kilmacthomas	
	Site Director:	Daniel Noonan	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	

**Physical Setting:** The site was the most easterly site to be excavated during the course of the project. It was situated on a gentle east to west slope and extended outside the limit of the road realignment corridor. The road scheme is situated in the interface between the foothills of the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains and the mid-Waterford lowlands.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** *Fulacht fia* excavated in the neighbouring townland of Carrignanonsagh.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Results**

**Summary of Features:** The site consisted of a disturbed burnt mound of heat-shattered stone.

**Burnt Mound:** The spread of burnt mound material was irregular in plan and measured 12m by 12m and was 0.15m in maximum thickness. Only four mound deposits remained due to recent agricultural activity and consisted of charcoal rich soil mixed with heat-shattered stone.

**Trough:** The trough (C1) measured 2.8m long and was 0.36m deep. It contained seven different fills. The excavator states that this material may have slipped into the trough when the site was abandoned.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal from the basal fill of the trough C1  
C14 (Beta-170153) 2850±40 BP (1100–900 BC)

### **References**

Johnson, P., Kiely, J. and Tierney, J. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographys No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Scrahane	Six inch map no: 15
	Parish:	Rossmine	NGR: 240657, 105887
	Barony:	Decies -Without- Drum	Altitude: 60
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Road Realignment Scheme	
	Site Director:	John Tierney	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on a gentle east to west slope and extended outside the limit of the road realignment corridor. A stream was located 2m to the north-west of the area and a similar site was found alongside this stream c. 250m to the south-west (WA015-099). The road scheme is situated in the interface between the foothills of the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains and the mid-Waterford lowlands.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> excavated c. 250 to the south-west in the townland of Carrignananshagh (Site WD08).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations. The remains of the site extended outside the limit of the road realignment corridor.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of a horseshoe-shaped mound of heat-shattered stone, a large trough, three pits and a slot-trench associated with metalworking.
Burnt Mound:	The twenty separate deposits of burnt mound material overlay natural sediments of iron-pan and manganese. The deposits covered an area measuring 15m by 3m with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. The material consisted of heat-shattered stone and burnt clay. One of the deposits contained possible iron slag which may have been a result of later disturbance. The northern deposits of the mound were closer to the trough and extended over an area of 10m by 3m. They contained high amounts of charcoal than the other deposits.
Possible Trackway:	At the southern end of the mound, a deliberately laid layer of evenly arranged stone was evident. It was heavily compressed or trodden and

Tierney suggests it may have functioned as a walkway to alleviate the marshy conditions at the site.

- Trough: The trough C76 sub-circular in shape and was re-cut twice. Tierney notes that the primary trough measured 2m by 1.45m and was 0.5m deep. Its fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The small stones were found in association with larger ones suggesting both new stones and used stones were being heated at the same time.
- Quarry Pit 1: A curving slot-trench (C60) was located 5m south of the trough. It measured 4m by 0.46m and was 0.18m deep. The trench contained a high proportion of heat-shattered stone. The excavator notes that the pit may have functioned as a quarrying trench, dug to find stones to be used in the heating process.
- Quarry Pit 2: Pit C83 extended beyond the road corridor. It was irregular in shape and measured 5m by 2.5m and was 0.5m deep. The upper fill of this feature contained iron slag. This feature was interpreted as a quarry pit, dug to find stones rich in iron ore.
- Quarry Pit 3: A kidney-shaped pit (C28) was located at the south-western part of the site and measured 3m by 1.3m and was 0.3m deep. It contained six different fills, some of which contained charcoal fragments and pieces of iron slag. This feature was interpreted as a quarry pit, dug to find stones rich in iron ore.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A flint flake and a fragment of chert (surface finds). 5.1kg of iron slag from spread and fills of later pits.

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Site not dated

#### **References**

Johnson, P., Kiely, J. and Tierney, J. 2008. *Near the Bend in the River. The Archaeology of the N25 Kilmacthomas Realignment*. NRA Scheme Monographs No. 3. National Roads Authority, Dublin

Location:	Townland:	Gracedieu West	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 266417, 113039
	Barony:	Killoteran	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a slight slope immediately south of the River Suir in the townland of Gracedieu West. The Suir estuary forms the county's boundary in the east while in the west the mountains become low, rolling hills, which merge into East Cork.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several other <i>fulachtaí fía</i> were identified along this stretch of motorway however the archaeological feature in the immediate vicinity is a hearth excavated 160m to the south-west (WA009-044).		

Adjacent excavated sites: None

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of two burnt mounds, four pits, two troughs (one of which was plank-lined) and two water channels.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F003) measured 37m by 13m and was 0.46m in thickness. It consisted of black silty clay which contained heat-shattered stone and charcoal. It lay below a layer of peat to the north of the site. Late medieval pottery was recovered from this peat layer suggesting activity in the area during this period. A second shallower mound spread was located adjacent to trough F022. It measured 0.6m by 0.45m and was 0.2m deep. It consisted of material similar to that of mound F003. A flat stone displaying possible knife or tool marks was recovered and a Late Bronze Age date was obtained from charcoal.
Trough 1:	The timber-lined trough (F017) was located east of pits F019 and F025. It was exposed below the mound F003 and was rectangular in plan. It measured 2.7m by 1.6m with a maximum depth of 1m. The fill consisted of black clay with frequent inclusions of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Two flint fragments were recovered from this fill. Seven timber planks lined the base of the trough with two others surviving at each of the sides to the east and west. One of these planks returned a Late Bronze Age date.

Possible Water Channel:	A linear feature (F030) was exposed to the west of trough F017. It measured 6.5m in length, 0.3m in width and 0.25m in depth and had been filled with a black coloured clay containing moderate inclusions of angular and heat shattered stone and occasional inclusions of charcoal. This was interpreted as a possible overflow channel for the trough (Russell, 2007).
Trough 2:	Trough F022 was located a short distance from the mound material F005. It was oval in shape and measured 2.7m by 1.1m and survived to a depth of 0.35m. Its fill consisted of black loam which contained frequent heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A worked flint flake was recovered from the fill and a late Bronze Age date was obtained from the charcoal.
Curving Feature:	The curved feature (F023) measured 2.4m in length, 0.3m in width and 0.41m in depth and had been cut by the modern drain (F027) to the north. It had been filled with a black coloured coarse clay containing moderate inclusions of angular and heat shattered stone and occasional inclusions of charcoal. This was also interpreted as a possible overflow channel for the trough F022 (Russell, 2007).
Pit 1:	Pit F019 was located a short distance from trough F017. It was oval in shape and measured 0.7m by 0.6m and was 0.1m in depth. The fill consisted of a black loam with small charcoal flecks.
Pit 2:	Pit F025 was situated adjacent to pit F019. It was oval in shape and measured 0.75m by 0.6m and was 0.2m deep. The fill consisted of black loam with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Pit 3:	Pit F020 was located west of trough F022. It was oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.9m and was 0.22m deep. The fill consisted of black sandy clay with inclusions of small angular stone and charcoal flecks.
Pit 4:	Pit F024 was cut by a drain (F027) and was oval in shape. It measured 1m by 0.9m and was 0.22m deep. Its fill consisted of grey-black sandy clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal flecks.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Three worked flint flakes were recovered from the excavations. One flake was recovered from the fill of trough F022 while the remaining flints were found in the fill of the plank-lined trough F017.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal from mound F005  
C14 (Beta-209745) 2790±40 BP (1020–830 BC)  
Plank from trough F017  
C14 (Beta-209747) 2780±60 BP (1060–820 BC)  
Charcoal from trough F022  
C14 (Beta-209746) 2780±40 BP (1010–830 BC)



### Excavation Interpretation:

The volume of burnt mound material at the site indicates that the *fulacht fiadh* was used for a considerable period of time. One timber-lined trough was associated with a number of pits also filled with heat-shattered stone. Evidence for on-site water management was present in the form of a linear channel which appeared to direct overflow water downslope, away from the trough. The flint from the site possibly indicates that it may have been used in the preparation and butchering of meat.

### Reference

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

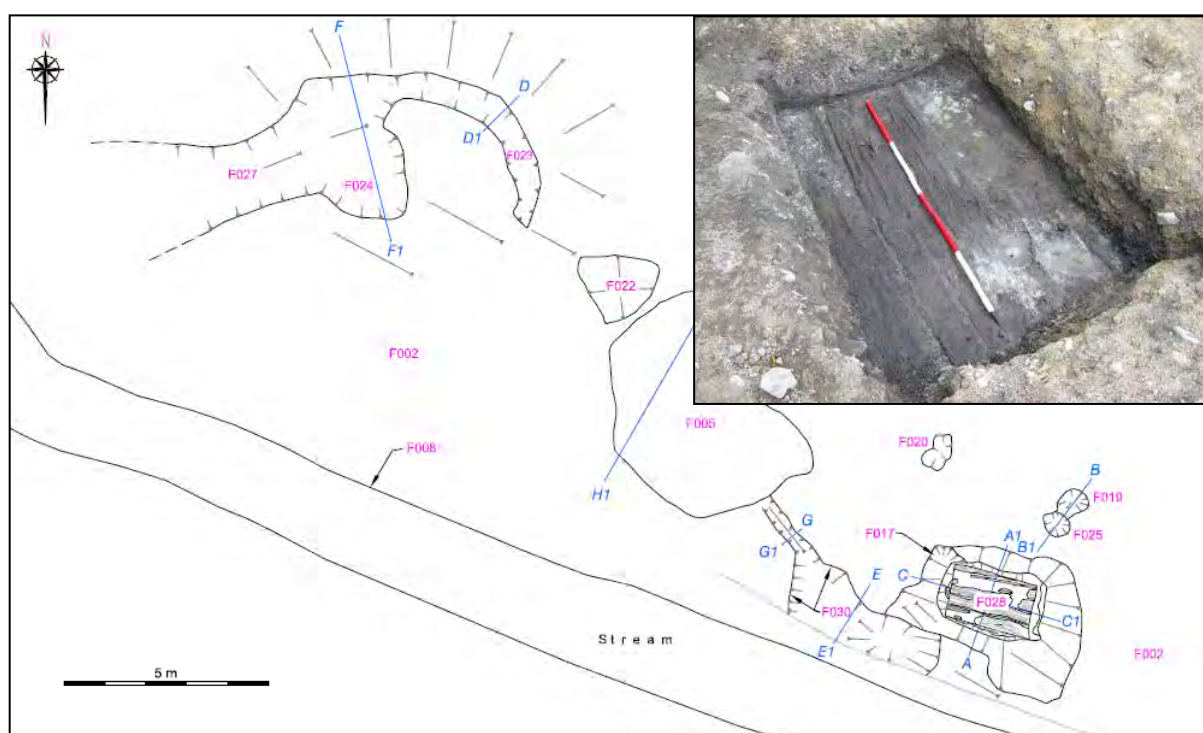


Fig. 10.151 Plank-lined trough and water-channels at Gracedieu West. Co. Waterford.

Location:	Townland:	Woodstown	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 255338, 111743
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Aidan O’ Connell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the eastern bank of the River Suir. The Suir estuary forms the county’s boundary in the east while in the west the mountains become low, rolling hills, which merge into East Cork. Waterford consists of elongated east–west valleys of poorly exposed carboniferous limestones with intervening ridges of Devonian Old Redstone sandstone and mudstone.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site lay adjacent to a Viking Longphort and another <i>fulacht fia</i> also in the townland of Woodstown. That site was dated to the early Bronze Age (WD13).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> (WD13)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of two burnt mounds, two troughs, a water channel and a formal hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The mound material covered an area of almost 15m in diameter. It covered the two troughs, the hearth and the stake-holes. The basal mound material (F4) measured 9.1m by 13.4m and was 0.1m in thickness. It consisted of a compact blue-grey sticky clay with frequent charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The main mound material (F3) measured 13.5m by 12.8m with an average depth of 0.27m and consisted of black silty clay with frequent heat-shattered stone.
Trough 1:	Trough F10 cut the natural boulder clay and was sub-rectangular in plan with rounded corners. It measured 2.12m by 1.55m and was 0.64m deep with straight sides and a flat base. A lining of clay was noted on the base and sides of the trough. The other fills consisted of black silty clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The trough filled naturally with water.

Trough 2:	The second trough (F18) was located 1.3m to the north-east of trough F10. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.53m by 0.92m and was 0.44m deep with straight sides and a flat base. The trough contained one fill consisting of black silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Water Channel:	Trough F18 was associated with a gully or water channel (F16). It was 9.65m long by 0.75-1.35m wide with an average depth of 0.11m. The base of the gully (F16) sloped downwards from 5.669m OD at the southeast to 4.924m OD at the northwest. It skirted the western side of a large slab of bedrock towards its south-eastern limit and terminated at the pit (F18). A single piece of flint debitage was recovered from the fill of this feature which contained burnt mound material.
Hearth:	The Hearth (F11-15) consisted of a crescent-shaped ridge of re-deposited natural (F12) which abutted a rectangular cut (F13) that measured 0.98m by 0.87m and was 0.2m deep. The fill consisted of material similar to the burnt mound. Two stake-holes (F14, F15) were recorded at the south (F15) and southwest (F14) respectively of these features (F11, F12, F13). A number of lenses of grey clay were observed in the south-eastern and north-western facing sections of the burnt mound. These may represent the cleaning out of oxidised clay from the base of the hearth.

## Finds

Artefacts:	A piece of flint debitage was recovered from the possible water channel F18.
Ecofacts:	None

## Dating:

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal from trough F022 C14 (Beta-209746) 2780±40 BP (1010–830 BC)

## References

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Woodstown	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 255273, 111050
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 13
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Robert O’ Hara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the eastern bank of the River Suir in flat agricultural land. The Suir estuary forms the county’s boundary in the east while in the west the mountains become low, rolling hills, which merge into East Cork.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site lay adjacent to a Viking Longphort and another <i>fulacht fia</i> also in the townland of Woodstown. That site was dated to the Late Bronze Age (WD12).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> (WD12)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of a mound of heat-shattered stone that overlay three troughs and eleven pits.
Burnt Mound:	The mound material (002) was spread over a large area and measured 22m by 19m with a depth of 0.3m. It consisted of black gravely clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. It was cut by several post-medieval features.
Trough 1:	Trough (004) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.6m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Fourteen stake-holes cut the base of the trough, possibly suggesting the presence of an internal lining that no longer survives. The pit was cut by trough 2 (005).
Trough 2:	This trough (054) cut the base of trough 1 and was rectangular in shape. It measured 1.9m by 1m with a depth of 0.3m and was filled with burnt mound material.
Trough 3:	Trough (030) was located 5m to the south-east of trough 1 and 2. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.25m with a depth of 0.65m. The primary fill of this trough consisted of dark silty clay and heat-shattered

stone and is dated to the Early Bronze Age. Six stake-holes were positioned to the north of the trough, while two groups of stake-holes grouped in the southern corners of the trough suggested some form of structure.

**Pits:** 11 pits were identified at the site. They were oval in shape and ranged in size from 0.67m by 0.57m by 0.29m to 4.5m by 4.3m by 0.47m. They were all filled with charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from trough 3 (030)  
C14 (Poz-24905) 3535±30 BP (1950–1750 BC)

**Interpretation**

The identification of a large spread of heat-shattered stone and several troughs suggests that the site functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site. The fact that trough 1 was cut by trough 2 indicates that not all features are contemporary and several phases of activity may be envisaged. This is supported by the large number of pits identified at the site also.

**References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.



Plate 10.132 Burnt spread and trough with associated stake-holes at Woodstown, Co. Waterford.

Location:	Townland:	Killoteran	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 254628, 110508
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 13
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Linda Clarke	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site at Killoteran was located c.280m to the south of the Old Kilmeaden road, c.6.0km west of Waterford City. The excavation was undertaken in a sloping agricultural field c.1400m to the southwest of the Killoteran stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	Five additional archaeological sites were identified townland of Killoteran. The remains of a vertical water mill were exposed at Killoteran 9 (03E0406), 110m to the west, a burnt mound and possible trackway was exposed at Killoteran 11 (E3827) c.1100m to the northeast, an isolated pit was exposed at Killoteran 8 (03E128) and a possible prehistoric settlement site was exposed at Killoteran 10 (E3448) 300m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	The site is located in close proximity to two Bronze Age burnt mound sites, Killoteran 7 (WD15) and Killoteran 11two archaeological sites at Killoteran 9.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of the remains of a heavily ploughed-out burnt mound that overlay several pits and a number of stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The mound material (003) was heavily damaged by ploughing activity but survived as a thin spread of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal measuring 12m by 7m with a maximum depth of 0.3m.
Trough:	The trough (005) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.87m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal and the base was cut by four stake-holes suggesting the presence of a possible timber-lining that no longer survives.
Pit 1:	Pit (F4) was oval in shape and measured 1.23m by 0.83m with a depth of 0.23m. The fill consisted of silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

- Pit 2: Pit (F6) was oval in shape and measured 0.92m by 0.80m with a depth of 0.28m. The fill consisted of brown silty clay and small angular stones.
- Pit 3: Pit (F11) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.62m by 0.50m with a depth of 0.24m. The fill consisted of brown silty clay and small angular stones.
- Post-Holes: Six post-holes were identified during the excavation, many of these were located in close proximity to the pits and trough.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

#### **Interpretation**

The heat-shattered stones and charcoal-rich material within these features and spread, combined with the associated trough and pits, indicate that this site functioned as a *fulacht fi a*. No artefacts associated with the activity at Killoteran were recovered and no radiocarbon analysis was carried out.

#### **References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Killoteran	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 253998, 109523
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 2m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	John Purcell and Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site at Killoteran was located c.280m to the south of the Old Kilmeaden road, c.6.0km west of Waterford City. The excavation was undertaken in a sloping agricultural field c.1400m to the southwest of the Killoteran stream. The Suir estuary forms the county's boundary in the east while in the west the mountains become low, rolling hills, which merge into East Cork. Waterford consists of elongated east-west valleys of poorly exposed carboniferous limestones with intervening ridges of Devonian Old Redstone sandstone and mudstone.		
Cultural Landscape:	Five additional archaeological sites were identified townland of Killoteran. The remains of a vertical water mill were exposed at Killoteran 9 (03E0406), 110m to the west, a burnt mound and possible trackway was exposed at Killoteran 11 (E3827) 40m to the west, a ploughed out burnt mound and associated pits was exposed at Killoteran 3 (03E0365), c.1100m to the northeast, an isolated pit was exposed at Killoteran 8 (03E1283), c.750m to the northeast and a possible prehistoric settlement site was exposed at Killoteran 10 (E3448) 300m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	The site is located in close proximity to two archaeological sites at Killoteran 9 (03E0406), an Early Medieval water mill and Killoteran 11, a burnt mound and possible trackway.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

**Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of a burnt mound of heat-shattered stone, four pits, a timber trough and a stone-lined trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound F146 measured 20m by 4m and was 0.3m in maximum thickness. It consisted of a compact spread of black coarse clay containing heat-shattered stone and charcoal. It covered pit F154 and the two possible troughs F167 and F168.



- Trough 1?:** Trough F149 was sealed by the burnt mound F146 3.5m north-west of pit F154. The trough consisted of a large wooden plank measuring 2.6m by 0.65m and was 0.1m in thickness which appeared to be hollowed out at one end. It lay above a layer of black silty clay which was situated in a sub-rectangular cut that measured 3.5m by 0.89m. A single stake was identified adjacent to the pit which is dated to the Early Medieval period.
- Trough 2:** Trough F168 was also sealed beneath the spread of mound material F146. It was located 12m south of the trough F149 and was oval in shape measuring 1.4m by 0.25m and was 0.17m deep. A series of large flat stones were noted at the base of this feature which may represent a possible stone lining associated with this trough.
- Pit 1:** The pit F136 was exposed c.20m to the southeast of the possible trough F168. It was oval in shape and measured 0.58m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.21m in depth. Its fill consisted of dark grey sandy clay and brunt stone.
- Pit 2:** The pit F140 was exposed c.30.0m to the southwest of the possible trough F168. It was oval in shape and measured 0.46m in length, 0.34m in width and 0.15m in depth.
- Pit 3:** The pit F160 was exposed 22m to the northeast of the possible trough F168 and had been partially cut by the field drain F120. It was oval in shape and measured 1.6m in length, 1.0m in width and 0.29m in depth. The fill consisted of loose grey silt and frequent angular stones.
- Pit 4:** The possible pit F154 was exposed beneath the burnt mound F146, 3.0m to the southeast of the possible trough F168. It was oval in shape and measured 2.0m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.55m in depth. The fill consisted of a compact grey silty clay with frequent angular stones.
- Finds:** None
- Dating:** Ash stake F152  
C14 (Poz-26227) 1530±30 BP (430–600 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt mound  
C14 (Beta-209764) 3070±70 BP (1490–1120 BC)

### **Interpretation**

The radiocarbon-dated stake may have no direct relationship to the structure itself, given that hollowed-out troughs are typically middle to late Bronze Age in date (see Chapter 5). Its position on the outside edge of the trough pit also offers little structural support to the trough and no additional stakes have been found in relation to similar trough types. It may, in fact, relate to the nearby vertical watermill at Kiloteran 9, which is dated to the early seventh century (Eogan and Shee Twohig 2011, 13). The Middle Bronze Age date from the burnt mound material may be more representative of the site's origins.

### **References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.



Plate 10.133 Burnt mound and plank structure (below) at Kiloteran, Co. Waterford.



Location:	Townland:	Killoteran	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 253979, 109559
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 1.7m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Ian Russell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site is situated within the road take of the proposed N25 Waterford Bypass at the base of a sloping hill c. 26.0m west of the burnt mound excavated at Killoteran 7 (03E1282) and 60.0m east of the vertical mill at Killoteran 9 (03E0409).		
Cultural Landscape:	Five additional archaeological sites were identified townland of Killoteran. The remains of a vertical water mill were exposed at Killoteran 9 (03E0406), 110m to the west, a burnt mound and possible trackway was exposed at Killoteran 11 (E3827) 40m to the west, a ploughed out burnt mound and associated pits was exposed at Killoteran 3 (03E0365), c.1100m to the northeast, an isolated pit was exposed at Killoteran 8 (03E1283), c.750m to the northeast and a possible prehistoric settlement site was exposed at Killoteran 10 (E3448) 300m to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	The site is located in close proximity to two archaeological sites at Killoteran 9 (03E0406), an Early Medieval water mill and Killoteran 7, a burnt mound.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of ploughed out burnt mound that survived as several dispersed spreads of burnt stone. It sealed a wattle-lined trough and a trackway.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound survived as eight small separate spreads of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal.
Trough:	The wattle-lined trough F015 was exposed directly beneath one of the burnt spreads. It was oval in shape and measured 1.78m in length, 1.52m in width and 0.55m in depth and had been filled with a loose dark grey silty clay containing frequent angular stone. A wattle lining consisted of hazel and willow interwoven around upright stakes in the inner circumference of the trough. A sample was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Trackway: The possible linear trackway F018 was exposed 4.0m to the northwest of the trough F015. It was orientated northeast – southwest and had lay partially below the burnt spread F009 and measured 5.0m in length, 2.0m in width and 0.31m in depth. It had been constructed from a total of fifty two timbers. This was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood sample (hazel) from trough lining F015  
C14 (Poz-26257) 3820±35 BP (2460–2140 BC)  
Timber (unknown) from wooden trackway  
C14 (Beta-26228) 3205±35 BP (1500–1410 BC)

**Interpretation**

A total of eight burnt spreads were exposed within this site together with one wattle-lined Trough, clearly indicating that the site functioned as a water-boiling location (*fulacht fia*). This trough was dated to the Early Bronze Age (Cal BC 2180 – 2140). It is likely that the separate spreads formed part of a single site rather than that was evidently disturbed. It is also clear that the timber trackway is contemporary with the Middle Bronze Age phase identified at Kiloteran which is located to the 26m to the east.

**References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Bawnfunne	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Kilburne	NGR: 254970, 109741
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 26m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Robert O' Hara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a flat pasture field c. 0.45 km to the southwest of the Killoteran Stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	No prehistoric monuments were recorded in this townland prior to the construction of the N25 Waterford Bypass. Archaeological monitoring revealed further burnt mound sites c. 300m to the north-west dating to the Early Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. Furthermore, a Middle Bronze Age structure was excavated c. 300m to the west.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A possible pond was revealed 50m to the west		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of ploughed out burnt mound that survived as several dispersed spread of heat-shattered stone that sealed a single pit or trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (002) was revealed as an irregular spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal measuring 6.5m by 6m with a maximum depth of 0.02m.
Trough:	The trough (005) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.08m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with dark grey sandy clay containing charcoal, heat-shattered stone and burn bone. A sample of this bone was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
<b>Finds:</b>	Unidentified burnt bone from the trough (005)
<b>Dating:</b>	Burnt bone (unidentified) from fill of trough (005) C14 (Poz-25558) 2940±35 BP (1270–1020 BC)

### **References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Bawnfune	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Kilburne	NGR: 255151, 109817
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 18m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Robert O' Hara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a flat pasture field c. 0.2 km to the southwest of the Killoteran Stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	No prehistoric monuments were recorded in this townland prior to the construction of the N25 Waterford Bypass. Archaeological monitoring revealed further burnt mound sites c. 300m to the south-west (WD15) and 50m to the north-east (WD 17) dating to the Middle Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. Furthermore, a Middle Bronze Age structure was excavated c. 600m to the south-west (WA017-129).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	An Iron Age <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated c. 50m to the north-east		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of ploughed out burnt mound that survived as a dispersed spread of heat-shattered stone that overlay two troughs and several pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (003) was revealed as an irregular spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal measuring 13.7m by 10.7m with a maximum depth of 0.06m.
Trough 1:	This trough (006) was oval in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.94m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with a light sandy clay and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 2:	This trough (020) was also oval in shape and measured 2.4m by 1m with a depth of 0.52m. It was filled with dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from this trough is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 1:	Pit (004) was oval in shape and measured 0.4m by 0.36m with a depth of 0.18m. It was filled with brown silty clay and stones with some charcoal flecks.

- Pit 2: This pit (008) was oval in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.2m. It was filled with dark grey silty clay and stones.
- Pit 3: Pit (013) was oval in shape and measured 0.4m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.22m. It was filled with dark grey silty clay, stones and charcoal flecks.
- Pit 4: The pit (015) was oval in shape and measured 0.68m in length, 0.45m in width and 0.22m in depth and had been filled with a dark grey silty clay.
- Pit 5: Pit (017) It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.6m in length, 1.1m in width and 0.8m in depth and had been filled with a dark brown silty clay containing occasional inclusions of small stone and charcoal flecks.
- Pit 6: Pit (023) was oval in shape and measured 1.4m in length, 0.9m in width and 0.11m in depth and had been filled with a dark brown silty clay containing occasional inclusions of angular and burnt stone and charcoal flecks.
- Pit 7: The pit 025 was exposed was oval in shape and measured 0.6m in length, 0.44m in width and 0.28m in depth and had been filled with a dark brown silty clay containing occasional inclusions of burnt stone and charcoal flecks.
- Pit 8: The pit 029 was oval in shape and measured 0.6m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.12m in depth and had been filled with a black coloured silty clay containing occasional inclusions of angular and burnt stone and charcoal flecks.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from fill of trough (020)  
C14 (Poz-24907) 3475±30 BP (1890–1690 BC)

#### **Interpretation**

The site can be interpreted as the remains of a small burnt mound damaged by later agricultural ploughing. The larger pits probably represent the remains of unlined troughs used for pyrolithic water-boiling while the smaller pits may relate to other activities such as roasting. The three *fulachtaí fia* excavated in this townland suggest prolonged pyrolithic activity in the area for over 1000 years.

#### **References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Bawnfune	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Kilburne	NGR: 255233, 109870
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 14m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Robert O’ Hara	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a flat pasture field c. 100m to the west of the Killoteran Stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	No prehistoric monuments were recorded in this townland prior to the construction of the N25 Waterford Bypass. Archaeological monitoring revealed further burnt mound sites c. 300m to the south-west (WD15) and 50m to the south-west (WD 16), dating to the Middle Bronze Age and Early Bronze Age periods. Furthermore, a Middle Bronze Age structure was excavated c. 600m to the south-west (WA017-129).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	An Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated c. 50m to the south-west		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of ploughed out burnt mound that survived as a dispersed spread of heat-shattered stone that overlay a possible trough and several pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (003) was heavily damaged by Later Medieval ridge and furrow and survived as several deposits of heat-shattered stone, black silty clay and charcoal. The largest of these deposits measured 5m by 4m with a maximum depth of 0.05m.
Trough:	This trough (005) was not fully revealed during the excavation. The exposed portion measured 2m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.68m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone, charcoal rich material and burnt bone. One fragment of a long bone was retrieved but could not be identified to species. Charcoal from the fill of this possible trough is dated to the Early Iron Age.
Stake-Holes:	Six stake-holes were identified to the north-west and west of the trough.



- Pit 1: Pit (018) was circular in shape and measured 0.3m in diameter with a depth of 0.13m. It was filled with dark grey silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 2: Pit (020) was oval in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.1m. It was filled with dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 3: Pit (022) was oval in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: Burnt bone was recovered from the fill of the trough (005)

#### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from fill of trough (005)  
C14 (Poz-24908) 2405±35 BP (750–390 BC)

#### **Interpretation**

The site can be interpreted as the remains of a small burnt mound damaged by later agricultural ploughing. The pit which was not fully resolved during excavation probably represented the remains of a trough for pyrolithic water-boiling. The presence of burnt bone may indicate that cooking was practiced at the site. The stake-holes identified, possibly had some connection to the activities carried out in the trough due to their special association. The three *fulachtaí fia* excavated in this townland suggest prolonged pyrolithic activity in the area for over 1000 years.

#### **References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Knockhouse Lower	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 256326, 111197
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Linda Clarke	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on flat, lowlying agricultural land and was prone to flooding. It was on the east bank of the Knockhouse Stream which flowed north to the River Suir.		
Cultural Landscape:	No prehistoric monuments were recorded in this townland prior to the construction of the N25 Waterford Bypass. Archaeological monitoring revealed further burnt mound sites c. 700m to the west in the Townland of Woodstown. A possible prehistoric habitation site is situated c. 1km to the north-east (WA009-027).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

**Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of ploughed out burnt mound that survived as a spread of heat-shattered stone that overlay a hearth, a trough, several stake-holes and a number of pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (004) was survived as a spread of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal that measured 15m by 9m with a maximum depth of 0.6m.
Trough:	The trough (019) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 3.2m by 2m with a depth of 0.6m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and contained the degraded remains of a brushwood lining. It was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Hearth:	A possible hearth (005) was identified 5m to the north of the trough. It consisted of an oxidised area of burning measuring 1.1m by 1m. Two stake-holes were cut into the base of the feature.

Stake-Holes:	Two further rows of stake-holes were identified adjacent to the hearth which may have functioned as a windbreak to protect the fire.
Pit 1:	Pit (006) was oval in shape and measured 0.82m by 0.56m with a depth of 0.35m. The fill consisted of dark brown clay and charcoal flecks.
Pit 2:	Pit (028) was oval in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.38m with a depth of 0.14m. The fill consisted of burnt mound material.
Pit 3:	This pit (023) was oval in shape and measured 0.95m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.20m. It consisted of black sandy clay and charcoal flecks.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

### **Interpretation**

The site can be interpreted as the remains of a *fulacht fia* used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The presence of a large trough and the degraded remains of a timber lining further supports this theory. Although the site was not scientifically dated, it is more than likely Bronze Age in date based on other similar sites uncovered along the road scheme. The presence of a hearth is also significant as these features generally do not survive archaeologically at these sites. Its location however, c. 5m from the trough may suggest that the feature is not contemporary with the trough. In the absence of radiocarbon analysis this cannot be proven

### **References**

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.



Plate 10.134 Roundwood trough at Knockhouse Lower.

Location:	Townland:	Knockhouse Upper	Six inch map no: 09
	Parish:	Killoteran	NGR: 255831, 112299
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford City Bypass	
	Site Director:	Aidan O’Connell	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on flat, lowlying agricultural land and was prone to flooding. It was on the bank of the River Suir.		
Cultural Landscape:	No prehistoric monuments were recorded in this townland prior to the construction of the N25 Waterford Bypass. Archaeological monitoring revealed a burnt mound 500m to the north-east at Woodstown.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford City Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	The site consisted of a small spread of heat-shattered stone and a single pit which may have been used for pyrolithic water-boiling.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (002) survived as a thin spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal which measured 7m by 5m with a maximum depth of 0.15m.
Trough:	The trough (004) was oval in plan and measured 2.16m by 1.56m with a depth of 0.35m. The fill consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

### References

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

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Location:	Townland:	Ballyduff East	Six inch map no: 16
	Parish:	Kilmeadan	NGR: 25140, 11000
	Barony:	Middlethird	Altitude: 2m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Waterford Bypass	
	Site Director:	Patricia Long and Linda Hegarty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd.	
	Year:	2004	

**Physical Setting:** The two areas were situated in the northeast of one large field. This field was predominately level with occasional gentle undulations. The land rose gradually west of the site and to the east there was a sharp rise in the land level with a prominent hill overlooking the site. Prior to the excavation the field was well drained and under pasture.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the townland prior to archaeological excavation. However a possible Bronze Age settlement site was uncovered in the townland of Adamstown 1.2km to the east.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The sites were identified during testing in advance of the N25 Waterford Bypass. No surface remains were evident prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Results**

**Summary of Features:** Site WD20a consisted of a small burnt mound c. 5m south of Site 20b. The second burnt mound was more substantial and consisted of eight troughs, a number of pits, a hearth and other *fulacht fia* related features.

#### **Site WD22a**

**Burnt Mound:** This mound of heat-shattered stone (C201) was located 5m south of a similar mound, site WD20b. The mound was relatively shallow and circular in plan. It measured 9m in diameter with a maximum thickness of 0.2m and consisted of brown silty clay with 70% heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Trough:** Trough (C202) was the only feature identified below the mound of heat-shattered stone. It was oval in plan with steep sides and a concave base and measured 1.85m by 1.3m with a maximum depth of 0.5m. A single fill was identified in the trough consisting of grey/black silty clay with 70% heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

#### **Site WD22b**

Burnt Mound:	This mound of burnt material was located 5m north of a smaller <i>fulacht fia</i> site WD20a. It was irregular in plan and measured 22m by 15m and was 0.45m thick. It consisted of heat-shattered stone in a silty clay matrix which extended across most of the site sealing many of the associated features.
Trough 1:	This was one of the earliest features which cut the subsoil at the site. It was interpreted as a trough (C108) and was located at the north-west of the site. It was oval in plan and measured 1.7m by 1.8m and was 0.5m deep. It had steep sides with a concave base and the fill consisted of grey/black silty clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A flint artefact was recovered from this fill also.
Trough 2:	This trough (C066) was located at the base of a slope on the eastern side of the mound. It was circular in plan with a diameter of 0.85m and a depth of 0.6. It contained two fills, the lower of which contained a large amount of unburnt wood fragments. The upper fill contained brown/black silty clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough 3:	This was the third trough located on the periphery of the <i>fulacht fiadh</i> . It was located on the south-west side of the mound and was oval in plan with a flat base and concave sides. It measured 1.47m by 1.24m and was 0.43m deep. The fill consisted of loose brown/black silty clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough 4:	Trough C045 was located near the centre of the mound and was rectangular in plan. It measured 1m by 0.8m and was 0.25m deep. It was truncated by a modern drain on its northern side. A single fill was recorded which consisted of grey/black silty clay with heat-shattered stone, charcoal and unburnt stone.
Trough 5:	Trough C049 was located 1m north-east of trough C045. It was rectangular in plan and measured 2m by 1m and was 0.6m deep. Two fills were recorded in the trough consisting of grey silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough 6:	This trough (C047) was also located near the centre of the mound deposits. It truncated the eastern side of trough C049 and was circular in plan measuring 1.3m in diameter and 0.3m deep. The single fill consisted of grey silt clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Pit 1:	Pit C071 was located at the southern end of the site and measured 1.78 by 1.3m and was 0.28m deep. The fill consisted of a dark grey/black silty clay.
Pit 2:	Pit C101 was located south-east of the burnt mound and measured 1.9m by 1.2m and was 0.5m deep. It was irregular in plan and the fill consisted of a dark compact silty clay with small rounded stones.
Trough 7:	Trough C042 was located at the north-east of the mound and was roughly square in plan. It measured 1.6m by 1.43m and was 0.5m deep. The sides were vertical and the base was flat. Three stake-holes cut the base of the pit at the southern edge. A circular pit (C131) cut the base of this trough also and measured 0.5m by 0.38m and was 0.75m deep. Three stake-holes cut the upper edge of this pit and eight fills were recorded in the feature consisting

of sandy silt, wood fragments, re-deposited natural, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The basal layer produced a Late Bronze Age date. A layer of large unburnt stones laid flat into the pit was also recorded. The basal fill (C104) of trough C042 overlay the upper fill of pit C131. It consisted of mottled blue and orange re-deposited natural with moderate amounts of charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Hegarty notes four slots arranged in an L-shape cut into the south-west corner of fill 104. A stake-hole was also recorded cut into basal layer C104. A late Bronze Age date was obtained from the fill of this stake-hole. A well preserved timber lining was recorded above a thin sandy gravel. A thin layer of sand [068] was deposited over and between the planks at the base of the trough. It was loose grey sand and gravel with frequent inclusions of charcoal and unburnt timber fragments.

**Pathway:** Immediately north-east of the trough C042 a small pathway (C056) was recorded consisting of small cobbles set into the natural. These cobbles were leading downslope, from the northwest corner of the site, to the edge of the trough C042.

**Trough 8:** This trough and associated hearth represented the final phase of activity on the site. Trough (C044) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.7m by 1.8m and was 0.85m deep. It was located 0.4m east of trough C042. The trough had vertical sides and a flat base. The fill of trough C044 consisted of grey/black silty clay with frequent heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Hearth:** A hearth, consisting of an elliptical-shaped layer of oxidized clay and fine charcoal flecks (C113), was located on the western edge of the trough on a slight slope. Eight stake-holes were located in the area around the hearth.

**Finds:** Two Rhyolite flakes were recovered from the site. One flake was recovered from mound material while the other was found in the fill of trough C108. Saddle quern from middle fill of trough C042. Contexts 059 (Trough 042 fill) and 112 (Pit 131 fill) contained a number of waterlogged plant remains. These are largely indicative of disturbed/waste ground, such as redshank, buttercups and bramble.

**Dating:** Charcoal from mound material C029  
C14 (UB-6657) 2830±35 BP (1113–904 BC)  
Sandy fill from below trough timbers in C042  
C14 (UB-6658) 2759±34 BP (996–829 BC)  
Charcoal from basal fill of pit C131 in trough C042  
C14 (UB-6659) 2864±34 BP (1187–1183 BC)

## References

Eogan, J. and Shee Twohig, E. (eds) 2011. *Cois tSiúire—nine thousand years of human activity in the Lower Suir Valley*. NRA Scheme Monograph 8, Vol. 2. Dublin.

Location:	Townland:	Carriganard	Six inch map no: 17
	Parish:	Kilbarry	NGR: 258294, 109320
	Barony:	Gaultiere	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Waterford Outer relief road	
	Site Director:	Linda Hegarty	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in a slight dip at the bottom of an east-facing slope		
Cultural Landscape:	Within the environs of the proposed development there are a number of recorded archaeological monuments. In Kill St. Lawrence there is a possible Bronze Age standing stone (WA017-005;WA017-108) while in Ballindud there is a portal tomb (WA017-016) and a possible standing stone (WA017-110).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of the Waterford City outer relief road. There was no visible surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound that overlay a number of troughs, pits and stake-holes. Several phases of activity were identified at the site. A worked coarse stone and a flint core came from the mound material.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (017) measured 17m by 24m with a maximum depth of 1.1m. It consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal.
Trough 1:	This trough (111) was oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.8m and had gently sloping sides and a flat base. The fill consisted of grey-brown sandy silt and clay.
Trough 2:	Trough (113) was oval in plan with sloping sides and a rounded base. It was 0.24m in depth and contained two fills consisting of heat-shattered stone and black silty clay. Charcoal from this feature is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Trough 3:	This trough (062) was circular in plan and measured 1.9m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.93m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and contained two fills



consisting of re-deposited natural and mound material. A possible worked stone and a flint flake came from this feature, the charcoal of which was dated to the Neolithic period. The pit was cut by trough 4.

- Trough 4: Trough (064) cut the previous trough 3 and contained heat-shattered stone and a thin lens of a timber-lining. Two stake-holes cut the base of this trough further supporting the evidence it was originally timber-lined.
- Stake-Holes: Twenty-two stake-holes were revealed to the north and north-west of the trough. These were cut into the upper edge of the trough and the excavator suggests it may have formed part of a covering for the pit.
- Trough 5: Trough (053) was circular in plan with a large stone at the eastern edge. It was 0.34m deep and was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 6: This pit (055) was oval in shape with a maximum depth of 0.18m. It was not fully resolved during excavation but was filled with heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
- Pit 1: This pit (052) was rectangular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. Three fills were noted in the pit, all containing deposits of heat-shattered stone and various silty clays.
- Pit 2: Pit (112) was rectangular in plan and contained three fills, the primary of which was a yellow sandy gravel. The other fills consisted of heat-shattered stone, a sample of charcoal was dated to the Early Iron Age. An axe-shaped stone a piece of flint were also retrieved from the pit which was dug into the burnt mound suggesting a separate phase of activity. The was possible evidence to suggest the pit may have been stone lined.
- Pit 3: Pit (011) was circular in plan and measured 1.5m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.3m. Four fills were noted in the pit consisting of dark silty clays and charcoal flecks. A sample of charcoal was dated to the Early Iron Age.

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: A possible stone implement was recovered from the burnt mound while a similar object and a number a flint flakes were retrieved from trough 3.
- Ecofacts: A number of cereal grains were recovered from the site, including wheat and barley. Weed seeds were also recovered along with hazelnut shells

#### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from trough (111)  
C14 (UB-6321) 3790±35 BP (2347–2137 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of trough (062)  
C14 (UB-6320) 4942±38 BP (3902–3647 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from fill of pit (012)  
C14 (UB-6326) 2518±33 BP (799–527 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from fill of pit (011)

C14 (UB-6319) 2479±33 BP (791–410 BC)

## Interpretation

The archaeological excavations at Carriganard, Waterford city, revealed a *fulacht fia* containing three phases of activity. The radiocarbon dates from which vary quite considerably with the most likely date being early Bronze Age. The size of the mound, the number of troughs and the volume of material removed from it suggest that this *fulacht fia* was intensely used. The earliest phase of the *fulacht fia* consisted of two troughs filled by the lower layer of the mound. The cereal grains recovered from some of the features associated with the *fulacht fia* in Trench 1 are unlikely to have been burnt *in-situ*, rather reworked material representing food preparation/crop processing at some level in the immediate area. The quantity and diversity of grain recovered from the two pits in Trench 2 suggests that this area was involved in a degree of crop processing/food preparation at the site during the prehistoric period however, whether or not the *fulacht fia* and the pits were directly related is difficult to ascertain. The excavator suggests that the Neolithic dated sample was possibly contaminated by intrusive charcoal from an earlier phase of activity in the immediate vicinity.

## References

Hegarty, L. 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Carriganard, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Glencove	Six inch map no: 10
	Parish:	St. Johns Without	NGR: 258294, 109320
	Barony:	Gaultiere	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Rescue	
	Site Director:	Brendan Wilkins	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site is situated on the north-west bank of a short stream 170m from where it enters the River Suir		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no other prehistoric sites in the immediate environs of the site		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of proposed development works. There were no surface remains of the site prior to any ground-works.

### **Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which had been disturbed by modern activity. Two troughs were identified during excavation along with a possible hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed in section but it was determined that it measured 15m by 10m with a depth of 1m. A number of layers were noted in section consisting of dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 1:	This trough (014) was rectangular in plan and measured 1.8m by 2.8m with a depth of 0.6m. It had vertical sides but the western side was stepped creating a 0.3m ledge with in the trough. Six stake-holes were recorded in this western side of the trough, with most of these occurring on the step feature. Four fills were noted in the trough consisting of dark silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A carbonised hazel-nut shell for this trough is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
Trough 2:	This trough (035) was also rectangular in plan and measured 2.1m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.45m. It had gradual breaks of slopes leading to vertical sides and a flat base. A single fill was recorded which consisted of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Hearth: A possible formal hearth was identified immediately west of the trough (035). It consisted of an area of oxidised clay which was overlain with a deposit of fine black ash.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Carbonised cereal gran and hazelnut shells

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Hazelnut (shell) from the fill of trough (014)  
C14 (UB-6507) 3235±37 BP (1608–1433 BC)

### **Excavation interpretation**

Although the burnt mound material was severely truncated, it appeared to constitute a single *fulacht fia* with a maximum length of 18 m. Truncation on the east side and the limit of excavation on the west made the exact dimensions difficult to ascertain, but the topographical limitations of the steeply sided stream banks make it unlikely that the *fulacht fia* originally extended further than 10 m either side of the present stream bed. The two troughs were located within 5 m of each other and that area seems to have been the focus of activity on the site. The volume of burnt stone and charcoal material contained in the mound together with the presence of more than one trough suggest that the *fulacht fia* was intensively used for a long period of time.

### **References**

Long, P and Wilkins, B. 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Glencove, Glencove Lane, Waterford City*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Seafield	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	St. Johns Without	NGR: 242173, 101213
	Barony:	Gaultiere	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Rescue	
	Site Director:	Liam Hackett	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site at Seafield was located on the bank of the River Mahon in a valley surrounded by undulating pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> are recorded on the eastern side of the River Mahon in the townland of Carrickaready (WA024-115-116).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of a water mains supply scheme. There was no surface indication of the site prior to ground-works.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which overlay an area of natural brushwood and timbers, some of which were worked. A possible timber revetment was also revealed upslope from the burnt mound along with two pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (003) measured 15m by 6m with a maximum depth of 0.15m. It consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. Some fragments of burnt bone were recovered from this deposit.
Revetment:	The mound was bordered by a timber revetment (006) which was located upslope. It measured 4.5m and consisted of upright stakes and large cut timbers.
Pit 1:	This pit (005) was oval in shape and measured 1.1m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.2m. The fill consisted of burnt mound material. The feature was internally surrounded by stake-holes and deliberately laid stones suggesting it may have been used for pyrolithic activities.

Pit 2: This pit (008) was also oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.45m. There was no evidence to suggest that this pit was lined in any way. It was filled with burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Unidentified burnt bone from burnt mound. Environmental analysis identified stinging nettle, fat hen and *rebus*.

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit 2  
C14 (UBA-8857) 2752±26 BP (974–828 BC)

### **Excavation interpretation**

The presence of stinging nettle, fat hen and *rebus* (*dewberry*) in the same area, supports the theory that the area was once heavily wooded, then became disturbed ground at the bank of the river. This may have been due to the deforestation of the area at the time of woodworking, and a later episode of activity related to the burnt spread.

### **References**

Hackett, L 2008. *Archaeological excavations at Seafield, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Shanakill	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	St. Johns Without	NGR: 241750, 104500
	Barony:	Gaultiere	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	

Excavation Details:	Project:	East Waterford water supply scheme
	Site Director:	Joanna Wren
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd
	Year:	2006

Physical Setting: The site was excavated in pasture 250m west of the Dawn River.

Cultural Landscape: While the Early Medieval period is well represented in the area, the only prehistoric sites were those recovered during this water supply scheme. Several burnt mound sites were excavated here.

Adjacent excavated sites: A burnt mound (WD26B) was excavated 100m to the north

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of a water supply scheme. There was no surface indication of the site prior to ground-works.

### **Excavation Results**

Summary of Features: Excavation revealed two burnt mound sites excavated 100m apart but excavated under the same licence number. No cut features such as troughs were identified in the areas revealed.

#### **Site WA26a**

Burnt Mound: The site consisted of an area of charcoal encased within an elongated burnt mound (C7) measured 18m by 6m with a maximum depth of 0.2m which consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The mound extended outside the area of excavation. A sample of charcoal was dated to the Late Bronze Age.

#### **Site WA26b**

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound (C23) at this site was more substantial. It covered an area measuring 13m by 9m with a maximum depth of 0.4m. Two deposit of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone were recorded. The spread of mound material continued beyond the limits of the excavation. A sample of charcoal from the site was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:                      None

Ecofacts:                      None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              Charcoal (alder) from the mound in Site A  
C14 (UB-9713) 2782±21 BP (1001–849 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the mound in Site B  
C14 (UB-9714) 3114±21 BP (1436–1316 BC)

**Excavation interpretation:**

Both sites were not fully revealed during excavation therefore it remains a possibility that boiling troughs may lie outside the areas investigated. The radiocarbon evidence suggests that Site A post-dates Site B which is not uncommon even given their spatial association.

**References**

Wren, J. 2008. *Excavations at 7A and 7B at Shanakill, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Carrickaready	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	St. Johns Without	NGR: 242339, 101613
	Barony:	Gaultiere	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	East Waterford water supply scheme	
	Site Director:	Joanna Wren	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on the eastern bank of a small tributary of the River Mahon which lay some 200 m to the west. The subsoil consisted of very stony grey and yellow boulder clay with outcrops of limestone bedrock.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the environs of the site prior to ground-works in advance of the water supply scheme. Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were subsequently discovered as a result. One was excavated at Seafield <i>c.</i> 100m south while another was uncovered <i>c.</i> 50m to the north.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A burnt mound was excavated 50m to the north-east of the site		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of a water supply scheme. There was no surface indication of the site prior to ground-works.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	Excavation revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone that overlay a possible trough and two hearths.
Burnt Mound:	The mound (C2) consisted of heat-shattered stone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal. It measured 7.4m by 9.4m with a maximum thickness of 0.08m thick.
Pit:	The pit (C6) was circular in shape and located near the stream. It measured 1.74m in diameter with a depth of 0.8m. The pit filled naturally with water and was filled with grey riverine silt and limestone boulders.
Hearth 1:	A possible hearth (C15) was identified 3.5m east of the pit. It was oval in shape 0.6m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.2m. The base and sides of the feature were lined with limestone and shale slabs with similar slabs identified outside and around the pit.

Hearth 2: Another possible hearth (C16) was identified 3.5m east of the pit. It was circular in shape and measured 0.8m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. The base and sides of the feature were lined with limestone and shale slabs with similar slabs identified outside and around the pit.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Flint flake recovered from disturbed boulder clay over the hearths

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the mound material C2  
C14 (UB-9716) 3645±21 BP (2127–1944 BC)

**Excavation interpretation:**

The site consisted of the disturbed remains of an Early Bronze Age *fulacht fia*. The pit probably served as a trough for pyrolithic water-boiling. While the other stone-lined pits were interpreted as hearths, they may have equally functioned as pits for dry roasting associated with a similar technology.

**References**

Wren, J. 2008. *Excavations at Carrickready, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Plate 10.135 Possible roasting pits at Carrickready, Co. Waterford.

Location:	Townland:	Whitestown	Six inch map no: 24
	Parish:	St. Johns Without	NGR: 243087, 105330
	Barony:	Gaultiere	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	East Waterford water supply scheme	
	Site Director:	Tom Janes	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on the eastern edge of the pipeline corridor on a slight rise in a low-lying field which was under pasture at the time of excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to ground-works, the only recorded prehistoric site in the environs was an enclosure located c. 50m to the south-west (WA015-055). Two burnt mounds were excavated c. 100m to the south.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of a water supply scheme. There was no surface indication of the site prior to ground-works.

### **Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	Excavation revealed two pits and a small spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. The full extent of the site was not revealed as it lay outside the pipeline corridor. The site was truncated by post-medieval features.
Burnt Spread:	A small burnt spread was identified at the site (C5). It measured 1.2 by 0.6m with a maximum depth of 0.07m. It was composed of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay. A more extensive deposit could lie outside the area of excavation.
Trough:	This trough (C4) was rectangular in shape and steep vertical sides and a flat base. It measured at least 1.5m by 1.48m with a depth of 0.36m. The full extent of the pit was not revealed during excavation. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 1:	This pit (C6) was sub-rectangular in plan with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.6m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.15m. It was filled with charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Medieval flint-lock pistol from field boundary

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough C4  
C14 (UB-9715) 2820±30 BP (1067–898 BC)

**Excavation interpretation:**

The site consisted of a burnt spread and a well-defined trough used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation therefore additional features such as hearths, pits and burnt mound material may lie outside of the area investigated. The other pit excavated at the site may have also functioned as a trough but truncation of the site by post-medieval features may account for its shallow depth.

**References**

Janes, T. 2008. *Excavations at Whitestown, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Greenan	Six inch map no: 16
	Parish:	Rossmire	NGR: 244535, 107688
	Barony:	Decies Without Drum	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	East Waterford water supply scheme	
	Site Director:	Tom Janes	
	Consultants:	Headland Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is situated on a gentle rise in a low-lying field. The surrounding land was under pasture at the time of excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric monuments in the immediate vicinity of the site however two standing stones are situated just over 1k to the south east (WA016-117-044).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of a water supply scheme. There was no surface indication of the site prior to ground-works.

### **Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large deposit of heat-shattered stone that overlay a wood-lined trough with associated stake and post-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was sub-circular in shape and measured 17m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.35m. It consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone. Several pieces of ferrous material were recovered from this layer – these represent natural mineral panning.
Trough:	The trough (C7) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.8m by 2m with a depth of 0.6m. Four fills were recorded in the pit, the final trough deposit from its final use which was sealed by a layer of peat that was in turn overlain by burnt mound material. Oak planks lined the base of the trough which were all radially split. Further structural timber were also noted along with several stake-holes grouped in the south-eastern corner.
Stake-Holes:	Eight small stake-holes were recorded around the edge of the trough.

Structure?; Six post-holes were also recorded on site and were aligned in a slight arc and continued beyond the area of excavation. May possibly represent the remains of a structure.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Natural ferrous material from burnt mound

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the basal fill of trough (C7)  
C14 (UBA-8863) 2738±26 BP (967–820 BC)  
Charcoal (oak) from fill of post-hole  
C14 (UBA-8864) 2736±30 BP (969–815 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound (C3)  
C14 (UBA-8865) 2882±30 BP (1192–940 BC)

**Excavation interpretation:**

The site consisted of a burnt spread and a well-defined trough used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation therefore additional features such as hearths, pits and burnt mound material may lie outside of the area investigated. The other pit excavated at the site may have also functioned as a trough but truncation of the site by post-medieval features may account for its shallow depth.

**References**

Janes, T. 2008. *Excavations at Greenan, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballymacclode	Six inch map no: 18
	Parish:	Ballygunner	NGR: 264952, 110315
	Barony:	Gaultiere	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Waterford main drainage scheme	
	Site Director:	Dave Pollock	
	Consultants:	Judith Carroll and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is situated on a low cliff above the River Suir beside a natural spring		
Cultural Landscape:	A possible <i>fulacht fia</i> is recorded 1km to the south (WA018-012). A megalithic structure is also recorded 1km to the south-east (WA018-004) while a standing stone is located c. 1.5km to east (WA018-087).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was identified during archaeological testing in advance of a drainage scheme. There was no surface indication of the site prior to ground-works.

### Excavation Results

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large deposit of heat-shattered stone that was truncated by a large nineteenth century pond. Several large pits, including a trough were revealed during excavation along with two possible hearth locations. A number of finds were also retrieved including two gold objects.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound had been truncated by the excavation of a large pond in the nineteenth century, however it survived as a deposit of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal-rich material measuring 12m by 3–6m with a depth of 0.8m. It seemed to develop around a slight natural hollow where two pits were revealed. The mound also contained upcast clay material from the digging of the pits and trough.
Pit 1:	This pit (041) was oval in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Pit 2:	The second pit (023) was also oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.15m. This was also filled with heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay.

**Trough:** The trough (021) cut the earlier pit (023). It was rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. The excavator suggests that it may have been timber-lined as the western sides undercut the near vertical sides. The pit measured 2m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.4m. the fill consisted of heat-shattered sandstone and dark silty clay and charcoal. The remains of possible stake-holes were revealed in the eastern corners.

**Possible Hearth:** A small patch of sloping ground, south of the trough was scorched red by fire. It also contained a black greasy silt over the subsoil and close to the scorching.

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Two gold objects (bracelet and folded bracelet) were recovered from within the burnt mound. A polished stone axe and a large number of struck flints were recovered from the site. The flint was recovered from the topsoil, burnt mound and the pit features. The majority of this material was dated to the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods however several scrapers were possibly Bronze Age in date.

**Ecofacts:** None

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (oak) from the burnt mound  
C14 (Beta-239119) 2940±70 BP (1370–920 BC)  
Charcoal (oak) from fill of post-hole  
C14 (Beta-239120) 2880±70 BP (1280–900 BC)

**Excavation interpretation:**

The site consisted of a burnt spread and a well-defined trough used for pyrolithic water-boiling. The full extent of the site was not revealed during the excavation therefore additional features such as hearths, pits and burnt mound material may lie outside of the area investigated. The other pit excavated at the site may have also functioned as a trough but truncation of the site by post-medieval features may account for its shallow depth.

**References**

Janes, T. 2008. *Excavations at Greenan, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Monamintra	Six inch map no: 76
	Parish:	Monamintra	NGR: 262372, 106742
	Barony:	Waterford	Altitude: NA
	County:	Waterford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Airport Road Realignment Scheme	
	Site Director:	Dane J. Lalonde	
	Consultants:	Daniel Noonan Archaeological Consultancy	
	Year:	2007	
Physical Setting:	The site is located approximately 5km SE of Waterford city, in the townland of Monamintra at an area known locally as the Monamintra Crossroads. Situated in rough damp pasture towards the base of a gentle north facing slope, views to the south and east have been obscured by the modern day hedge tree line. To the west rise a series of partially forested soft rolling hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	Possible contemporary sites in the immediate vicinity include two recently excavated burnt mound features in the townland of Killure (07E0739) situated approximately 700m to the north, and a bronze age enclosure/burial site (07E0347) situated approximately 100m to the south. Two standing stones are located 1km to the west in the townland of Castletown.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was identified during centre line testing in advance of the Waterford Airport Realignment Scheme. No visible surface trace prior to investigations.

**Excavation Results**

Summary of Features:	Resolution of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered stone and two shallow troughs which produced evidence to suggest they were once timber lined.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound spread (C3) measured 7.2m by 8.8m and was 0.2m in maximum thickness. It consisted of brown/black loose material with frequent heat-shattered stone of various sizes and moderate amounts of charcoal.
Trough 1:	Trough C079 was rectangular in plan and measured 1.7m by 1.4m and was 0.45m deep. It was cut into the natural subsoil and four stake-holes were uncovered at each of the corners. A fifth stake-hole was recorded 0.42m north-east of the trough. Thin lenses of light grey compacted silt possibly represented wooden planks used to line the base of the pit (Lalonde 2009). Evidence for wooden planks set along the sides of the pit was present in a

dark black to grey, charcoal-rich sandy-silt deposit [083] measuring 1.70 m north-south by 1.20 m east-west by 0.15 m deep with frequent inclusions of charred wood (charcoal). Two of the linear features [094] and [095] (mentioned above, and interpreted as a basal wood lining) ran under this deposit in the eastern portion of the pit indicating the wooden base was laid prior to the side planks. The basal fill of the trough consisted of a charcoal rich deposit of black sandy silt which lay above the lining. The upper fill contained heat-shattered stone in a black silty matrix that included moderate amounts of charcoal.

**Trough 2:**

This trough (C005) was later in date and re-cut the earlier trough C079. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.2m and was 0.25m deep. Four stake-holes were recorded in each of the trough corners. The stake-hole located in the north-east corner was positioned within the earlier trough C079 and cut its timber lined base. A series of north-south running linear deposits are interpreted as the remains of a wooden basal lining. These were confined to the northern portion of the upper pit (C005) where it was constructed over a portion of the lower pit (C079) (Lalonde 2009). The fill of trough C005 consisted of medium sized heat-shattered limestone within a black silty matrix which included moderate amounts of charcoal.

**Stake-Holes:**

A shallow cut (C071) was located on the northern edge of the trough C005. Fifteen stake-holes were recorded in this cut and represented a single feature comprised of a linear row of double stake holes that form an L-shape measuring 0.9 m east-west by 0.9m north-south. Lalonde interpreted this feature as a possible wattle and daub screen cut into the clay forming the western edge of trough C005.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Flint flake from fill of trough C079 and another from burnt mound spread.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal from possible plank material in trough C14 (UBA-13003) 2866±25 BP (1124–973 BC)

**References**

Lalonde, D. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Monimintra, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Danial Noonan and Associates Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballybrennan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Castletownkildalen	NGR: 26404, 24705
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: NA
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on low-lying pasture on the margins of a shallow bog and extending beyond the wayleave.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the Townland prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the pipeline wayleave.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread of heat-shattered stone that extended beyond the limits of excavation.
Burnt Spread:	This spread of burnt mound material was cut on the eastern side by a land drain. The deposit measured 8m by 7m with a thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of burnt heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of charcoal and dark silty clays. Molloy notes a low rise in the adjoining field which may indicate the intact mound (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 334).
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 334. Wordwell, Bray.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynagarbry	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Ballyloughloe	NGR: 217840, 239912
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 150m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on the south-facing slope of a steep hill on the margins of a wet, boggy area. The location of the site on the slope would have allowed water to flow naturally down-slope into the trough.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no prehistoric sites recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site however Knockdomney Hill, situated less than 1km to the west, was the focus of much activity in the past. There is a prehistoric barrow and an earthwork of unknown date on the hill (WM 030-104 and WM 030-105). A ring gully was also excavated on this south-facing slope during archaeological works.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Ring gully also excavated in close proximity to the site.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the pipeline wayleave.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed six separate spreads of burnt mound material, probably dispersed as a result of later agricultural activity. A single elongated trough pit was also revealed.
Burnt Mound 1:	This mound was irregular in shape (F3) and measured 7m by 3.1m with a maximum thickness of 0.21m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone, charcoal and dark silty clays.
Burnt Mound 2:	Only a small portion of this spread (F4) was revealed during excavation, as it extended beyond the pipeline corridor. It measured 2.2m by 2.1m with a thickness of 0.25m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone, charcoal and dark silty clays.
Burnt Mound 3:	This mound (F6) was well preserved and sealed the only trough identified during the excavation. It measured 10.35m by 5.7m with a maximum

thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone, charcoal and dark silty clays.

- Trough: The trough (F10) was rectangular in shape with slightly sloping sides and a convex, uneven base. It measured 3.02m by 0.93m with a depth of 0.4m. The trough was filled with dark brown peaty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone.
- Burnt Mound 4: This spread measured 5.5m by 5.02m and sealed two pit features interpreted as natural hollows where burnt mound material has accumulated. The spread consisted of heat-shattered limestone within black silty clay and charcoal.
- Burnt Mound 5: This spread of mound material (F14) measured 6.05m by 6.2m with a thickness of 0.12m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of dark brown silty clay and charcoal.
- Burnt Mound 6: This burnt mound measured 7.8m by 5.6m with a thickness of 0.24m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone in a matrix of dark peaty clay and charcoal.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None	Ecofacts:	None
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#### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (species and context unknown) C14 (GrN-24730) 3340±45 BP (1740–1510 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed several spreads of heat-shattered stone deposits which probably represented a single burnt mound dispersed over a large area as a result of later agricultural activity. A single, elongated pit was also excavated which may have functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling trough. No lining was noted however given the length of the trough pit, a dug-out or hollowed out tree trunk may have been used that no longer survives.

#### **Reference**

Molloy, B. 2002. *Excavations at Ballynagarbry, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Dalystown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Fartullagh	NGR: 239812, 242205
	Barony:	Clonfad	Altitude: 95m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located towards the base of a gradual south-facing slope of a low gravel hill. It is situated in a natural hollow or valley between two hills.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site was part of a complex of sites along a 500m stretch of the pipeline corridor. A small pit containing bone was located 100m to the east, while further east, a ring barrow was excavated which produced Late Bronze Age dates. A small spread of burnt mound material was excavated to the west.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A complex of sites were excavated in close proximity to the site, including a Late Bronze Age ring barrow situated to the east.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the pipeline wayleave.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two phases of activity consisting of two burnt mounds and two troughs, one of which had an associated gully or water channel.
Burnt Mound 1:	This mound (F38) was oval in shape and measured 7m by 6.77m with a maximum thickness of 0.27m. Molly notes that it was similar in composition to the second mound to the west, consisting of heat-shattered limestone and black silty clay. A single animal bone was recovered from the spread.
Trough 1:	F5 was a shallow trough located south of a gully or water channel (F6). It was rectangular in shape with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1.82m by 1.08m with a depth of 0.22m. Seven stake-holes cut the sides and base of the trough and were concentrated in the corners of the pit. A thin layer of charcoal rich silting lined the base of the trough which was in turn sealed by dark brown silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

Gully/Water Channel:	This was a linear gully (F6) located immediately north of the trough. It measured 2.3m and was cut by a modern drain. Primary silting was evident at the base of the feature which was sealed by burnt mound material.
Burnt Mound 2:	This mound (F4) was located west of mound I. It measured 13.6m by 11.10m with a maximum depth of 0.72m. Several bands of burnt stone were visible in section (Molloy 2004, 6). An area of burnt clay was noted in the south-west quadrant of the mound.
Trough 2:	This trough (F9) was located under mound II and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2.35m by 1.31m with a depth of 0.32m. It was filled with a compact dark brown silty clay with frequent heat-shattered stone.
Stake-holes:	Two stake holes were located on the south-eastern edge of the trough F9.
Hearth:	An area of <i>in situ</i> burning (F25) was revealed to the north-west of F9. It measured 0.7m and the earth was scorched to a depth of 0.06m.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	A single piece of animal bone was recovered from mound I

### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (species unknown) from the primary fill of trough F6 C14 (GrN- 24731) 2945±40 BP (1300–1000 BC)

### **References**

Molloy, B. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Dalystown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Enniscoffey	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Enniscoffey	NGR: 248946, 246769
	Barony:	Fartullagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Elizabeth Connolly	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in low lying boggy ground, west of a small stream and extended beyond the line of the pipeline corridor.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to archaeological investigations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Neolithic <i>fulacht fia</i> (WM 05)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the pipeline wayleave.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material which extended beyond the limits of excavation. No cut features were identified.

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound spread over an area measuring 15m by 13m with a thickness of 0.23m. It consisted of black silty peat which contained a moderate amount of small heat-shattered sandstone with charcoal inclusions. No trough was revealed and the spread continued beyond the pipeline corridor.

**Finds:** Artefacts: None Ecofacts: None

### References

Connolly, E. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Enniscoffey, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Enniscoffey	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Enniscoffey	NGR: 250822, 247210
	Barony:	Fartullagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Elizabeth Connolly	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in low lying boggy ground, west of a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was located in low lying boggy ground, west of a small stream and extended beyond the line of the pipeline corridor.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible <i>fulacht fia</i> (WM 04)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material, the remains of a plank-lined trough and a small charcoal spread which may have been the remains of a fire setting or hearth.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound measured 9m by 8m with a thickness of 0.3m. A portion of the mound extended underneath a haul road that did not require topsoil stripping, therefore this material was left <i>in situ</i> . The mound material consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of black peaty clay and charcoal. Some animal bone was recovered from the mound material.
Trough:	The trough was cut into the peaty layer and consisted of the partial remains of a plank-lined structure. It measured 1.5m by 1.3m with the side timbers surviving to a height of 0.04m. The trough was constructed with two layers of timber planks with a thin vertical layer of side and end timbers delimiting a roughly rectangular area. Connolly notes that the lower timbers may have provided an even base for the four upper planks (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 341). One stake was recorded at the eastern edge of the feature.
Charcoal Spread:	An irregular spread of charcoal measuring 2.4m by 1.8m was recorded 2m north-east of the trough and may have been the remains of a hearth.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Fragments of animal bone were recovered from the burnt mound material.

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (species unknown) from the trough  
C14 (GrN- 28201)  $4100 \pm 50$  BP (2880–2490 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a levelled burnt mound that extended beyond the limits of the pipeline corridor. The remains of a wood-lined, truncated trough which was dated securely to the Late Neolithic period. This site demonstrates and early use of the pyrolithic tradition in Ireland and is a rare example of a Late Neolithic trough which is lined. The evidence suggests that it was at this time that troughs began to be timber-lined. The recovery of fragment animal bone remains also indicates that the site may have been used for cooking similar to earlier Neolithic examples.

### Reference

Connolly, E. 2004. Archaeological excavations at Enniscoffey, Co. Westmeath. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Grogan, E., O'Donnell, L. and Johnston, P. 2007. *The Bronze Age landscapes of the pipeline to the west: an integrated archaeological and environmental assessment*, 341. Wordwell, Bray.

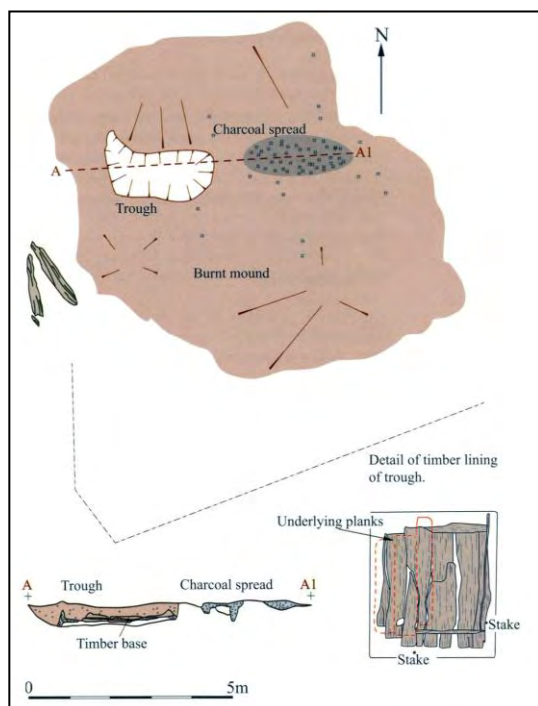


Fig. 10.152 Plank-lined trough and burnt mound at Enniscoffey, Co. Westmeath.

Location:	Townland:	Enniscoffey	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Enniscoffey	NGR: 250736, 247173
	Barony:	Fartullagh	Altitude: m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in low lying land near the margins of a shallow boggy area and was truncated to the east by an artificially widened stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	This site was located in low lying boggy ground, west of a small stream and extended beyond the line of the pipeline corridor.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated here in close proximity		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material, a shallow trough and a possible channel which may have fed the pit from a nearby stream.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was disturbed to the east by an artificially widened stream. The surviving remains measured 8m by 6m with a thickness of 0.3m. Molloy noted a shallow deposit of charcoal at the base of the mound which may have been the remains of a hearth (Grogan et al 2007, 342). The mound consisted of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal.
Trough:	The trough measured 2.2m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.2m. (No other details available)
Channel:	A possible channel or gully may have fed the trough from the nearby stream. It measured 3.3m by 0.3m with a depth of 0.6m.

#### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (species and context unknown) C14 (GrN- 28422) 3880±30 BP (2470–2230 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a mound of heat-shattered sandstone, a trough and a possible water-channel directly feeding the trough from a nearby water source. Water-management features such as these are now a common feature of *fulachtaí fia* sites. Troughs may be interconnected directing water between features or channels may direct water to or from the trough both serving as an overflow out-let or an inflow channel. Similar channels have been excavated in the county such as Dalystown (WM03), revealed on the same pipeline scheme. Molloy also notes the remains of a possible hearth setting at the base of the burnt mound material defined by an area of dense charcoal.

**References:**

Molloy, B. 2004. *Archaeological excavations at Enniscoffey, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Griffinstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilucan	NGR: 255466, 246180
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 83m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on a gentle south-facing slope on the margins of a shallow boggy area to the west and a narrow stream to the south.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no prehistoric sites recorded in area however the Early Medieval period is well represented. A burnt mound was excavated as part of this project 1100m to the east of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The mound material extended beyond the pipeline corridor.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material which extended beyond the limits of excavation.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material measured 9m by 4.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.22m. It was truncated by agricultural activity and extended beyond the pipeline corridor. No cut features were identified. The deposit consisted of fragmented and heat-affected stone in a matrix of dark silty clay and charcoal.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

**References**

Molloy, B. 2004. *Section IB, Gas Pipeline to the West, Griffinstown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbalraherd	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Castletownkindalen	NGR: 233799, 241593
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 94m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on undulating, low-lying pastureland on a gradual west-facing slope in a low valley.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no prehistoric sites recorded in area however the early medieval period is well represented.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed several phases of activity consisting of burnt mound deposits, troughs, pits and stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was L-shaped in plan and measured 18.32m by 12.48m with a maximum depth of 0.64m. It consisted of several well stratified layers of burnt heat-shattered limestone, charcoal and dark silty clay.
Trough 1:	This trough (F4) was rectangular in shape and truncated by modern disturbance. Molloy suggests that it may have originally contained two trough cuts (2003, 3). It measured 4.2m long and ran under the stockpile beyond the southern limit of the excavation. A slight notch was cut into the north-eastern edge of the pit which Molloy suggest may indicate the presence of a timber lining (2003, 3).
Trough 2:	Another trough (F12) was located 12m to the north-west. It was rectangular in shape and measured 2.3m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.18m. Four stake-holes cut the base of the trough, one in each corner. A narrow gully ran along the base of the trough and continued westward beyond the extent of the trough. Molloy suggests that this may have been a natural gully that may

have run into/through the trough, supplying a constant water source (Molloy 2003, 4). The trough was filled with burnt mound material.

- Pit 1: This pit (F7) was oval in shape and measured 1.58m by 1.02m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with silty clay and charcoal inclusions.
- Pit 2: This pit (F10) was oval in shape and measured 0.7m by 0.5m. It was filled with a loose sandy material and was in close proximity to pit F17.
- Pit 3: F13 was irregular in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.65m. It contained three fills consisting of light silty clays.
- Pit 4: This pit (F31) was located towards the south-east of the site and measured 0.75m by 0.59m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with light brown silty clay.
- Possible Hearths: Two distinct areas of burning were visible around the troughs which Molloy suggests may have been fire settings.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (species and context unknown)  
C14 (GrN- 24732) 2945±40 BP (1300–1000 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound site sealing a number of troughs and pits indicating a pyrolithic water-boiling technology.

### **References**

Molloy, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbalraherd, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Williamstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ballyloughloe	NGR: 212936, 238801
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 80m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on low-lying pastureland on a gentle east-facing slope. A stream was located downhill approximately 60m to the west		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no prehistoric sites recorded in area however during the archaeological works, several possible prehistoric features were uncovered including a series of Bronze Age cremation pits located 150m to the west and two isolated pits/troughs located to the east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Bronze Age cremation pits excavated 150m to the west.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a rectangular trough, a pit and several stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (F3) was irregular in shape and situated on a gentle west-facing slope. It measured 10m by 2.5m with a thickness of 0.3m. Molloy notes that the mound had been disturbed and truncated by later agricultural activity (Molloy 2003, 4). The spread consisted of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone within a friable dark silty clay with inclusions of charcoal.
Trough:	The trough (F7) was located east of the burnt mound material and was rectangular in plan with almost vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.8m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.25m. Four stake-holes cut the base of trough at the north-eastern end. A slight step or brake of slope was noted at the eastern end while the trough was filled with heat-shattered limestone and sandstone within a dark brown silty clay. A dump of re-deposited natural lay immediately north of the trough, likely to be upcast material from the construction phase.



Pit: A small pit (F5) was situated north of the trough. It was circular in plan and measured 1.06m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.2m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

Stake-Holes: Three stake-holes were recorded south-east of the pit (F5) in a rough arc.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: None

**Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a levelled and disturbed spread of burnt mound material that sealed the remains of a well-defined rectangular trough, pit and several stake-holes. Although no dating evidence was obtained from the site, the presence of stake-holes located in the corners of the trough pit may indicated a later Bronze Age date as similar construction methods have been noted in troughs dating to this period. Bronze Age activity is also noted in the area. The site can be interpreted as the remains of a disturbed *fulachta fia* used for pyrolithic water-boiling.

**References**

Molloy, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Williamstown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Rathcam/Lemongrove	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Enniscoffey	NGR: 24813, 24625
	Barony:	Fartullagh	Altitude: NA
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in low lying pastoral land on a gentle north-facing slope with marshy land to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites noted in the vicinity of the site prior to the excavations.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the pipeline wayleave.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material which extended beyond the limits of excavation. No cut features were identified.
Burnt Spread:	The spread was considerably damaged and disturbed. It extended beyond the wayleave and the exposed portion measured 6m by 5m with a thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of black silt clay and charcoal. Site not dated.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	None

#### **References**

Molloy, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Rathcam/Lemmongrove, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Syonan	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Horseleap	NGR: 628085, 740403
	Barony:	Moycashal	Altitude: NA
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	This site was located in low lying land on the margins of a shallow bog with a wide stream 5m to the south.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the burnt spread prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Bord Gáis Pipeline to the West project. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation and it extended beyond the pipeline wayleave.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material which extended beyond the limits of excavation. No cut features were identified.
Burnt Spread:	The spread was considerably damaged and disturbed. It extended beyond the wayleave and the exposed portion measured 8.5m by 8m with a thickness of 0.1m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of black silt clay and charcoal. Site not dated.
<b>Finds:</b>	None

**References**

Molloy, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Syonan, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Newdown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killucan	NGR: 212936, 238801
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 80m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 McNeads Bridge to Kinnegad Improvement	
	Site Director:	Avril Hayes	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This sites at Newdown were located at the corner of a wet marshy field in rough pasture. They were located close to the Royal Canal. Underlying limestone geology.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is very little recorded prehistoric archaeology in the vicinity of the site, however there are four earthworks recorded in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in the neighbouring townland of Heathstown, while another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 20m to the north-west.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 McNeads Bridge to Kinnegad Road Improvement Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two separate <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated c. 20m apart. Site (WM12) consisted of a burnt mound and a timber-lined trough, while Site (WM13) produced a mound of shattered stone and a single trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C2) was roughly circular in shape and measured 11m by 7m with a maximum depth of 0.3m. The deposit had been truncated by the centre line testing. It consisted of hat-shattered stone in a matrix of grey/black silty clay and charcoal.
Trough:	The trough (C5) was rectangular in shape with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1.5m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.3m. The trough seems to have been wood-lined by the presence of four decayed timbers lining the four sides of the pit, forming a rough rectangular area. The fill of the trough consisted of light greyish brown baked clay with burnt stone inclusions. The baked stones were flat on the surface and some were set on edge. They did not form a pattern and were tightly packed in a grey clay matrix.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Charcoal was identified as ash, hazel and oak

### Dating:

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (ash) from burnt mound material C2 C14 (Beta- 199753) 4100±60 BP (2880–2480 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The mound was revealed during centre-line testing which damaged the upper deposits. It mound sealed the remains of a truncated trough which produced evidence to suggest it was timber-lined. Wood was recorded along the sites of the feature suggesting the pit served as a trough for pyrolithic water-boiling. Charcoal from the mound is dated to the Late Neolithic period which highlights and early use of the pyrolithic tradition in Ireland where troughs first began to be timber-lined.

### References

Hayes, A. 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Newdown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

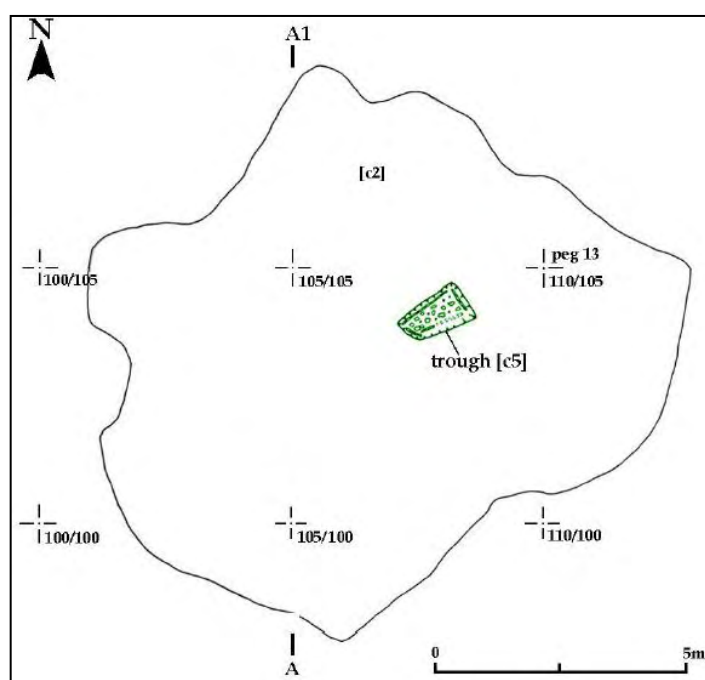


Fig. 10.153 Burnt mound and remains of single plank-lined trough at Newdown.

Location:	Townland:	Newdown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killucan	NGR: 212936, 238801
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 80m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 McNeads Bridge to Kinnegad Improvement	
	Site Director:	Avril Hayes	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This sites at Newdown were located at the corner of a wet marshy field in rough pasture. They were located close to the Royal Canal. Underlying limestone geology.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is very little recorded prehistoric archaeology in the vicinity of the site, however there are four earthworks recorded in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in the neighbouring townland of Heathstown, while another fulacht fiad was excavated 20m to the south-east.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 McNeads Bridge to Kinnegad Road Improvement Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two separate <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated c. 20m apart. Site A consisted of a burnt mound and a timber-lined trough, while Site B produced a mound of shattered stone and a single trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C7) was irregular in shape and measured 12m by 7m with a thickness of 0.15m. It consisted of loose dark brown/black silty clay with frequent heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough:	The trough (C13) was sub-oval in shape with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1.8m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.5m. Nine stake-holes cut the base of the trough, some of which were badly preserved <i>in situ</i> . The fill of the trough consisted of grey/black silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Charcoal was identified as ash, hazel and oak

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (ash and hazel) from burnt mound material C7 C14 (Beta- 199752) 3950±60 BP (2600–2220 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

The mound was revealed during centre-line testing which damaged the upper deposits. It mound sealed the remains of a truncated trough which produced evidence to suggest it was timber-lined. The stake-holes which cut the base of the trough were all situated around the inner sides of the trough indicating that the trough may have been lined with wattle-an early trough lining tradition in Ireland. The radiocarbon dated from the burnt mound material would support this suggestion. The site can be interpreted as the remains of an Early Bronze Age water-boiling site.

### References

Hayes, A. 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Newdown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

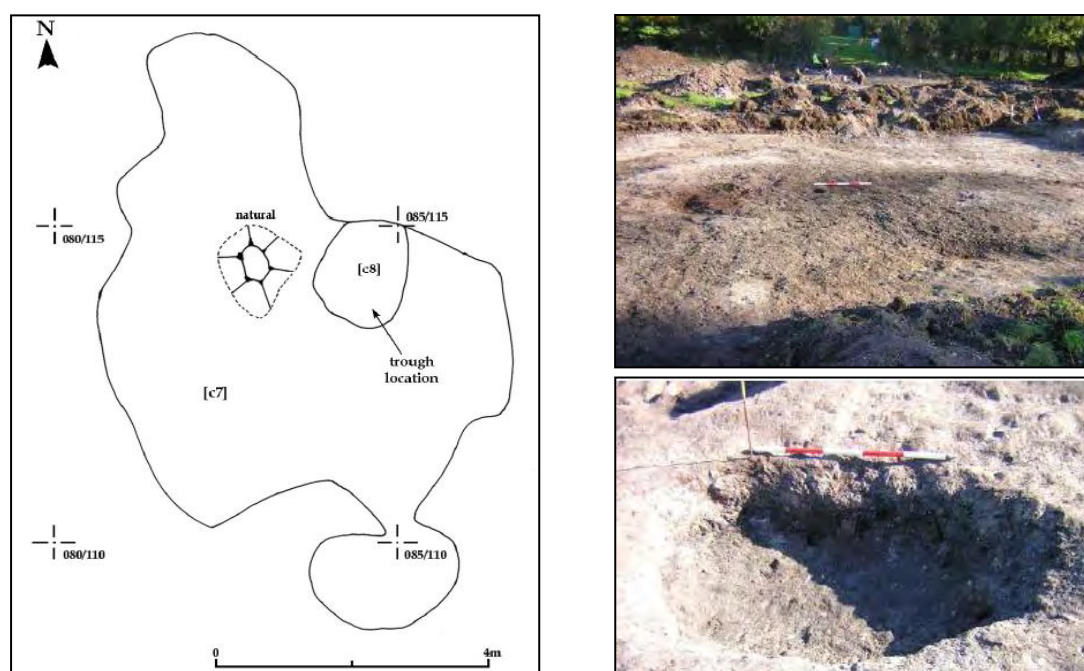


Fig. 10.154 Burnt mound and possible wattle-lined trough at Newdown.

Location:	Townland:	Heathstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killucan	NGR: 212936, 238801
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 80m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 McNeads Bridge to Kinnegad Improvement	
	Site Director:	Avril Hayes	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This sites at Newdown were located at the corner of a wet marshy field in rough pasture. They were located close to the Royal Canal. Underlying limestone geology.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is very little recorded prehistoric archaeology in the vicinity of the site, however there are four earthworks recorded in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in the neighbouring townland of Newdown, while another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 17m to the north-west.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 McNeads Bridge to Kinnegad Road Improvement Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two separate <i>fulachtaí fia</i> excavated c. 17m apart. Site (WM14) consisted of a burnt mound and two troughs while Site (wm15) consisted of a similar burnt mound and a circular trough.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C7) was circular in shape and measured 10m in diameter with a thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of a low mound of dark brown sandy silt with frequent heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	This possible trough (C38) was irregular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.6m. It had sharp breaks of slope and an undulating slope. One fragment of timber was noted lining the side of the cut while two fills were identified in the trough consisting of an upper deposit of dark grey silt and heat-shattered stone. The basal deposit consisted of yellow sandy silt with heat-shattered stone and charcoal with wood and animal bone fragments.
Pit:	This pit (C41) was located 1m west of the trough C38. It was an elongated cut measuring 1.9m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.4m. It had sharp breaks of



slope with concave sides and a flatish base. It was filled with black silty clay and reddish brown silty clay with timber fragments.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the trough C38

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (ash) from timber fill of possible trough F41  
C14 (Beta- 199750) 3570±40 BP (2020–1770 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The site can be interpreted as the levelled remains of a *fulachtaí fia* sealing a poorly preserved trough that may have been timber-lined in the past. Animal bone recovered from the fill of the trough may indicate the site functioned as a water-boiling site used for cooking

**References**

Hayes, A. 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Heathstown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Heathstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killucan	NGR: 212936, 238801
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 80m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N4 McNeads Bridge to Kinnegad Improvement	
	Site Director:	Avril Hayes	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	This sites were located at the corner of a wet marshy field in rough pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There is very little recorded prehistoric archaeology in the vicinity of the site, however there are four earthworks recorded in the townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were excavated in the neighbouring townland of Newdown, while another <i>fulacht fia</i> was excavated 17m to the north-west.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N4 road scheme.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two separate <i>fulachtaí fia</i>
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C2) was oval in shape and measured 9m by 9m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. It consisted of a firm dark brown sandy silt with frequent heat-shattered stone and baked clay.
Trough:	Trough (C26) was oval in shape with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1m by 1.45m with a depth of 0.15m. The internal perimeter of the trough was cut by twelve stake-holes at the base which may have been the supports for a wattle or wicker lining. The fill of the trough consisted of mottled grey/black silt with heat-shattered stone and timber fragments.
Dating:	Charcoal (ash and alder) from burnt mound material C14 (Beta- 199751) 3660±60 BP (2200–1890 BC) Wood (hazel) rod from trough C26 C14 (Beta- 199749) 3620±40 BP (2120–1890 BC)

### References

Hayes, A. 2005. *Archaeological excavations at Heathstown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeology Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Newtown	Six inch map no: 26
	Parish:	Mullingar	NGR: 245168, 250626
	Barony :	Farbill	Altitude: 168m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Mullingar Bypass	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	Natural topography of the site was an undulating landscape with boggy hollows and drumlins. The site was positioned mid-way down the east-facing slope overlooking a peat bog to the east, and contained two phases of archaeological activity.		
Cultural Landscape:	Significant prehistoric monuments are known from the vicinity of the proposed scheme, including a Bronze Age barrow in Tullanisky (WM026-026), Bronze Age burials in Burnellstown and Petitswood, while a number of bronze and gold artefacts and glass beads from the same period have been recorded from the Mullingar area and include bronze horse pendants, gold bracelets, boxes, lunulae, torcs and dress-fasteners.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Iron working furnaces		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Mullingar Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which sealed three troughs with numerous internal stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C03) consisted of a large oval shaped deposit which spread down an east-facing slope towards boggy ground. It was composed of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal rich material with animal bone inclusions. The deposit measured 15m by 14.7m with a maximum thickness of 0.4m.
Trough 1:	This trough (C09) was oval in plan with concave sides and an irregular base. It measured 1.1m by 1m with a depth of 0.15m. Two stake-holes were recorded cut into the base of the trough on the north-eastern side. The fill of the trough consisted of burnt mound material composed of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal rich silty clay.

Trough 2: This trough (C11) was located centrally to the mound and was sub-rectangular in plan with sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 2.8m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.6m. The trough contained two opposing stake-holes located in the north-eastern and south-western sides of the trough in the north-western half of the trough. The fill of the trough consisted of burnt mound material composed of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal rich silty clay.

Trough 3: Trough (C15) was sub-oval in plan with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 2.3m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.5m. Three fills were noted in the trough with the primary fill consisting of hard yellow re-deposited natural which was sealed by burnt mound deposits. Charcoal from Context C26 was identified and produced evidence of four species of wood used; Elm, alder, ash and hazel.

Post-Hole: An isolated post-hole was situated 2.2m east of the trough C15.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material C003

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (elm, ash, hazel) from fill of trough C15  
C14 (Beta- 202527) 3330±40 BP (1700–1520 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a burnt mound and a number of troughs, some of which produced evidence to suggest that may have been timber-lined in the past. Animal bone was also recovered from the burnt mound material suggesting the site function as a water-boiling area for cooking.

#### **References**

Stevens, P. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Newtown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Newtown	Six inch map no: 26
	Parish:	Mullingar	NGR: 244959, 250491
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 164m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Mullingar Bypass	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	Natural topography of the site was an undulating landscape with boggy hollows and drumlins. The site was positioned mid-way down the east-facing slope overlooking a peat bog to the east, and contained two phases of archaeological activity.		
Cultural Landscape:	Significant prehistoric monuments are known from the vicinity of the proposed scheme, including a Bronze Age barrow in Tullanisky (WM026-026), Bronze Age burials in Burnellstown and Petitswood, while a number of bronze and gold artefacts and glass beads from the same period have been recorded from the Mullingar area and include bronze horse pendants, gold bracelets, boxes, lunulae, torcs and dress-fasteners.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Iron working furnaces and Middle Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> (WM16)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Mullingar Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which sealed a trough, stake-holes, two possible hearths and a later stone-lined hearth pit.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C03) consisted of a large irregular shaped deposit which spread down an east-facing slope towards boggy ground. It was composed of heat-shattered limestone and charcoal rich material with animal bone inclusions. The deposit measured 16m by 11m with a maximum thickness of 0.35m
Trough:	Trough (C20) was irregular in shape with sharp sides and a flat base. It measured 3.35m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.65m. Two post-holes cut the base of the trough, located at the north-western end. The trough contained three fills consisting of backfilled re-deposited natural, a stony, charcoal-rich deposit and finely, a layer of burnt mound material. A chert lithic was recovered from the basal layer.

- Hearth 1: Slightly upslope from the trough was an area of fire-reddened soil (C39), representing *in situ* burning. It measured 0.55m by 0.54m and a large natural boulder lay immediately northwest which may have also been utilised to stabilise the hearth setting.
- Hearth 2: An area of concentrated charcoal (C29) was located centrally to the site and measured 0.12m in length and 0.1m in width and 0.01m in depth. This was sealed by a layer of re-deposited natural.
- Fire Pit: A more formal stone-lined pit was revealed 5m south-west of the trough, cutting through the lower levels of the burnt mound C05. It was oval in shape and measured 1.42m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.6m. The pit was lined with two courses of loosely-arranged limestone and contained a primary fill of ash and cinders. The upper deposit consisted of backfilled burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: Chert debitage was recovered from the burnt mound material C03 along with chert debris and a small amount of slag. A chert blade was recovered from the fill of the trough C20.
- Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material C03.

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder, ash and hazel) from the burnt mound material C05/06 C14 (Beta- 202527) 3080±40 BP (1420–1260 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a burnt mound and a number of troughs, some of which produced evidence to suggest that may have been timber-lined in the past. Animal bone was also recovered from the burnt mound material suggesting the site function as a water-boiling area for cooking.

### **References**

Stevens, P. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Newtown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Marlinstown	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Mullingar	NGR: 245733, 251385
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 160m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Mullingar Bypass	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located over the central midlands limestone plateau, covered by glacial drift deposits of glacial till and gravelly clays with low glacial drumlins in an undulating landscape of rolling fertile stony pasturelands and low-lying boggy hollows. The site was located on the crest of a small glacial drumlin sloping sharply to the west and overlooking an adjacent area of peat bog or marsh to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	Significant prehistoric monuments are known from the vicinity of the proposed scheme, including a Bronze Age barrow in Tullanisky (WM026-026), Bronze Age burials in Burnellstown and Petitswood, while a number of bronze and gold artefacts and glass beads from the same period have been recorded from the Mullingar area and include bronze horse pendants, gold bracelets, boxes, lunulae, torcs and dress-fasteners.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Medieval smithing furnace		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Mullingar Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which sealed a trough and post-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C17) consisted of a large oval shaped deposit which spread downslope from the trough. It was composed of heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal rich material (Alder, Ash, oak and Hazel wood) with animal bone (cattle) inclusions. The deposit measured 13.5m by 7.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m.
Trough:	The trough (C22) was located on the crest of the northwest-facing slope of the drumlin and was sub-rectangular in plan with stepped sides and a flat base. It measured 1.9m by 1.38m with a depth of 0.7m. The trough contained three compact fills. The lowest fill consisted of friable silt, heat-shattered

limestone and charcoal. The middle fill consisted of pushed in burnt mound material with a limestone dominance. This was sealed (deliberately capped) by a layer of re-deposited natural which contained animal bone.

Post-Holes: Two post-holes were located centrally to the site with one of these located adjacent to the trough.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material and the upper fill of the trough. The animal bone consisted of pig, cow and horse.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder, ash and hazel) from the fill of the trough C22 C14 (Beta- 210768) 3810±40 BP (2400–2140 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a burnt mound and a number of troughs, some of which produced evidence to suggest that may have been timber-lined in the past. Animal was also recovered from the burnt mound material suggesting the site function as a water-boiling area for cooking. The presence of horse within the animal assemblage is interesting as the horse has traditionally been viewed as a Late Bronze Age importation into Ireland.

**References**

Stevens, P. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Marlinstown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Newtown	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Mullingar	NGR: 244984, 250501
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 160m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Mullingar Bypass	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in an undulating landscape, situated mid-way along an east-facing slope overlooking a peat bog to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Significant prehistoric monuments are known from the vicinity of the proposed scheme, including a Bronze Age barrow in Tullanisky (WM026-026), Bronze Age burials in Burnellstown and Petitswood, while a number of bronze and gold artefacts and glass beads from the same period have been recorded from the Mullingar area and include bronze horse pendants, gold bracelets, boxes, lunulae, torcs and dress-fasteners.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Located on the same ride as WM17		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Mullingar Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread which did not seal any cut features.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound comprised of a small irregular deposit of heat-shattered sandstone in a matrix of charcoal and black silty clay. It measured 11m by 8.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.2m. A sample of hazel was dated to the Late Bronze Age. Animal remains were recovered from the site which was identified as cattle.
<b>Finds:</b>	Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material which was identified as cattle remains
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread material C14 (Beta- 202529) 2830±50 BP (1120–850 BC)

**References**

Stevens, P. 2003. Archaeological excavations at Newtown 3, Co. Westmeath. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kiltotan and Collinstown	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Mullingar	NGR: 245084, 238720
	Barony:	Farbill	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Tyrrellspass Realignment	
	Site Director:	Áine Richardson	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in pasture positioned at an interface between higher drier ground and wetter lowlands.		
Cultural Landscape:	The earliest known evidence of settlement is represented by an Early Bronze Age (c. 2500-1500 BC) togher discovered by the Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit in the townland of Rattin. Finds from the area include a socketed bronze axe head from the Late Bronze Age (1936:1873 NMI) which was recovered near Kinnegad townland (exact location unknown). Bronze Age burnt mounds are also reasonably common; one definite example and several potential sites were discovered during fieldwalking of the proposed route . A burnt mound was excavated at Kiltotan Collinstown 12 and at Kiltotan Collinstown 13 an anomalous pit produced a Middle-Late Bronze Age radiocarbon date.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N52 Mullingar Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed and truncated burnt mound which sealed a number of small pits, some of which may have functioned as troughs.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material was cut by the test trench during archaeological testing and survived as a heavily disturbed layer mixed with topsoil. Four separate deposits were noted in the material with the largest of these (C20) measuring 5m by 3.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.05m. It consisted of charcoal rich material mixed with heat-shattered stone and topsoil. Three flint flakes and a flint chunk were recovered from the material with no retouching noted.		
Pit 1:	Pit (C1) was revealed in the test trench and as a result, was heavily truncated on its western side. Only 0.6m of the length of the pit was revealed with		

contained as fill consisting of charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from this pit was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

- Pit 2: A pit (C4) was revealed in the eastern section of the test trench. It was filled with burnt mound material to a depth of 0.32m.
- Pit 3: Pit (C6) was revealed east of the test trench. It was irregular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.3m. Two fills were noted in the pit with a basal deposit of natural silts and an upper layer of burnt mound material.
- Pit 4: This pit (C34) was situated west of the pit C6 and was truncated by the test trench. It was irregular in shape and interpreted as pit to extract stone. It measured 1.15m in width and had a depth of 0.2m.
- Pit 5: Pit (C35) was sub-rectangular in shape and well defined. It was truncated but survived to depth of 0.25m. The main fill consisted of burnt mound material which overlay an ashy layer.
- Pit 6: This pit (C30) was located east of pit C1. It was circular in shape and measured 0.83m by 0.71m with a depth of 0.1m. It was filled with silty material which contained a flint flake.

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: Two flint flakes and a flint chunk were recovered from the disturbed spread (C20). A further flint flake was recovered from the shallow pit C30.
- Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

- Absolute dating: Charcoal (oak) from the fill of pit C1  
C14 (UBA- 6941) 3831±36 BP (2458–2150 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

The burnt mound covered a surprisingly small area, even though the large number of pits and potential troughs on the site suggests that activity at the site was extensive and that originally the mound was much larger. Clearly some of the site was ploughed out and truncated by later agricultural activity but it is also possible that the area excavated was only the edge of a larger mound.

#### **References**

Richardson, A and Johnston, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilotan and Collinstown*. Final excavation report prepared by Eachtra Archaeological Projects. Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Seeoge	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilcleagh	NGR: 215278, 237859
	Barony:	Kilcleagh	Altitude: 83m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a very gentle southwest facing slope on the edge of flat boggy pastureland adjacent to a pond. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain by occasional moraines and small glacial hillocks		
Cultural Landscape:	The gas pipeline has been extremely informative, revealing a range of archaeological sites in south Westmeath, a county that has traditionally witnessed only minor scholarly research. Archaeological investigations along the N6 have revealed a number of burnt mound sites in close proximity to Seeoge 2 and some were contemporary including Williamstown 2 and Aghafin 1. The remaining sites spanned the Bronze Age with one dated to the Iron Age (Cregganmacar 1). This demonstrates that burnt mound sites, although similar in form, were in use across thousands of years.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Bronze Age rectangular structure		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a very large burnt mound, several troughs, some of which produced evidence to suggest they may have been lined in the past. Numerous pits were also revealed with some functioning as wells. A rectangular structure was also excavated in close proximity to the burnt mound which was tentatively interpreted as a possible sweatlodge.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) measured 35m by 20m with a maximum thickness of 0.76m. It sealed the majority of features on site and consisted of loose black silty clay with heat-shattered stone (underlying geology is limestone) and charcoal. Five smaller spreads of burnt mound material were also revealed on site possibly representing dispersed material from the main mound. A large deposit of charcoal (C64) however was revealed north of the structure and did not contain heat-affected stone. Lyne suggests this may have been

transported hearth material as the base of the depression was not scorched (Lyne 2009, 10).

- Trough 1:** Trough (C32) was rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.41m by 1.42m with a depth of 0.49m and generally filled naturally with water during excavation. Directly associated with the trough was a thin and shallow linear cut along its northern edge which appeared to represent some sort of framework that would have lined the top edge of the trough. This was filled with charcoal stained silty clay. The trough was filled with dark brown silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A late Bronze Age/Iron Age date was returned from a charcoal sample (blackthorn).
- Stake-Holes:** Two small stake-holes were situated immediately east of the trough C32.
- Pit 1:** This pit was irregular in shape and situated adjacent to trough C32. It measured 0.6m by 0.53m with a depth of 0.15m. The fill consisted of black silty clay.
- Trough 2:** This trough (C122) was located in the southern part of the site and was sub-circular in shape. It measured 3.6m by 3.38m with a depth of 0.6m. The pit was below the water table, therefore, it filled naturally with water. Five preserved oak stakes were noted cut into the base of the pit along with two possible oak planks which may suggest some form of trough lining. Several pieces of animal bone were recovered from the fill including one hazelnut shell. A plano-convex flint knife was also recovered. The fill of the trough consisted of black silty clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A single post-hole was also recorded inside the southern edge of the trough.
- Pit 2:** This pit (C149) was located close to trough C122. It was oval in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.15m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with compacted brown silty clay.
- Trough 3:** This possible trough (C154) was oval in shape and measured 1.6m by 0.82m with a depth of 0.23m. It was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 4:** This possible trough (C155) was oval in shape and measured 1.77m by 0.86m with a depth of 0.24m. It was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone.
- Well:** This well feature (C111) was located 3m south of the trough C32. It measured 1.14m by 0.69m with a depth of 0.5m. This was loosely filled with sizeable stones and an upper layer of charcoal-rich mound-like material. The pit filled naturally with water even during long dry spells (Lyne 2009, 5).
- Structure:** Adjacent to the burnt mound (C4), and partially sealed by it, was rectangular structure defined by a series of post-holes. It measured 8m by 4m. In the north-west section of the structure a deposit of large stones (C8) was identified on the surface. Lyne suggest that this setting may have functioned as an area where hot stone were place to induce sweating in the structure (Lyne 2009, 7). Alternatively it may have been the support for an internal division or post.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: Several flint blades were recovered from the topsoil. A flint plano-convex knife was recovered from the trough C122. Several other flint chunks and debitage was recovered from the pits and a number of post-holes related to the structure.

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the trough C122 which consisted of a horse femur which showed evidence of butchery. Several other pieces of animal bone were recovered from trough C32.

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (blackthorn) from the fill of the trough C32  
C14 (UBA- 8581) 2473±26 BP (764–416 BC)  
Charcoal (*pomoideae*) from fill of post-hole related to structure  
C14 (UBA- 9161) 2712±19 BP (901–816 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation:

Excavation of the site revealed an extensive *fulacht fia* located on the edge of a natural pond. Several troughs were revealed, some of which were located at different elevations suggesting seasonal use, as the site may have been waterlogged at different times of the year. Butchered animal bone from some of these troughs suggest the site function as a pyrolithic water-boiling area for cooking. A possible contemporary structure revealed at the site may have been used as a sweatlodge or sauna using hot stones.

### References

Lyne, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Seeoge 2, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.136 Burnt mound and rectangular boiling pit at Seeoge 2, Co. Westmeath.

Location:	Townland:	Seeoge	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Kilcleagh	NGR: 214960, 238001
	Barony:	Kilcleagh	Altitude: 80m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a slight rise surrounded by waterlogged peaty soil. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain by occasional moraines and small glacial hillocks		
Cultural Landscape:	The gas pipeline has been extremely informative, revealing a range of archaeological sites in south Westmeath, a county that has traditionally witnessed only minor scholarly research. Archaeological investigations along the N6 have revealed a number of burnt mound sites in close proximity to Seeoge 1 and some were contemporary including Williamstown 2 and Aghafin 1. The remaining sites spanned the Bronze Age with one dated to the Iron Age (Cregganmacar 1). This demonstrates that burnt mound sites, although similar in form, were in use across thousands of years.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt mound spread which sealed no cut features.
Burnt Spread:	The spreads (C3 and C4) consisted of dark charcoal enriched soil in a matrix of heat-shattered stone. C3 was oval in shape and measured 4.2m by 3m with a thickness of 0.1m. C4 measured 6m by 5m with a thickness of 0.06m.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (ash) from the burnt spread C3 C14 (UBA- 8589) 3264±28 BP (1616–1457 BC)

**References:**

Lyne, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Seeoge 1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Creggan Lower	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	St. Marys	NGR: 207588, 240435
	Barony:	Brawny	Altitude: 54m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a slight rise in an area of undulating ground. Only a small portion of the site was exposed and the majority lies outside the area of excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	The gas pipeline has been extremely informative, revealing a range of archaeological sites in south Westmeath, a county that has traditionally witnessed only minor scholarly research Archaeological investigations along the N6 have revealed a number of burnt mound sites in close proximity to Seeoge 1 and some were contemporary including Williamstown 2 and Aghafin 1. The remaining sites spanned the Bronze Age with one dated to the Iron Age (Cregganmacar 1). This demonstrates that burnt mound sites, although similar in form, were in use across thousands of years.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Late Bronze Age habitation site excavated 250m to the west.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. Only a small portion of the site was exposed, as the majority lay outside road corridor in the adjacent field.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt mound spread which extended beyond the limits of excavation. Two pits were exposed below the spread material.
Burnt Spreads:	Three burnt spreads were revealed during excavation which may in fact be one spread of material, however, because the majority of the site may lie outside the road corridor, it is difficult to know for certain. C4 measured 3.3m by 1.7m with a thickness of 0.21m. C5 measured 6m by 3m with a thickness of 0.18m. C8 measured 4.9m by 3.9m with a depth of 0.12m. A worked chert flake was recovered from this spread.
Pit 1:	Pit (C13) was located at the eastern edge of the excavation limit and was therefore, not fully exposed during excavation. The exposed portion was semi-circular in shape and measured 0.94m by 0.32m with a depth of 0.28m.



It was filled with black silty clay and heat-shattered stone. Elm charcoal from this fill produced a late Bronze Age date.

Upcast Material: A deposit of upcast material from the digging of the pit was revealed surrounding the pit C13.

Stake-Holes: Two stake-holes were revealed during the excavation, one of which was situated adjacent to the pit C13.

Pit 2: Pit (C15) was situated downslope from the pit C13. It was roughly square in plan and with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.5m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.5. Three fills were noted in the pit. The basal fill C18 did contain sufficient quantities of burnt stone at its east edge to suggest that it may be contemporary with the main period of activity on site. The middle fill (C17) consisted mainly of water-logged organic material, mostly twigs, and seemed to be a deliberate deposit. Analysis of the organic material within C17 identified hawthorn, bramble, elder and buttercup. It is possible that this represents the gathering of fruit/seeds for eating or dyeing.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Worked chert flake was recovered from the burnt spread C8

Ecofacts: A deliberate deposit of organic material was recovered from C15

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (elm) from fill of pit C13  
C14 (UBA- 9162) 2186±21 BP (1008–908 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a possible *fulacht fia*. No definitive trough was exposed however the full extent of the site was not revealed. Therefore, it is possible that troughs and other features may lie outside the area of excavation.

#### **References**

Lyne, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Creggan Lower, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Boyanaghcalry	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Ballyloughloe	NGR: 213780, 238207
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 76m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in bog-land, overlooked by drier, higher ground to the north and surrounded to the east, west and south by bog.		
Cultural Landscape:	The gas pipeline has been extremely informative, revealing a range of archaeological sites in south Westmeath, a county that has traditionally witnessed only minor scholarly research. Archaeological investigations along the N6 have revealed a number of burnt mound sites in close proximity to Boyanaghcalry. Two burnt mounds were uncovered to the west at Williamstown 2 (0.5km to the west) and Williamstown 1 (1km to the west). The remaining sites spanned the Bronze Age with one dated to the Iron Age (Cregganmacar 1). This demonstrates that burnt mound sites, although similar in form, were in use across thousands of years.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and a single trough.
Burnt Mound:	The main burnt spread deposit (C6) measured 6m by 5.15m with a thickness of 0.21m. It consisted of dark brown sandy clay in a matrix of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Another smaller deposit of mound material overlay C6. C8 was a disturbed deposit of black sandy clay and heat-shattered stone. It measured 2.95m by 1.75m with a thickness of 0.04m. Charcoal was identified as oak and ash, of which, a sample gave a Middle Bronze Age date.
Trough:	The trough (C4) was sealed by the mound material and was sub-rectangular in shape with sloping sides and a flat base. Three fills were noted in the trough with the primary deposit consisting of washed in material or accumulated debris from repeated use. The middle fill consisted of black

sandy clay with heat-shattered stone while the upper deposit consisted of dark brown sandy peat. The trough dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Charcoal was identified as oak and ash

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (ash) from the burnt mound material C14 (UBA- 8587) 3225±29 BP (1605–1428 BC) Charcoal (ash) from the burnt mound material C14 (UBA- 8588) 3248±27 BP (1608–1451 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a levelled and dispersed burnt mound that sealed the remains of an unlined trough. The identification of the trough probably indicates that the site functioned as a water-boiling area using pyrolithic technology. No other features were revealed at the site suggesting the site may have been used for a short period of time. The radiocarbon evidence also supports this conclusion.

**References**

Walsh, F. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Boyanaghcalry 1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Williamstown	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Ballyloughloe	NGR: 212400, 238450 212456, 238415
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The sites were situated on a dry elevated position on a south-east facing hillside. It was adjacent to low-lying former wetland.		
Cultural Landscape:	The gas pipeline has been extremely informative, revealing a range of archaeological sites in south Westmeath, a county that has traditionally witnessed only minor scholarly research. Archaeological investigations along the N6 have revealed a number of burnt mound sites in close proximity to Boyanaghcalry. Williamstown 1 was located c. 700m west of another burnt mound at Williamstown 2, dated to between 910 BC and 595 BC. The remaining sites spanned the Bronze Age with one dated to the Iron Age (Cregganmacar 1). This demonstrates that burnt mound sites, although similar in form, were in use across thousands of years.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A spread of burnt mound material 100m south-east (Site B)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity. Site A consisted of a burnt mound which sealed two troughs while no cut features were identified at Site B which was located 100m to the south-east.

### Site 25 A

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound (C4) was situated on an elevated position and measured 12m by 11m with a maximum thickness of 0.6m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty sand. A chert blade was recovered from the spread along with Medieval pottery, suggesting some degree of disturbance in the past.

- Trough 1:** Trough (C25) was irregular in shape with a concave base and measured 2.3m by 1.05m with a depth of 0.41m. Lyne observed that the trough appeared to have been constructed with two semi-separate parts with a stepped base. It was lined with a plaster-like substance and filled with black ashy clay which included heat affected stones, quite similar to C4, the burnt spread (Lyne 2009, 3). Charcoal was identified as hazel, ash, oak, birch and alder). A later pit (C21) was noted cut into the fill of the trough.
- Pit 1:** This pit (C21) was cut into the fill of trough C25. It was circular in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.24m and contained a fill consisting of loosely compacted silty clay.
- Trough 2:** Trough (C36) was separated from trough C25 by an outcrop of bedrock. The trough was irregular in shape with uneven sides and base and measured 2.72m by 2.2m with a depth of 0.35m. The fill consisted of dark brown silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions.
- Pit 2:** This pit (C31) was situated adjacent to the mound material and was rectangular in shape. It measured 1.46m by 1.02m with a depth of 0.65m. The fill consisted of dark brown silty clay.
- Pit 3:** This pit (C32) was square in shape with an irregular base. It measured 0.47m by 0.47m with a depth of 0.1m. The fill consisted of brown silty clay with some bone fragments. Two pieces of worked flint were also recovered.

## **Site 25 B**

- Burnt Spread:** This spread (C6) was located 100m south-west of C4. It measured 10.5m by 8.9m with a maximum depth of 0.2m. It consisted of charcoal-rich material with heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 1:** This pit (C13) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.04m by 0.59m with a depth of 0.27m. The fill consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 2:** This pit (C27) was located to the south of the spread C4. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.25m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.17m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisted of black silty clays and charcoal.

## **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** Worked flint blades were recovered from the fill of pit C32 and a retouched blade was recovered from the burnt spread C4.
- Ecofacts:** Charcoal was identified as oak, ash, alder and birch. Analysis of material from Area B revealed plant remains of hawthorn, bramble, raspberry, elder and buttercup. Fragments of animal bone (intrusive) were recovered from pit C32.

- Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough C25  
C14 (Beta- 249537) 3220±40 BP (1605–1420 BC)

## **References**

Lyne, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Willimastown 1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Williamstown	Six inch map no: 30
	Parish:	Ballyloughloe	NGR: 213135, 238280
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 77m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on sloping ground on the south side of a small hill, directly adjacent to an area of low-lying former wetland.		
Cultural Landscape:	The gas pipeline has been extremely informative, revealing a range of archaeological sites in south Westmeath, a county that has traditionally witnessed only minor scholarly research. Archaeological investigations along the N6 have revealed a number of burnt mound sites in close proximity to Boyanaghcalry. Williamstown 2 was located c. 700m east of another burnt mound site at Williamstown 1. That site has been dated to 1600–1420 BC. The remaining sites spanned the Bronze Age with one dated to the Iron Age (Cregganmacar 1). This demonstrates that burnt mound sites, although similar in form, were in use across thousands of years.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a number of possible troughs connected by a gully system and several stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C7) was kidney-shaped in plan and measured 10.7m by 9m with a thickness of 0.18m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material.
Trough 1:	Trough (C19) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1m with a depth of 0.35m. It was filled with yellow/grey soft clay material and heat-shattered stone. A channel or gully ran downslope from this trough to the south.
Channel/Gully:	This linear gully (C21) ran downslope from the trough C19 and possibly acted as a overflow drainage channel for the trough and the later trough C15. It was filled with compacted grey clay and charcoal inclusions.

Trough 2:	This trough (C15) truncated the trough C19 at a right angle and may have also incorporated and used the gully feature for drainage purposes or all three features may have been used simultaneously at a later period. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.6m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled by grey sand, then a dark grey clay silt with inclusions of charcoal and burnt stone, and finally by a dark brown soft silty loam with inclusions of burnt stone. Fourteen stake-holes were associated with this trough located in the north-eastern and south-western corners which may have held a timber lining in place.
Pit 1:	Pit (C13) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.45m. It was filled with re-deposited clays and burnt mound material. A single stake-holes was identified on the northern edge of this pit.
Pit 2:	Pit (C11) was located west of the burnt spread and was irregular in shape. It measured 1.15 by 0.44m with a depth of 0.14m. The fill consisted of burnt mound material.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	
Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough C19 C14 (UBA- 8628) 2716±27 BP (910–812 BC) Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough C15 C14 (UBA- 8627) 2574±27 BP (808–594 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the site revealed a dispersed burnt mound and two troughs which were connected to a water-channel, possibly acting as an overflow outlet for the pits. Trough 2 cut the previous example suggesting a number of different phases, however it seems to have retain the use of the earlier water-channel.

### **References**

Lyne, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Willimastown 2, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Aghafin	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Kilcleagh	NGR: 215941, 237706
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in flat pastureland on the north face of a small hill, 25m north of a small stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain by occasional moraines and small glacial hillocks and covered by grey brown podzolic soils		
Cultural Landscape:	The burnt mound at Aghafin 1 produced a late Bronze Age date from the main trough and a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age radiocarbon date of 805–599 BC from the burnt mound spread. Excavations in advance of the N6 revealed that Aghafin 1 was bounded by a number of townlands that have produced evidence for burnt mound activity. At Seeoge 2, just 0.5km to the west, a large burnt mound sealed two troughs (one of which, similarly to Aghafin 1, was dated to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age transitional period) and further pits or possible troughs (Lyne 20089e). A large late Bronze Age rectangular structure was recorded adjacent to that burnt mound although no finds or occupational debris were associated with it.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, three associated troughs and a group of stake-holes representing some form of structure.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C3) measured 13m by 8.8m with a thickness of 0.5m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of charcoal enriched soil. Alder charcoal from the spread produced a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date.
Trough 1:	This trough (C9) was located centrally to the site and was sealed by the burnt mound material. It was irregular in shape with rounded corners and measured 3.5m by 3m with a depth of 0.5m. Two stake-holes were cut in to the base of the trough on the northwest-western side and a series of large



stones were noted in the north-west corner and northern side of the trough. These were interpreted as naturally occurring stones (Lynch 2009, 3). It filled naturally with water and the fill consisted of grey sandy clay, heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A separate pit (C11) was cut into the base of the trough.

**Trough 2:** Trough (C11) was cut into the north-east corner of the trough C9. It filled naturally with water and was sub angular in shape. It measured 1.45m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.7m. Naturally occurring stones were evident along the north and east sides of the cut which may have functioned as a lining (Lynch 2009, 3). A small piece of radially split ash was recovered from the fill of the trough. Hazel from this trough produced a Late Bronze Age date.

**Stake-Holes:** A linear arrangement of seven stake-holes were revealed to the east of the troughs C9 and C11 which Lynch states may have functioned as a fence structure.

**Trough 3:** This trough (C7) was located north-west of the previous troughs and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2.2m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.3m. This trough was at a slightly higher position than the previous troughs. The fill consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

**Upcast:** Deposits of re-deposited natural were revealed close to the troughs, which presumably represented upcast material from the digging of the troughs.

**Stake-Holes:** A group of eighteen stake-holes were identified east of the troughs in an irregular arrangement and did not form a discernable shape.

## **Finds:**

**Ecofacts:** Charcoal was identified as alder, ash, hazel and oak. Animal bone was recovered from the topsoil identified as cattle metatarsal

## **Dating:**

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound C3  
C14 (UBA- 8590) 2571±23 BP (805–599 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough C11  
C14 (Beta- 249538) 2830±40 BP (1120–900 BC)

## **References**

Lynch, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Aghafin, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.137 Remains of stonelined trough with internal spring at Aghafin.

Location:	Townland:	Cregganmacar	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Kilcleagh	NGR: 216966, 237549
	Barony:	Clonloanan	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in flat pastureland, 120m east of a small river.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were recorded prehistoric sites in the area prior to excavation however a number of new sites were revealed during this development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt spread, a trough and several stake-holes.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound material (C3) was disturbed by recent agricultural activity. The spread measured 3.85m by 2.07m with a thickness of 0.08m. It consisted of black, charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. An oak twig sample produced an Iron Age date.
Trough:	This possible trough feature (C5) was circular in shape with a flat base. It measured 1m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.21m. The feature was filled with burnt mound material.
Post-Holes:	Four post-holes were recorded north-west of the trough pit C5. The bases of the postholes were 'V' shaped suggesting the driving in of a pointed post.
<b>Finds:</b>	Charred wheat grain was recovered from the burnt mound material C3. It may have been intrusive to the site.
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound C3 C14 (UBA- 9371) 2284±20 BP (399–235 BC)

### References

Lynch, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cregganmacar, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cregganmacar	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Kilcleagh	NGR: 217106, 237511
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 64m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in boggy pastureland.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were recorded prehistoric sites in the area prior to excavation however a number of new sites were revealed during this development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound spread, two troughs and several stake-holes.
Burnt Spread:	Spread (C17/23) sealed the fills of trough C24 and spread over an area measuring 4.85m by 3.25m with a thickness of 0.14m. It consisted of heat-shattered stone, dark silty soils and charcoal.
Trough 1:	Trough (C14) was located towards the north-eastern part of the site. It was oval in shape and measured 3.5m by 2.25m with a depth of 0.55m. Four post-holes cut the base of the trough, suggesting that the trough may have been timber-lined in the past. Four fills were noted in the trough consisting of various silty sands capped by an upper fill of burnt mound material.
Trough 2:	Trough (C24) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.85m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.25m. A single stake-hole was situated immediately south of the trough. The fill of the feature consisted of black silty clay and heat-shattered stone, sealed beneath C17, the remains of the possible burnt mound.
Pit 1:	This pit (C31) was located in close proximity to a peaty spread of burnt mound material. It was circular in shape and measured 0.9m by 0.75m with a

depth of 0.1m. The fill consisted of dark brown peaty clay with wood fragments and animal bone. The pit dated to the Late Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the pit C31. It was identified as pit humerus.

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder or birch) from the fill of pit C31  
C14 (UBA- 9160) 2726±21 BP (912–822 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation revealed a levelled and dispersed burnt mound that sealed the remains of several troughs. The identification of the trough probably indicates that the site functioned as a water-boiling area using pyrolithic technology. No other features were revealed at the site suggesting the site may have been used for a short period of time. The radiocarbon evidence also supports this conclusion.

**References**

Lynch, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cregganmacar 2, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cregganmacar	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Kilcleagh	NGR: 217444, 237470
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 66m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in boggy pastureland. A small stream was located 50m to the north-east. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain by occasional moraines and small glacial hillocks and covered by grey brown podzolic soils		
Cultural Landscape:	There were recorded prehistoric sites in the area prior to excavation however a number of new sites were revealed during this development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound spread which was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Burnt Spread:	The spread (C3) was heavily disturbed and measured 8.3m by 5.6m with a thickness of 0.12m. It consisted of charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone. A sample of ash charcoal was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Finds:	None
Dating:	
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (ash) from the burnt stone spread C3 C14 (UBA- 9191) 3585±20 BP (2015–1886 BC)

### References

Lynch, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cregganmacar 4, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cregganmacar	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Kilcleagh	NGR: 217310, 237450
	Barony:	Clonlonan	Altitude: 70m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated on pastureland on the crest of a gently north-facing sloping hill. A small river is located 80m to the north-east.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were recorded prehistoric sites in the area prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Isolated Iron Age pit with an associated posthole.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound with a trough.
Burnt Mound:	The mound material consisted of three deposits (C6, C9 and C34). C9 was the earliest, measuring 6m by 6m with a thickness of 0.11m. It consisted of peat, charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered stone. C6 was the main deposit, measuring 8.5m by 7.5m with a depth of 0.26m.
Trough:	The trough (C38) dated to the Late Bronze Age and was cut through the earlier mound material. It was sub-rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.43m by 1.86m with a depth of 0.25m. Seven stake-holes cut the base of the trough, with the majority located in the corners. A single fill was noted in the trough consisted of burnt stone.
<b>Finds:</b>	Sheep/goat bone was recovered from the topsoil and trough fill
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt mound deposit C6 C14 (UBA- 9147) 3103±24 BP (1431–1313 BC) Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C38 C14 (UBA- 9148) 2740±23 BP (928–825 BC)

**References**

Lynch, P. 2009. Archaeological excavations at Cregganmacar 3, Co. Westmeath. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR: 228350, 236980
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 65m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Tim Coughlan	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a gently undulating area, south of a ridge of prominent eskers. A tributary of the Gageborough River is located 150m south of the site. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.		
Cultural Landscape:	Before the gas pipeline and N6 excavations south Westmeath was considered a ‘quiet’ zone but a much more intensive Bronze Age landscape has emerged possibly related to the major Bronze Age centre at Knockast. Kilbeg 1, was just one component of large complex of burnt mound sites within the townland that were discovered in advance of the N6 dating to the Bronze Age. The distance, moving west to east, between Kilbeg 2 and Kilbeg 6 was approximately 0.6km and this small area represented the densest cluster of burnt mound sites in the townland. Kilbeg 1 and Kilbeg 7 were each situated at the western and eastern edges of this cluster respectively both approximately 0.5km away.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound spread and two associated spreads.
Burnt Spread:	Three separate spreads of burnt mound material were revealed on site during excavation, with C4 and C5 associated with trough C6 and C12 associated with C8. The largest of these spreads was C4 which measured 8.5m by 5.8m with a maximum thickness of 0.09m. It consisted of black sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. C5 measured 2.4m by 1.8m with a thickness of 0.04m, while spread C12 was located to the south and measured 3.6m by 3.2m with a maximum thickness of 0.1m.

- Trough 1: This trough (C6) was sub-oval in shape and measured 2.65m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.15m. It was located in the northern half of the site and contained a fill consisting of black silty sand, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 1/2: The trough (C8) was located in the southern half of the site and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 5.9m by 5.6m with a depth of 0.45m. This contained a fill consisting of burnt mound material. This fill was in turn cut by another pit/trough (C20). This was oval in shape and measured 1m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.48m. The pit was filled with black silty clay, charcoal, heat-shattered stone and butchered animal bone. This pit dated to the Middle/Late Bronze Age.
- Pit 3: This pit (C15) was located west of the large trough/pit C8. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.65m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.12m. The fill consisted of burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Cattle bone was recovered from the pit C20. It was a semi-adult which was younger than 2–2.5 years at the time of death. The age of the animal along with the presence of butchery marks on three fragments could suggest that it was meat and not the production that was of importance on the site

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of pit C20  
C14 (UBA- 8612) 2846±30 BP (1114–922 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavations at the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound, two troughs and a pit. Ash charcoal from the fill of trough C8 returned a 2 Sigma calibrated date of 1114–922 BC placing this feature with a middle/late Bronze Age date range. Cattle bone was retrieved from the same context, some of which showed evidence of cut marks. While trough C6 and pit C15 were undated, it is likely that they were contemporary with this activity. All three features were filled with burnt mound material. The original burnt mound had been significantly disturbed, probably due to modern agricultural practices, and was recorded in four separate deposits.

### **References**

Coughlan T. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR: 228870, 236700
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 66m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located on marginal land on the edge, and north of, an east-flowing stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.

**Cultural Landscape:** No recorded prehistoric sites in vicinity.  
**Adjacent excavated sites:** Cluster of seven burnt mounds 50m to the south-east.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound composed of seven deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. No cut features were identified.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound was composed of seven deposits of burnt material. The primary archaeological deposit was C6 which was only evident in the western half of the mound. This was overlain by the main burnt mound deposit (C4) which measured 13.88m by 7.61m with a maximum thickness of 0.51m. It consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. This was dated to the Early Bronze Age. Deposit C7 was a similar deposit of heat-affected stone within C4. These deposits were overlain by disturbed burnt mound material (C3 and C5).

**Finds:** Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material. The only animal identified was cattle. This animal was older than 3 years at time of death and there was evidence of butchery in the form of cut and chop-marks

**Dating:** Charcoal (ash) from the burnt spread deposit C4  
C14 (UBA- 8613) 3455±32 BP (1880–1690 BC)

### **References**

Coughlan T. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 2, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR:	228954, 236684
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	67m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme		
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh		
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd		
	Year:	2006		
Physical Setting:	The site was located on marginal land between undulating pasture and wetland in the vicinity of a small east to west orientated stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.			
Cultural Landscape:	Before the gas pipeline and N6 excavations south Westmeath was considered a ‘quiet’ zone but a much more intensive Bronze Age landscape has emerged possibly related to the major Bronze Age centre at Knockast. Kilbeg 1, was just one component of large complex of burnt mound sites within the townland that were discovered in advance of the N6 dating to the Bronze Age. The distance, moving west to east, between Kilbeg 2 and Kilbeg 6 was approximately 0.6km and this small area represented the densest cluster of burnt mound sites in the townland. Kilbeg 1 and Kilbeg 7 were each situated at the western and eastern edges of this cluster respectively both approximately 0.5km away.			
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt mound and associated features 5m to the east			

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mound deposits situated 5m apart. Both spreads sealed numerous troughs, stake-holes, pits and water channels.

**Site 34 A**

Burnt Mound: The primary main burnt mound deposit was C65, which was overlain by deposit C64, both of which contained high concentrations of heat affected stone. It measured 13.5m by 1.86m with a thickness of 0.22m. These were overlain by deposit C53 which again was another main burnt mound deposit with high concentrations of burnt stone. It measured 15m by 9.5m with a thickness of 0.22m. Deposit C54 was stratigraphically at the same level as deposit C53 and was situated solely at the southern end of the site. It

measured 5m by 3.5m with a thickness of 0.56m. The heat-shattered stone was identified as limestone.

- Trough 1: This trough (C55) was circular in shape and measured 1.44m by 1.38m with a depth of 0.57m. It was associated with a gully (C76) positioned at its south-western edge. The trough contained four fills, with the two basal deposits consisting of natural subsoils, derived from water action and slippage. The two upper fills were composed of burnt mound material. This trough was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Gully/Water Channel: This linear feature ran from the south-western edge of the trough and measured 0.9m by 0.16m with a depth of 0.07m.
- Trough 2: This trough (C63/C69) was located immediately east of the trough C55. It was irregular in shape and measured 3.8m by 2.8m with a maximum depth of 0.58m. The trough was initially recorded as two cuts but it was assumed that it was one feature based on the homogenous fill and the lack of a stratigraphic link (Walsh 2009, 4). Nine stake-holes cut the base and upper edges of the trough suggesting some kind of timber lining that no longer survives. A Middle to Late Bronze Age date was obtained from one of the stake fills. This trough was associated with a drainage feature (C100) at the south-east corner at the topographically lower section of the trough. The trough was filled with five charcoal rich sandy clays with heat-shattered limestone.
- Gully/Water Channel: This feature (C100) was interpreted as a possible drainage gully or spout associated with the trough (C63/69). It was located at the south-east corner at the topographically lower section of the trough.
- Stake-Holes: Four stake-holes were located to the north, north-east and west of the trough and are presumably associated with the use of the trough.
- Pit 1: Pit (C81) was located south of the trough and was circular in shape. It measured 0.75m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.15m. The fill consisted of black sandy clay and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 2: This pit (C62) was located south-east of the main trough. It was oval in shape and measured 2.53m by 3.35m with a depth of 0.41m. It contained two fills consisting mainly of burnt mound material. A post-holes was identified immediately south-east of the pit and may have been associated.
- Pit 3: This pit (C6) was located north of the main trough and was sub-circular in shape. It was not sealed by the mound material and contained a fill consisting of peaty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 1.68m by 1.06m with a depth of 0.2m.
- Pit 4: This pit (C56) was located north of the main trough and was irregular in shape. It contained a single fill consisting of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 5: This pit (C67) was located north of the main trough and was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.11m by 0.98m with a depth of 0.23m. It contained a single fill consisting of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone.

Pit 6: This pit (C71) was located north of the main trough and was circular in shape and measured 1.19m by 1.03m with a depth of 0.24m. It contained a single fill consisting of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone .

## Site 34 B

Burnt Mound: This burnt mound consisted of four deposits concentrated c. 5m east of Site A. The overall dimensions of the mound were 9m by 8.5m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. The material consisted of black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered limestone.

Trough 1: This trough (C43) was located adjacent to the other troughs, C46 and C50. It was oblong shaped in plan with a rounded base and measured 2.1m by 1.55m with a depth of 0.45m. Three fills were identified in the trough consisting of silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The trough dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Trough 2 and 3: These two troughs (C46 and C50) were connected and associated with a small gully or drainage channel C92. C50 was circular in shape with a flat base and measured 1.4m by 1.12m with a depth of 0.28m. It was filled with burnt mound material. Trough (C46) was circular in shape with a flat base and measured 1.3m by 1.17m with a depth of 0.28m. The fills consisted of sandy clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Gully/Water Channel: This shallow gully (C92) was associated with troughs C46 and C50. It was located at the southern, lowest edge of trough C46 and was 1.74m in length with a depth of 0.11m.

Trough 4: This possible trough (C38) was located north-west of trough C43. It was circular in shape and measured 1.96m by 1.66m with a depth of 0.36m. It was filled with a basal deposit of compact clay and an upper layer of charcoal rich clay and heat-shattered stone.

## Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough (C55)  
C14 (UBA- 9169) 3688±23 BP (2188–1980 BC)  
Charcoal (willow) from the fill of stake in trough (C63/96)  
C14 (Beta- 249531) 2980±40 BP (1360–1050 BC)  
Charcoal (*pomoideae*) from the fill of trough (C63/69)  
C14 (UBA- 9170) 3001±21 BP (1371–1131 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough (C43)  
C14 (UBA- 9168) 3667±28 BP (2136–1960 BC)

## References

Walsh, F. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 4, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR:	228964, 236662
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	67m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme		
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh		
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd		
	Year:	2006		

**Physical Setting:** The site was located 10m south of burnt mounds WM35 on marginal land between undulating pasture and wetland in the vicinity of a small east to west orientated stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.

**Cultural Landscape:** Before the gas pipeline and N6 excavations south Westmeath was considered a 'quiet' zone but a much more intensive Bronze Age landscape has emerged possibly related to the major Bronze Age centre at Knockast. Kilbeg 1, was just one component of large complex of burnt mound sites within the townland that were discovered in advance of the N6 dating to the Bronze Age. The distance, moving west to east, between Kilbeg 2 and Kilbeg 6 was approximately 0.6km and this small area represented the densest cluster of burnt mound sites in the townland. Kilbeg 1 and Kilbeg 7 were each situated at the western and eastern edges of this cluster respectively both approximately 0.5km away.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Burnt mound and associated features 10m to the north.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which sealed a truncated wood-lined trough and a number of animal bones.

**Burnt Mound:** This burnt mound was located 10m south of the *fulachtaí fia* WM 35a and b. It consisted of three deposits and measured 13m by 11m with a depth of 0.3m. The main deposit consisted of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered limestone. The spread sealed the wood-lined trough and was dated to the Early Bronze Age. A small quantity of butchered animal bone was recovered from the mound deposits.

**Trough:** The trough (C19) was located in the north-east quadrant of the burnt mound and was sealed by it. It consisted of the partial remains of a rectangular wooden structure. Only the base of the feature remained which consisted of three oak and ash planks on a bed of brown sand. No cut for the trough base was evident. Two perpendicular wooden pegs were noted under the trough timbers. A sandy layer was noted under and between the planks, presumably deposited during the working cycle of the trough. Animal bone consisting of cattle and pig were found associated with the trough remains.

**Wood Deposit:** A cluster of wood (C15) was revealed north-east of the trough. It was interpreted as clearance debris from work associated with the site (Walsh 2009, 12). An antler pick was found adjacent to the wood deposit.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Antler pick was recovered adjacent to the wood deposit C15

**Ecofacts:** Cattle and pig bones were recovered from the trough (C19) and the burnt mound deposits (C10 and C11) Some of these bone fragments had evidence of fine cuts (butchering) and one had a perforation suggesting that this individual was cured or hung.

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (ash and hazel) from the burnt mound deposit C10 C14 (UBA- 9166) 3817±20 BP (2339–2153 BC)

### **References**

Walsh, F. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 4, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.138 Burnt mound and plank-lined trough at Kilbeg 4, Co. Westmeath.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR: 228989, 236661
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 67m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located 15m east of burnt mound WM36 on marginal land between undulating pasture and wetland in the vicinity of a small east to west orientated stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.

**Cultural Landscape:** There were recorded prehistoric sites in the area prior to excavation

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Burnt mound and associated features 15m to the west (WM36)

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a heavily disturbed burnt mound. No cut features were identified however, an antler pick was recovered.

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound was composed of three deposits with overall dimensions of 9m by 9m and a maximum thickness of 0.2m. It consisted of disturbed peat layers and deposits of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. An antler pick from a mature deer was discovered in one of these deposits. A fragment of hazel charcoal was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Finds** An antler pick was uncovered from the mound deposits.

**Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt mound deposit C28  
C14 (UBA- 9167) 3627±20 BP (2122–1921 BC)

### **References**

Walsh, F. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 4, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR:	229025, 236626
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	67m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme		
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh		
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd		
	Year:	2006		
Physical Setting:	The site was located on marginal land between undulating pasture and wetland in the vicinity of a small east to west orientated stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.			
Cultural Landscape:	Before the gas pipeline and N6 excavations south Westmeath was considered a ‘quiet’ zone but a much more intensive Bronze Age landscape has emerged possibly related to the major Bronze Age centre at Knockast. Kilbeg 1, was just one component of large complex of burnt mound sites within the townland that were discovered in advance of the N6 dating to the Bronze Age. The distance, moving west to east, between Kilbeg 2 and Kilbeg 6 was approximately 0.6km and this small area represented the densest cluster of burnt mound sites in the townland. Kilbeg 1 and Kilbeg 7 were each situated at the western and eastern edges of this cluster respectively both approximately 0.5km away.			
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt mound excavated 40m to the west (WM36)			

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed three separate burnt mounds and associated wood-lined troughs a heavily.

### **Site 37 A**

Burnt Mound: The burnt stone spread (C30) sealed the trough and was very shallow and heavily disturbed. It measured 4.5m by 3.2m with a thickness of 0.16m and consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and ash. Two cattle bones with associated cut marks were retrieved from the spread.



Trough: The trough (C29) was irregular in shape and heavily truncated. It measured 1.36m by 0.97m with a depth of 0.16m. Slight traces of a wooden lining were noted in the pit around its western edges. This was identified as hazel.

### Site 37 B

Burnt Mound: This mound (C24) was located 7.5m south of the previous spread. It sealed a wood-lined trough (C26) and consisted of grey sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It was heavily disturbed and measured 9.5m by 7.5m with a thickness of 0.18m. Ash charcoal from this spread was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Trough: The trough (C26) was situated just off centre to the mound material and was sub-circular in shape. It measured 1.5m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.15m. Nine horizontally split ash planks lined the base of the trough which were held in place by three hazel pegs.

### Site 37 C

Burnt Mound: This burnt mound spread (C21) was heavily truncated and measured 7.5m by 4.5m with a thickness of 0.12m. It consisted of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone.

Trough: The trough (C16) was also heavily truncated. The cut was oval in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.14m. Fragmentary traces of a wooden lining were noted in the trough embedded in the natural along the edges of the pit. The trough was filled with burnt mound material and a sample of ash was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

### Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Two pieces of cattle bone were retrieved from the burnt spread (C30). Fine cut marks were noted on one sample.

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the burnt mound deposit (C24)  
C14 (UBA- 9165) 3655±34 BP (2137–1939 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough (C26)  
C14 (UBA- 9164) 3792±23 BP (2292–2142 BC)

### References

Walsh, F. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 4, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR:	229179, 236519
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	69m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme		
	Site Director:	Fintan Walsh		
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd		
	Year:	2006		
Physical Setting:	The site was located on marginal land bound to the south by an east-flowing stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.			
Cultural Landscape:	Before the gas pipeline and N6 excavations south Westmeath was considered a ‘quiet’ zone but a much more intensive Bronze Age landscape has emerged possibly related to the major Bronze Age centre at Knockast. Kilbeg 1, was just one component of large complex of burnt mound sites within the townland that were discovered in advance of the N6 dating to the Bronze Age. The distance, moving west to east, between Kilbeg 2 and Kilbeg 6 was approximately 0.6km and this small area represented the densest cluster of burnt mound sites in the townland. Kilbeg 1 and Kilbeg 7 were each situated at the western and eastern edges of this cluster respectively both approximately 0.5km away.			
Adjacent excavated sites:	None			

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mounds and associated features including troughs, hearths, pits and possible structures.

**Site 38 A**

Burnt Mound: This mound (C3) was situated in the topographically higher, northern half of the site. The material sealed most of the cut features with the main deposit measuring 7.98m by 8.4m with a thickness of 0.18m. It consisted of heat-shattered limestone, charcoal and ash inclusions. This was overlain by a light brown sandy silt and charcoal. Charcoal was identified as oak, ash and blackthorn.

- Trough:** Trough (C6) was identified as the main trough on site and was filled with burnt mound material. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.62m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.48m. The pit was cut into firm boulder clay which Walsh states, would have retained water naturally. The upper levels of the trough fill contained a large stone which was probably originally located immediately adjacent to the trough during its working cycle (Walsh 2009, 3).
- Structure:** A possible structure, defined by four post-holes was located south-west of the trough C6 in an area of intense activity. These postholes probably defined a triangular structure c. 2.5m east-west and 2.5m north-south, associated with a group of pits and a hearth (C22). They may have formed a shelter of some sort over the pits, and appears to have been open towards the trough and hearth.
- Pits 1-4:** Four pits were uncovered within the structure. Pit (103) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.72m by 0.81m with a depth of 0.08m. It contained a fill consisting of sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Pit (107) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.43m by 0.34m with a depth of 0.07m. It contained similar material to the previous pit 103. The largest pit was C52, which measured 1.7m in diameter with a depth of 0.3m. Pit (C74) was sub-rectangular and measured 0.95m by 0.83m with a depth of 0.28m.
- Hearth:** A possible hearth (C22) was located immediately north of the pit group and outside of the structure. It consisted of an area of fire-reddened clay and measured 2.1m by 1.64m with a depth of 0.06m.
- Stake-Holes:** Three stake-holes were situated immediately north-east of the hearth and may have formed a spit structure or windbreak associated with the hearth (Walsh 2009, 4).
- Pit 5:** This pit (C12) was situated north of the trough (C6). It was irregular in shape and measured 0.67m by 0.56m with a depth of 0.1m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Pit 6:** This pit (C31) was oval in shape and measured 0.56m by 0.47m with a depth of 0.26m. It too was filled with burnt mound material.
- Post-Holes:** Three post-holes were identified north-east of the burnt mound (C3). These may have formed a small structure.
- Pit 7:** This pit (C11) was sub-rectangular in shape with gentle sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.19m by 0.98m with a depth of 0.15. It contained a single fill of dark brown silty clay with no burnt mound material. The pit was flanked by two stake holes suggesting some sort of spit structure. A sample of willow was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
- Stockpile:** A possible stockpile of unburnt stones were revealed in the north-west corner of the burnt mound. It is possible these represent stones gathered, but not used for heating purposes (Walsh 2009, 7).

## **Site 38 B**

- Burnt Mound:** This burnt mound deposit (C68 and C69) was located in the southern half of the site adjacent to a stream. Two main deposits were noted consisting of black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Some degree of disturbance was noted during the excavation of the mound material and

riverine deposits were also revealed. The spread measured 16.3m by 12.1m with a thickness of 0.2m. A horse tooth and a dog tooth were recovered from the mound deposits.

- Trough 1: This trough (C35) was the main pit on site and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 3.5m by 2.25m with a depth of 0.6m. It had steep sides and an uneven base. Seven stake-holes cut the base of the trough, located at the corners and around the inner edges. Three fills were noted in the trough consisting of a primary deposit of re-deposited subsoil, charcoal enriched soil and heat-shattered limestone. Charcoal from the trough was dated to the Late Bronze Age. A tiny fragment of burnt bone and a cereal chaff fragment was recovered from the fill.
- Stake-Holes: Three stake-holes were recorded around the edges and five stake-holes were identified in the vicinity of the trough C35.
- Pit 1: This pit (C60) was located west of the main spread. It was oval in shape and measured 2.28m by 1.45m with a depth of 0.29m. The fill consisted of sandy silt, and burnt stone.
- Pit 2: Pit (C119) was well defined and irregular in plan. It measured 1.83m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.47m. The fill consisted of black sandy silt, charcoal and stone.
- Pit 3: Pit (C59) was oval in shape and measured 2.3m by 1.72m with a depth of 0.28m. Two fills were noted in the pit which consisted of black sandy silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Eroded grains were recovered from this pit.
- Pit 4: Pit (C117) was irregular in shape and measured 1.02m by 0.68m with a depth of 0.27m. It was filled with soft charcoal enriched peat.
- Well: This pit (C92) was located 2m south-west of the trough C35. It was well defined and circular in shape. It measured 1.12m by 0.79m with a depth of 0.74m. The pit cut the water-table, therefore, it filled naturally with water. The fill was virtually sterile, with little charcoal or heat-affected stone.
- Trough 2: Trough (C80) was located in the southern area of the excavation, close to the stream. It was oval in shape with steep sides and a flat base and measured 1.87m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.85m. A gully or water channel (C113) extended from the southern edge of the trough and ran southwards towards the stream. The trough filled naturally with water, as it cut the water-table. The primary fill consisted of sandy gravels into which the trough was cut. The secondary fills were composed of charcoal rich clays and heat-affected stone. Alder charcoal was dated to the Late Bronze Age.
- Gully/Water Channel: This channel (C113) extended from the trough (C80) on its southern end. The southern extent of this feature was slightly topographically lower than the point where it meets the trough. It is possible that this feature acted as an overflow gully or spout as part of a water management feature, directing excess water from the trough towards the stream to the south.
- Post-Hole: An isolated post-hole was identified south-west of the trough C80. It contained two dog rib fragments.

## Finds:

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: A small quantity of animal bone was recovered from the burnt spread C68 and an isolated post-hole south of trough C80 in Site B. These included one horse tooth, a dog tooth and two dog rib fragments.

## Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (willow) from the fill of pit C11 Site A  
C14 (UBA- 8614) 2981±41 BP (1375–1056 BC)  
Charcoal (oak twig) from the fill of trough C35 Site B  
C14 (UBA- 8616) 2838±45 BP (1188–855 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit C60 Site B  
C14 (UBA- 8615) 2813±29 BP (1109–906 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough C80 Site B  
C14 (UBA- 8618) 2796±47 BP (1109–829 BC)

## References

Walsh, F. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 5, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

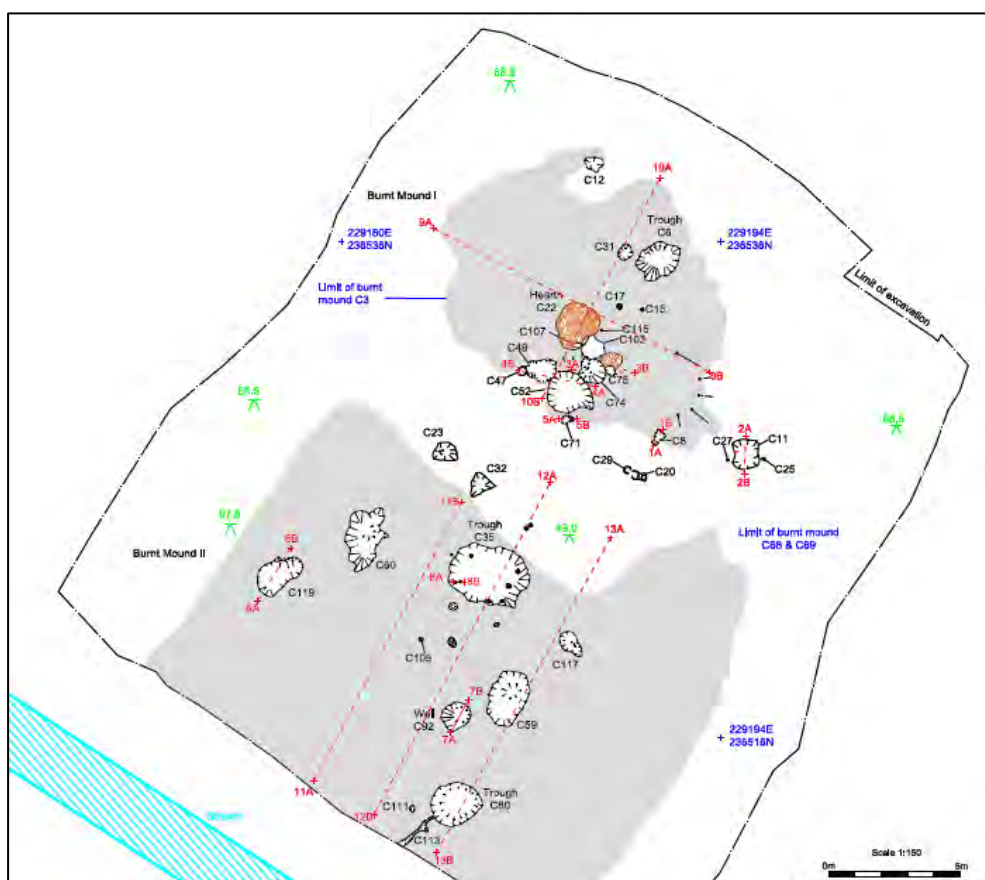


Fig. 10.155 Burnt Mounds, troughs and water-channels at Kilbeg, 5, Co. Westmeath.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR:	229413, 236336
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	68m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme		
	Site Director:	Ed Lyne		
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd		
	Year:	2006		
Physical Setting:	The site was located at the edge of wetland which was generally prone to flooding during excavation. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.			
Cultural Landscape:	Before the gas pipeline and N6 excavations south Westmeath was considered a ‘quiet’ zone but a much more intensive Bronze Age landscape has emerged possibly related to the major Bronze Age centre at Knockast. Kilbeg 1, was just one component of large complex of burnt mound sites within the townland that were discovered in advance of the N6 dating to the Bronze Age. The distance, moving west to east, between Kilbeg 2 and Kilbeg 6 was approximately 0.6km and this small area represented the densest cluster of burnt mound sites in the townland. Kilbeg 1 and Kilbeg 7 were each situated at the western and eastern edges of this cluster respectively both approximately 0.5km away.			
Adjacent excavated sites:	None			

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed several phases of burnt mound activity consisting of troughs, pits and a possible structure interpreted as a sweathouse.
Burnt Mound:	The primary mound deposit on site was C7, which measured 23.06m by 13m with a maximum thickness of 0.24m. It was irregular in shape and consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal rich material. This deposit sealed a range of cut features including a timber-lined trough. The spread C12 was located west of the main mound and was much smaller. It measured 4m by 5m with a maximum thickness of 0.05m.

Pits 1-2:	Two inter-cutting pits, (C8 and C20) were located north-west of the burnt mound spread C7. They were filled with charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone. C8 was rectangular in shape and measured 0.68m by 0.53m with a depth of 0.18m. Pit C20 was also rectangular in shape and measured 0.77m by 0.53m with a depth of 0.18m. A sample of hazel was dated to the Late Neolithic period.
Trough 1:	This trough (C48) was sealed by the burnt spread C7 and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 2.1m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.43m. It was filled with burnt stone and charcoal-rich clay, overlying a sandier orange/brown layer containing some burnt sandstone which directly sealed the oak-lined base. The lining may have originally been one single piece. The trough was lined with three split oak planks. Hazel charcoal from the fill of the pit was dated to the Early Bronze Age. The trough filled naturally with water.
Trough 2:	This possible trough (C26) was located on the western side of the site and was irregular in shape with a concave base. It measured 2.4m by 2m with a depth of 0.37m. The fill consisted of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 3- 8:	These pits were all sealed by the burnt spread material C7. The largest of these was C74 which was oval in shape and measured 1.25m by 1.15m with a depth of 0.68m. It was filled with silty clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Lyne suggests that it may have functioned as a trough.
Trough 3:	Two intercutting pits (C62 and C61) were located west of the burnt stone spread C7. Pit C62 was oval in shape and measured 3.44m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.24m. The base of the pit was cut by five stake-holes. Pit C61 was oval in shape and interpreted as a possible overflow channel or gully.
Pits 9-11:	These pits were located west of the main mound. C23 was rectangular in shape and measured 1.57m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.4m. The fill consisted of dark brown sandy silt with charcoal inclusions. C39 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.36m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.33m. It was filled with charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone. Pit (C55) was circular in shape and measured 0.85m by 0.71m with a depth of 0.24m. It was filled with grey/black sandy clay.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	
Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit C20 C14 (Beta-249532) 4070±40 BP (2850–2480 BC) Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit C48 C14 (UBA- 8619) 3508±34 BP (1923–1744 BC)

## References

Lyne, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 6, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeg	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR: 229900, 236150
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Ciara McManus	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying peaty area, 10m from a stream. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded sites in the townland prior to excavation, however, a number of burnt mounds were revealed during road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound and a timber-lined trough. A semi-circular stone-footed structure was also revealed and a causeway.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound consisted of several deposits of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered limestone. The main portion of the mound (C3) was circular in shape and measured 16m in width and 0.3m in thickness. Successive phases of fired debris were noted in the make-up of the mound suggesting separate phases of activity. Four cattle bones and a pig bone were recovered from the deposits.
Trough:	The trough (C70) was rectangular in plan and cut through the peat deposits. It measured 1.4m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.54m. Three large timbers lined the base of the trough, whilst further upright planks lined the northeast to southwest edges of the feature respectively. A further two sets of three upright stakes lined the south-east and northwest edges of the trough respectively. All of the planks and stakes were identified as oak and were radially split. The trough was filled with a single deposit of charcoal rich material and heat-shattered stone. One of the oak planks was dated to the Early Bronze Age.



Working Surface:	A possible working surface consisting of compressed and compacted burnt mound material and brushwood was located in the north-west area of the site. These deposits were bordered by horizontally split oak trunks. A similar attempt to demarcate a specific area within the northwest corner of the site was also identified in the form of two large sections of unworked timber arranged in an 'L'-shaped formation. It is possible that the area defined by this structure was used to stockpile stone. A large quantity of animal bone was recovered from this area.
Hearth Pit:	This pit (C16) was located in the northern area of the site. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.64m by 1.52m with a depth of 0.35m. The pit was lined at the base with large stone slabs. The pit was filled with burnt mound material.
Pit 1:	This pit (C15) was located adjacent to the hearth C16. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.13m by 0.69m with a depth of 0.21m. A small quantity of decayed wood was noted at the base of the feature which may have been the remains of a timber-lining (McManus 2009, 5).
Pit 2:	This pit (C20) was located in close proximity to the trough C70. It measured 1.5m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.3m. A thin peat layer at the base of the pit suggested that the pit was water filled (McManus 2009, 5). Wood fragments were also revealed suggesting that it may have been timber-lined.
Pit 3:	This pit (C18) was located to the south of the site. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.66m by 0.93m.
Structure:	A possible semi-circular structure was revealed north of the timber-lined trough. It consisted of a stone foundation feature (C12) composed of compacted white heat-shattered stone which was open to the west. The structure measured 3.5m in diameter and no internal features were noted. Five animal bones were retrieved from this feature.
Causeway:	The remains of a causeway were excavated extending from the higher western boundary of the site towards trough C70. The causeway had been created by dumping waste stone and charcoal, resulting from the burnt spread activity, into a boggy area to build up the ground providing easy access/egress between the drier western boundary of the site and the central working area. A timber plank (C82) also formed this causeway and several animal bones were recovered including human bone.
<b>Finds:</b>	Six fragments of human left femur bone were recovered along with animal bone in C69, the causeway feature. Animal bone was recovered from natural peat deposits, the stone footed structure, the causeway and the burnt mound. It was identified as cattle, deer and pig with some showing evidence of butchery marks.
<b>Dating:</b>	Wood (oak) plank from the trough lining C70 C14 (UBA-9375) 3707±24 BP (2196–2029 BC)

## References

McManus, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeg 7, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

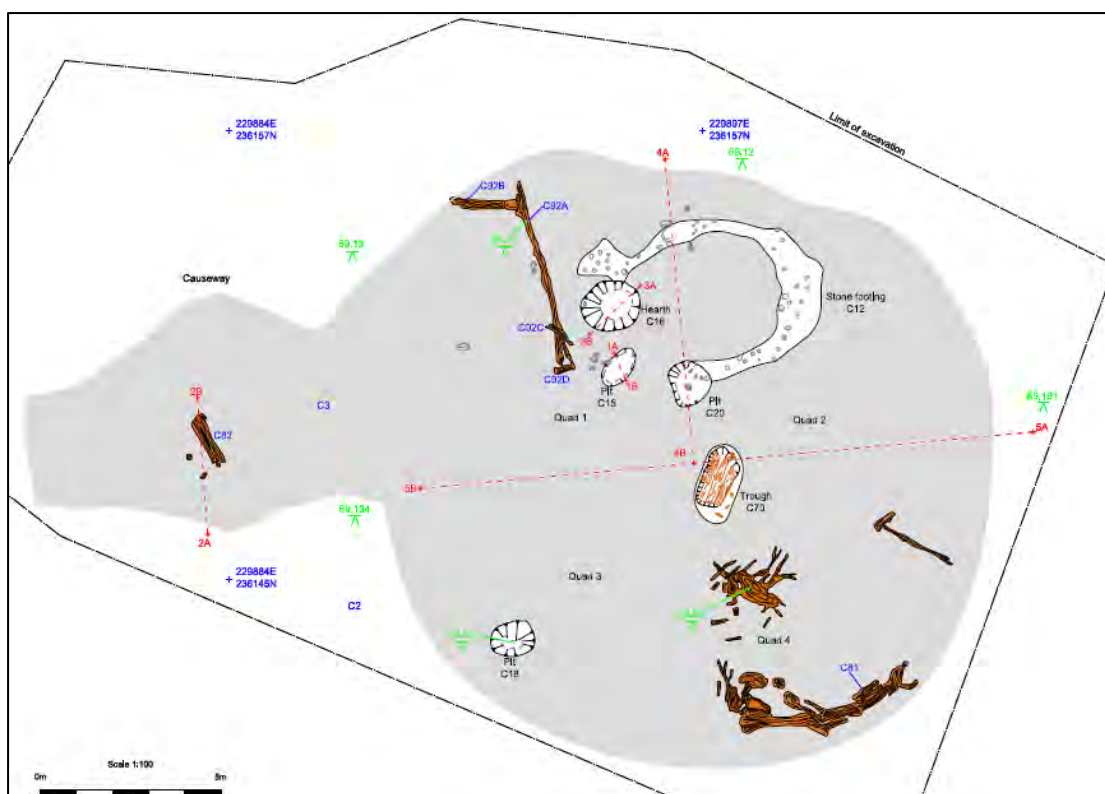


Fig. 10.156 Burnt mound, timber troughs and possible stone-footed structure at Kilbeg 7.



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Location:	Townland:	Correagh	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR: 229977, 236182 230011, 236194
	Barony:	Moychasel	Altitude: 71m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located in a low-lying area close to the edge of a stream, a tributary of the Gageborough River. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.

**Cultural Landscape:** Before the gas pipeline and N6 excavations south Westmeath was considered a 'quiet' zone but a much more intensive Bronze Age landscape has emerged possibly related to the major Bronze Age centre at Knockast. Correagh 1 was just one component of a large complex of burnt mound sites within the townlands of Kilbeg and Correagh. The distance, moving west to east, between Kilbeg 2 and Kilbeg 6 was approximately 0.6km and this small area represented the densest cluster of burnt mound sites in this burnt mound group. Kilbeg 1 and Correagh 1 were each situated at the western and eastern edges of this cluster respectively. Kilbeg 1 was 1.8km to the west.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** Early Bronze Age *fulacht fia* excavated 50m to the south-east.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mounds which sealed two timber-lined troughs and pit features.

### **Site A**

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound in this area consisted of several deposits of burnt and fired material. The main body of the mound (C13) measured 23m by 17m with a thickness of 0.26m. It sealed all the cut features identified from this phase and consisted of dark sandy silt and heat-shattered stone. A deposit of re-deposited natural and burnt stone within the mound contained two flint blades and an antler haft. Thirteen fragments of animal bone were also retrieved from the mound material consisting of cattle, sheep/goat and pig.

- Pit 1: This pit (C25) was situated on a slightly north-facing slope and was connected to the trough (C20), separated only by a thin section of wattle lining. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.25m by 1m with a depth of 0.43m. Lynch suggests that this may have acted as a trough, supplying heated water to the lower pit (Lynch 2009, 3). The pit contained a single fill consisting of silty clay and limestone.
- Trough 1: This trough (C20) was connected to the pit C25 and was topographically lower. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.29m. The trough was lined at the base with eight large split ash planks and surrounded on all sides by hazel and ash stakes which supported a wattle lining. A timber-lined channel was evident outside the northern end of the trough leading down-slope away from the trough towards the tentatively identified former stream bed. It consisted of four ash timbers and a continuation of a timber from inside the trough. Lynch suggests that this may have provided an outlet for excess water (Lynch 2009, 4). A sandy silt lined the base of the trough, while the upper deposits consisted of burnt mound material. A small charcoal sample was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Trough 2: This possible trough (C21) was located 8m east of the trough C20. It was oval in shape and measured 2.4m by 1.06m with a depth of 0.7m. Three fills were noted in the pit consisting of dark silty clay, charcoal and burnt and unburnt stone.
- Pit 2: This pit (C53) was located north of the possible trough C21. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.31m by 1.04m with a depth of 0.62m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of light grey clay and charcoal flecking and dark clay with heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 3: The pit (C32) was located 2m south-west of the trough C20. It was oval in plan and measured 1.2m by 1.86m with a depth of 0.65m. Five fills were noted in the possible trough consisting of sandy clays and silts with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Alder charcoal was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
- Pit 3: Charcoal from this pit (C72) was dated to the Middle Bronze Age, representing later activity on the site. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.25m with a depth of 0.2m. The pit contained two fills consisting of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and dark silty clays.

## **Site B**

- Burnt Mound: This burnt mound (C35) sealed most of the cut features related to this phase. It measured 12m by 7m with a thickness of 0.15m and consisted of black silty sand/ash, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Spread: This spread (C15) was revealed along the northern edge of the burnt mound in Site A but was broadly contemporary with activity at Site B. It measured 3.5m by 3.5m with a thickness of 0.38m and consisted of dark brown clayey silt with rounded burnt limestone. A polished stone axe-head was recovered from this deposit and the spread was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
- Trough 1: The trough (C49) was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.5m by 1.95m with a depth of 0.35m. The base of the trough was lined with nine split alder planks while the sides would have been lined with large oak timbers, of which two survived at the north-western and south-eastern sides. These planks were driven into the clay subsoil and would have formed a very

sturdy lining at these sides. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of dark clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

- Trough 2: This trough (C46) was located to the north of the trough C49. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 2m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.57m. The fill consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 1: This pit (C29) was located to the south of the trough C49. It was circular in shape and measured 1.15m by 1.15m with a depth of 0.5m. Two fills were noted in the trough which consisted of black silty sand and small stones.
- Pit 2: Pit (C39) was located south of C29. It was circular in shape and measured 1.1m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.5m. Three fills were noted in the trough consisting of dark clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A compact yellow clay sealed the pit and this was interpreted as a deliberate action.
- Pit 3: This pit (C51) was located to the south-west and was sub-circular in plan. It measured 1.35m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.2m. The fill consisted of a single deposit of brown peat and five fragments of pig bone, some of which had cut marks and had been exposed to heat.
- Pit 4: This pit (C9) was located at the south-west corner of the site. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.8m by 0.78m with a depth of 0.48m. The fill consisted of black clay, charcoal lumps, heat-shattered stone and six fragments of animal bone.
- Pit 5: Pit (C4) was located north of C9. It was oval in shape and measured 1.18m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.36m. It contained a single fill consisting of brown clay with infrequent charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Finds:** Polished Neolithic stone axe from the burnt spread C15 (Site B) and an antler haft and two flint blades were recovered from the burnt mound (Site A). A small flint disc scraper was recovered from the topsoil. Animal bone was recovered from the topsoil, the burnt mound, trough C21 and C20, pit C9 and C51. The bone was identified as cattle, sheep/goat and pig. Some of the fragments showed evidence of butchery and exposure to heat.

**Dating:** Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough C20 (Site A)  
C14 (UBA-9174) 3613±25 BP (2032–1899 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C32 (Site A)  
C14 (Beta-249533) 3650±40 BP (2140–1920 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit C72 (Site A)  
C14 (UBA-9172) 3356±21 BP (1735–1538 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C49 (Site B)  
C14 (UBA-9173) 3029±24 BP (1389–1213 BC)  
Charcoal (ash and alder) from burnt spread C15 (Site B)  
C14 (UBA-9171) 2999±28 BP (1373–1129 BC)

## References

Lynch, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Coreagh I, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilgaroan	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Ardnurcher	NGR:	230855, 235689
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	73m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme		
	Site Director:	David Bayley		
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd		
	Year:	2006		
Physical Setting:	The site was located in flat pasture. A spring or well was situated 150m north of the site. An old stream bed was located during excavation. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.			
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded sites in the townland prior to excavation, however, a number of burnt mounds were revealed during road development.			
Adjacent excavated sites:	None			

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound and numerous pits, some of which were interpreted as troughs. A possible structure was also revealed and an Early Medieval pit.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was heavily disturbed and survived as a spread (C25) of heat-shattered stone and dark silts mixed with topsoil. Bayley notes that the deposits appear to have been disturbed and used to raise the ground level along the north-eastern part of the site during land improvement works in the recent past. It measured 10.5m by 9.3m with a thickness of 0.23m.
Trough 1:	This possible trough (C13) was located in the western area of the site and was oval in shape. It measured 2.36m by 1.37m with a depth of 0.33m. The trough was filled with dark grey silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 2:	This trough (C27) was located immediately east of the trough C13. It was circular in shape and measured 1.09m by 1.03m with a depth of 0.32m. The fill consisted of dark grey clay with charcoal flecking and heat-shattered stone.

Post-Holes:	Three post-holes were identified at intervals of 1m in a north-west to south-west alignment to the west of the trough C13. All three post-holes were filled with burnt mound material suggesting they were removed prior to the site being abandoned. The excavator suggests the post-holes may have formed a windbreak (Bayley 2009, 4).
Pit 1:	This pit (C7) was located along the western extent of the site and was filled with burnt mound material. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.85m with a depth of 0.27m. Ash charcoal from the pit was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 2:	Pit (C9) was located in the western area of the site. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.05m by 0.82m with a depth of 0.08m. The fill consisted of dark brown silty clay.
Pit 3:	Pit (C11) was oval in shape and measured 2.6m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.25m. A single stake-hole cut the base of the pit in the south-eastern corner. The fill of the pit consisted of material similar to the burnt spread.
Pit 4:	The pit (C42) was similar to C11. It was sub-circular in plan and measured 2m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.4m. A single post-hole cut the base of the pit. The fill of the pit consisted of black clayey sand, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 5:	Pit (C34) was oval in shape and measured 0.74m with a depth of 0.23m. The fill consisted of grey clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 6:	This pit (C36) was located north of the site and was sub-circular in plan. It measured 1.6m by 0.97m with a depth of 0.37m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of sandy clays, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 7:	This pit (C45) was located in the northern part of the site and was oval in plan. It measured 1.27m by 0.84m with a depth of 0.23m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
Pit 8:	This pit (C31) was located to the south of the main group and was sub-angular in shape. It measured 1.01m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.23m. The fills consisted of burnt mound material.
Pit 9:	Pit (C6) was an isolated feature, located 36m to the south-east of the site. The pit contained three fills; the basal fill C5 comprised a layer of small to large sized stone and some charcoal inclusions. This was overlain by C4, which was a charcoal rich fill.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (ash) from the fill of pit C7 C14 (UBA-9181) 3599±21 BP (2023–1894 BC) Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit C6 C14 (UBA-9180) 1069±21 BP (AD 898–1019)

## References

Bayley, D. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilgaroan 1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballinderry Big	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR: 232285, 234628
	Barony:	Kilbeggan	Altitude: 64m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Patricia Lynch	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in pastureland on the slope of a north-facing hill. A small stream was located 45m south of the site. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded sites in the townland prior to excavation, however, a number of burnt mounds were revealed during road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound which sealed a number of cut features, including troughs, pits and a possible small structure or windbreak.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was heavily truncated but sealed all the cut features on site. It measured 19m by 15m with a thickness of 0.28m and consisted of black clayey silt, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough:	Trough (C8) was sub-rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.25m by 1.75m with a depth of 0.62m. Eight stake-holes and plank slots cut the base of the trough suggesting an internal lining which no longer survives. The fill of the trough consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. The stone was identified as heat-affected sandstone suggesting that the stone was sourced from glacial tills rather than the underlying bedrock which was limestone. A sample of alder was dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Stake-Holes:	Four stake-holes were identified along the north-eastern edge of the trough C8. Lynch suggests that these may have defined a windbreak structure (Lynch 2009, 5). Two stake-holes and two post-holes were also revealed south-west of the trough.



Pits 1-2: Pits (C9, C10) were revealed south-west of the trough C8. Pit (C9) was oval in shape and measured 1.03m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.65m. Pit C10 was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.95m by 0.93m with a depth of 0.43m. The fill of this pit consisted of similar burnt mound material which was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Structure: Forty-three stake-holes and one post-hole were revealed to the north and north-east of the trough C8. These stake-holes may have been contemporary with the line of stake-holes positioned along the northern edge of trough C8. They may have defined the outline of a rectangular structure measuring 3m by 2m.

Pits 3-6: These three pits were revealed north of the stake-hole structure and were all filled with burnt mound material. C11 was sub-circular and measured 0.88m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.11m. C12 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.08m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.2m. C13 was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.05m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.2m.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough C8  
C14 (UBA-8621) 3647±28 BP (2134–1937 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation:**

A single broad phase of archaeological activity was identified onsite based upon radiocarbon dating results and stratigraphic relationships. This primary phase of archaeological activity consisted of the remains of a total of 64 features comprising a trough, pits, postholes and numerous stakeholes. The site can be interpreted as a pyrolithic water-boiling location possibly used for cooking.

### **References**

Lynch, P. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballinderry Big 1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Tonaphort	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR:	232763, 234456
	Barony:	Kilbeggan	Altitude:	63m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme		
	Site Director:	Tim Coughlan		
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd		
	Year:	2006		
Physical Setting:	The site was located in pastureland on a moderate north-facing slope adjacent to the flood plain of the River Brosna. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.			
Cultural Landscape:	The area immediately surrounding Kilbeggan contains direct evidence for a range of Bronze Age sites including barrows, cists and an early Bronze Age pit burial (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007). The cists, at Ardballymore (WM037-009) and Kilgaroan (WM037-010), are located in close proximity to a number of sites impacted by the N6 including those in the townlands of (moving east to west) Kilbeggan South, Tonaphort, Ballinderry Big, Kilgaroan, Ardballymore, Ballinderry Little, Correagh and Kilbeg. This is significant because sites within the majority of these townlands (except Ballinderry Little 1 which was not dated) have produced early to late Bronze Age evidence almost exclusively represented by burnt mounds or components of these.			
Adjacent excavated sites:	None			

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound, several pits and a trough which may have been timber-lined.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was heavily disturbed and survived as four spread deposits (C3, C6 C8 and C9) of dark silty sands, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 5.3m by 5.9m with a thickness of 0.4m. Two other smaller disturbed spreads (C17 and C22) were revealed in close proximity.
Trough:	The trough (C18) was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 3m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.8m. A single post-hole was identified in each of the four corners and a fragmentary oak timber was revealed lining the base of the

trough. The post-holes contained burnt mound material suggesting the timbers were removed when the site was abandoned. The trough was filled with burnt mound material and a sample of alder was dated to the Middle Bronze Age. A possible post-hole situated adjacent to trough was dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

Pit 1: This pit (C10) was oval in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.15m. It contained two fills consisting of burnt mound material and was dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Pits 2-5: Pit (C15) was irregular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.55m with a depth of 0.4m. A similar pit (C19) measured 2m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.43m. Both pits were filled with material similar to the burnt mound. C23 was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.03m by 0.65m with a depth of 0.19m. C41 was sub-oval in plan and measured 1.05m by 0.94m with a depth of 0.29m. Both pits were filled with charcoal, dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough C18  
C14 (Beta-249534) 2980±40 BP (1370–1080 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of post-hole C13  
C14 (UBA-8625) 3131±45 BP (1499–1301 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit C10  
C14 (UBA-8624) 3754±45 BP (2296–2029 BC)

#### **References**

Coughlan, T. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Tonaphort, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilbeggan South	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR: 233392, 234312
	Barony:	Kilbeggan	Altitude: 67m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Tim Coughlan	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in undulating pastureland. A tributary of the Brosna River lay 50m to the north. The underlying geology of the area is carboniferous limestone, which is overlain with occasional small glacial hillocks, forming a gently undulating low-lying landscape.		
Cultural Landscape:	The area immediately surrounding Kilbeggan contains direct evidence for a range of Bronze Age sites including barrows, cists and an early Bronze Age pit burial (Grogan <i>et al.</i> 2007, 138). The cists, at Ardballymore (WM037-009) and Kilgaroan (WM037-010), are located in close proximity to a number of sites impacted by the N6 including those in the townlands of (moving east to west) Kilbeggan South, Tonaphort, Ballinderry Big, Kilgaroan, Ardballymore, Ballinderry Little, Correagh and Kilbeg. This is significant because sites within the majority of these townlands (except Ballinderry Little 1 which was not dated) have produced early to late Bronze Age evidence almost exclusively represented by burnt mounds or components of these.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a disturbed burnt mound and seven pits, some of which may have functioned as troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material survived as a disturbed spread (C3) of heat-shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of dark silty soils. It measured 17.5m by 14.2m with a thickness of 0.3m. The presence of modern finds, such as glass and chinaware, suggests a certain degree of disturbance in the past.
Pit 1:	This pit (C12) was circular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.45m with a depth of 0.3m. The fill consisted of blackened soil and heat-shattered stone. This pit was dated to the Early Bronze Age

Pit 2:	Pit (C15) was circular in shape and measured 1.2m by 1m with a depth of 0.23m. The fill consisted of blackened soil and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 3:	C16 was irregular in shape and measured 1m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.3m. The fill consisted of blackened soil and heat-shattered stone. This pit was also dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 4:	Pit (C18) was roughly circular in shape and measured 1.75m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.74m. It contained two fills consisting of dark silty soils and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 5:	Pit (C21) was irregular in shape and measured 0.6m by 0.55m with a depth of 0.08m. The fill consisted of blackened soil and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 6:	Pit (C23) was irregular in shape and measured 1.25m by 1m with a depth of 0.2m. The fill consisted of blackened soil and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 7:	Pit (C26) was located at the northern edge of the site and measured 1.3m by 1m with a depth of 0.2m. The fill consisted of blackened soil and heat-shattered stone.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (ash) from the fill of pit C12 C14 (UBA-8626) 3702±34 BP (2200–1980 BC) Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit C16 C14 (Beta-249535) 3590±40 BP (2030–1880 BC)

#### **References**

Coughlan, T. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilbeggan South, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Macetown	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Rathconnell	NGR: 256000, 249500
	Barony:	Moyashel	Altitude: 106m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N52 Mullingar to Devlin Realignment	
	Site Director:	Aidan Harte	
	Consultants:	Aegis Archaeology Ltd	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in undulating pastureland close to numerous peatbogs.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated site however two small pits containing Bronze Age pottery were excavated adjacent to the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Two small pits containing Bronze Age pottery		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Athlone Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The burnt spread extended beyond the excavation limits, therefore, the full extent of the site was not determined.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, several pits, a trough and a large pit.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C6) spread over an area measuring 10m by 15m with a thickness of 0.25m. The full extent of the site was not exposed during the excavation. The deposit consisted of charcoal stained material with heat-affected stone. It sealed a number of pits including the large pit. Some fragments of bone were recovered from the spread.
Trough:	The trough (C11) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.35m. The sides of the cut were relatively sharp and the base was flat. Three possible stake-holes were noted in the corners of the pit, however the excavator states that they did not contain a fill suggesting that they were natural in origin (Harte 2006, 18). The basal fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone, charcoal rich soil and organic material. The upper fill consisted of greyish/brown silty peat.
Large Pit 1:	This pit (C14) was located downslope from the trough. It was circular in plan and measured 4.5m by 2.5m with a depth of 0.86m. At the north and east the sides were almost vertical and quite even, while the west side was concavely sloped. The south and southwest side was gradual and broke approximately halfway forming a defined 'ramp' leading to the southwest.

The base was rounded but quite irregular. The pit was mostly filled with burnt mound material except for a small concentration of material tipped in from the northern side. A single piece of animal bone was recovered from the fill. This pit was interpreted as a possible quarry pit for stone (Harte 2006, 19).

**Pits 2-3:** These two pits represent shallow cut features located in the eastern area of the site. C9 was irregular in plan and measured 1.08m by 1.01m with a depth of 0.07m. Pit (C16) was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.53m by 0.47m with a maximum depth of 0.15m. The fill consisted of brown sandy silt, charcoal flecks and frequent small pebbles. These two pits were interpreted as possible stone extraction pits (Harte 2006, 19), where stone was visible from the surface.

**Pit 4:** This pit (C18) was irregular in shape and measured 1.8m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.3m. Two fills were identified in the pit with the basal deposit consisting of re-deposited peat while the upper fill consisted of burnt mound material.

**Pit 5:** This pit (C20) was positioned upslope, south of the trough. It was circular in plan and measured 1.3m in diameter with a depth of 0.35m. The fill consisted of material similar to the burnt mound.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound material (C6) and the fill of the large pit (C14)

**Dating:**

Absolute dating: None

**References**

Harte, A. 2006. *Archaeological excavations at Macetown, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Aegis Archaeological Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Ardnaglew	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR: 236898, 234419
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 90m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinstry	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located above an area of bogland on a medium to large sized steep glacial drumlin and esker. Directly below the site was a small stream, which had been partially redirected and dredged by machine. This stream flowed through the bogland area curving round a number of other drumlins and eskers.

**Cultural Landscape:** There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavated site however the early medieval period is well represented in the area.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The burnt spread extended beyond the excavation limits, therefore, the full extent of the site was not determined.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material that extended beyond the limits of excavation. It was separated into two separate deposits possible as a result of disturbance. No cut features were identified. **Burnt Mound:** The spread (C1) consisted of dark silty clay with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. It measured 3.45m by 3.15m with a thickness of 0.1m. The second deposit (C2) measured was situated immediately to the north-west and measured 4.7m by 2m with a thickness of 0.14m. It was composed of similar material.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread (C1)  
C14 (UBA-8214) 3975±26 BP (2572–2460 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit C16  
C14 (UBA-8334) 3962±26 BP (2570–2350 BC)

### **References**

McKinstry, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ardnagawna 3, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Ballykilmore	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Newtown	NGR: 241743, 237140
	Barony:	Fartullagh	Altitude: 100m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Colm Hardy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on low-lying arable land which was heavily waterlogged. A natural spring was identified in the base of a possible trough or pit on site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Evidence of prehistoric activity within the townland is reflected in the number of prehistoric artefacts, which have been discovered. These include a miniature bronze flat axe, a polished stone axe and six chert barbed and tanged arrowheads. There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation however a number of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were identified in the townland during this development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a small burnt mound, a possible trough and two charcoal spreads.
Burnt Mound:	This deposit (C6) overlay the possible trough and measured 4.3m by 1.76m with a thickness of 0.13m. It consisted of black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit/Trough:	This pit (C2) was overlain with the burnt mound material and was irregular in shape. It measured 2m by 1.17m with a depth of 0.44m. It had steep sides, a flat base and a natural spring allowed water to tfill the pit during excavation. The fill consisted of dark silts, charcoal, heat-shattered stone and iron panning.
Charcoal Spreads:	Two charcoal spreads were revealed to the south of the excavated area, 3.15m apart. C8 measured 1.49m by 1.34m with a thickness of 0.08m. It consisted of black silty sand, charcoal and occasion burnt stone. The second deposit contained more charcoal and measured 1.66m by 1.1m with a thickness of 0.07m.

**Pit:** This pit (C12) was circular in shape and measured 0.7m by 0.74m with a depth of 0.26m. It contained two fills consisting of silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit/trough (C2)  
C14 (UBA-8324) 3490±26 BP (1887–1744 BC)  
Charcoal (*Pomoideae*) from the charcoal spread (C9)  
C14 (UBA-8335) 1946±25 BP (AD 1–125)

**References**

Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballykilmore 2.1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

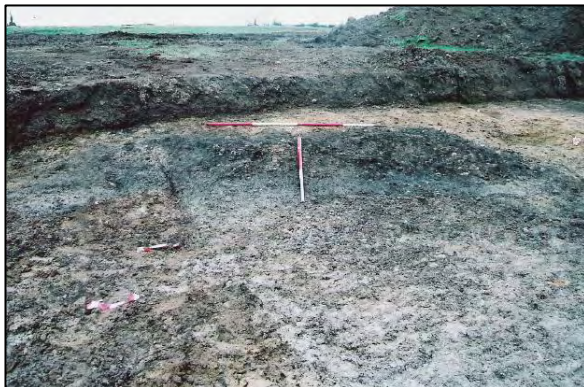


Plate 10.139 Burnt mound and possible boiling pit at Ballykilmore 2.1.

Location:	Townland:	Ballykilmore	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Newtown	NGR: 241549, 236949
	Barony:	Fartullagh	Altitude: 93m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Colm Hardy	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located within a sheltered area surround by a series of glacial drumlins. The surrounding area consisted mostly of arable land with also an extensive area of low-lying peat to the west. The site sloped dramatically downwards to the edge of the peat basin. A number of natural springs were also noted on site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Evidence of prehistoric activity within the townland is reflected in the number of prehistoric artefacts, which have been discovered. These include a miniature bronze flat axe, a polished stone axe and six chert barbed and tanged arrowheads. There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the excavation however a number of <i>fulachtaí fia</i> were identified in the townland during this development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed five sparse burnt spread deposits, several pits/possible troughs and a timber platform.

#### Site 49 a

Burnt Mound: This mound survived as a spread of heat-shattered limestone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal. It measured 7.2m by 6.7m with a thickness of 0.3m. This mound was deposited onto the peat [c2], which had frequent amounts of natural bog oak within it.

Platform: Located within a slight depression on the eastern edge of the mound deposit was a layer of five lengths of timber. They did not appear to have been worked or split and seem to have been natural tree limbs or branches deliberately laid down. Once the timbers were removed a natural spring was noted beneath. The excavator suggests that it is probable that it may have

acted as platform to allow the drawing of water or a platform on the edge on the peat basin.

#### **Site 49 B**

**Burnt Mound:** This burnt mound (C10) was situated at the northern end of the excavated area. It was roughly circular in shape and measured 10m by 9m with a thickness of 0.18m. It was composed of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered limestone and sandstone. Below a series of modern truncations were a number of lower deposits of the burnt material similar to the main mound material. A modern bovine burial was noted cut into the spread. The deposit was also truncated by a modern drainage ditch.

**Pit:** A single pit was revealed under the burnt stone deposit. It was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.9m and a depth of 0.5m. It had a u-shaped profile with steep sides and was filled with burnt mound material.

#### **Site 49 C**

**Burnt Mound:** This mound (C24) was irregular in shape and was the largest identified on the site. It measured 16m by 8m with a thickness of 0.9m. The mound consisted of loosely compacted charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered limestone. The northern most section of the mound was covered by a very mixed layer of trampled material consisting of a mix of topsoil, subsoil and burnt mound material. It measured 4.13m east-west and a depth of 0.08-0.35m. This deposit seems to be the result of modern contamination in the area possibly due to agricultural or quarrying activity. Several layers of material were noted in the mound. These subtle differences in the deposition layers most likely suggest a phasing of deposition of the burnt mound material over a period of time possibly indicating recurring activity at this location.

**Pit 1:** Pit (C55) was oval in shape and measured 1.2m by 0.94m with a depth of 0.15m. It had irregular sides, a concave base and was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.

**Pit 2:** This pit was identified west of the previous pit. It was irregular in shape and measured 1.4m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.5m. The pit had straight sides and a concave base and was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone.

#### **Site 49 D**

**Burnt Mound:** This mound deposit (C12) measured 9m by 6.5m with a thickness of 0.45m. It was situated around a large limestone boulder and was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered limestone.

**Pit 1:** This pit was circular in shape with gently sloping sides. It measured 1.26m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.34m. A spring was noted in the base of the feature and it was filled with burnt mound material.

**Pit 2:** This pit was circular in shape and measured 1.34m in diameter with a depth of 0.4m. It contained two fills consisting of charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Pit 3:** The pit was rectangular in shape and measured 1m by 0.5m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with compact gravel pebbles with mica inclusions.

#### **Site 49 e**

**Burnt Mound:** This spread measured 3.7m by 3m with a thickness of 0.2m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered limestone. There were no associated features.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt spread (C25)  
C14 (UBA-8215) 3919±34 BP (2546–2293 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt spread (C10)  
C14 (UBA-8336) 3428±26 BP (1874–1641 BC)  
Charcoal (oak, alder, prunus) from the burnt mound (C24)  
C14 (UBA-8337) 4430±27 BP (3323–2927 BC)  
Charcoal (oak, alder, prunus) from the burnt mound (C24)  
C14 (UBA-10169) 4837±31 BP (3695–3530 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

A cluster of five burnt mounds excavated in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan road scheme (Hardy 2009). Charcoal from one of these burnt mounds is dated to the Neolithic period (UBA-8337). Based on this early determination, a second sample was dated. This also produced a similar Neolithic date (UBA-10169). The mound of heat-shattered stone and charcoal overlay two small shallow pits, which cannot have functioned as troughs due to their relative sizes. A more plausible suggestion is that they functioned as roasting or baking pits, using dry heat. The two Neolithic dates confirm a prolonged use of the site applying a pyrolithic technology.

**References**

Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballykilmore 5.1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cappanrush	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Rathugh	NGR:	239103, 234810
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	90m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway		
	Site Director:	Colm Hardy		
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.		
	Year:	2005		
Physical Setting:	The site was located within an area of wetland and was situated to the south of a small lake.			
Cultural Landscape:	There is only one recorded prehistoric site within the immediate environs of the site; a standing stone (WM33-035).			
Adjacent excavated sites:	None			

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large deposit of burnt mound material in a heavily waterlogged area adjacent to a small lake. Investigations exposed a possible trough or platform and the remains of an unworked tree trunk.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt stone spread was irregularly shaped in plan and part of it lay outside the excavated area. The spread measured approximately 7.4m by 3.8m and its maximum depth was between 0.5-0.7m. The spread consisted of two main layers. The upper layer, C2, consisted of a very dark grey/black silty peat, which contained heavy inclusions of burnt stone and charcoal. The lower layer, C5, was very similar in makeup to the upper layer but was separated by two lens of peat, C3 and C4. The spread sloped gradually from the south to the north towards the direction of the small lake.
Pit:	A large cut (C6) was exposed under the burnt mound material and continued beyond the area of excavation. It measured 7.26m by 3.9m with a maximum depth of 0.45m. The fill consisted of dark brown peat, burnt stone, charcoal and organic material which accumulated at the base of the feature. The excavator states that it was unclear if the cut was part of a large trough, a pit or some form of terraced platform cut into the gradually sloping lake side. Substantial waterlogging at the site made excavation difficult.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:                      None

Ecofacts:                      None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              Charcoal (alder) from the fill of large cut (C6)  
C14 (UBA-8191) 4763±29 BP (3640–3384 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The consisted of a large spread of heat-shattered stone that sealed a large cut interpreted as a possible trough or terraced platform. The fill of this feature is dated to the Early Neolithic period. The identification of this feature as a trough was not fully resolved during excavation, which was hampered by severe waterlogging as the water table was very high.

**References**

Hardy, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cappanrush, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

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Location:	Townland:	Cornaher	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Newtown	NGR: 239621, 235099
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 97m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinstry	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	

**Physical Setting:** The site was located within an area of relatively flat bogland around which were a number of medium to large sized steep glacial drumlins and eskers. The site itself was situated on a slightly higher piece of ground and was consequently not as boggy.

**Cultural Landscape:** Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.

**Adjacent excavated sites:** None

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed a pit filled with heat-shattered stone and a small deposit of similar material.

**Burnt Spread:** The spread (C9) was located immediately adjacent to the pit. It measured 0.9m by 0.5m with a thickness of 0.11m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Pit:** The pit (C1) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.4m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.35m. It contained three fills consisting of dark silty clays, charcoal, burnt stone and peaty material.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (C1)  
C14 (UBA-8193) 2763±36 BP (970–843 BC)

### **References**

McKinstry, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cornaher, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Mearsparkfarm	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Newtown	NGR: 234693, 234394
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 74m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Lydia Cagney	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located within an area of relatively flat bogland around which were a number of medium to large sized steep glacial drumlins and eskers.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled burnt mound deposit, a trough, several pits and a cluster stake-holes, possibly representing a repeatedly replaced structure of some kind.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C003) survived as a thin spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Two deposits were noted possibly separated by later agricultural activity.
Trough:	The trough (C025) was sub-rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.94m by 0.98m with a depth of 0.44m. Two pairs of stake-holes cut the base of the trough located in south-western and north-eastern corners. These presumably held a timber-lining in place that no longer survives. Three fills were noted in the trough consisting of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Higher levels of charcoal were noted in the base of the feature.
Hearth:	The remains of a possible hearth was located at the eastern side of the trough. It consisted of a white/grey silt containing heat-shattered limestone. Ash deposits were also revealed. No oxidised burning was noted however the excavator attributes this to the sandy substrata of the area. The deposit measured 0.45m by 0.56m with a thickness of 0.12m.

Pit 1:	This pit (C004) was circular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 0.57m by 0.94m with a depth of 0.17m. The fill consisted of ash and a charcoal-rich material.
Pit 2:	Pit (C005) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.42m by 0.43m with a depth of 0.15m. It was filled with a dark brown peat deposits with wood fragments.
Pit 3:	This pit (C007) was sub-circular in shape with gradually sloping sides and an undulating base. It measured 1.1m by 0.69m with a depth of 0.25m. It contained two fills consisting of burnt mound material.
Pit 4:	Pit (C006) was sub-circular with steep sides and an undulating base. It measured 1.78m by 1.87m with a depth of 0.47m. It was filled with a dark brown peat deposits with wood fragments.
Stake-Holes:	A cluster of twenty-one stake-holes were revealed at the southern side of the trough. No coherent plan could be discerned from the network however the excavator suggests they represent several attempts to repair or rebuild a structure over time.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (ash) from the burnt mound material (C003) C14 (UBA-8186) 3350±32 BP (1736–1531 BC) Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (C007) C14 (UBA-8185) 3229±22 BP (1599–1435 BC)

#### **References**

Cagney, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Mearsparkfarm 4, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Mearsparkfarm	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Newtown	NGR: 234693, 234394
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 73m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Lydia Cagney	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located within an area of relatively flat bogland around which were a number of medium to large sized steep glacial drumlins and eskers.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed deposits of burnt mound material, a number of troughs, some of which were connected to a large water channel. A number of stake-holes were also identified.
Burnt Mound:	These deposits (C015 and C028) consisted of angular fire cracked stones, ash and silty clay with frequent flecks and chunks of charcoal also being present. They were thinly spread across the site and were clearly transformed from their original status. This was most likely a product of agricultural activity, which would have flattened, and spread the original mound into the extant spreads which were visible upon their initial exposure. C015 measured 2.73m by 2.06m with a thickness of 0.18m. C028 measured 1.1m by 2.4m with a thickness of 0.07m.
Ditch/Water channel:	This feature (C003) was semi-circular in plan and ran from south to north across the site. It extended from the western side of trough (C69) and curved in a semi-circular direction until it was truncated by another cut. A number of stake-holes cut the base and sides, the position of which suggests some relationship with trough 2. The feature measured 23.5m by 0.65m with a depth of 0.3m. (C093) was a possible continuation of this feature.
Trough 1:	This trough (C69) was rectangular in plan a vertical sides and an uneven base. It measured 1.8m by 1m with a depth of 0.4m. The possible water-channel extended from the western side of the trough and the excavator

suggests there was a possible sluice gate at this side. The fill consisted of a light brown silty clay. Animal teeth and wood fragments were retrieved from the fill at the base of the trough.

- Trough 2: Trough (C025) was rectangular in plan with steep sloping sides and an uneven base. It measured 2.12m by 1.32m with a depth of 0.45m. Seventeen stake-holes cut the base of the feature along with the poorly preserved remains of timber planks. Re-deposited natural was also present along the base and sides interpreted as material used to support the lining. Five fills were noted in the trough consisting of various dark silts, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 3: This trough (C013) was located to the south-west of trough 2. It was sub-rectangular in plan with steep sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 0.67m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.4m. Two fills were noted in the trough consisting of burnt mound related material.
- Trough 4: Trough (C016) was oval in shape with steep sloping sides and a concave base. It measured 1.04m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.3m. The primary fill consisted of compact silty clay with frequent unburnt stones.
- Trough 5: This feature (C007) was sub-oval in shape with steep sloping sides that gave way to a flat but undulating base. The feature appeared to represent two troughs, or which was re-cut and enlarged. It measured 5.2m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.5m and was filled with deposits of burnt mound material. A sample of charcoal from one of these deposits was dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

#### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: None
- Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the fill of trough 5 (C007)

#### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the ditch/channel (C003)  
C14 (UBA-8210) 2961±36 BP (1305–1052 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill trough (C025)  
C14 (UBA-8212) 2930±34 BP (1260–1019 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill trough (C016)  
C14 (UBA-8211) 2876±40 BP (1111–1919 BC)  
Charcoal (oak, ash, hazel and alder) from the fill trough (C007)  
C14 (UBA-8187) 2812±23 BP (1018–904 BC)  
Bone (animal) from the fill trough (C007)  
C14 (GRA-33801) 2505±40 BP (792–419 BC)

#### **References**

Cagney, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Mearsparkfarm 5, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Mearsparkfarm	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Newtown	NGR: 234693, 234394
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 74m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Lydia Cagney	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located within an area of relatively flat bogland around which were a number of medium to large sized steep glacial drumlins and eskers.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed dispersed deposits of burnt mound material, a trough and several pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C004) deposit was roughly circular in shape and measured 5.2m by 5.5m with a thickness of 0.38m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone. A natural depression on site also contained a deposit of similar material.
Trough:	The trough (C010) was sub-rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.4m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.44m. Five fills were recorded, the primary of which contained a compact grey ash and charcoal. The other deposits consisted of burnt mound material.
Post-Hole:	A single post-hole was recorded 1m west of the trough.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (alder and oak) from the fill of the trough (C010) C14 (UBA-8189) 3068±26 BP (1410–1269 BC)

### References

Cagney, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Mearsparkfarm 6, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Mearsparkfarm	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Newtown	NGR: 235107, 234394
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 75m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Lydia Cagney	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located within an area of relatively flat bogland around which were a number of medium to large sized steep glacial drumlins and eskers.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a dispersed and levelled burnt mound, six troughs, several stake and post-holes and a well or cistern.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was composed of three thin deposits (C025, C026 and C027) of heat-shattered sandstone and limestone in a matrix of charcoal-rich material and black silty clay. C025 measured 4.5m by 4m with a thickness of 0.22m. C026 measured 5.8m by 4m with a thickness of 0.25m while C027 measured 5.8m by 4m with a thickness of 0.09m.
Trough 1:	This trough (C159) was located immediately south-west of the well (C030). It was sub-rectangular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. A charcoal-rich lining surrounded the base and sides of the feature possibly representing the remains of a degraded or burnt timber lining. The trough measured 2.1m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.35m. The trough was deliberately backfilled with a brown sandy clay with frequent burnt stone and charcoal.
Well/Cistern:	The pit (030) was circular in shape with steep sloping sides and an undulating but flat base. It measured 3.38m by 3.2m with a depth of 1.38m. The pit was located immediately north-west of the trough 1 and was interpreted as a water-source for the site as it is below the depth of the water-table. A number of fills were identified in the pit consisting mostly of deposits of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and peat deposits. Animal bone was also recovered.

Trough 2:	This trough (C054) was rectangular in shape with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 2.8m by 1.87m with a depth of 0.67m. This feature is a re-cut of an earlier trough that did not survive. It contained two deposits consisting of varying burnt mound deposits.
Trough 3:	The trough (C035) was sub-rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.7m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.2m. The trough was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.
Trough 4:	The trough (C046) was irregular in shape and measured 2.5m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.6m. The trough contained a number of fills consisting of charcoal stained silty peat and occasional stones.
Trough 5:	This pit (C047) was sub-circular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.5m by 1.08m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.
Pit/Trough 6:	Pit (C048) was sub-oval in plan with vertical sides and an irregular base. It measured 0.6m by 0.6m with a depth of 0.2m. Two stake-holes cut the sides of the pit while the base was heavily oxidised suggesting <i>in situ</i> burning. The fill of the pit consisted of light brown silty peat with occasional stones.
Stake-Holes:	Thirty-one stake holes were revealed at the southern side of the deep pit or well (C030). These may represent a number of phases of construction of some kind of structure or may alternatively indicate the repair of existing structures. No coherent plan was observed in association with these however, tree root activity had also disturbed the ground at this location, making interpretation difficult.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts:	None
Ecofacts:	Animal bone was recovered from the fill of the well. It was identified as cattle and pig bone.

## **Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (unknown) from the basal fill of the trough 4 C14 (UBA-8195) 3740±28 BP (2273–2257 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the upper fill of the trough 4 C14 (UBA-8326) 2767±25 BP (994–837 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough 5 C14 (UBA-8194) 3676±29 BP (2140–1961 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough 1 C14 (UBA-8327) 2866±25 BP (1124–938 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough 3 C14 (UBA-8325) 2750±26 BP (973–827 BC) Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of the trough 2 C14 (UBA-8197) 2640±45 BP (903–675 BC) Bone (animal) from the fill of the well C14 (GRA-33801) 2505±40 BP (773–382 BC)

## **References**

Cagney, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Mearsparkfarm 7, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Hallsfarm	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR: 233544, 233681
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 63m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinsty	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the bottom southerly slope of a low hill, which overlooked a flat often boggy area. It is probable that the hill is of a glacial origin, possibly an esker or a drumlin.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt spread of heat-shattered stone and three pits. Unrelated medieval activity was also identified during excavation.
Burnt Mound:	The mound survived as a levelled deposit of (C145) of heat-shattered stone, dark silty clay and charcoal. It measured 7.7m by 3.5m with a thickness of 0.1m. The deposit covered three pits outlined below.
Pit 1:	This pit (C49) was irregular in shape and measured 1.4m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.3m. It contained two fills consisting of burnt mound material and re-deposited natural.
Pit 2:	Pit (C72) was also irregular in shape and measured 1.35m by 1.05m with a depth of 0.42m. It contained one fill consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.
Trough:	Pit (C74) was much larger and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 2.3m by 1.45m with a depth of 0.65m and contained five fills. The upper fill was dark grey silty clay which contained animal bones and occasional small stones. The next fill was grey clay and contained some charcoal inclusions. The fill below that was a much darker fill and contained a number of burnt small stones. Under this fill was black silty clay which contained more burnt



stone. The bottom fill contained more burnt stone as well as a small amount of animal bone.

Later features: Other features within the site include the rectilinear shaped pit C20 and small spread of charcoal C45 which were both located to the north and northwest respectively.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered from the fill of the possible trough (C74)

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the pit (C72)  
C14 (UBA-8204) 3687±45 BP (2139–1983 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of possible trough (C74)  
C14 (UBA-8206) 3687±45 BP (2200–1949 BC)  
Charcoal (oak) from the middle fill of trough (C74)  
C14 (UBA-8205) 2813±45 BP (511–209 BC)

#### **References**

McKinstry, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Hallsfarm 1, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Hallsfarm	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR: 233591, 233780
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 65m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Liam McKinstry	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the bottom southerly slope of a low hill, which overlooked a flat often boggy area. It is probable that the hill is of a glacial origin, possibly an esker or a drumlin.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of heat-shattered stone and two pits which were heavily disturbed by later drains and agricultural features. A number of medieval features were also identified at the site.
Burnt Mound:	The mound survived as a levelled and dispersed spread of charcoal, black silty clay and heat-shattered stone. C033 measured 8.5m by 5.4m with a thickness of 0.1m while C070 measured 11m by 6m with a maximum depth of 0.27m.
Possible Trough 1:	This pit (C73) was rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.85m by 0.75m with a depth of 0.47m. The bottom fill consisted of brown peaty clay with pieces of wood, twigs, hazelnuts/acorns and snail shells. The upper fill consisted of burnt mound material.
Possible Trough 2:	The pit (C82) was sub-circular in shape with concave sides and a flat base. The length of the feature is unknown however the width measured 1.6m and it had a depth of 0.6m. The fill consisted of black silty clay with burnt stone and charcoal flecks.
Pit 1:	Pit (C44) was located in close proximity to the possible troughs. It was circular in shape and measured 1.05m with a depth of 0.4m. Fill consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and burnt stone.

- Pit 2: Pit (C071) was circular in shape with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 2.6m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.65m. It contained fills consisting of dark silty clays, charcoal and moderate amounts of stone.
- Pit 3: Pit (C084) was circular in shape with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1.58m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.32m. Two fills were noted in the pit consisting of burnt mound material.
- Other features: Several later features were also excavated on the site including a possible charcoal production pit.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the pit (C71)  
C14 (UBA-8331) 3663±26 BP (2135–1956 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (C44)  
C14 (UBA-8332) 3664±26 BP (2135–1958 BC)  
Charcoal (oak) from the fill of pit (C84)  
C14 (UBA-8333) 3669±27 BP (2136–1964 BC)

#### **References**

McKinstry, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Hallsfarm 2, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilavally	Six inch map no:	NA
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR:	241137, 236346
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude:	94m OD
	County:	Westmeath		
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway		
	Site Director:	Eoghan Moore		
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.		
	Year:	2005		
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the base of a small knoll used previously for grazing. A deep pit was excavated on site which probably served as a water source.			
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.			
Adjacent excavated sites:	None			

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a levelled burnt mound, a trough and an associated well or water-hole.
Burnt Mound:	The remains of the burnt mound material (C1) appeared to lie in a shallow but wide hollow in the ground. The deposit was circular in shape and measured 7m in diameter with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal, and heat-shattered stone.
Well/Water-Hole:	This pit (C7) was circular in shape and measured 2.4m in maximum diameter with a depth of 1.4m. The feature had mostly steep to vertical sides but the northwestern side had a number of apparent steps cut into the side. At the base of the waterhole it seemed that an oval shaped recess, measuring 0.7m by 0.5m, had been deliberately dug to access the underlying water table. The feature was filled by grey coloured clay with large stone inclusions.
Trough:	The trough (C4) was identified immediately northwest of the water-hole. It was rectangular in shape with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 1.8m by 1m with a depth of 0.38m. It was filled with a single deposit of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stones.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread deposit (C1)  
C14 (UBA-8338) 3208±26 BP (1521–1428 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

The excavation of the site of Killavally 8 uncovered the remains of a burnt mound, as well as its accompanying trough and water-hole, traditionally referred to as a *fulacht fia*. Water sources are almost invariably found associated with the sites and in this case the identification of an excavated “well” or “water-hole” [c7] demonstrates that water sources could be and were created where necessary. The palaeobotanical report shows a moderate charred assemblage of hulled barley grains was present in [c1]. Occasional grains of wheat were also preserved. c.25% of the assemblage was composed of indeterminate wheat / barley grains.

**References**

Moore, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilavally, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Plate 10.140 Trough and well pit at Kilavally, Co. Westmeath.

Location:	Townland:	Skeahanagh	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR: 235223, 234496
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 74m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Lydia Cagney	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the base of a small knoll used previously for grazing.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Road Scheme.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt mound material and several randomly placed timbers interpreted as the remains of a possible platform.
Burnt Spread:	This deposit (C003) consisted of angular fire cracked sandstones and brownish black, silty-clay containing frequent flecks and chunks of charcoal also being present. The deposit measured 5.8m by 4.16m.
Timbers:	There were seven timbers in total on this site; these were aligned roughly north, south, or northeast, southwest. No discernible pattern was evident i.e. they were arranged in a relatively random fashion across the site. The excavator suggests however they may have been deliberately placed in order to function as a working platform in the wet peaty conditions.

**Finds:** Fragment of flint debitage

**Dating:** Charcoal (mixed) from interface (C017) between burnt spread and peat  
C14 (UBA-8198) 3859±46 BP (2466–2203 BC)  
Charcoal (mixed) from isolated lens of charcoal-rich material (C018)  
C14 (UBA-8200) 3883±47 BP (2473–2206 BC)  
Charcoal (mixed) from burnt mound material (C028)  
C14 (UBA-8201) 3848±47 BP (2466–2152 BC)

**References**

Cagney, L. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Skeahanagh, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Stonehouse Farm	Six inch map no: 38
	Parish:	Kilbeggan	NGR: 234160, 234340
	Barony:	Moycashel	Altitude: 73m OD
	County:	Westmeath	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N6 Tyrellspass to Kilbeggan dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Conor McDermott	
	Consultants:	Cultural Resources Development Services Ltd	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	Stonehousefarm 6.1 and 6.2 are located in the field adjacent Demesne or Mearsparkfarm 2 to the west, below a steep slope descending from the plateau. The slope is formed from deep glacial gravels with poorly drained plastic clays in the lower lying land to the south.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to archaeological investigations, there were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the area.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A Bronze Age habitation and burial site was excavated in the adjacent field (E2792).		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N6 Kinnegad to Kilbeggan dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity, both sealing potential troughs. The larger of the two mounds was intersected by a nineteenth century drainage system.

### Site 60 A

**Burnt Mound:** The burnt mound was sub-circular in shape and measured 16m by 12m with a maximum thickness of 0.6m. Five principal mound accumulations were recorded including two primary deposits. The mound was composed of various deposits of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and re-deposited material. Two post-holes were identified at the northern side of the mound. Two stake-holes were also identified here and may be related.

**Trough 1:** This trough (F77) was located below the burnt mound material. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.92m by 1m with a depth of 0.2m. The base of the cut sloped upward mirroring the natural gradient and the effective volume of the trough would have been relatively small.

- Trough 2: Trough (F81) was also covered by the burnt mound material. It measured 1.44m by 1.33m with a depth of 0.24m. The trough contained two fills composed of red/grey silt with charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 3: Trough (F79) was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.85m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.37m. Two small springs cut the base of the trough and the feature was filled with deposits of re-deposited natural and burnt mound material.
- Trough 4: Trough (F55) was the most northerly and was revealed upslope of the site. It was cut through the main mound deposit and natural clay. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2m by 1m with a depth of 0.24m. Upcast material from the digging of the trough was deposited on the southern edge of the trough, possibly to increase the depth of the trough. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Hearth 1: This was a sub-circular cut (F49) that measured 1.2m by 0.84m with a depth of 0.28m. Most of the hearth was filled with concave fills of compacted soil and ash. A post-hole set at an angle was located at the northern side of the hearth.
- Hearth 2: A deposit (F88) of oxidised firm orange-red sandy-silt with some stone inclusions was located 1.7m west of hearth pit F49. It measured 0.55m by 0.35m with a depth of 0.05m.
- Pit 1: Two pits were located 1.5m north and south of the hearths. Pit (F58) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.81m by 0.59m with a depth of 0.2m. The fill consisted of loose dark brown silty sand with stone and charcoal. Re-deposited burning material.
- Pit 2: This pit (F47) was oval in shape and measured 0.89m by 0.64m with a depth of 0.26m. Two fills were noted in the pit similar to the previous feature and may represent re-deposited burning material. Some stones in the base may represent a rudimentary lining. A charcoal sample from the pit is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
- Windbreak: A feature interpreted as a possible windbreak, orientated northwest-southeast and constructed of a linear slot trench F72 with a series of three post-holes was excavated at the north-east edge of the burnt mound material. May have served as a possible revetment.

## **Site 60 B**

- Burnt Mound: The mound was situated in an area of boulder clays and pockets of peat that was likely to have been a bog margin previously, 0.7m to the northeast of the trough (F800). It was intermittent forming an irregular, elongated spread (F3) measuring 10.5m in length northwest-southeast, up to 5.3m wide and a maximum depth of 0.07m. The mound was composed of heat-affected sandstone in a matrix of black silty clay and charcoal.
- Trough: The trough (F800) was rectangular in shape and measured 3.05m by 1m with a depth of 0.4m. There was a large stone at each end of the trough that the excavator suggests may have served as steps. The feature was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.

## **Finds:**

- Artefacts: A worked piece of chert was recovered from the fill of a furrow on site



Ecofacts: Animal bone was recovered in low quantity from the primary burnt mound deposit in site 1

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (F47)  
C14 (WK-17954) 3271±32 BP (1630–1450 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation:**

Excavation of the sites revealed a substantial *fulacht fia* at Stonehousefarm 6.2 incorporating three troughs and a trough/pit with an oval shaped mound of burnt stone (16.5m east-west, 12m north-south and 0.6m in depth). Radiocarbon dating suggests activity at Stonehousefarm 6.2 occurred in the Bronze Age. A smaller example at Stonehousefarm 6.1 (10.5m east-west, 5.5m north-south and 0.1m in depth) with a single trough was located 6m to the west.

**References**

McDermott, C. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Stonehouse Farm 6, Co. Westmeath*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by CRDS Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Dungeer	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Taghmon	NGR: 290024, 123445
	Barony:	Shelmaliere West	Altitude: 60m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Harristown to Rathsillagh Realignment	
	Site Director:	Daniel Noonan	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The burnt mound at Dungeer was located at the bottom of a hill that sloped gently from west to east. A small stream ran roughly north to south approximately 12 m west of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to these excavations, the known archaeological remains in the locality were all medieval and post-medieval but several prehistoric sites were identified during the course of this programme of excavation along the N25 route-way, including Neolithic material at Harristown Big, Bronze Age sites at Dungeer, Ballyvergin and Harristown Big and Iron Age activity at two sites in Bricketstown.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Harristown to Rathsillagh Realignment Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two spreads of heat-shattered stone, a well-defined rectangular trough and a number of stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	Three successive layers of burnt mound material constitute the southern spread, their combined dimensions suggest that it was approximately 3 m long, 1.2 m wide and was <i>c.</i> 0.18 m in depth. The western spread of burnt material was 4.4 m long, 1.9 m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.04m.
Trough:	The trough (C46) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.8m by 1.54m with a depth 0.28m. Two post-holes were excavated cut into the base of the trough suggesting it may have originally been timber-lined. Eight fills were noted in the pit with a basal deposit consisting of burnt stone and charcoal which may represent the final use of the trough. Charcoal from one of these trough fills is dated to the Late Bronze Age.

Stake-Holes: Seven stake-holes were identified in the immediate vicinity of the trough, with the majority located at the western end. No pattern could be identified from the grouping.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (oak) from the fill of the trough (C46)  
C14 (Beta-219129) 2540±40 BP (800–530 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

This site had evidence for both a trough cut and several spreads of burnt material. The shallow nature of the archaeology suggested either that the site had little use or that intensive agricultural practices have truncated most of what was once a more substantial burnt mound. The random scatter of stake and postholes surrounding the trough has several parallels in recently excavated burnt mound sites although there is no evidence that they formed a structure and they were not necessarily all in use at the same time. The Late Bronze Age date from the site places it within the expected date range for this site type. The site can be interpreted as the remains of a pyrolithic water-boiling area and the presence of a trough and was-firing material would seem to support this suggestion.

### **References**

Noonan, N. 2006. *Archaeological excavations at Dungeer, Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.



Plate 10.141 Trough and burnt stone deposit at Dungeer, Co. Wexford.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyvergin	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Kilgarvin	NGR: 287948, 123877
	Barony:	Shelmaliere West	Altitude: 60m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N25 Harristown to Rathsillagh Realignment	
	Site Director:	Daniel Noonan	
	Consultants:	Eachtra Archaeological Projects	
	Year:	2000	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a flat and level site at the base of slope to the west with a more substantial hill to the east. It was approximately 10 m west of a small stream which is a tributary of the Corock River.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to these excavations, the known archaeological remains in the locality were all medieval and post-medieval but several prehistoric sites were identified during the course of this programme of excavation along the N25 route-way, including Neolithic material at Harristown Big, Bronze Age sites at Dungeer, Ballyvergin and Harristown Big and Iron Age activity at two sites in Bricketstown.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N25 Harristown to Rathsillagh Realignment Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed seven pits which were filled with heat-shattered stone. One hearth was also revealed along with twenty-five stake-holes and two ditches.
Burnt Spreads:	Four small spreads of charcoal and heat-shattered stone were located south of the pit. They measured on average 1.7 m in length, 0.6 m in width and 0.15 m in depth.
Trough:	This pit (C112) was the largest feature on site and was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 2.4m by 1.98m with a depth of 0.77m and contained four fills. Although they differed greatly in colour and texture, most deposits contained small amounts of charcoal and some also contained inclusions of manganese. A shallow re-cut was noted in the pit which was subsequently filled with more waste-like material that contained many heat-shattered

stones. The fills of both the original pit and the re-cut were later truncated by a pit (C91) and a ditch (C88).

**Hearth:** The hearth (C37) was located immediately west of the trough pit. It measured 1.79m by 0.74m and consisted of an area of dense charcoal and oxidised natural.

**Stake-Holes:** The hearth (C37) was closely associated with twenty-three stake-holes that contained similar fills. The large number of stake-holes to the northeast and southwest of the hearth and the presence of stake-holes within the hearth suggests that there may have been a spit or a similar overhanging feature suspended by the fire (Noonan and Johnston 2009).

**Pit 1:** Pit C2 was truncated by pit C4. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.86m by 1m with a depth of 0.26m. Four fills were noted in the pit which contained material that resembled slag, charcoal and ash residue. Charcoal from one of these fills was dated to the Middle Bronze Age. A basal layer of thick clay may indicate an attempt to line the pit (Noonan and Johnston 2009, 12).

**Pit 2:** Pit (C44) was rectangular in plan and measured 1.1m by 0.79m with a depth of 0.15m. The three fills contained burnt stone, slag-like deposits, manganese and charcoal. A single stake-hole lay adjacent to this pit.

**Pit 3:** This pit (C101) was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.68m by 1.56m with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with a stony, charcoal-flecked deposit. The pit was truncated by a later ditch.

**Pit 4:** Two pits (C4 and C91) were stratigraphically later than the others excavated at the site as they truncated earlier features. The pit C.4 was 2.4 m long, 1.2 m wide and was 0.3 m deep. It contained one homogenous fill. It truncated the large pit C2 and another pit C12.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (various) from the fill of pit (C2)  
C14 (Beta-219133) 3260±50 BP (1650–1420 BC)

## **Excavation Interpretation**

The site at Ballyvergin, Co. Wexford, excavated under licence 00E0473, comprised five pits, one possible furnace, one hearth and twenty-five stakeholes. The entire area was truncated by two ditches that are

of recent origin. The frequency of charcoal and heat-shattered stone in the archaeological deposits indicated the use of pyrolithic water-boiling technology at the site. There are also suggestion that the deposits excavated from Ballyvergin were associated with metalworking, as slag-like and manganese deposits were quite commonly recorded during excavation, although no slag or hammer-scale was retrieved from any of the samples from the site. There are suggestions of associations with metalworking at burnt mound sites. The area of excavation was truncated by later (modern) field ditches which caused extensive disturbance to the archaeological remains.

## References

Noonan, N and Johnston, P 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyvergin West, Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Eachtra Archaeological Projects Ltd.

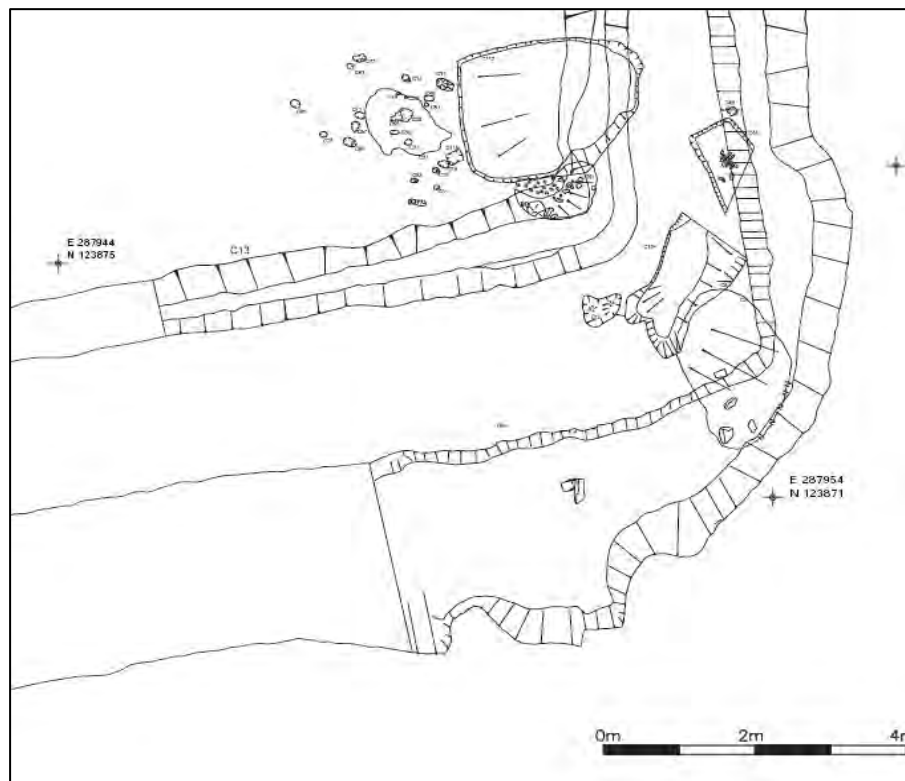


Fig. 10.157 Trough truncated by ditch at Ballyvergin West.

Location:	Townland:	Strandfield	Six inch map no: 42
	Parish:	Unknown	NGR: 301430, 122520
	Barony:	Unknown	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Wastewater treatment plant	
	Site Director:	Margaret McCarthy	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Services Unit UCC	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on flat ground close to the shoreline of Wexford Harbour. The wastewater treatment plant is situated 3.2km south of Wexford town, between the Kerlogue Industrial Estate and the Wexford-Rosslare Railway Line.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in vicinity of the <i>fulacht fiadh</i>		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring prior to the development of a wastewater treatment plant. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

#### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a trough, several pits, stake-holes and a possible open-ended structure.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound was revealed as a levelled irregular spread of heat-shattered sandstone which overlay the trough. The deposit was partially disturbed by machinery prior to excavation. It measured 9m by 7m with a maximum thickness of 0.12m.
Trough:	The trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.21m by 0.75m with a maximum depth of 0.34m and filled naturally with water. The pit was cut into natural marl which may have retained the water within. No lining was evident however two post-holes cut the base of the pit suggesting a possible timber lining. Two fills were recorded in the trough consisting of brown sandy silt and heat-shattered stone. The basal layer contained larger charcoal fragments and unidentifiable burnt animal bone. The trough was sealed by a layer of grey sandy loam. A large sherd of decorated Bronze Age pottery was found in the natural clay at the southern end of the this layer.

- Possible Structure:** A U-shaped arrangement of post and stake-holes may have represented a flimsy, open-ended structure (McCarthy 2004). A further series of stake-holes south of this structure were interpreted as the remains of a possible windbreak or drying rack.
- Windbreak:** A curvilinear feature to the east of the trough was interpreted as a possible post and wattle fence erected to protect the site from the prevailing easterly winds. Three substantial post-holes were identified at the northern and southern terminals of the trench while two intermittent stake-holes were also recorded within the trench. The feature extended from the southeastern end of the site for a distance of 4.48m before curving towards the northwest for a length of 2m. The trench was filled with a single deposit of dark brown sandy silt with large quantities of charcoal. The sides and base of the feature were also heavily oxidised in places suggesting it may have been burnt down.
- Pit 1:** Pit (F44) was sub-rectangular and revealed south-west of the site. It measured 1.02m by 0.62m with a depth of 0.24m. The fills were composed of deposit of orange/brown clay, charcoal and burnt mound material. Three stake-holes cut the base of the feature which was partly oxidised and contained two worked flint flakes.

## **Finds:**

- Artefacts:** Poorly preserved prehistoric pottery was recovered from the curvilinear trench and a decorated rimsherd was found embedded in the natural marl close to the trough. Lithic material was also recovered from the pit (F44).
- Ecofacts:** A small assemblage of unidentified burnt animal bone was recovered from the base of the trough.

## **Dating:**

- Relative dating:** The pottery was typologically dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.
- Absolute dating:** None

## **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavations of the site consisted of an irregular spread of heat-shattered stones sealing an unlined trough. The trough was self-filling and the water-retaining nature of the marl did not require the trough to be lined. Two randomly placed post-holes at the base of the trough did not provide sufficient evidence for a wooden lining around the sides. Most of the activity was to the south and west of the trough. The series of features did not form any distinct pattern or plan. Some may have held posts and many were large enough to have been structural in function but interpretation was complicated by the fact that it was not possible to determine if all the features were contemporary with each other. The curvilinear feature to the east of the trough is interpreted as representing a post and wattle fence that was erected to protect the site from the prevailing easterly winds from Wexford Harbour. It was clear that the windbreak burnt down at some stage as the sides of the trench were oxidised and the fill contained large amounts of charcoal. Domestic activity at Strandfield is indicated by the presence of Bronze Age pottery, lithic material and animal



bones. The pottery included the fragmented remains of a poorly preserved vessel from the windbreak and a decorated rim sherd which was found embedded in the natural marl close to the trough.

## References

McCarthy, M 2002. Archaeological excavations at Strandfield, Co. Wexford. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Services Unit, University College Cork.

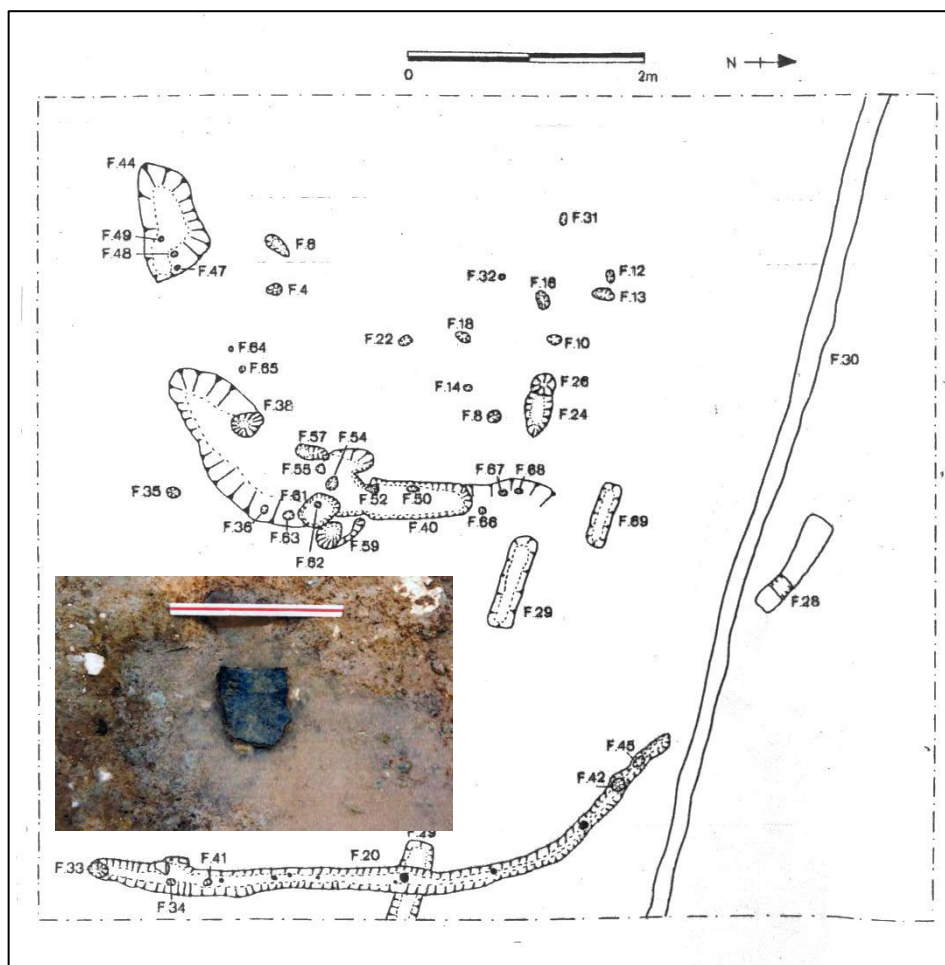


Fig. 10.158 Burnt mound, pits and windbreak at Strandfield, Co. Wexford.



Location:	Townland:	Coolamurry	Six inch map no: 25
	Parish:	Rosdroit	NGR: 291845, 137598
	Barony:	Bantry	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N30 Moneytucker-Jamestown realignment	
	Site Director:	Grace Fegan	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley	
	Year:	2004	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a north facing slope of a low rise, just south of the existing N30 road. The site was divided by a north-south running field boundary comprising a single bank with a fosse on either side.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Upslope from the area were a group of features comprising a hearth, a possible drying kiln with two splaying flues, a cobbled surface and associated post and stake-holes.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring prior to the development of the N30 Moneytucker-Jamestown realignment scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

### Excavation Record

**Summary of Features:** Limited information is available for this site. Excavation revealed a shallow deposit of heat-shattered stone and charcoal which overlay five large pits, some of which were oval while others were rectangular. Associated with these were a number of post-and stake-holes as well as evidence for hearths. These pits followed a similar gradient on the north-facing slope of a low hill that seems to have encircled a small lake or pond, now drained and reclaimed. The various troughs may reflect multiple seasons of usage in an area that was waterlogged and ideal for pyrolithic technology. Unfortunately, no other information was available for the site at the time of collation.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

### References

Fegan, G 2007. Archaeological excavations at Coolamurry, Co. Wexford. In I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2004*, 463. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Ask	Six inch map no: 07
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 317528, 162677
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 70m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Nick Bower	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was in gently sloping pasture. A natural spring was evident nearby.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> are recorded in the environs of this site, many excavated along the same road development. For instance, a similar site was identified c. 50m to the north (WX007-075). A Neolithic house is recorded c. 120m to the south-east (WX007-073), while a flat cemetery was excavated c. 350m to the south (WX007-069). Further Bronze Age settlement evidence was identified over 1km to the north.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> c. 50m to the north (WX007-074002)		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread, a large trough and a number of stake-holes. A stratigraphically later smithing hearth was also excavated in the immediate vicinity of the trough.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) measured 5.7m by 4.9m with a maximum thickness of 0.27m. It consisted of black silty clay and heat-shattered sandstone, limestone and traces of quartz and granite.		
Trough:	The trough (C190) was oval in shape and cut into the platform material (C60). It measured 2.04m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.94m and had vertical sides and a flat base. Thirteen stake-holes cut the base of the pit surrounding the inner edge. A single fill was recorded in the trough consisting of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Charcoal from the base of this fill is dated to the Early Bronze Age.		
Stake-Holes:	Sixty-seven stake-holes were revealed under the burnt mound deposit C4. They were cut into the re-deposited natural or platform C60. All of these		

stake-holes were interpreted as being contemporary with the use of the trough. No formal plan could be discerned from the cluster.

- Metalled Surface:** A rough metalled surface (C9) was revealed close to the trough. It consisted of compact angular stones and gravel and measured 4.9m by 3.8m with a thickness of 0.08m. The excavator suggests that the surface post-dates the trough as it overlay the upper fills. A notched scraper and a clay pipe were found within the surface.
- Pit 1:** This pit (C23) was circular in shape and measured 1.6m in diameter with a depth of 0.22m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 2:** This pit (C28) was circular in shape and measured 1.5m in diameter with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 3:** Pit (C47) was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.5m by 0.45m with a depth of 0.12m. It was filled with grey silty clay, stones and charcoal.
- Pit 4:** This pit (C196) was oval in shape and measured 1.55m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.42m. It was filled with two charcoal-rich clays that contained heat-shattered stone.
- Finds:** A flint hollow-based arrowhead was recovered from the site (unstratified context). A side scraper and a notched scraper were also recovered from the metalled surface. A whetstone was also retrieved from the burnt spread along with other flint flakes and a single core. Two sherds of beaker pottery were recovered from a furrow excavated on site.
- Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough (C190)  
C14 (UB-8243) 3532±59 BP (2025–1695 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from beneath the smithing hearth (C57)  
C14 (UB-8242) 3516±50 BP (2007–1694 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a small mound of heat-shattered stone and a large trough indicating that the site functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site during the Early-Bronze Age. The large number of stake-holes found within the trough base also suggests that it may have had an organic lining made out of wattle-work that no longer survives. The trough was the focus of activity at the site during its use as a cluster of stake-holes were revealed along with a metalled surface.

### **References**

Bower, N. 2010. Excavations at Ask, site 40, Co. Wexford. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ask	Six inch map no: 07
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 317522, 162769
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Nick Bower	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was in gently sloping pasture. A natural spring was evident nearby.		
Cultural Landscape:	Several <i>fulachtaí fia</i> are recorded in the environs of this site, many excavated along the same road development. For instance, a similar site was identified c. 50m to the south (WX007-074002). A Neolithic house is recorded c. 170m to the south-east (WX007-073), while a flat cemetery was excavated c. 400m to the south (WX007-069). Further Bronze Age settlement evidence was identified over 1km to the north.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> and furnace c. 50m to the north (WX007-074002)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a trough which was connected to a water pit via a channel.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound revealed on site was composed of a number of deposits. C4 made up the bulk of archaeological remains on site and covered 10m by 8.50m to a depth of 0.40m in the centre of the site. This oval shaped layer was composed of black soft silty-clay, with frequent inclusions of charcoal and burnt stone. C25 was a deposit which was revealed at the northern edges of the mound under C4. It spread out over an area measuring 6.5m by 0.4m with a thickness of 0.3m. Located under this deposit on the north-eastern side of the trough was a layer of similar material (C11) which underlay C25. This was dated to the Early Iron Age.
Trough:	The trough (C35) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.26m by 1.44m with a depth of 0.35m. It was sealed by the burnt mound and vertical sides and a flat base. The excavator states that linear bands of sand, were present

at the base suggesting the presence of a lining such as planking and clay was also noted at the base and sides of the feature. A Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date was returned from a sample of charcoal from the base of the trough. The trough was connected to a large pit (C13) by a channel suggesting the movement of water from the trough to the pit. This rectangular runoff measured 1.70m by 1.23m by 0.35m deep with fairly vertical sides and a flat base, sloped slightly downwards, as it approached the pit. At the base of the channel was a bank of clay which the excavated suggests may have served as a sluice system with a large stone (Bower 2010, 26).

**Pit:** This pit (C13) was located immediately north-west of the trough. Both features were connected by the water-channel or run-off. The pit was sub-circular in shape and measured 3.7m by 3.3m with a depth of 1.5m. It had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The western side was stepped to facilitate access. Possible wattling was noted on one side of the pit along with a soft blue clay. The fill consisted of dark silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. Substantial wood remains were also noted in the basal deposits along with an ash plank.

**Stake-Holes:** Several stake-hole clusters were revealed at either end of the trough suggesting the presence of a structural feature relating to the use of the trough.

#### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Sixteen pieces of flint and a single chert fragment were recovered from the burnt mound. These consisted of flakes and a number of scrapers.

**Ecofacts:** None

#### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough (C35)  
C14 (UB-8244) 2432±49 BP (755–408 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the clay bank material from channel  
C14 (UB-8245) 3216±50 BP (1612–1409 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a small mound of heat-shattered stone and a large trough indicating that the site functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site during the Middle to Late Bronze Age. Evidence for on-site water-management was also revealed. A water-channel connected the trough to a topographically lower pit that also showed evidence that it once may have been lined. Taken together, this indicates movement of water between both features.

#### **References**

Bower, N. 2010. *Excavations at Ask, site 40, Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

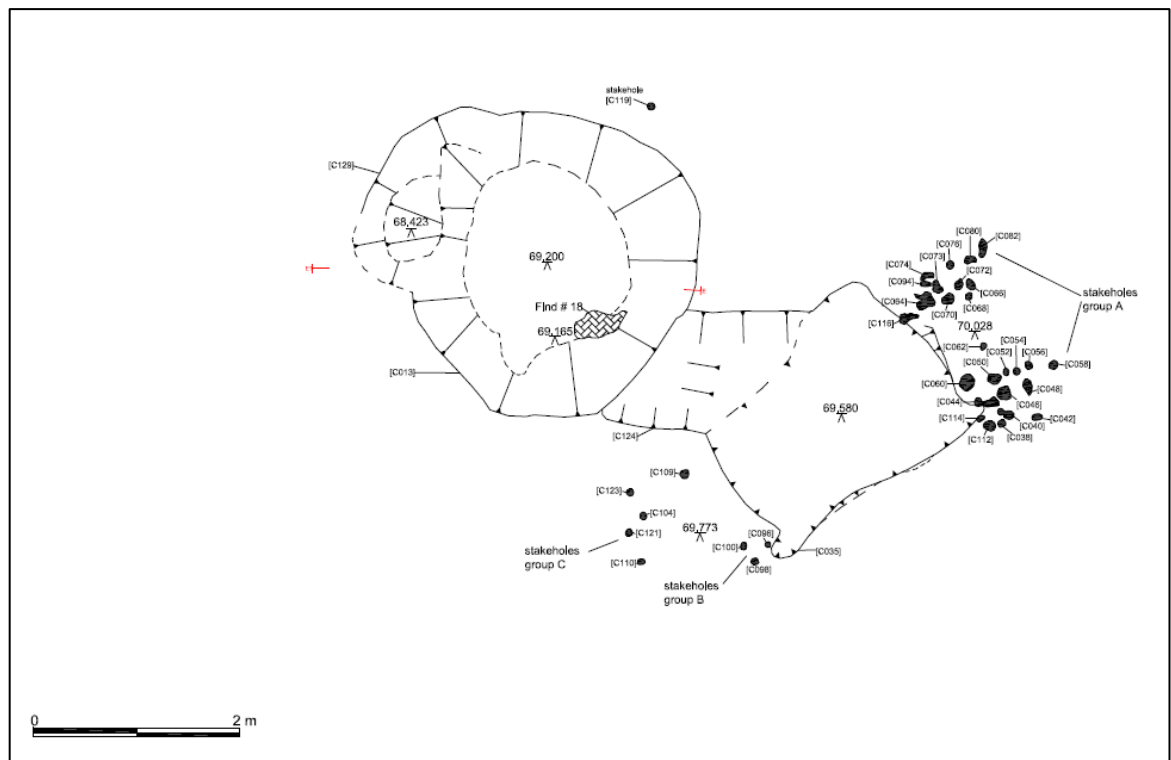


Fig. 10.159. Trough and connected water cistern at Ask, Co. Wexford.



Location:	Townland:	Ballyellin	Six inch map no: 03
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 321185, 167747
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a very hilly field of poorly drained pasture. It was situated adjacent to an ancient river channel.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the environs of the site however another <i>fulacht fia</i> was identified a short distance to the north-east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Middle Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> excavated c. 100m to the north-east (WX003-048)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a truncated trough and several stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C4) was horseshoe-shaped in plan and measured 6m by 3.1m with a thickness of 0.2m. It consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered granite, vein quartz, sandstone and diorite. The deposit is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.
Trough:	The trough (C27) was irregular in shape and measured 3.14m by 2.15m with a depth of 0.9m. An unusual undercut was evident in the south-western corner of the trough. Three fill layers were noted in the trough with the first consisting of a clay lining at the base. The next deposit consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal while the upper fill consisted of sandy clay possibly representing material deposited from the paleochannel as it spread out from the trough.
Pit 1:	This pit (C40) was revealed directly north of the trough and was circular in plan. It measured 0.6m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.2m and contained two fills



consisting of black silty clay and heat-shattered stone. A sample from one of these fills is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.

**Stake-Holes:** A cluster of forty-nine stake-holes were revealed 30m south-east of the site encompassing an area measuring 2.4m in diameter. Some of these were double cut suggesting replacement over time. The fill of one of these stake-holes is dated to the Early Bronze Age. The stake-holes were cut into the upper fills (C12) and (C62) of a large lower lying oval pit (C174) and also cut the natural surface alongside this pit. Many of the stakes appeared to be burned in situ and recut or reused. There was no recognisable pattern or regular form to the stake-holes, which may indicate several closely related phases of activity in this area (Martin 2010).

**Pit 2:** Pit (C34) was irregular in shape and measured 1.4m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.3m. It was filled with brown silty clay and stones. A possible whetstone was recovered from this pit.

**Pit 3:** Pit (C43) was also revealed between the burnt mound and the stake-hole cluster. It contained frequent angular unburnt stones.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Eighty-five pieces of flint and a single stone artefact were recovered from the site, the majority of which came from unstratified contexts. The flint consisted of 13 flakes, 16 spalls, 5 flint cores, 1 blade and 2 débitage pieces.

**Ecofacts:** None

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder and ash) from the burnt mound (C4)  
C14 (UBA-8249) 3189±42 BP (1603–1388 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the pit (C40)  
C14 (UBA-8250) 3013±41 BP (1389–1129 BC)  
Charcoal (alder, blackthorn and oak) from the fill of stake-hole (C103)  
C14 (UBA-8252) 3547±43 BP (2015–1752 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site consisted of a Middle Bronze Age fulacht fiadh. The presence of a trough suggests the site functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling area. The acillary structural evidence identified a short distance away was related to an early Bronze Age phase possibly unrelated to the use of such a technology.

### **References**

Martin, K. 2010. *Excavations at Ballyellin Site 51, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyellin	Six inch map no: 03
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 321292, 167791
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 69m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a very hilly field of poorly drained pasture. It was situated adjacent to an ancient river channel.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the environs of the site however another <i>fulacht fia</i> was identified a short distance to the north-east.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early to Middle Bronze Age <i>fulacht fia</i> c. 100m to the south west (WX003-047001)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled burnt mound, a trough and a number of stake-holes/post-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C4) measured 4.6m by 2.75m with a thickness of 0.2m. It composed of dark brown/black silty clay with charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from this deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Trough:	The trough (C9) was revealed under the burnt mound deposit. It was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.2m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.2m. The base of the trough was lined with a compact clay and the fill deposits were composed of material similar to the burnt mound (C4).
Stake-Holes:	A post-hole and four stake-holes were revealed directly to the east and north of the trough. They formed a rough rectangular area and possibly represented some form of structure related to the use of the pit.
Pit:	This feature (C29) possibly represented a tree-bole due to its irregular shape. It was rectangular in plan and measured 1.92m by 0.7m with a depth of

0.38m. It contained three fills consisting of charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from the fill is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: Seventy-nine flint pieces, two smithing-hearth cake fragments and one quartz flake were recovered from the site. All but thirteen of these artefacts were recovered from unstratified contexts. The 13 stratified artefacts included 11 flints and the 2 pieces of smithing hearth cake fragments (modern). They were all found in the 2.0m box section excavated across the palaeo river channel.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound (C4)  
C14 (UBA-8255) 3548±42 BP (2015–1754 BC)  
Charcoal (alder and oak) from the fill of the pit (C29)  
C14 (UBA-8256) 3509±42 BP (1944–1698 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

The site consisted of a small spread of heat-shattered stone and a trough along with several stake-holes. The presence of a trough, albeit quite truncated, suggests that the site may have functioned as a small pyrolithic water-boiling site during the Early Bronze Age. The stake-holes possibly represent some form of structure associated with the use of the trough.

**References**

Martin, K. 2010. *Excavations at Ballyellin Site 52, Co. Waterford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyloughan	Six inch map no: 07
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 317405, 161143
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 52m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Paul Stevens	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was on low ground to the northern end of a large rectangular field and adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There are no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate environs of the site, however a number of prehistoric sites, including a large number of <i>fulachtaí</i> were excavated along the same stretch of road development c. 1km to the north of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled burnt mound, a stream-fed trough, a number of stake-holes/post-holes, and possible hearths.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C4) was irregular in shape and measured 11.5m by 11m with a thickness of 0.25m. It was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. The burnt mound material and associated cut features were sealed by a blanket layer of grey clay possibly associated with a flooding event from the nearby stream when the site was abandoned.
Trough:	The trough (C18) was sub-oval in shape and measured 2m by 1.5m with a depth of 0.6m. The excavator suggests that the former stream (C20) appears to have been used (or diverted) to fill the pit or trough from its wider, south-eastern side, where the side was up to 0.32m to lower than elsewhere (Stevens 2010). A number of fills were noted in the trough with the basal deposit consisting of heat-shattered stone from the final use. This was overlain by slumped burnt mound material, a sample of which is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Stake-Holes: A cluster of eighty-six stake-holes were revealed immediately north of the trough arranged in a U-shaped formation, open to the trough. The shape, profile, base and depth of these stake-holes vary but certain distinctions can be discerned, such as many of them being oval and V-shaped in profile and base - suggestive of sharpened round-wood rods, thrust into the earth at an angle. Charcoal samples from these stake-holes are dated to the Early to Middle Bronze Age. A small fragment of prehistoric pottery was found in the fill of one of these stake-holes.

Possible Hearths: Two dumped deposits of possible hearth-rack out material were revealed south of the dried-up stream bed.

Pit/Post-Hole: Stratigraphically, this feature was cut by the stream (C20) and under a layer of fluvial grit (C22) but may have been part of contemporary Bronze Age activity to divert or augment the course of the stream. It was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.51m by 0.49m with a depth of 0.28m.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A small fragment of unidentified prehistoric coarseware pottery was recovered from the fill of one of the stake-holes.

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the upper fill of the trough (C18)  
C14 (UBA-8224) 3656±43 BP (2191–1914 BC)  
Charcoal (birch) from the fill of the stake-hole (C47)  
C14 (UBA-8225) 3443±52 BP (1889–1626 BC)  
Charcoal (birch) from the fill of the stake-hole (C53)  
C14 (UBA-8227) 3573±43 BP (2033–1772 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed burnt spread, a trough, a number of stake-holes and possible hearths. This evidence suggests that the site functioned as a *fulacht fiadh* water-boiling site using pyrolithic technology. Excavation suggested that the trough was fed by a nearby relict stream which produced the remains of possible hearth material. The stake-holes associated with the trough may have functioned as a revetment for the encroaching burnt mound material.

#### **References**

Stevens, P. 2010. Excavations at Ballloughlan Site 33, Co. Waterford. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Clogh	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 310222, 154752
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 42m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Neil Jackman	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was on low ground in a natural hollow beside a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> is recorded c. 450m to the north-east (WX011-063) while another was located along the same stretch of road c. 20m to the west (WX011-053001)		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> c. 20m to the west (WX011-053001)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled, disturbed burnt mound, a number of troughs and several possible pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound deposit (C003) was irregular in shape and very badly disturbed. It measured 6m by 9m with a thickness of 0.1m and was composed of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered sandstone. The second burnt mound concentration (C006) measured 13m by 5m by 0.10m deep and was located south of the site in the vicinity of Trough 1.
Trough 1:	This trough (C005) was revealed under the burnt mound material and was sub-rectangular in shape. It measured 1.8m by 2.2m with a depth of 0.1m. It had straight sides and a flat base and was badly damaged by modern agricultural activity. The fill of the trough consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. Another small rectangular cut was revealed when this fill was emptied possibly representing a re-cut. Staining on the base of this pit suggested it was once plank-lined.
Trough 2:	Trough (C026) was revealed 17.5m north-west of the first. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 2.1m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with several deposits of charcoal, dark silty clay and heat-shattered

stone. Several stake-holes were revealed cut into the base of the trough pit in each of the corners, except for the south-west where it was truncated by another trough. Stake-holes were also revealed the trough in each corner area.

- Trough 3: This trough (C090) truncated the previous example in the south-west corner. It was oval in shape and measured 1.6m by 0.7m with a depth of 0.55m. The partial remains of wooden planks were revealed at the base of the pit, one of which was dated to the Early to Middle Bronze Age. The trough was filled with several dump deposits of silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 1: This pit (C33) was oval in shaped and may have functioned as another trough. The sides of the pit were lined with clay similar to the previous examples and the fill consisted of heat-shattered stone.
- Pit 2: Pit (C72) was an elongated oval pit that measured 2.3m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.4m. It was filled with material similar to the burnt mound and contained the remains of a prehistoric vessel.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Early Bronze Age pottery (encrusted urn) was retrieved from the fill of the pit (C72)

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough (C090)  
C14 (SUERC-32376) 3545±30 BP (1940–1760 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed burnt spread, a number of troughs and several stake-holes suggesting it functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site. Evidence suggested that each of these troughs may have been timber-lined originally. Several phases of activity were also evident as several troughs re-cut early examples.

#### **References**

Jackman, N. 2010. *Excavations at Clogh Site 3, Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Clogh	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 312364, 155543
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	John Lehane	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the bottom of a gently sloping hill, the site lay on a relatively flat area with a moderate slope to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> is recorded <i>c.</i> 450m to the south-west dating to the Early Bronze Age (WX011-053) while another was located along the same stretch of road <i>c.</i> 20m further to the west (WX011-053001)		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled, disturbed burnt mound which overlay a truncated trough and a number of stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) survived as a thin spread of heat-shattered stone, black silty clay and charcoal. It was truncated by a modern drain and later agricultural activity. The deposit measured 9m by 5m with a maximum depth of 0.25m. The presence of a peaty, silty clay indicated flooding events to the poorly drained area.
Trough:	The trough (C29) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.1m by 1.46m with a depth of 0.32m. It had steep sides, some of which were undercut possible as a result of a timber-lining that no longer survives. Six post-holes cut the base of the trough and were located on the eastern and western sides indicating the feature may have originally been timber-lined. The fill of the trough consisted of a brown, stoney silty clay, a sample of charcoal from which is dated to the Late Bronze Age.
Post-Holes:	Fourteen stake-holes were revealed immediately south-west of the trough in a circular arrangement. They were in a clustered arrangement and the excavator suggest may have been supports for a mechanism to lift materials in and out of the trough during its use (Lehane 2010).

### Finds:



Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of trough (C29)  
C14 (SUERC-32375)  $2800 \pm 30$  BP (995–840 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed a levelled and truncated burnt spread, a well-defined trough and several stake-holes suggesting it functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site. Evidence suggested that the trough may have been timber-lined originally. A single phase of activity was noted during the excavation with radiocarbon evidence suggesting a Late Bronze Age focus.

### References

Lehane, J. 2010. *Excavations at Clogh Site 4, Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

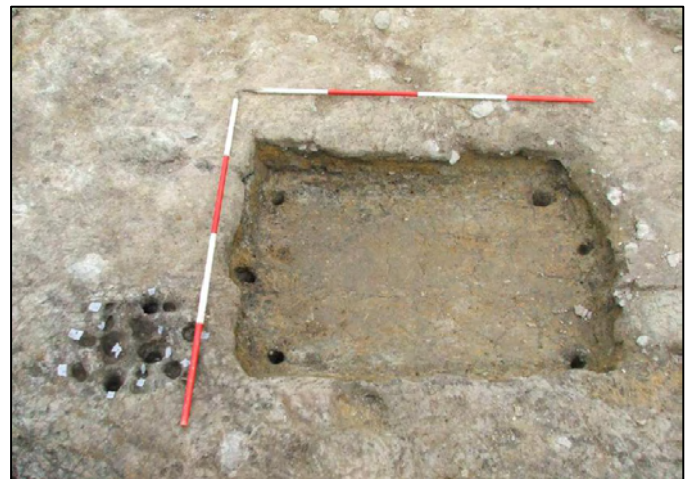
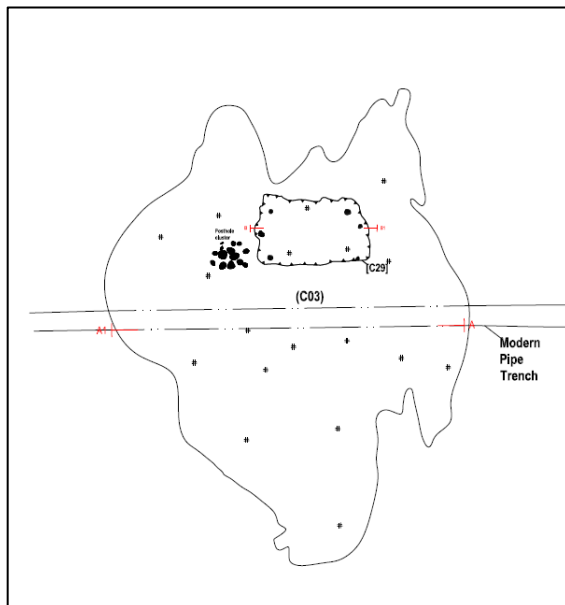


Fig. 10.160 Burnt spread, trough and stake-holes at Clogh, Site 4, Co. Wexford.

Location:	Townland:	Coolnastudd	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 314260, 156946
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 50m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Eoghan Moore	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in pastureland on an area of land sloping down towards a hollow between two gently sloping ridges, in a moderately well drained field.		
Cultural Landscape:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> is recorded c. 450m to the north-east (WX011-051) while a hearth and some prehistoric pottery were identified c. 400m to the south-west (WX011-061).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a levelled burnt mound and eight possible troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) was revealed as a dispersed spread of heat-shattered stone dispersed over a large area and damaged by agricultural activity. Taken together, the deposit measured 12.8m by 9.3m with a maximum depth of 0.4m.
Trough 1:	This trough (C55) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 3.7m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.25m. It was located downslope from the burnt spread and was not overlain by it. The pit was filled with burnt mound material with a basal deposit of ash.
Trough 2:	Trough (C59) was sub-circular in shape and measured 3.1m by 1.95m with a depth of 0.65m. A possible step was identified on the eastern side of the feature possibly used to gain access to the pit. The fill consisted of burnt mound material with a basal ash-like deposit.

- Trough 3: Trough 3 (C69) was circular in shape and measured 2m in diameter with a depth of 0.55m. It had a flat base and was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.
- Trough 4: Trough (C66) was also circular in shape and measured 2m in diameter with a depth of 0.7m. This pit also had a possible step on the eastern side possibly for access. Six fills were noted in the trough. Trough 4 is considered to be part of the second of three known phases of activity at this site. The basal layer consisted of blueyish clay, sealed by an ashy layer which was covered by topsoil and burnt stone.
- Trough 5: This trough (C76) was circular in shape and measured 1.9m by 1.75m with a depth of 0.5m. Several burnt stone fills were noted in the trough with the upper deposit consisting of re-deposited natural from the digging of another pit on site. An Early Bronze Age date was returned from a sample of charcoal from the basal layer of this trough.
- Trough 6: Trough (C77) was circular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.28m. The pit was truncated by later activity but it was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone.
- Trough 7: Trough (C87) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.6m by 1.35m with a depth of 0.35m. It was filled with burnt mound material.
- Trough 8: This possible trough (C93) was revealed directly beneath the burnt mound material and measured 1.15m in diameter with a depth of 0.4m.

### **Finds:**

- Artefacts: Unworked flint flakes were recovered from the surface of the site during general clean-back.

### **Dating:**

- Relative dating: None
- Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough (C76)  
C14 (SUERC-31646) 3880±30 BP (2460–2230 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

Excavation of the site revealed a levelled and truncated burnt spread, a well-defined trough and several stake-holes suggesting it functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site. Evidence suggested that the trough may have been timber-lined originally. A single phase of activity was noted during the excavation with radiocarbon evidence suggesting a Late Bronze Age focus.

### **References**

Jackman, N. 2011. Excavations at Coolnastudd Site 16, Co. Wexford. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Coolnastudd	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 314657, 157218
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 34m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Eoghan Moore	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in gently sloping ground used for pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	A <i>fulacht fia</i> is recorded c. 450m to the south-west (WX011-062) while a hearth and some prehistoric pottery were identified c. 460m to the south-west (WX011-061).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two deposits of burnt mound material and a feature interpreted as a pot-boiler.
Burnt Spread 1:	Deposit (C13) measured 6.5m by 4m with a maximum depth of 0.10m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone.
Burnt Spread 2:	The second deposit of burnt mound material, (C4), lay along the north eastern edge of the bank of the former river channel or palaeochannel, south of (C13). It measured 5m by 4m with a maximum depth of 0.08m. It was composed of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone.
‘Pot-Boiler’:	A small stone-lined feature (C23) was identified along a small river bank, 0.5m from the burnt stone deposits. The stones of this small structure were loosely to moderately well put together and packed on the outside with clay. The base of this feature was also packed with clay. The feature was built within an earlier cut measuring 2m by 1m with a depth of 0.6m. Two deposits were noted in the base of the feature consisting of silty sand with charcoal and ash. The second deposit contained dark grey clay with small stones and silty sand inclusions. Several timbers were recorded around the structure and within in, interpreted as the remains of a former timber lining.

### Finds:

Artefacts:	None
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Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Wood (alder) from the clay deposit around the stones of 'pot-boiler' C14 (UBA-8241) 3690±51 BP (2271–2230 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

Excavation of the site revealed two small deposits of burnt mound material consisting of heat-shattered sandstone. While no trough was present, it cannot be discounted entirely given the truncation that may have occurred by the existing stream and field boundary. The small structure interpreted as 'pot-boiler' for pyrolithic waterboiling seems unlikely given the existence of similar structures interpreted as ovens using a dry heat to roast, steam or bake foodstuffs. Structures such as these have been identified at Ballyvourney and Drombeg in Co. Cork (O'Kelly 1954; Fahy 1960) and more recently at Carrickaready, Co. Waterford (Wren 2008).

### References

Moore, E. 2010. *Excavations at Coolnastudd Site 19, Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

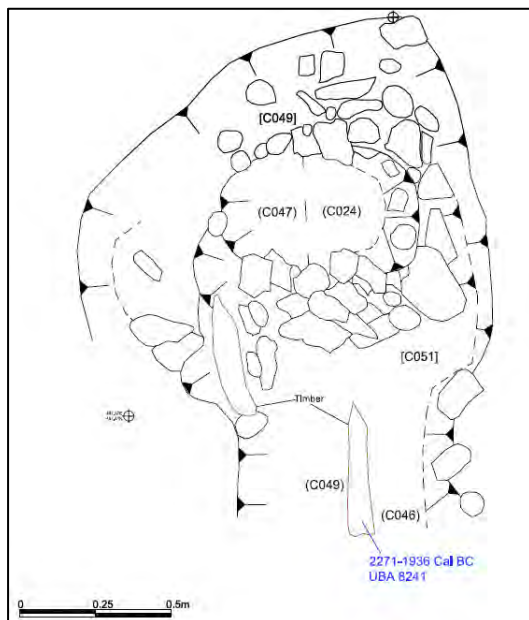


Fig. 10.161 Possible roasting oven at Coolnastud.

Location:	Townland:	Courteencurragh	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 317759, 160160
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 49m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	D.A McCullough	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in low lying wet land at the northern end of a gentle slope. It lay in the centre of a low-lying gentle valley running from Ballyscartin to Mill Lands on the south side of a canalised stream orientated roughly northeast-southwest		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites are recorded in the townland however the Medieval period is well represented by a number of enclosure that possibly represent Ringforts.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an ancient paleochannel, the remains of a burnt mound, a number of possible troughs and stake-holes.
Burnt Mound:	On the northern side of the palaeochannel and mostly lying on the sand bed, an extensive dark greyish black spread of charcoal-rich material was deposited (C22) measuring 6m by 4m. It comprised heat-shattered stone and charcoal and the surrounding sediment matrix was heavily stained a blackish colour. Several irregular remnant burnt mound deposits were excavated in the northwest of the site.
Trough 1:	The trough (C39) was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.79m by 1.40m with depth of 0.67m and had a flat base. Four fills were recorded in the pit, the basal deposit consisting of yellow sandy silt overlain by a black deposit of silt with heat-shattered stone and charcoal. A sample of oak from this was dated to the Early Bronze Age. Further deposits of burnt stone layers overlay this layer.

Trough 2: Another possible trough (C80) was located on the northern side of the paleochannel. It was heavily truncated with only half of the northern portion surviving. The side was steep and had a sharp break of slope to a flat base, which was 0.90m by 0.70m in diameter. The base was filled to a depth of 0.30m by dark greyish black sandy silt that contained frequent charcoal, burnt stone and coarse sand inclusions.

Stake-Holes: Forty-one stake-holes were revealed during the excavation. The function or alignment patterns of the stake-holes are unknown. Several possible alignments of stake-holes can be proposed, generally orientated northwest-southeast, but it is evident that the greatest concentration of stake-holes was around the trough (C39).

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: Twenty lithics were recovered from the site, eight of which came from archaeological levels. The remainder came from residual contexts. The assemblage was interpreted as the remains of knapping activity on site dating to the Early Bronze Age.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (oak) from the fill of trough (C39)  
C14 (SUERC-31609) 3755±30 BP (2290–2030 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site was heavily damaged by post-medieval agricultural activity resulting in dispersed spreads of heat-shattered stone. The largest deposit lay in the ancient paleochannel or stream which must have facilitated the filling of the boiling troughs during the Bronze Age. The site therefore must of functioned as a pyrolithic water-boiling site. Flint knapping debris is rarely found associated with *fulachtaí fia* and this material also seems to be contemporarary with the radiocarbon evidence. The stake-holes were dispersed around the working area of the troughs and must have been associated with the activity at the site.

### **References**

Stevens, P. 2011. *Excavations at Courteencurragh Site 31 and 32, Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd

Location:	Townland:	Killybegs	Six inch map no: 03
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 320323, 167218
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 49m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in low lying area immediately west of slightly rising ground .		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites are recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development. Further burnt mound activity was identified c. 1km to the north-east in the townland of Ballyellin (WX003-047).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

#### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

#### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an ancient paleochannel, the remains of a burnt mound deposit and a trough. A number of naturally cut features were also identified.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C4) survived as a thin spread of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It was circular in shape and measured 5.5m by 5.5m with a maximum depth of 0.25m. The deposit was covered by a silty clay indicating subsequent flooding of the site from the nearby river.
Trough:	The trough (C106) was located south of the burnt spread. It was rectangular in shape and measured 2.4m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.15m and had vertical sides and a flat base. A single fill was noted in the trough consisting of compacted silty clay and heat-shattered stone.
Hearth:	A possible hearth was located directly to the east. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.16m. The base of the feature was heavily scorched.



**Finds:**

Artefacts: 169 pieces of flint were recovered from the site, 23 were from stratified contexts. The remainder were recovered from topsoil deposits. The flint assemblage contained 22 flakes, 26 spalls, 16 cores, 4 scrapers and 1 worked piece were identified.

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder, oak, blackthorn) from the burnt spread (C4)  
C14 (UBA-8247) 2874±50 BP (1251–916 BC)  
Charcoal (alder, ash, blackthorn) from the burnt spread (C4)  
C14 (UBA-8246) 3005±50 BP (1406–1060 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel, alder and oak) from the fill of the trough (C106)  
C14 (UBA-8248) 3012±51 BP (1411–1094 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

The features identified at the such as the burnt spread and trough are consistent with a *fulacht fia* or pyrolithic water-boiling site. The area of burning close to the trough was initially interpreted as the remains of another trough however it may equally have functioned as a roasting oven using dry heat or a simple hearth for heating stones. The shallow nature of the trough is probably as a result of truncation. This is consistent with the level of modern damage and finds associated with the site.

**References**

Martin, K. 2010. Excavations at Killybegs Site 49 Co. Wexford. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd

Location:	Townland:	Moneycross Upper	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 312629, 155715
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 41m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Holger Schweitzer	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in the south-western corner of a field of pasture. A straightened, shallow stream, which followed the line of the western field boundary, was immediately adjacent to the west of the excavation area		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites were recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development. Further burnt mound activity was identified c. 300m to the south-west in the townland of Clogh (WX011-063).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Medieval structure and field system (WX011-054001).		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed an ancient paleochannel, a burnt mound and a well-defined trough with two phases of use identified. The site is heavily truncated by a series of post-medieval drains.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed as dispersed spread of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered sandstone, granite and volcanic tuff. A number of deposits were noted across the site, the largest measured 6.5m by 1.75m. The mound or spread was probably dispersed across the site as a result of agricultural disturbance.
Platform:	A deposit of clay was deliberately brought into the site providing a dry working area for the trough and hearth.
Trough:	The trough (C74) was rectangular in plan and measured 2.46m by 1.8m with a depth of 0.43m. It was cut into the clay platform and had vertical sides and a flat base. It was also cut through the top of the paleochannel, thus the pit filled naturally with water. The first constructional phase of the trough was evidenced by four corner stakes of Holly wood, which outlined a small

rectangular trough measuring 1.25m by 0.85m. These stakes were dated to the Late Bronze Age. After the decommissioning of this first trough, the trough was extended towards the north and west. Prior to the lining of the base and sides with split planks the base was covered with a compact clay deposit to provide a level base, thus sealing the stakes of phase 1 underneath. Five split Ash planks formed the base for phase 2 of trough (C74). Timbers from this lining were dated to the Early Iron Age. The trough was filled with burnt mound material.

**Hearth:** A small hearth (C87) was identified 3m north-east of the trough. It consisted of a small pit, circular in shape that measured 1.3mm by 1.32m with a depth of 0.26m. The base of the feature was heavily oxidised suggesting intense burning.

**Pit 1:** This pit (C91) was located 2.5m north-west of the trough. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.6m by 0.48m with a depth of 0.26m.

**Medieval Burnt Mound 2:** The excavator makes reference to a second, separate and much later phase of pyrolithic activity on the site dating to the medieval period. Charcoal from an irregular shaped hearth was dated to this period. This was a sub-oval feature measuring 4m by 2.7m with a depth of 0.3m and was located on the north-western side of the site. Evidence of *in situ* burning was noted in this feature. Several small deposits of burnt mound material were also suggested as being related to this phase of activity. The site was sealed by a second fluvial in-wash and drained in the post-medieval and early modern period. Several sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered.

## **Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

## **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (ash) from the burnt spread (C3)  
C14 (UBA-8260) 1045±40 BP (AD 892–1115)  
Wood (Ash) from phase 2 trough  
C14 (UBA-8261) 2389±42 BP (748–388 BC)  
Wood (ash) from phase 2 trough  
C14 (UBA-8262) 2396±41 BP (748–391 BC)  
Wood (ash) from phase 2 trough  
C14 (UBA-8263) 2409±41 BP (750–396 BC)  
Wood (holly) stake from phase 1 trough  
C14 (UBA-8264) 2869±41 BP (1193–920 BC)  
Wood (holly) stake from phase 1 trough  
C14 (UBA-8265) 2861±36 BP (1188–918 BC)

## Excavation Interpretation

The features identified at the site such as the burnt spread and trough are consistent with a *fulacht fiadh* or pyrolithic water-boiling site. The shallow nature of the trough is probably as a result of truncation as a number of post-medieval drains were recorded at the site. Two phases of trough construction were noted during the excavation with the first consisting of a smaller timber trough securely dated to the Late Bronze Age. After a period of abandonment, the same pit was re-cut and enlarged and lined with ash planks for further pyrolithic water-boiling activities. This phase was also securely dated to the Early Iron Age by a sample of timber from the trough. This is consistent with the level of modern damage and finds associated with the site. Similar trough re-linings have been recorded at Cahiracon Co. Clare (Dennehy 2006). The medieval phase of activity is probably associated the medieval structure and field system recorded nearby and therefore not connected with an historic burnt mound tradition (Hawkes 2012).

## References

Schweitzer, H. 2010. *Excavations at Moneycross Upper Site 7 Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd



Plate 10.142 Burnt stone deposit and trough with different use-phases at Moneycross Upper.

Location:	Townland:	Moneycross Upper	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 313094, 156219
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 41m OD
	County:	Wexford	

Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme
	Site Director:	John Lehane
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd
	Year:	2005

Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the base of a gentle south-eastern slope.
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Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites were recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development. Further burnt mound activity was identified c. 300m to the south-west in the townland of Clogh (WX011-063).
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Adjacent excavated sites:	None
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### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed four pits filled with heat-shattered stone.
Pit 1:	This pit (C6) was sub-circular in shape and measured 2.9m by 2.4m with a depth of 0.35m. It was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Pit 2:	Pit (C8) lay immediately west of the previous pit. It was sub-circular in shape and was filled with similar burnt mound material consisting of heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal dates this pit to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 3:	Pit (C12) was sub-circular in shape and was located 3m north-west of pit C6. It contained three fills mostly containing burnt mound material.
Pit 4:	The fourth pit (C14) was located approximately 5m northwest of the pit (C8) and immediately south of the pit (C12). This was sub circular in plan with irregular sloping sides, except on the northern side where it had a gradual slope. It was filled with burnt mound material.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts:                      None

Ecofacts:                      None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:              None

Absolute dating:              Charcoal (ash) from the fill of pit 2  
C14 (SUERC-31615) 3830±30 BP (2460–2150 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

The site contained four pits filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. No burnt mound or trough was recorded on site, although it is possible the pits may have functioned as boiling receptacles. Alternatively, the pits may have functioned as earth ovens or roasting pits using dry heat to cook food.

**References**

Lehane, J. 2010. *Excavations at Moneycross Upper Site 9 Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Parkbaun	Six inch map no: 11
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 318902, 165560
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 41m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a poorly drained field at the bottom of a north-west facing slope.		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites were recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development. A spread of heat-shattered stone was dated to the Early Bronze Age in the neighbouring townland of Boleybaun (WX003-044003), while another was identified c. 300m to the north (WX003-044004).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt spread c. 50m to the west (WX003-044003)		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mound deposits with each one sealing a trough.

### **Site WX18a**

Burnt Mound: This burnt mound deposit (C4) was irregular in shape and measured 9.5m by 6m with a maximum depth of 0.18m. It consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone composed of granite, sandstone and diorite. A sample of charcoal from this deposit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Trough: The trough (C53) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.4m by 1.28m with a depth of 0.22m. The feature had concave sides and a flat base and filled with burnt mound material.

Hearth: An area of scorched clay was identified on the eastern side of the trough. It measured 1.5m by 0.5m.

### **Site WX16b**

**Burnt Mound:** This burnt mound deposit (C50) was revealed 5m from the existing stream. It measured 11.5m by 4m and consisted of black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone composed of granite, sandstone and diorite. An Early to Middle Bronze Age date was obtained from a sample of charcoal. A deposit of worked, charred timbers were revealed below this deposit and were dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Trough:** The trough (C60) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.3m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.3m and filled naturally with water. The trough was filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Eight pieces of flint were recovered from the site. These consisted of four flakes, two spalls and one crude core.

**Ecofacts:** None

### **Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the burnt mound 2 (C50)  
C14 (UBA-8238) 3549±50 BP (1901–1637 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the burnt mound 1 (C4)  
C14 (UBA-8237) 3561±50 BP (2029–1755 BC)  
Wood (alder) under burnt mound 2  
C14 (UBA-8239) 3519±50 BP (2009–1695 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site contained four pits filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. No burnt mound or trough was recorded on site, although it is possible the pits may have functioned as boiling receptacles. Alternatively, the pits may have functioned as earth ovens or roasting pits using dry heat to cook food.

### **References**

Martin, K. 2010. Excavations at Parkbaun Site 46 Co. Wexford. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Raheenagurren West	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 316375, 158033
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 37m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Thaddeus Breen	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low lying wet land, drained and bordered to the south by a small unnamed stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites were recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development, however subsequent to topsoil stripping, several other <i>fulachtaí fía</i> and traces of bronze Age and Iron Age settlement were discovered within 100m of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fía</i> c. 20m to the north-east (WX012-034002)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a trough, several stake-holes and a number of finds. The site was truncated by a series of plough furrows.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound was revealed as an irregular, truncated spread of grey clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stones measuring 14m by 8.5m with a maximum depth of 0.1m. The deposit contained flint lithic artefacts, including a blade, a possible broken 'piecer' tool, and numerous waste flakes and chunks. The upper layer (C3) consisted of heat-shattered stone and charcoal in a matrix of silty clay, and up to 0.20m in thickness. This layer also produced a disc-shaped stone spindle-whorl along with a flint scraper, and worked flint flakes and chunks. Environmental samples from this layer also produced a small quantity (0.3g) of unidentified burnt bone, as well as traces of charred cereal grains.
Trough:	A possible trough (C30) was rectangular in plan and measured 1.09m by 0.46m with a depth of 0.19m. The fill consisted of grey clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

Post-Holes: Six post-holes were revealed immediately north and north-west of the possible trough. Four formed a linear arrangement at one end of the pit.

Pit 1: A circular pit (C72) was revealed south of the site and measured 0.87m in diameter with a depth of 0.33m. It had steep sides and a flat base and contained a fill consisting of dark charcoal-rich silt with some heat-shattered stone. This was overlain by grey/brown sandy material, with occasional charcoal. A sample from this upper layer is dated to the Iron Age. Two post-holes were revealed 2m southwest of this pit.

Pit 2: This pit (C19) was located at the far south-western extent of the site. It was circular in shape and measured 0.55m by 0.48m with a depth of 0.18m. It contained a primary fill consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material. Charred seeds identified as hazelnut shells and cereal grain were recovered from this pit along with a flint flake.

### **Finds:**

Artefacts: sixty-six lithics were recovered from the site, most of which came from the burnt mound deposit. The majority consisted of knapping flakes however a flint knife and end scraper were identified dating this material to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. A spindle-whorl was also recovered dating to the Late Bronze Age.

Ecofacts: None

### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of the pit (C72)  
C14 (SUERC-31374) 2220±30 BP (380–200 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site contained four pits filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. No burnt mound or trough was recorded on site, although it is possible the pits may have functioned as boiling receptacles. Alternatively, the pits may have functioned as earth ovens or roasting pits using dry heat to cook food.

### **References**

Breen, T. 2010. *Excavations at Raheenagurren West Site 24 Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Raheenagurren West	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 316405, 158050
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 35m OD
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Thadeus Breen	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in low lying wet land, drained and bordered to the south by a small unnamed stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites were recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development, however subsequent to topsoil stripping, several other <i>fulachtaí fia</i> and traces of bronze Age and Iron Age settlement were discovered within 100m of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	<i>Fulacht fia</i> c. 20m to the south-west (WX012-034001)		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a number of troughs, stake-holes and pits.
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound (C3) was revealed as a denuded spread of dark sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. It measured 10m by 6.7m with a depth of 0.3m. The deposit sealed most features on site.
Trough 1:	This trough (C21) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.26m. It had vertical sides with a flat base and contained four stake-holes in each of the corners, presumably to support a timber-lining that no longer survives. The trough was filled with heat-shattered stone and dark silty clay. A sample of charcoal from this deposit is dated to the Late Bronze Age.
Trough 2:	A larger trough (C18) was revealed to the south of the first trough. It was sub-oval in shape with straight sides and a flat base. It measured 2.6m by 1.36m with a depth of 0.73m. Six stake-holes cut the base of the trough, again, possibly suggesting it may have been timber-lined. Two fills were

recorded in the trough consisting of dark silty clays and heat-shattered stone. The trough was possibly re-cut at a later stage.

Stake-Holes: Immediately north of the trough a cluster of 38 stake-holes were revealed in a roughly rectangular shape in plan and open to the pit. It possibly represents the remains of a structure measuring 4m by 2.5m.

Trough 3: A third possible trough (C12) was revealed immediately adjacent to trough 2. It was sub-rectangular in plan and measured 1.48m by 0.66m with a depth of 0.3m. It contained three fills consisting of burnt mound material.

#### **Finds:**

Artefacts: A small burnt flint flake was recovered from the topsoil

Ecofacts: None

#### **Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough (C21)  
C14 (SUERC-31656) 2850±30 BP (1120–920 BC)

#### **Excavation Interpretation**

The site contained four pits filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. No burnt mound or trough was recorded on site, although it is possible the pits may have functioned as boiling receptacles. Alternatively, the pits may have functioned as earth ovens or roasting pits using dry heat to cook food.

#### **References**

Breen, T. 2010. *Excavations at Raheenagurren West Site 25 Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Raheenagurren West	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 316494, 158024
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Thaddeus Breen	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	It was situated on the floor and northern slope of a low valley, through which a stream flowed.		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites were recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development, however subsequent to topsoil stripping, several other <i>fulachtaí fía</i> and traces of bronze Age and Iron Age settlement were discovered within 100m of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible Early Bronze Age settlement site		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a possible Early Bronze Age settlement and three burnt mound sites.

#### Site WX21a

Burnt Mound: The burnt mound comprised of several deposits of dark silty, charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stones. Several burnt flint pieces were found in the deposit.

Trough: This trough was overlain with the burnt mound material. It was rectangular in shape and measured 1.53m by 0.95m with a depth of 0.3m. One stake-hole cut the base of the pit in the north-eastern corner. The basal deposit consisted of a sandy layer which was overlain by burnt mound material.

#### Site WX21b

Burnt Mound: This burnt mound was revealed in a small hollow and measured 4m by 3.32m with a depth of 0.1m. It was composed of three layers mostly

consisting of heat-shattered stone and charcoal-rich material. A flint flake was recovered from the deposit.

**Trough:** The trough was rectangular in shape and measured 1.87m by 1.42m with a depth of 0.28m. It had vertical sides and a flat base. Two stake-holes were recorded in the eastern corners of the trough. It was filled with two layers of charcoal-rich material and heat-shattered stone.

### **Site WX19c**

**Burnt Mound:** This burnt mound was larger than the other sites and was located adjacent to the stream. It was kidney-shaped in plan and measured 10.8m by 7m and was composed of heat-shattered stone, charcoal and black silty clay.

**Trough 1:** This trough (C143) was rectangular in shape and measured 2.1m by 1.71m with a depth of 0.53m. It had vertical sides and a flat base that was cut by 15 stake-holes concentrated in each of the corners suggesting the presence of a timber lining that no longer survives. The trough was filled with four deposits of charcoal-rich fills and heat-shattered stone. A flint flake was recovered from this trough.

**Stake-Holes:** The lines of stake-holes continued 1.00m beyond the edge of the pit, bounding a rectangular area. Burnt animal bone was recovered from one of these stake-holes.

**Pit 1:** This pit was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.77m by 0.58m with a depth of 0.5m. It was filled with a single fill consisting of dark-grey silty clay and heat-shattered stone.

### **Finds:**

**Artefacts:** A small number of flint flakes were recovered from the burnt mound and the trough features.

### **Dating:**

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of stake-hole C14 (SUERC-33323) 3685±30 BP (2150–1960 BC)

### **Excavation Interpretation**

This site represents settlements from two unrelated period. Firstly, it was the location of a Bronze Age settlement, initially Beaker-using, in which flint-knapping took place and water-heating, perhaps for cooking, took place over a long period beside a stream in a shallow valley. Later, in the early medieval period, it was the site of cereal-processing activities by the inhabitants of the nearby ringfort.

### **References**

Breen, T. 2010. Excavations at Raheenagurren West Site 25 Co. Wexford. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Tinnock Lower	Six inch map no: 12
	Parish:	Kilcavan	NGR: 318528, 164764
	Barony:	Gorey	Altitude: 33
	County:	Wexford	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme	
	Site Director:	Kevin Martin	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was on a poorly drained moderately steep east facing slope in a ploughed field parallel to the railway line and east of the existing N11.		
Cultural Landscape:	No other prehistoric sites were recorded in the townland prior to infrastructural development, however subsequent to topsoil stripping, several other <i>fulachtaí fía</i> and traces of bronze Age and Iron Age settlement were discovered within 100m of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Gorey to Arklow Road Scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to archaeological investigations.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of six pits filled with deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal dating to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 1:	This pit (C14) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.52m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.1m. It had concave sides and an irregular base and was filled with black silty clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample of charcoal from this pit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.
Pit 2:	Pit (C12) was a truncated a featured which was circular in shape. It measured 0.75m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. The single fill consisted of black sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample from this deposit is dated to the Early to Middle Bronze Age.
Pit 3:	An irregular shaped pit (C27) measured 2.3m by 1.4m with a depth of 0.22m. Two fills were recorded in the pit consisting of charcoal-rich deposits, silty clay and burnt stones. A sample is dated to the Middle Bronze Age. This pit was cut by pit 4.

Pit 4: Pit (C13) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.7m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.12m. This pit cut the previous irregular feature and was filled with a single deposit consisting of dark brown, sandy clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone. A sample from this pit is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

### Finds:

Artefacts: Several flint pieces were recovered from topsoil deposits

Ecofacts: None

### Dating:

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (oak) from the fill of pit  
C14 (UBA-8228) 3537±48 BP (2016–1744 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit  
C14 (UBA-8229) 3486±42 BP (1916–1692 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the fill of pit  
C14 (UBA-8230) 3339±44 BP (1739–1518 BC)  
Charcoal (ash) from the fill of pit  
C14 (UBA-8231) 3508±43 BP (1944–1696 BC)

### Excavation Interpretation

This site represents settlements from two unrelated period. Firstly, it was the location of a Bronze Age settlement, initially Beaker-using, in which flint-knapping took place and water-heating, perhaps for cooking, took place over a long period beside a stream in a shallow valley. Later, in the early medieval period, it was the site of cereal-processing activities by the inhabitants of the nearby ringfort.

### References

Breen, T. 2010. *Excavations at Raheenagurren West Site 25 Co. Wexford*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

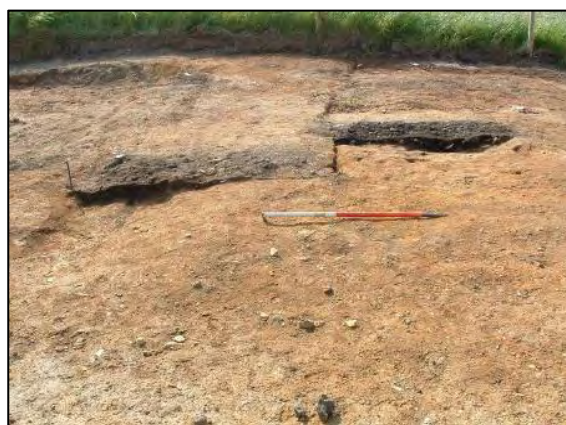


Plate 10.143 Roasting pit and burnt stone deposit at Tinnock Lower, Co. Wexford.



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Location:	Townland:	Ballyremon Commons	Six inch map no: 7
	Parish:	Calary	NGR: 321819, 211685
	Barony:	Rathdown	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Rescue	
	Site Director:	Victor Buckley	
	Consultants:	National Monuments Service Ireland	
	Year:	1983	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in a low-lying area adjacent to a large bog island. Calary Bog is situated immediately to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	Prior to these excavations, the known prehistoric remains in the locality were all <i>fulachtaí fia</i> . A possible bowl barrow is situated to the north (WI007-043).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

Prior to excavation the site consisted of a mass of burnt stone, spread over a wide area, with a dense concentration of burnt stone roughly 9m in diameter at its core.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Partial excavation of the site revealed the remains of a trough, possible used for pyrolithic water-boiling.

Trough: Excavation of the south-east quadrant of the site revealed a sub-rectangular clay-lined pit that measured 2.15m by 0.9m with a maximum depth of 0.4. At the southern end of the pit, a large quartzite slab was embedded in the basal clay. The pit itself was cut into the natural blue clay. Traces of introduced clay was found lining the pit in places. Three charred stakes were found cut into the base of the trough suggesting it may have been originally timber and clay lined. One of these stakes is dated to the Bronze Age. The fill of the trough consisted of peat and burnt stone.

Dating: Wood (unknown) stake from the trough  
C14 (GrN-12617) 3410±40 BP (1876–1617 BC)

### References

Buckley, V.M. 1998. The excavation of a Bronze age *fulacht fiadh* at Ballyremon Commons, Co. Wicklow. In Manning, C. (ed.) *Dublin and beyond the Pale. Studies in honour of Patrick Healy*, 111–2. Wordwell, Dublin.

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Location:	Townland:	Kilnacarrig	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Calary	NGR: 331042, 123445
	Barony:	Rathdown	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	ESB	
	Site Director:	Alan Hayden	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	1993	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical location of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	A pit containing a large amount of waste flakes. A hollow containing Bronze Age pottery was also identified nearby.		

### Pre-Excavation features

Between the time of the assessment and the excavation a new road was built across the site and a line of ESB poles were erected. These disturbed part of the burnt mound that had been shown to exist in this area.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Partial excavation of the site revealed the remains of a trough and burnt spread. A hollow containing Bronze Age pottery was also revealed near the site.
Trough:	A sub-circular clay-lined trough 1.9m in diameter and 0.9m in depth filled with burnt stones and charcoal was uncovered at the centre of a large ploughed-out spread of burnt mound material. A few stakeholes not conforming to a recognisable plan occurred in the vicinity of the trough. No trace of a hearth was uncovered. It probably lay in the area disturbed by the new road.
<b>Finds:</b>	None
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (unknown) from the clay-lining of the trough C14 (GrN-unknown) 3610±50 BP (2136–1782 BC)

### References

Hayden, A. 1994. Kilnacarrig. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1993*, 80 Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Kilnacarrig	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Calary	NGR: 331042, 123445
	Barony:	Rathdown	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Water pipeline	
	Site Director:	Alan Hayden	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Projects Ltd.	
	Year:	1993	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical location of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a pipeline scheme. There was no surface trace of the site prior to investigations.

**Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** The burnt mound survived to a maximum diameter of 35m and to a thickness of over 0.5m. One round and five rectangular wood-lined troughs, a large hearth, a large number of stake-holes not conforming to any recognisable plan and eighteen pits of various sizes and shapes occurred beneath the mound. There is no other information available for the site.

**Finds:** Flint waste flakes were recovered from the site.

**Dating:** Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of one of the troughs  
C14 (GrN-unknown) 3100±40 BP (1449–1260 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of one of the pits  
C14 (GrN-unknown) 3640±45 BP (2137–1899 BC)

**References**

Hayden, A. 1994. Kilnacarrig. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1993*, 81 Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynattin	Six inch map no: 45
	Parish:	Arklow	NGR: 323115, 171613
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Arklow Town Bypass	
	Site Director:	Ann Connolly	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Services Unit Galway.	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated c. 1.5 miles south of Arklow, to the west of the main Dublin–Wexford road (N11).		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Arklow Bypass.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mound deposits and a trough.
Burnt Mounds:	Cutting 1 revealed a sub-circular, compact burnt stone and charcoal concentration, which measured c. 7m north-east/south-west and 5.5m north-west/south-east. This burnt material had a maximum depth of 0.2m. Finds from this material consisted of worked flint. Cutting 2 was undertaken to investigate a substantial spread of burnt stone and charcoal, located some 25m to the south of Cutting 1. This burnt spread was measured 12.5m north-east/south-west and 10.8m north-west/south-east. It had a maximum depth of 0.45m at its centre, though it was shallower on its south-west side.
Trough:	The wooden feature consisted of c. 23 narrow lengths of wood laid in a north–south direction, forming a deliberately prepared surface. It measured 1.9m in length, 1.4m in width and 0.1m– 0.15m in average depth. On removal of this wooden feature, a series of moderately preserved wooden stakes was excavated. They did not form any very clear patterns.
Dating:	Wood (alder) from one of the stakes underlying trough Dendro (QUB-unknown) 856 BC

### References

Connolly, A. 1999. Ballynattin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1997*. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Johnstown North	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Arklow	NGR: 177500, 326500
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Arklow Town Bypass	
	Site Director:	Niall Gregory	
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.	
	Year:	1997	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical location of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the immediate vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the Arklow Bypass. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation. The remains of a field wall and field clearance overlay part of the site, which was to some extent disturbed by field drains.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Upon excavation, two pits and three troughs were revealed which were dug into the subsoil. Four distinct spreads were found associated with them. All pits and troughs contained dark brown soil with a high content of fragmented burnt stone. Two of the troughs were reused as pits and had a charcoal-rich fill with fragmented burnt stone. One of these troughs had two post-holes adjacent to it.
Finds:	12 worked flints were recovered from the topsoil.
Dating:	None

**References**

Gregory, N. 1999. Johnstown North. Burnt Mound. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1997*. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynamuddagh	Six inch map no: 08
	Parish:	Bray	NGR: 327580, 215970
	Barony:	Rathdown	Altitude: 100
	County:	Wicklow	

Excavation Details:	Project:	Golf course construction
	Site Director:	Niall Gregory
	Consultants:	Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.
	Year:	2000

Physical Setting: The site is located on the western slope of Bray Head.

Cultural Landscape: A ring-ditch is located *c.* 400m to the north (WI008-059) while a cremation pit was identified 300m to the south (WI008-061). A possible prehistoric habitation sites is situated *c.* 300m to the north-east (WI008-060).

Adjacent excavated sites: Hearth site and pits.

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of golf course. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Since the site was partly covered by subsequent landfill, only its western extent, a semi-oval portion, was excavated. It measured 1.6m by 0.9m and was 0.21m in maximum depth. It had a very shallow profile. Its fill consisted entirely of charcoal-rich soil and burnt stone.
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<b>Finds:</b>	None
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<b>Dating:</b>	None
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### **References**

Gregory, N. 2002. Ballynamuddagh. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 363 .Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Rathmore	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 328005, 199043
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Catherine McLoughlin	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The mounds were situated beside a small stream which runs roughly north-south alongside the existing N11.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks. A possible prehistoric habitation site was revealed also in the townland (WI019-055).		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. Some of these *fulachtaí fia* survived as extant mounds prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: These mounds, the majority of which covered a single sub-rectangular trough, varied greatly in size and shape. Apart from the presence of stake-holes around several of the troughs, few other features were identified.

#### Site A

Burnt Mound: The mound measured approximately 15m north-south by 11m east-west. It was divided into two quadrants in the half that was inside the roadtake and this half was fully excavated. The mound consisted of two deposits, F3 and F4. F3 formed the majority of the deposit and was composed of a layer of loose black clayey silt up to 0.50m deep, which contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and heat shattered sandstone. F3 overlay F4, a deposit of charcoal rich black silt that was up to 0.10m deep.

#### Site B

Burnt Mound: The mound measured 21.50m north-south by 15.50m east-west and was located 9.00m to the east of the stream. In section the mound had a

maximum depth of 1.10m, the uppermost 0.40m of material consisted of topsoil, F200, and ploughsoil mixed with re-deposited material from the river, F201. Five phases of activity have been identified here, the first four of which relate to pre-mound features, and the fifth relates to the subsequent build up of the mound and abandonment of the features.

**Trough 1:**

A large shallow pit, F215, was located in the south-western quadrant of the excavated mound. The sub-rectangular pit measured 3.20m south-west / north-east by 1.40m south-east / north-west. It had a maximum depth of 0.60m and two timbers were set into the bottom. Both timbers were placed flat in the feature beside each other with a gap in the middle where a natural spring was active. The timbers measured up to 2.40m in length, were up to 0.30m wide and 0.30m deep. Two deposits, F226 and F227, filled the timber feature, F215. Both of these deposits were typical burnt mound material. Several small pits and stake-holes are also assigned to this phase.

**Trough/Oven:**

A large pit, F217, was excavated into the subsoil and comprised an oval stone alignment, in the opposite quadrant to pit F215. Upon excavation this was thought to be a stone trough, however this is unlikely to have been the case. Whilst it appears that this feature may have been constructed when a layer of F204 had already been deposited in this area, it may also have suffered disturbance on its northern side. The pit measured 1.80m north-east / south-west by 1.00m north-west / south-east, and had a maximum depth of 0.35m. As excavated it comprised an oval arrangement of eleven stones.

**Site C**

**Burnt Mound:**

The mound measured 12.50m north-south by 9.50m east-west. It had a maximum depth of 0.70m, the upper 0.30m of which was topsoil and ploughsoil. The mound itself was composed of five layers of material, F401, F402, F403, F405 and F407, which in total had a maximum depth of 0.55m, although with the addition of topsoil and redeposited material this increased to 0.75m.

**Trough:**

This trough was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 2.10m north-east / south-west by 1.80m north-west / south-east, with a distinct channel at the north-western edge. The trough had been cut into the natural clay subsoil and the sides had been artificially heightened by the addition of the dug out material, not only to the sides of the trough but to the immediate area, thus creating a small platform. The trough contained a lining, F412, a 0.06m deep layer of compact yellow clay which encompassed the base and sides of the trough. It overlay F413, a very shallow grey clay layer which possibly represented an attempt to line the trough with a different material. A line of stones had been set into the lining, F412, at the eastern end of the trough. The line comprised four large stones along with some smaller packing stones, set at original ground level.

**Site D**



**Burnt Mound:** The mound measured 15.00m north-south by 12.50m east-west. It had a maximum depth of 0.7m deep, the uppermost 0.3m of which was topsoil and redeposited subsoil. The mound itself consisted of four deposits: F601, F602, F608 and F609.

**Trough:** The trough measured 1.90m north-west / south-east by 1.40m north-east / south-west. It was sub-rectangular in plan and had been cut into the subsoil, with steep sides and a flat base. The base contained twelve poorly preserved timbers, possibly of alder and hazel. The trough was filled by two deposits, F613 and F614. F613 was the main fill above the timber lining. It consisted of a mixture of black silty clay, heat shattered stone and charcoal.

## **Site E**

**Burnt Mound:** The remains consisted of a shallow mound which appeared to have been cut by the stream. The burnt mound was up to 0.54m deep, with 0.40m of overburden in the form of topsoil and redeposited subsoil. As excavated the mound on the east side of the stream measured 13.00m north-south by 6.00m. The mound consisted of four deposits of heat-shattered stone and charcoal.

## **Site F**

**Burnt Mound:** The site consisted of a large mound which measured 10.50m north-west / south-east by 16.50m north-east / south-west. The mound was located adjacent to, and probably cut by, the present course of the stream. The mound itself consisted of two main deposits of burnt stone and charcoal. Evidence of flooding occurred in this area in the form of deposits of silty clay overlying the edges of the mound especially on the western side close to the stream.

**Trough:** The timber lined trough F1300 was situated just over 2.50m to the north-east of F1248. It was sub-oval in plan and measured 2.25m north-west / south-east by 1.64m north-east / south-west. The sides were irregular inward sloping until about half of the 0.90m depth of the cut, where they became vertical. The base was flat and even. The pit had been excavated to contain a timber trough, which had been preserved *in-situ*. The trough itself measured 1.90m north-west / south-east by 0.60m north-east / south-west. It had been constructed using a variety of types and sizes of timber. A long flat plank had been laid on the base of the pit and two end pieces were inserted over this at the ends. A series of roundwoods were then placed horizontally on top of each other along both sides of the pit. Two further stakes had been inserted at the south-western and north-western corners behind some of the timbers. These stakes acted as supports, holding the timbers in place. Several gaps between the timbers were sealed with a mixture of moss and twigs. This trough filled with water frequently on excavation.

**Stake-Holes:** A series of twenty seven stakeholes were located mainly to the south east of the trough. These ranged in width from 0.03m to 0.20m, and in depth from

0.02m to 0.19m. Most of the stakeholes had tapered bases and were filled by silty, charcoal rich fill, with occasional deposits of burnt stone.

## **Site G**

**Burnt Mound:** The mound measured 9.00m north-south by 15.00m east west, although originally it would have been larger but was cut on both its southern and western sides by the field boundary and stream respectively. The mound had a maximum depth of 0.75m and consisted of black silts, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.

**Trough:** A large sub-rectangular trough, F1220, was excavated close to the existing field boundary and stream. It measured 2.95m east-west by 1.50m north-south, with almost vertical sides and a flat base, and was 0.35m deep. No evidence of timber lining or postholes survived. It was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.

## **Site H**

**Burnt Mound:** The mound measured 13.00m north-south by 11.00m east-west. The burnt material itself was 0.35m at its deepest with up to 0.30m of topsoil and ploughsoil in places. The mound itself mainly comprised one deposit, F1404, loose black silty sand with frequent inclusions of burnt stone.

**Troughs:** Phase I involved the cutting of two features which appear to be troughs. The relationship between these features is not clear, it is possible that they were not excavated at the same time but as there is no direct evidence for this they shall be treated as one phase. F1411 was a large rectangular subsoil cut trough which measured 1.70m north-south by 1.60m east-west. It was up to 0.42m at its deepest but no western edge was apparent. Immediately to the north a similar sub-rectangular feature, F1412, had been excavated. This measured c.2.50m east-west by 1.60m north-south, and was up to 0.40m at its deepest. The troughs were filled by two deposits of black silty clay and burnt stone.

## **Site I**

**Burnt Spread:** The deposit was a shallow mound, half of which lay within the roadtake, the rest outside of it. As excavated it measured 11.00m north-south by 5.00m east-west. Two phases of activity were apparent. The burnt mound which built up was composed mainly of two deposits, F1611, which partially overlay the trough fill, and F1603.

**Trough:** This was located on the edge of the ridge which sloped to the low lying marshy ground. F1616 measured 2.50m east-west by not more than 1.50m north-south. It was 0.60m deep and filled by a series of deposits, most of which represented a later phase, and abandonment of the area. The trough had been cut into the clay subsoil of the ridge on the eastern side, and appeared to have no western edge, falling away naturally into the low lying area. It is possible that the western edge consisted of timber planks, but no trace of such survived. A series of other pits and stakeholes were located

slightly to the north of the trough. Fourteen further stakeholes were located in this area. Although no structure could be identified amongst them they may have held stakes which functioned as a windbreak.

## Site J

**Burnt Mound:** was one of the largest mounds excavated and measured 20.00m north-south by 30.00m east-west, although at the north-east corner there was a “tail” 7.00m long. F1809 mainly formed the basal deposit, and consisted of black sandy silt with frequent inclusions of burnt stone and charcoal, up to 0.30m deep. It was partially or totally overlain by F1804, a very similar deposit of black sandy silt, up to 0.50m deep. A fragment of Bronze Age ‘ring money’ was recovered from gravels underlying the burnt mound debris in this area and thus pre-dates the use and abandonment of at least a portion of this site.

**Trough 1:** The largest feature, F1808, was situated 4.00m to the west of the pit F1813. It was rectangular and measured 2.50m east-west by 1.78m north-south, although it jutted out slightly at the corners to accommodate four large *in-situ* posts. The pit itself feature had a maximum depth of 0.55m. A layer of burnt mound material, F1830, had accumulated in the base of feature F1808 before the deposition of two horizontally placed planks. The accumulation of this material may have been deliberate at the time of construction of the feature or may have occurred later. Only one of the planks survived, but the scar of the other was visible on excavation.

**Trough 2 and Hearth:** F1826 was situated 8.00m to the south-west of F1819. It was narrow, sub-rectangular in plan and measured 3.60m north-south by 1.65m east-west. The sides were steep, slightly inward sloping, and there were two distinct levels to the base which suggested perhaps that the feature may originally have been two, and that the large clay drain cutting it had obscured the relationship between the two. A distinct area of burning was situated immediately to the east of F1819, this may have been the location of a fire to service the trough.

## Site K

**Burnt Spread:** It consisted of a truncated spread of burnt mound refuse overlying a single trough. The spread, as excavated, measured 3.00m in diameter, although it was cut by the stream so may originally have been larger.

**Trough:** The oval trough, which measured 1.90m east-west by 1.28m north-south, was 0.84m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by four deposits; F1650, F1651, F1652 and F1653. F1653, the basal deposit, was a mixture of loose dark grey gravel with burnt stone and charcoal, up to 0.25m deep. It was overlain by F1652, black clayey silt, up to 0.13m deep, which was in turn overlain by F1651, typical burnt mound debris.

## Site L

**Burnt Mound:** This was the largest site in this field and consisted of a low mound which measured 35m north-south by 15-20m east-west. One deposit of burnt

material predominated, F2001, a fairly compact black silt with 60% burnt stone inclusions and frequent charcoal.

**Troughs and hearth:** F2007 was a rectangular subsoil cut trough which measured 2.04m east-west by 1.46m north-south. It was up to 0.32m deep with almost vertical sides, and flat base with a posthole in each corner. F2004 was situated 11.50m to the south of F2007. Again, it was a large rectangular cut which measured 3.10m east-west by 2.35m north-south. It was up to 0.50m deep, with almost vertical sides and a flat base. A small area of scorched subsoil, F2015, situated 0.50m to the east of F2004, may represent the remains of a hearth. All of the features had been filled by burnt mound debris and covered entirely by it.

## **Site M**

**Burnt Mound:** It was a low mound which measured 13.50m north-south by 9.00m east-west, and survived to a maximum depth of 0.38m. It was only 0.38m deep and consisted of two deposits of black silty clay, F2202 and F2203, which contained a high proportion of heat shattered stone and charcoal.

**Trough:** The trough was a sub-circular cut which measured 2.15m east-west by 1.85m north-south. It had a maximum depth of 0.66m, and the sides sloped inwards to a slightly rounded base. A clay lining, F2208, had been applied to the base and sides of the trough. It was up to 0.16m thick and consisted of compact grey clay with small stone and charcoal inclusions. Two deposits of burnt mound material, F2208 and F2206, filled the remainder of the trough. Seven stakeholes were situated 1.50m to the south-east of the trough.

## **Site N**

**Burnt Mound:** The overlying mound consisted of two deposits of material which measured 10m in diameter and 0.3m in depth. F2505 was the main concentration of burnt mound material and consisted of a homogenous deposit of heat shattered stone within a charcoal rich black silty clay.

**Trough:** One trough, F2504, was present. It was sub-circular and measured 1.2m north-south and 1m east-west. It was 0.35m deep and filled by a single deposit of black silty clay with a high percentage of heat shattered stone .

## **Site O**

**Burnt Mound:** The deposit consisted of three shallow discrete spreads of burnt mound material, F2304, F2307 and F2308, which together measured 9.50m north-south by 8.50m east-west.

**Troughs:** F2307 was roughly circular in plan and measured 2.70m north-south by 2.60m east-west, with a maximum depth of 0.20m. It consisted of relatively loose brown / black silt with burnt stone inclusions. The trough, F2301, was not fully excavated due to severe flooding of the area. As excavated it measured 1.60m north-south by 0.80m east-west, and was up to 0.6m deep. It was cut at the western end by a drain.

## **Site P**

- Burnt Mound:** The deposit measured 13.00m north-south by 10.50m east-west. The trough was overlain by F2421, a grey sandy clay with frequent inclusions of burnt stone with a maximum depth of 0.15m. This was overlain by F2420, a loose reddish / brown deposit of sandy silt and burnt stone 0.25m deep. The upper layer of burnt mound deposit consisted of black silty clay and burnt stone 0.30m deep. The whole burnt mound had a maximum depth of 0.55m.
- Trough:** The trough F2416 could not be fully excavated due to severe flooding. As excavated it measured 3.30m east-west by at least 1.00m north-south. It had a maximum depth of 0.42m and was filled by an extremely wet deposit of loose grey / black clayey silt, F2415, which contained frequent inclusions of burnt stone.
- Finds:** Some possible iron slag was recovered from some mound deposits. A gold ring fragment was recovered from beneath the mound at Site J. Flint scrapers, flint flakes and a possible flint blade were also recovered.
- Dating:** No scientific dating available

## **Excavation Interpretation**

A vast amount of prehistoric activity was taking place in the vicinity of the stream at Rathmore. The volume of burnt mound material excavated either points to the utilisation of this area over a very long period of time or to the activities of a large settled community. These mounds, the majority of which covered a single sub-rectangular trough, varied greatly in size and shape. Apart from the presence of stake-holes around several of the troughs, few other features were identified. The height of the mounds varied from ploughed-out spreads at subsoil level to the larger mounds which measured up to 1m in height. The few artefacts which were recovered appear to suggest a Bronze Age date the complex.

## **References**

McLoughlin, C. 2002. *Archaeological excavations at Rathmore, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Archaeological Development Services Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyhenry	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 327750, 198550
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Ciara McManus	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in the townland of Ballyhenry, c. 0.4km to the north of Ashford village, Co. Wicklow.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. The site, which had initially been identified in an earlier field-walking survey, survived as a large mound c. 18m in diameter prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound and several troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was 17m by 18.5m in size and 1.2m high, orientated north-east/south-west, with a slight dip in the mound material within the north-west quadrant, giving it a characteristic horseshoe shape. It was composed of black silty, clay, charcoal and heat-shattered stone.
Trough 1:	The first and most substantial of these features was rectangular, orientated almost east-west, and measured 2m by 1.8m by 0.38m deep. Small fragments of decayed wood were noted within the base of its fill along the north-east and south-west edges of the feature, suggesting that it may have had a wooden lining that was subsequently removed.
Trough 2:	The second trough had been cut into the south-east edge of Trough 1 and was placed slightly askew of it, orientated in a north-west/south-east direction. This second trough was again rectangular but slightly smaller in size, measuring 1.6m by 1.7m by 0.24m deep.

Trough 3: The third trough lay only centimetres from the south-east edge of trough 2, on an almost north–south axis. It had a less formal shape, measuring 1.8m by 1.4m by 0.25m deep where it was cut into subsoil. It appears to have been the latest of the three to have been dug; evidence from the section of the quadrant baulk suggests that it was cut through the main burnt mound material. All of the troughs had been filled with similar black charcoal-rich soils containing numerous heat-shattered stones.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

### **References**

McManus, C. 2003. Ballyhenry. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*. Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyhenry	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 327750, 198550
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Ciara McManus	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in the townland of Ballyhenry, c. 0.5km to the north of Ashford village, Co. Wicklow.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. The site, which had initially been identified in an earlier field-walking survey, survived as a low mound c. 7m in diameter.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a large burnt mound and several troughs.
Burnt Mound:	A trench covering the portion of the mound between the field boundary and the line of the road was opened up and stripped of topsoil. This revealed the full extent of the mound to be 11.5m along the length of the site. The mound material survived as a dark grey to black friable silt that and contained numerous small heat-shattered stones.
Troughs:	Trough 1, orientated south-east/north-west, was 1.5m wide and at least 2m long, extending into the western baulk of the site, alongside the field boundary. Within the four corners of the trough were a number of stake-holes—two in the north-east corner. A secondary trough was cut into the south-western edge of the first. It was slightly larger than the first trough, being 1.75m wide, and more subrectangular in shape.

**References**

McManus, C. 2003. Ballyhenry. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*. Bray. Wordwell.



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Location:	Townland:	Barnacoyle Big	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 329557, 161800
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Ian Doyle	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical setting of the site, however it was situated adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a gas pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed riverine deposits and a spread of burnt stone.
Burnt Spread:	This layer consisted of a moderately compact black clay and stone deposit with inclusions of heat-shattered limestone and sandstone fragments ranging in size from 40mm to 100mm. Inclusions of charcoal were also present in the spread; a particular concentration was noted in the eastern extremity of the part exposed. This deposit measured approximately 6.06m east–west by 1.6–0.96m as exposed, with a depth of 0.1–0.26m. No trough was encountered during the excavations. It is likely that the spread of heat-shattered stone and charcoal is representative of wider activity along the bank of the former stream.
<b>Finds:</b>	Sherd of Bronze Age pottery from riverine gravels.
<b>Dating:</b>	None
<b>References</b>	

Doyle, I. 2003. Barnacoyle Big. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, site 1340 Bray. Wordwell.

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Location:	Townland:	Downhill	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Calary	NGR: 325910, 210490
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	John Ó Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on the east-facing slopes of Downhill, in Woodlands townland, below the level of a late prehistoric hillfort.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were little recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however a potential hillfort is situated close to the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a gas pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of burnt stone.
Burnt Spread:	Excavation exposed a 3.3m by 2.2m spread of burnt stone and charcoal (F1) in a circular depression overlying boulderclay. This spread was up to 0.48m in depth, and around 40% of it was composed of pieces of the local shale/slate, including some blocks up to 0.4m in length. All, apart from possibly the largest blocks, were clearly fire-cracked. The base of the depression was flat and measured 0.86m by 1.35m. A single post-hole was identified beneath the mound and within the depression. It measured 0.15m in diameter by 0.25m in depth and contained F1 as a fill.
Finds:	Sherd of Bronze Age pottery from riverine gravels.
Dating:	None

### References

Ó Néill, J. 2003. Downhill, Calary Lower. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, site 1347 Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Calary Lower	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Calary	NGR: 324850, 211550
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	John Ó Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical setting of the site, however it was situated adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however similar burnt stone sites were revealed during the pipeline scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a gas pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small spread of burnt stone and a single pit.
Burnt Spread:	Excavation exposed a 3.8m by 2.16m spread of burnt stone and charcoal over boulder clay. This was never more than 0.1m in depth and contained small burnt angular pieces of limestone, sandstone, granite and quartzite.
Pits:	An oval pit was identified 1m to the north of the burnt spread. It measured 2.1m by 2.16m and had a maximum depth of 0.43m. Two fills were present within the pit, a lower mid-brown to grey silty clay containing a quantity of charcoal and pieces of sandstone, siltstone and quartzite, and an upper fill also containing some fragments of granite but with less stone and charcoal. A second pit, 0.8m in diameter and 14mm deep, was identified to the north-west of the spread of burnt material. It contained a fill indistinguishable from that of the main spread.

**References**

Ó Néill, J. 2003. Calary Lower. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, site 1348 Bray. Wordwell.

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Location:	Townland:	Cronykeery	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Rathnew	NGR: 291410, 986520
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Ian Doyle	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The Cronykeery II excavation was approximately 2km north-west of Ashford and some 2km inland from the Wicklow coastline. The site, in present-day terms, is within a tract of land bounded on the west by the N11 and on the east by the Rathnew–Newcastle R761 regional road.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however similar burnt stone sites were revealed during the pipeline scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a gas pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt stone spread, trough and stake-holes.
Burnt Spread:	It consisted of an extensive layer of moderately compact black, fire-cracked stone and clay measuring approximately 6m north–south by 4.3m with a depth of 0.2–0.4m at the time of excavation.
Stake-holes:	A line of stake-holes was detected to the south and south-east of the burnt mound material. This formed a curving arc running east–west from the south-western limit of excavation before turning to run south-west/north-east. In total some twelve stake-holes were traced for a length of 4.5m. These were shallow, narrow impressions left by the tips of posts which may have formed a windbreak or post-and-wattle fence.
Trough:	A large trough or pit was detected in the north-eastern corner of the area examined. This was a substantial oval cut into natural stratigraphy, measuring 1.5m north–south by 1.36m with a depth of 0.8m. It had a U-

shaped profile with a concave base and sloping sides. The fill consisted of a waterlogged, loosely compacted, grey silty clay with frequent inclusions of burnt, heat-shattered stone. A second pit, possibly a very shallow trough, was excavated some 2.5m to the south-west. This additional pit was a small cut into natural boulder clay.

**Hearth:**

In the area between the two pits a setting of stones was revealed. It consisted of two clusters of medium-sized stones which were sealed by burnt mound material. The northern cluster of stones formed a C-shaped setting open to the east, partly enclosing an area measuring 0.4m north–south by 0.5m. The southern setting of three stones, to the north of the smaller pit, partly enclosed an area measuring 0.4m east–west by 0.25m. The northern cluster, in particular, was at the time of excavation considered likely to be a hearth, but no ash or other indications of soil oxidation from heat were observed.

**Finds:**

None

**Dating:**

None

**References**

Doyle, I. 2003. Cronykeery II. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, site 1353 Bray. Wordwell

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Location:	Townland:	Kilmacanogue	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Rathnew	NGR: 324900, 214750
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: 101
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	John Ó Néill	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was located to the east of Kilmacanogue village, on the lower slopes of the Little Sugar Loaf mountain.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however similar burnt stone sites were revealed during the pipeline scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a gas pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt stone spread and a single pit.
Burnt Spread:	The spread was found to cover some 3.7m (east–west) by 2.4m, to a maximum depth of 0.15m. Water action has stained the ground downslope of this spread for a further 4–5m. The spread consisted of 60% charcoal-rich, friable clay with 40% burnt stone, 20–90mm in length, including small and angular limestone, sandstone, granite and quartzite.
Pits:	A single irregular pit was identified further upslope from F1, measuring 3.8m (east–west) by 2m. This was found to contain two fills and had a maximum depth of 0.65m. The upper fill was 60% burnt stone, and a 0.1m-deep lower fill may have been a deliberately introduced base lining. A further shallow pit, 0.8m in diameter and 0.14m deep, was located beside F1 and was backfilled with the same material.

### References

Ó Néill, J. 2003. Kilmacanogue North. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, site 1354  
Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Kilmartin	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 292680, 009040
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Ian Doyle	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The Kilmartin site is in a low sheltered valley where a small unnamed stream runs north-west/south-east. In the late 20th century the stream was placed into an underground pipe at this point. The ground climbs steeply on the south-western side, while to the north-west it rises sharply, crossing the townland boundary into Barnacoyle Big.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however similar burnt stone sites were revealed during the pipeline scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a gas pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed several burnt stone spreads, a timber-lined trough, a large pit and a number of stake-holes.		
Burnt Spread:	The initial topsoil-stripping revealed spreads of heat-shattered stone and charcoal. An area measuring 15.5m east–west by 7m was hand-cleaned. A northern spread of burnt mound material was also noted after topsoil-stripping. This spread measured some 4.9m east–west by 4.4m, with a maximum depth of 0.1m as exposed. This spread overlay natural boulder clay stratigraphy in places.		
Trough:	This timber-lined trough comprised a shallow rectangular cut with straight sides and a flat base. It measured 2.19m east–west by 0.94m, with a depth of 0.34m. There were two substantial waterlogged oak planks at the base of the cut. The northernmost oak plank measured 1.78m by 0.2m (max.) by 0.08–0.12m thick. The width of the plank tapered towards each end. No bark was		

present. The southernmost plank was also a split oak plank, and measured 2.08m by 0.34m (max.) by 0.08–0.12m thick. No tool-marks were visible on either of the planks. The fill of the trough was a moderately compact black silty clay with frequent inclusions of charcoal, fire-cracked limestone, sandstone and granite fragments. This fill extended throughout the cut and sealed the oak planks. The eastern part of the trough was cut by a modern pipe drain. Two distinct clusters of stake-holes were present at the north-western and south-western corners of the trough cut. Both clusters sat in shallow depressions, which opened into the corners of the trough.

**Hearth:** An area of fire-reddened or oxidised clay was revealed immediately east of the stake-hole clusters.

**Pit:** A large pit was uncovered to the west of the trough with the timber base. This pit, which measured 3.3m east–west by 1.8m by 0.8m deep, contained some six fills of silty clays with occasional lenses of heat-shattered stone. Several fragments of wood were recovered from the fills of the pit. Examination of these fragments has suggested that they represent modern root activity.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

## **References**

Doyle, I. 2003. Kilmartin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, site 1366 Bray. Wordwell



Location:	Townland:	Tiglin	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 329277, 202882
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Bord Gáis Pipeline	
	Site Director:	Ian Doyle	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	It was on the crest of a gentle north to south slope, between the coastline to the east and a larger hill to the west. The field was formerly under cultivation, with the likelihood that the site had experienced some truncation by plough prior to excavation.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however similar burnt stone sites were revealed during the pipeline scheme.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a gas pipeline. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt stone spread and several pits.
Burnt Spread:	The monitoring of topsoil-stripping and subsequent excavation revealed two related spreads of heat-shattered stone. No other information is available.
Pits:	A series of pits were cut into the upper fills of this depression into the surrounding natural subsoil. The majority of these were wide, shallow cuts with loosely compact silty grey clay fills. However, one pit, to the south-east of the area examined, contained a series of eight fills, comprising fire-cracked stone and charcoal layers, silty clays and layers of redeposited charcoal. A single post-hole was revealed at its base.

**References**

Doyle, I. 2003. Tiglin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001*, site 1386 Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Ballyhenry	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 327811, 1986898
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Emmett Stafford	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying waterlogged area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed a spread of burnt stone material.

Burnt Mound: The site was characterised by a small mound of heat-fractured stone in a charcoal-rich matrix that measured 10m east–west by 14m and was 0.3m in maximum depth. Significant amounts of quartz and sandstone were contained in this deposit, which otherwise consisted of a mix of glacial stones with a small proportion of decomposed granite. Some shallower deposits of burnt stone to the east of the mound appeared to have been washed clean of any charcoal inclusions. No trough was revealed at the site.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

### References

Stafford, E. 2004. Kilmartin. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, site 1945 Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Ballynabarny	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Glenealy	NGR: 328320, 193760
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Ruth Elliot	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The burnt spread was next to a natural spring, and, during the Bronze Age period, it appears that fresh water constantly filled a hollow in this area and flowed downhill to the north-east.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Bronze Age pits		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread, trough and possible pit.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread itself (c. 15m <sup>2</sup> and 0.25m deep) was roughly horseshoe shaped in plan but had been greatly disturbed and depleted.
Trough:	A large trough lay 4m south-east of the spring and would have filled naturally with water. This was subrectangular, measuring 2.3m by 2m, and was up to 0.48m deep. The lower fills were composed of charcoal-enriched soil with inclusions of burnt stone, and the remainder of the cut filled naturally with silt from the spring.
Pit/hearth:	A large pit central to these features may have been used to heat stones on the site. This was oval, measuring 1.4m by 0.96m, and was 0.35m deep. There was in situ burning at the base of the cut, and the features surrounding it suggest that there may have been a windbreak.

### References

Elliot, R. 2004. Ballynabarny. *Fulacht fiadh*. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, site 1946 Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Ballynabarny	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Glenealy	NGR: 328230, 194560
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Emmett Stafford	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	The burnt mounds were all located in low-lying areas close to a water source.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt mounds		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the sites prior to excavation

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed three burnt mound sites with related cut features.

### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: This area contained a semi-circular mound that was cut to the north by the widened stream. The surviving mound measured 8.7m east–west by 5.6m. the original extent of the mound, which had a maximum depth of 0.39m after the removal of topsoil, is unknown but is unlikely to have exceeded 11m north–south (i.e. to have reached the northern side of the widened stream). Other than the disturbance caused by a series of stone-filled land drains and the stream to the north, the mound appeared to be largely unaffected by post-depositional factors.

Trough: A second series of features was revealed outside the limits of the burnt mound. One of these, a rectangular cut measuring 2.2m by 1.2m, was excavated 1.5m from the south-western limit of the burnt mound. It had straight sides, a flat base and a post-hole set in each corner and clearly functioned as a trough. It had a maximum surviving depth of 0.38m and

contained the fragmentary remains of a timber lining along its southern, eastern and northern edges. In addition, faint depressions in its level base appeared to represent narrow roundwood timbers oriented along its long axis. The fills were largely composed of heat-shattered stone in a variety of charcoal-rich, silty soils.

## **Site B**

### **Burnt Mound:**

In common with Area 1, Area 2 was characterised by a mound of heat-shattered stone. The mound, which was roughly sub-rectangular, measured 10.15m east–west by 4.7 and was a maximum of 0.25m deep. The original extent of the mound, which was disturbed by agricultural drainage, is unknown, but it is unlikely to have far exceeded the recorded measurements. The burnt-mound material extended to the south-east as a shallow spread. This material, which overlay a number of archaeological features.

### **Troughs:**

Two features that appeared to have functioned as troughs were excavated immediately to the south-west of the mound. These features were within 0.4m of each other and were overlain by a shallow spread of burnt-mound material. Both were roughly rectangular. The smaller feature measured 1.74m by 1.08m; its sides sloped gradually to sharply to a flat base at a depth of 0.25m. The larger measured 2.8m by 1.8m and was 0.5m deep. The cut was partially surrounded by large granite boulders. A series of four large stake-holes/small post-holes was excavated at the corners of the trough. The timbers represented by these stake-holes may have supported a timber lining of the trough, no other trace of which survived.

## **Site C**

### **Burnt Spread:**

Area 3 took the form of a small spread of heat-shattered stone in a charcoal-rich but otherwise friable soil. This deposit was cut to the north by the drainage ditch and may not represent an in situ burnt-mound deposit. It measured 8.15m east–west by 1.75m, with a maximum depth of 0.12m. A second, shallower deposit of heat-shattered stone extended 3.65m to the south. It contained very little charcoal and was only 0.01–0.05m deep.

### **Finds:**

None

### **Dating:**

None

## **References**

Stafford, E. 2004. Ballynabarny. Burnt Mounds. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, site 1948 Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Kiltimon	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 327897, 202897
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Ruairí Ó Baoill and Yvonne McQuade	
	Consultants:	Archaeological Development Services Ltd.	
	Year:	2002	
Physical Setting:	There is no information available as to the physical location of the site.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the sites prior to excavation

**Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** A stone hearth and cooking platform were uncovered beneath the layers of burnt stone related to the activity carried out at the site, but no cooking trough was found within the site limits. A series of post-holes, some containing in situ timbers, attested to other activities on the site. Unfortunately, no other information is available for the site.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** None

**References**

Ó Baoill, R and McQuade, Y. 2004. Kiltimon. *Fulacht fiadh* In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, site 1978 Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Ballyhenry	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: Unknown
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 dual carriageway	
	Site Director:	Eoghan Moore	
	Consultants:	Independent.	
	Year:	2001	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying waterlogged area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds were exposed during roadworks.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Newtownmountkennedy to Ballynabarny dual carriageway. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation

**Excavation Record**

**Summary of Features:** Following the removal of topsoil, the burnt material of the *fulacht fia* was exposed. The exposed extent of the monument measured c. 15.7m east-west by 7m (maximum). The maximum depth was c. 0.25m. Two modern field drains had truncated the burnt mound. Another modern field drain was uncovered following the removal of the *fulacht fia* material. The burnt mound was on a grey-coloured natural deposit. A number of natural depressions were uncovered subsequent to the removal of the burnt material. Six flint pieces were found during the excavation.

**Finds:** Six flint pieces

**Dating:** None

**References**

Moore, E. 2006. Ballyhenry. *Fulacht fiadh* In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*, site 2066 Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Charlesland	Six inch map no: 19
	Parish:	Kilcoole	NGR: 329670, 21026
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated in a low-lying area at the base of a gradual east-facing slope in close proximity to a stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds and prehistoric structures were exposed during this project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds and possible habitation site.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt stone spread and a number of troughs.
Burnt Mound:	A burnt mound was excavated measuring c. 14m east-west by 11.5m. It was truncated by ploughing and survived to a maximum depth of 0.2m. The spread was composed of two deposits of burnt stone and charcoal-rich sandy silty.
Trough 1:	C33 was rectangular in shape and measured 1.4m by 0.9m with a depth of 0.18m. It was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.
Trough 2:	The previous trough cut the edge of C35. This was also rectangular in shape and measured 1.65m by 0.83m with a depth of 0.2m. This was also filled with deposits of burnt stone material.
Trough 3:	C84 was also rectangular in shape and measured 1.4m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.2m. Fragments of decayed wood were revealed at the base of the feature suggesting it may have originally been timber lined. The fill of the trough was composed of burnt stone.



**Trough 4:**

One trough had a very substantial and complex wooden lining and was almost 1m in depth. It was rectangular in shape and measured 2.26m by 2.05m. Two timber planks formed the base of the trough. These timbers appear to have been reused, as there were a number of dowel holes in the planks that had no function within the trough. The eastern and western sides of the trough were composed of roundwoods. The northern and southern edges were composed of a single plank. These planks were held in place by pegs placed in the corner. A wattle lining was excavated around the edge of the cut and was stratigraphically earlier than the wooden lining. A possible musical instrument was found at the base of the trough. It was very deliberately placed over the timber planks at the base of the trough and was very well preserved.

**Stake-Holes:**

A cluster of seventeen stake-holes were revealed to the south of the trough in a dense concentration.

**Finds:**

Musical pipes were recovered from the base of trough 4

**Dating:**

The musical pipes were dated to 2137–1909 BC (Bernice Molloy, pers comm.)

**References**

Molloy, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Charlesland Site CA Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company.

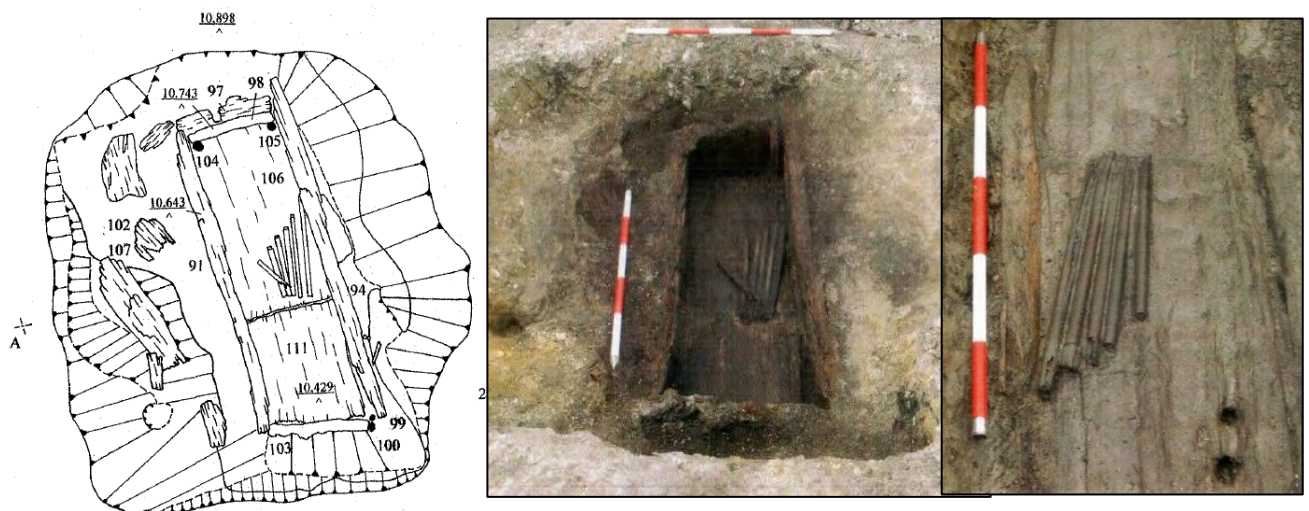


Fig. 20.162 Plank and wattle-lined trough with in situ musical pipes at Charlesland, Co. Wicklow.

Location:	Townland:	Charlesland	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Kilcoole	NGR: 329630, 210840
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was situated at the base of western facing slope, 15m east of a land drain which is likely the remains of a streambed.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds and prehistoric structures were exposed during this project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds and possible habitation site.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Two areas of archaeological potential were exposed during topsoil-stripping, Trenches A and B.

#### **Trench A**

Burnt Mound: Trench A measured 20m north-south by 18m. Two land drains and several plough furrows had severely truncated the archaeological deposits. The remains of a burnt mound with associated pits and post-holes were excavated. The mound measured 2.8m north-east/south-west by 2.5m. A fragment of worked flint came from this deposit.

#### **Trench B**

Burnt Mound: Trench B was located c. 10m to the east of Trench A. It measured 28m north-south by 12m. A burnt mound measuring 3.8m north-south by 2.3m was identified in this trench. Three troughs were exposed beneath the mound.

Trough 1: Trough (C67) was sub-rectangular in plan. It measured 2.8m by 1.9m with a depth of 0.8m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and was filled with

deposits of burnt mound material. A saddle quern was recovered from the base of the trough. A large cluster of stake-holes were located immediately north of the trough.

**Trough 2:** C90 was located to the south-east of the previous trough. It was circular in plan and was filled with deposits of burnt mound material.

**Trough 3:** This trough (C69) was not fully revealed during the excavation. It was 1m in width with a depth of 0.8m. It was filled with various deposits of silty clays and burnt stone.

**Finds:** Six fragments of worked flint were recovered from the site along with a saddle quern from trough 1

**Dating:** None

## References

Molloy, B. 2003. *Archaeological excavations at Charlesland Site L Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared by Margaret Gowen and Company.

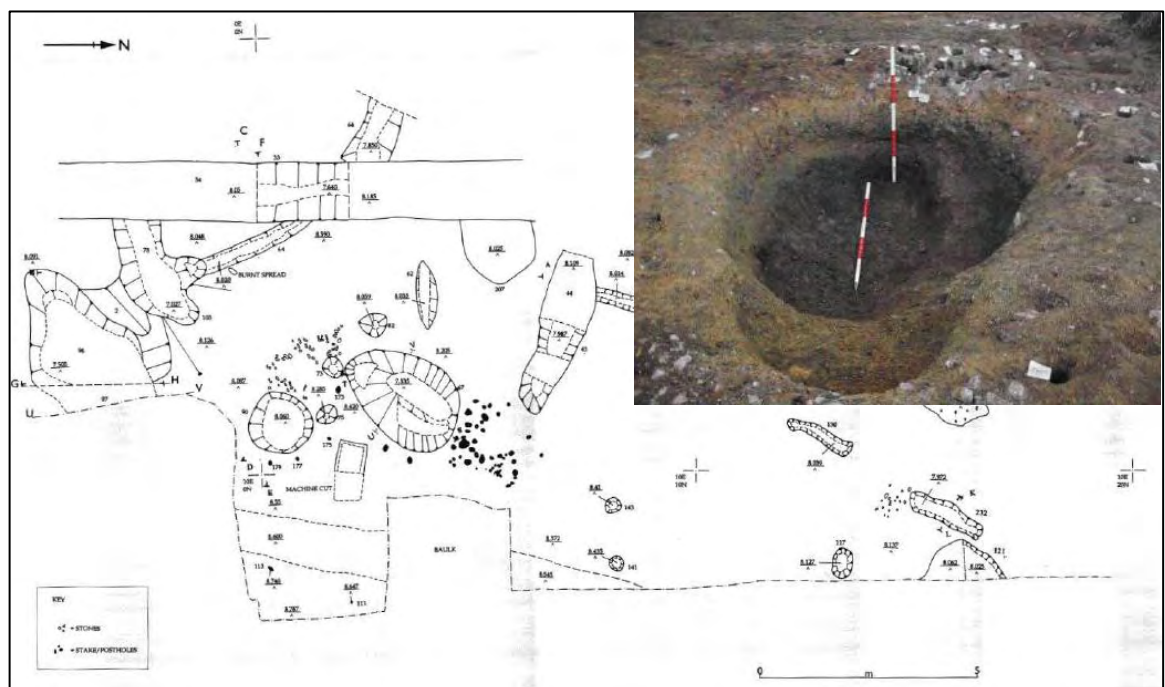


Fig. 10.163 Troughs and stake-hole cluster at Charlesland Site L.

Location:	Townland:	Killincarrig	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Delgany	NGR: 329750, 210840
	Barony:	Rathdown	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Road Sceme (Greystones)	
	Site Director:	Bernice Molloy	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2003	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying hollow at the base of a gradual west-facing slope. A natural deposit of peat partially overlay the natural subsoil.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however numerous burnt mounds and prehistoric structures were exposed during this project.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Burnt Mounds and possible habitation site.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a road development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed three burnt spreads and a possible trough.

Burnt Spreads: Spread 1 was located at the eastern extent of Site K. It measured 8.5m east-west by 6m and varied in depth between 0.05 and 0.25m. A possible hearth feature consisting of a deposit of ashy sand was excavated overlying the main deposit of burnt stone. Spread 2 was located c. 5.5m to the north-east of Spread 1. This spread was very truncated and measured 9m east-west by 5.5m. It had a maximum depth of 0.1m. Spread 3 was located 3m to the north of Spread 2 and was on a gradual south-facing slope. It measured 2.3m east-west by 1.8m and varied in depth between 0.04 and 0.12m. Only one deposit of burnt stone was visible in section. A trough was located c. 2m from the western edge of Spread 3. It measured 1.7m north-south by 0.75m. It had a maximum depth of 0.14m. No finds were recovered.

### References

Molloy, B. 2006. Killincarrig. *Fulacht fiadh* In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*, site 2086 Bray. Wordwell.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynattin	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Arklow	NGR: 318500, 171120
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Housing Development	
	Site Director:	Melanie McQuade	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying marshy ground.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however a potential prehistoric settlement was also excavated as part of this development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Possible habitation site.		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of a housing development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound and a number of possible hearths.
Burnt Mound:	A burnt mound measuring 23.7m by 8.3m and up to 0.33m deep was uncovered on marshy ground on the west of the proposed development. A thin spread of burnt material, 1.55m by 0.5m, was uncovered to the north of the burnt mound. Its presence suggests that there may have been contemporary settlement activity in the area. A post-hole, 0.18m in diameter, and two areas of burning were identified to the west of the burnt mound. The burnt areas were 2m by 0.75m and 0.9m by 0.48m. Two further post-holes, with diameters of 0.15m and 0.3m, were identified further to the west and are indicative of settlement activity upslope from the burnt mound.
Dating:	None

**References**

McQuade, M. 2008. Ballynattin. *Fulacht fiadh* In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2005*, site 1696 Bray. Wordwell

Location:	Townland:	Inchanappa South	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Killiskey	NGR: 327300, 198400
	Barony:	Newcastle	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Industrial Development	
	Site Director:	Gill McLoughlin	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	The proposed development site is situated in a small river valley c. 1km north of Ashford village.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however burnt mounds were excavated in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of industrial development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed three burnt mounds and related cut features. Site A was a roughly circular burnt-mound deposit measuring 13m by 15m by 0.3m. Two pits interpreted as troughs were sealed by the mound. Site B was a small spread of charcoal-rich soil and heat-shattered stone; the main concentration measured 4.4m by 5.6m. Site C consisted of a roughly circular burnt mound measuring 19.5m by 13.5m by 0.4m, which sealed three troughs and one shallow rectangular feature. Site D was located adjacent to the river that formed the eastern boundary to the site. This was the largest of the three burnt mounds, measuring 30m north-west/south-east by 14m by 0.66m. One circular trough and three small pits were sealed under the mound. Charcoal identification from the troughs showed that alder was present in all three troughs, and ash and hazel were present in two of the troughs in smaller quantities. Three charcoal samples were selected from the troughs at Sites A, C and D for radiocarbon dating. The results place all of the sites in the Early Bronze Age and indicate activity at this site possibly spanning 1000 years.

**Finds:**

Artefacts: None

Ecofacts: None

**Dating:**

Relative dating: None

Absolute dating: Charcoal (unknown) from unknown context (Site A)  
C14 (Lab unknown) 3830±73 BP (2475–2041 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from unknown context (Site B)  
C14 (Lab unknown) 3382±54 BP (1876–1528 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from unknown context (Site C)  
C14 (Lab unknown) 3830±73 BP (2196–1941 BC)

**References**

McLoughlin, G. 2008. Inchanappa South. *Fulacht fiadh* In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2005*, site 1705  
Bray. Wordwell

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Location:	Townland:	Rampere	Six inch map no: NA
	Parish:	Rathbrane	NGR: 286431, 191779
	Barony:	Upper Talbotstown	Altitude: 124
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	Landfill Extension	
	Site Director:	Melanie McQuade	
	Consultants:	Margaret Gowen and Company Ltd.	
	Year:	2005	
Physical Setting:	This site was located on low-lying land to the south of Rampere Stream. A natural silty peat layer at the eastern end of the site represents a silted-up watercourse and three phases of activity were identified.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in immediate vicinity of the site prior to excavation, however burnt mounds were excavated in neighbouring townlands.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of industrial development. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, post-holes and a possible troughs.
Burnt Mound:	The exposed part of the mound was 19.05m by 15.55m and between 0.1m and 0.5m deep. It was sealed by two layers of silty clay.
Troughs:	Trough 1 was sub-rectangular in plan(1.7m by 1.4m) and cut the silt deposit. It was lined by seventeen large flagstones and was 0.35m deep. A small mound of redeposited natural to the immediate north of the trough was cut by three post-holes. The post-holes ranged from 0.08m to 0.28m in diameter. Trough 2 was a sub-square-shaped pit measuring 3m wide and 0.7m deep.
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal from the burnt mound is dated to the Middle Bronze Age (1607–1570).

### **References**

McQuade, M. 2008. Rampere. Burnt Mounds. In I, Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2005*, site 1711 Bray. Wordwell



Location:	Townland:	Ballinaskea	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Ennereilly	NGR: 327039, 178561
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Ballinaskea contains several sites dating to the Bronze Age period. The excavation forms part of a complex of burnt mound sites extending from Johnstown North, 300m to the south of this site. This complex also contains two RMP sites (WI041-004 and WI041-007) and two sites excavated as part of the N11 Arklow By pass (97E207 and 97E0252). A possible settlement site was excavated at Site A022/020 Ballymoyle which is located to the north of Ballinaskea.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		
<b>Pre-Excavation features</b>			
The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.			
<b>Excavation Record</b>			
Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt spread and a number of troughs and pits.		
Burnt Mound:	The burnt mound material (C10) was located in the centre of the site, sealing a low, natural, curvilinear depression running across the site. This depression may have represented the location of a small stream as evidenced by the alluvial deposits (C30) and (C31). Several diagnostic finds were recovered from the spread, including flint artefacts, pottery sherds and a possible grinding stone, as well, as fragments of animal teeth and burnt bone. The main burnt stone deposit measured 14.6m by 5.9m with a maximum thickness of 0.3m.		
Trough 1:	The trough [C20] was located in the southeast corner of the site, adjacent to the limit of excavation and a stream. It was oval in shape and measured 1.3m by 1.15m with a depth of 0.3m. The primary fill of the trough (C9) was a compact, dark grey black, silty clay. It contained poorly sorted sub-angular		

and sub-rounded coarse pebbles and occasional inclusions of charcoal. A sample from the trough is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

**Trough 2:** The trough [C26] was located in the southwest corner of the site and ran beyond the limit of excavation. The rectangular-shaped trough measured 3.4m in length by 2.5m in width and measured 0.35m in depth. The primary fill of the trough was (C3), a loose, dark grey / black, sandy (and ashy) silt. It included moderately sorted sub-angular, heat affected sandstone inclusions and occasional charcoal flecking.

**Post-holes:** Five post-holes were located in the southwest corner of the site in close proximity to the trough [C26]. Together, the postholes created a sub-rectangular plan. They do not appear to have been large enough to have represented the remains of a substantial structure but may have formed some type of temporary shelter.

**Pits:** This subgroup represents two small pits [C21] and [C32], which were located at the south end of the site. The sub-circular pit [C21] was 0.8m in length by 0.8m in width and measured 0.14m in depth. It was unclear whether the small possible pit [C32] represented small shallow cut. It was filled by burnt spread material (C12).

**Finds:**

**Artefacts:** Flint scraper, plano-convex knife, flint flake and possible pounding stone was recovered from the burnt mound.

**Ecofacts:** Possible animal bone was recovered from the burnt mound.

**Dating:**

**Relative dating:** None

**Absolute dating:** Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the trough (C20)  
C14 (WK-20656) 3715±36 BP (2210–2010 BC)  
Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the pit (C32)  
C14 (WK-20655) 3043±55 BP (1430–1120 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

Two broad phases of Bronze Age activity were identified at the present site in Ballinaskea, both consisting of burnt mound type activity. The results of the excavation have identified burnt mound activity from the early and middle Bronze Age. The low-lying marginal nature of the landscape is very favourable for burnt mound sites, and the results of the charcoal analysis confirm that this landscape was also wet/marginal in the Bronze Age. While the excavated troughs from the site did not show any evidence for timber-lining, the presence of stake-holes and postholes indicate a probable windbreak or small structure adjacent to the southern trough.

**References**

Whitty, Y. 2009. Archaeological excavations at Ballinaskea, Co. Wicklow. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Scratenagh	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Ennereilly	NGR: 327587, 179562
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low-lying area adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	The site lay 250m north of Site A022/020 (two possible prehistoric structures and associated features) and 320m south of Site A022/022 (a burnt mound). No previously recorded or areas of archaeological potential were noted within the vicinity of the site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	This site consisted of the remains of a burnt mound and comprised a hearth, a trough, stake-holes and a burnt spread
Burnt Mound:	The burnt spread comprised an irregular non-continuous area (c. 6m east–west by c. 4.75m) with shallow (maximum 0.19m) deposits of burnt mound material.
Trough:	The trough comprised a sub-rectangular feature (1.96m north–south by 1.2m by 0.36m). A fragile timber lining was evident in the base of the trough, and the trough contained a single burnt-spread fill.
Stake-Holes:	This subgroup comprises nine stake-holes (Figure 4) that were located southwest of the trough [C38]. These stake-holes encompassed a sub-rectangular area that measured 0.75m (north to south) by 0.5m (east to west).
Hearth:	This hearth was located in the centre of the site. The feature comprised <i>in situ</i> burning (C11) and a shallow rounded cut [C10] (Figure 5), which contained burnt spread material (C3). The feature has been interpreted as a hearth because of the <i>in situ</i> burning.

**Finds:**

Artefacts:	two flint waste flakes were recovered from the site.
Ecofacts:	None

**Dating:**

Relative dating:	None
Absolute dating:	Charcoal (ash) from the fill of the pit (C3) C14 (WK-20659) 3996±40 BP (2630–2350 BC) Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the pit (C37) C14 (WK-20660) 3960±37 BP (2570–2340 BC)

**Excavation Interpretation**

The excavation at this site revealed the remains of a late Neolithic/early Bronze Age burnt spread with an associated trough, hearth, pit and stakeholes. Two C14 dates were returned from features on the site. The trough was rectangular in shape and contained timber lining along the base. The majority of the group of 9 stakeholes were located to the southwest of the trough. Five of these formed an L-shaped alignment adjacent to the trough and could have been a windbreak or trough fixing. No other discernable structure was identified, but all stakeholes on site were probably related to the burnt spread activity

**References**

Dehaene, G. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Scratenagh, Co. Wicklow (E3206)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Scratenagh	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Ennereilly	NGR: 327759, 179835
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in low-lying land, c. 30m west of the Redcross River and c. 125m east of Scratenagh crossroads.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Scratenagh contains several sites dating from the late Neolithic to the middle Bronze Age. Six burnt mound sites (Sites A022/021–026) were excavated in Scratenagh, five of which dated to between the late Neolithic and the middle Bronze Age while the sixth (Site A022/025) returned a late Bronze Age / early Iron Age date. To the south of Scratenagh, a possible settlement site was excavated at Site A022/020 Ballymoyle.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

**Summary of Features:** This site consisted of the remains of a burnt mound and a single trough. The burnt spread comprised an irregular layer (c. 11.5m north–south by c. 7.5m by c. 0.45m) of burnt-mound material. The trough was to the east of the burnt-mound material and comprised a subrectangular feature (3.3m north–south by 1.8m by 0.2m). The trough contained a single burnt-spread material fill.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread  
C14 (WK-20829) 3152±73 BP (1610–1250 BC)

### References

Dehaene, G. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Scratenagh, Co. Wicklow (E3207)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Scratenagh	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Ennereilly	NGR: 327770, 179883
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in low-lying land, c. 25m west of the Redcross River and c. 125m east of Scratenagh crossroads.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Scratenagh contains several sites dating from the late Neolithic to the middle Bronze Age. Six burnt mound sites (Sites A022/021–026) were excavated in Scratenagh, five of which dated to between the late Neolithic and the middle Bronze Age while the sixth (Site A022/025) returned a late Bronze Age / early Iron Age date. To the south of Scratenagh, a possible settlement site was excavated at Site A022/020 Ballymoyle.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Iron Age pit.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	This site consisted of the remains of a burnt spread, pits and stake-holes. An isolated Iron Age pit was also revealed.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt spread was in the east of the site and comprised three phases of deposition. The spread measured c. 12m (north–south) by c. 9.5m by 0.45m. The north of the burnt spread was cut by (and defined by) a modern drain (aligned east–west). Pits and stake-holes were identified on this site. The stake-holes did not reveal any definable structure type. Similarly the pits have an uncertain function, but, due to the proximity of the burnt spread and the composition of the fills, these features must be related.

### References

Dehaene, G. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Scratenagh, Co. Wicklow (E3208)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Scratenagh	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Ennereilly	NGR: 327782, 180042
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in low-lying land, c. 50m west of the Redcross River and c. 125m east of Scratenagh crossroads.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Scratenagh contains several sites dating from the late Neolithic to the middle Bronze Age. Six burnt mound sites (Sites A022/021–026) were excavated in Scratenagh, five of which dated to between the late Neolithic and the middle Bronze Age while the sixth (Site A022/025) returned a late Bronze Age / early Iron Age date. To the south of Scratenagh, a possible settlement site was excavated at Site A022/020 Ballymoyle.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Iron Age pit.		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	This site consisted of the remains of a trough, stake-holes and a number of pits.
Trough:	The trough was 2.47m (east–west) by 1.18m and 0.5m deep and contained five fills of various burnt stone deposits. The cut [C21] was sub-rectangular with vertical sides and a flat base. No evidence for lining was identified.
Hearth:	This feature was located immediately west of the trough cut [C21]. It comprised a layer of <i>in situ</i> fire-reddened clay that may represent the remnants of a hearth directly associated with trough activity. It measured 1m by 0.97m with a depth of 0.1m.
Pits:	The four pits varied greatly and have been interpreted as belonging to a common site activity associated with the trough.

**Post-holes:** This subgroup is comprised of two postholes (Figure 4; Plate 3) located close to the trough [C21] and at the northern edge of an irregular pit [C16]. The first [C31] was situated between the trough and irregular pit. The fill (C9) of this posthole contained two sherds of prehistoric pottery. The second [C29] was located immediately north of the irregular pit [C16]. It is suggested that these postholes were associated with the trough and may represent the very truncated remnants of a fixing or structure.

**Finds:** Two sherds of possible prehistoric pottery were recovered from one of the post-holes

**Dating:** Charcoal (oak) from the fill of the post-hole (C31)  
C14 (WK-20871) 3942±81 BP (2850–2100 BC)

**References**

Dehaene, G. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Scratenagh, Co. Wicklow (E3209)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Scratenagh	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Ennereilly	NGR: 327770, 180138
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in low-lying land, north of the Redcross River.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Scratenagh contains several sites dating from the late Neolithic to the middle Bronze Age. Six burnt mound sites (Sites A022/021–026) were excavated in Scratenagh, five of which dated to between the late Neolithic and the middle Bronze Age while the sixth (Site A022/025) returned a late Bronze Age / early Iron Age date. To the south of Scratenagh, a possible settlement site was excavated at Site A022/020 Ballymoyle.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	This site consisted of the remains of a burnt spread, four pits and a hearth.
Burnt Spread:	This subgroup comprises a burnt spread (C3) that was located in the centre of the site and sealed the large pit [C31] and possible hearth [C9]. It extended towards (but not into) the lowest areas of the site in the southwest. At the western extent of (C3), the spread contained more silt and was greyer in colour. This variation indicates the possible disturbance of the spread in the area by the Redcross River. It measured 11.5m by 7.3m with a thickness of 0.27m.
Trough:	The rounded cut [C24] of the pit contained a total of 5 fills, (C12), (C20), (C21), (C22) and (C23). These fills all comprised burnt spread material. At the base of the pit two fragments of wood were identified which probably represented a lining. The presence of the wood lining suggests that the pits may have functioned as a trough. The pit was oval and measured 1.25m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.37m.

- Pit:** The cut [C31] was sub-circular in plan with sides that tapered to an irregular base. It measured 4.3m by 3.9m with a depth of 0.89m. The earliest fills of the pit (C29 and C30) comprised dark grey, silty clay and contained charcoal. Overlying this silty clay were two re-deposited natural subsoil fills (C26) and (C25) which filled a large portion of the pit. These two fills were sterile and they did not contain charcoal.
- Hearth:** This subgroup consists of a hearth, located immediately south of pit [C31] in the centre of the site. The feature comprised a shallow cut [C9] that had a basal fill of fire-reddened clay (C6) that was formed by *in-situ* burning. The upper fill of the hearth (C4) was very similar to burnt spread material. It measured 1.6m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.2m.
- Finds:** None
- Dating:** Charcoal (ash, hazel and alder) from the fill of the trough  
C14 (WK-20830) 2918±40 BP (1260–1000 BC)  
Charcoal (hazel) from the burnt spread  
C14 (WK-20831) 3953±61 BP (1390–1000 BC)

#### **References**

Dehaene, G. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Scratenagh, Co. Wicklow (E3211)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Cranagh	Six inch map no: 41
	Parish:	Ennereilly	NGR: 327900, 182637
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Ellen O' Carroll	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The spread of burnt-mound material was situated on the edge of a stream which had been widened and deepened so that it had truncated some of the deposits.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Cranagh and nearby townland Ballynapark contained five burnt mound sites, excavated as part of this road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	This site consisted of the remains of a burnt spread and a number of pits.
Burnt Spread:	The spread of burnt-mound material was situated on the edge of a stream which had been widened and deepened so that it had truncated some of the deposits. The spread measured 23m north–south by 3.5m by 0.35m deep.
Trough:	Trough, [15], was located on the north slope of the site underneath the burnt mound. It was rectangular in shape and measured 2.2m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.9m. The fill (14) represented the last use of the trough and was the basal fill of the feature. Fills (13) and (12) represented the decayed remains of the wooden trough.
<b>Finds:</b>	Flint flakes from the topsoil
<b>Dating:</b>	Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough C14 (WK-20665) 3610±38 BP (2130–1880 BC)

### References

O'Carroll, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cranagh, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynapark	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327882, 182909
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is located in a flat, low-lying field, which rises gently in the southwest corner and was located c. 450m south of recorded monument WI036-016, the site of an enclosure.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Ballynapark and adjacent townlands Cranagh and Cloghoge contained four burnt mound sites. Only one known RMP site was located in the vicinity of the site; WI036-016, which is the site of an enclosure in Ballinaclea townland. A mill stone and a possible mace head were found by a landowner in the vicinity of this site.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Neolithic pits		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	The site comprised several burnt spreads, troughs and pits. The excavation comprised two areas within an overall area measuring 140m east–west by 60m.
Burnt Spread:	This burnt spread consisted of two intermixed spreads of burnt, charcoal-rich soil, (15) and (16). These also contained medium-sized burnt and heat-fractured stones. These layers formed a large, irregular, sub-oval feature measuring c. 24m north-south by 15m east-west. Spread (26) also consisted of dark, grey-black soil with heat-fractured stones. This lay in a natural depression northwest of spreads (15) and (16). It was interpreted as disturbance or natural slippage of the same burnt material. The large spread, (15) and (16), sealed nine pits, possible troughs and postholes and contained almost 500 pieces of worked flint.
Pits:	The first pit was a shallow flat-bottomed irregular cut 2.5m east–west by 2m. It contained a single fill from which 440 chipped flints were recovered. This pit and the burnt spread in the area immediately around it produced hundreds more fragments of flint. The second pit comprised a subcircular cut (1.22m by

1.08m) with sloped sides and a flat base, containing two fills. The third pit comprised a large, deep oval pit cut (2.6m east–west by 1.65m by 0.7m) with steep sides and a rounded base. This pit contained nine fills. The fourth pit comprised an oval cut with a single charcoal-rich fill.

**Troughs:** The first trough comprised a subcircular cut (2.2m north–south by 1.54m by 0.5m) with a single fill. The second trough comprised an oval cut (2.5m east–west by 1.7m by 0.7m) with a single fill.

**Stone paving:** In the centre of this portion of the site, under the burnt spread, were two pits and a paved area between the pits. Stake-holes were associated with the pits. The layer of stone paving comprised an area measuring 1.5m by 1.2m of flat stones of various sizes laid edge to edge to create a flat area. The first trough comprised a large (2.2m by 2.02m) oval cut aligned south-east/north-west. A post-hole was identified in the south-east of the trough. The second trough in this area comprised a shallow rectangular flat-bottomed cut (1.8m east–west by 1.15m). A post-hole was recorded in each of the corners of this trough.

**Burnt Spread:** This burnt spread was located in the western portion of Area B. It comprised two spreads of burnt, charcoal-rich soil, (17) and (18), which contained burnt and heat-fractured stones. The spreads were irregular and sub-oval in plan and measured roughly 20m north-south by 8.9m east-west. These spreads also included several other layers of clay and burnt stone which may indicate re-use or disturbance of the spread.

**Burnt Spread:** This disturbed burnt spread was located in the centre of Area A . The burnt spread lay over two troughs, [13] and [14]. Trough [13] was filled by this burnt spread material (4). A number of layers of natural silting were recorded within the burnt spread, indicating that the site was subject to flooding.

**Trough:** This possible trough comprised a regular sub-circular cut [14] filled with burnt spread type material and was aligned northeast/southwest (12). No fixtures or structural evidence was identified in association with this possible trough. It was located beneath burnt spread material (4) and (5) and to the immediate south of another possible trough [13]. This possible trough was situated north of trough [14] and was filled with burnt spread-type material.

**Finds:** Three of the pits, as well as the stone platform, contained a total of 468 lithic artefacts. Another 499 lithic artefacts were recovered from the burnt spread that sealed most of the other features. Analysis of the lithics indicates a possible middle Neolithic date. A fragment of a socketed axehead was recovered from the topsoil.

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of the trough (C14)  
C14 (WK-20669) 3452±37 BP (1890–1680 BC)

## References

Dehaene, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballynapark, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynapark	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327889, 183005
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Ellen O’ Carroll	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The excavated site was located in a natural depression in an area which was once at the margins of a wetland/peaty area. The recent agricultural drains have facilitated the draining and drying out of this marshy land		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Ballynapark and adjacent townlands Cranagh and Cloghoge contained four burnt mound sites. Only one known RMP site was located in the vicinity of the site; WI036-016, which is the site of an enclosure in Ballinaclea townland. A mill stone and a possible mace head were found by a landowner in the vicinity of this site		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

**Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

**Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt stone spread.
Burnt Spread:	This feature consisted of burnt mound material (C8) and (C9) located within a possible natural depression [C10]. The mound was directly adjacent to a waterlogged area represented by wet peaty soils. A flint waste flake was found in the top fill (C8) of the burnt spread. The deposit measured 4.9m by 3.8m with a depth of 0.3m.
<b>Finds:</b>	Flint waste flake from burnt spread
<b>Dating:</b>	None
<b>References</b>	

O'Carroll, E. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballynapark, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballynapark	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327961, 183213
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is within a level field and was bounded by a stream to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Ballynapark and adjacent townlands Cranagh and Cloghoge contained four burnt mound sites. Only one known RMP site was located in the vicinity of the site; WI036-016, which is the site of an enclosure in Ballinaclea townland. A mill stone and a possible mace head were found by a landowner in the vicinity of this site		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two areas of burnt mound activity, each sealing a number of different features.

#### **Site A**

Burnt Spread: The burnt spread was c. 15m by c. 11m and comprised seven layers of burnt-spread material. The burnt spread was thinnest in the centre, which was also the highest part of the site. Charcoal from the deposit is dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

Trough: The trough comprised a large cut (3.8m north–south by 1.3m by 0.42m). The remnant of wood lining was evident in the base of the trough, which had three fills.

Pits: The first pit comprised an irregular cut (1.87m by 1.25m by 0.2m) with a single fill. The second pit also comprised an irregular cut (1.54m by 1.12m by 0.23m) with a single fill.

#### **Site B**

- Burnt Spread:** This feature comprised a very shallow deposit of burnt spread material (C30) in Area B. It was located 1.3m to the west of pit [C26] and had accumulated in a natural depression. This burnt spread material probably represents the very fragmentary remnants of a burnt spread. The fragmentary nature of this material indicates substantial truncation.
- Pit:** This feature comprised a sub-circular pit [C27]. This pit was c. 2m southeast of pit [C26] within Area B. The pit had a regular cut with a single fill (C20) that was comprised of burnt spread material. The nature of the fill indicates a relationship with the main activity on site, c. 55m to the west.
- Finds:** Flint flakes were recovered from the burnt spread.
- Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the burnt spread in Site A  
C14 (WK-20670) 3183±36 BP (1520–1390 BC)

#### **References**

Dehaene, G 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballynapark, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Cloghoge	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327961, 183213
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Ellen O’Carroll	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site is within a level field and was bounded by a stream to the west.		
Cultural Landscape:	The immediate landscape in Cloghoge and adjacent townlands Cranagh and Ballynapark contained four burnt mound sites. Only one known RMP site was located in the vicinity of the site; WI036-016, which is the site of an enclosure in Ballinaclea townland.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

**Summary of Features:** Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt spread. The site comprised of the eastern edge of a burnt-mound spread measuring 2.5m by 2.5m and 0.15m in depth. The full extent and main portion of the burnt mound could be seen clearly over the road-take in the adjoining western field. Three flint flakes and one flint core were uncovered in the topsoil. The site is most likely to be dated to the Bronze Age and is consistent with and similar in size and form to other burnt spreads excavated along the road-take.

**Finds:** Flint waste flakes from the spread.

**Dating:** None

### References

O'Carroll, E 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Cloghoge, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyclogh South	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327979, 183213
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in a low lying area sheltered at the south and west by elevated rock outcrops and overlooking a low wetland (turlough) to the north.		
Cultural Landscape:	In the adjacent townlands Ballynapark and Cranagh, there was a complex of five burnt mounds. To the north of Site A022/040 seven further burnt mound sites were excavated in Ballyclogh North and South.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound and pit.
Burnt Mound:	The spread consisted of a grey/black fill of sandy silt that contained small sub-angular stone inclusions and frequent flecks of charcoal. It measured 10.75m by 10m with a maximum thickness of 0.26m. Burnt mound (C3) can be interpreted as the waste from the process of heating water within a trough. No trough was identified on the site but it is possible that it was located outside of the land take for the scheme. Two flint flakes were recovered from the deposit. An oval pit to the west of burnt mound (C3) measured 0.8m by 0.35m with a depth of 0.08m. The base of the pit contained three shallow depressions which could have represented post or stakeholes, possibly part of a temporary structure associated with the workings of the site. The pit contained a single fill (C7) which was a loose, dark brown sandy silt.

### **References**

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyclogh South, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyclogh North	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327954, 183944
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in a low lying area situated adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	Approximately 100m to the south of the subject site was Site A022/040, a shallow burnt mound with a further shallow burnt spread and a single pit. None of the features on this site were radiocarbon dated but lithics found in the burnt spread suggested that it was a result of Bronze Age activity.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed the remains of two burnt mound areas with related trough features.

#### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: The deposit represents burnt mound material (C3) and (C4), which sealed two troughs. The mound was immediately adjacent to the stream which marked the eastern limit of the site. This deposit represents waste material associated with the working cycles of the two associated troughs. The burnt mound material (C3) was 20m in length, 0.30m in depth and had an excavated width of 15m.

Trough 1: The trough was sub-circular in shape with a flat base. It measured 1.8m by 1.7m with a depth of 0.45m. The primary fill of the trough (C10), was dark brown / black clayey silt with frequent inclusions of sub-angular heat-affected stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. The upper fill of the timber-lined trough (C5), was loose, mid-brown, silty clay with occasional stone inclusions and considerable organic content. The base of the trough was located below the water table and, as a result, was prone to flooding.

These conditions helped to preserve the nine timber planks located at its base. The wooden lining of the trough was found to have been made of split alder planks.

**Trough 2:**

The oval shaped trough had a deep rounded profile and an uneven base. It measured 2.1m by 1.2m with a depth of 0.45, The primary fill of the trough (C8), was loose, yellow / brown, silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub-angular stones and moderate inclusions of charcoal near the base. The upper fill of the trough (C7) was a loose, dark brown, peaty clay containing very occasional sub-angular stones, high organic content

**Site B**

**Burnt Mound:**

The deposit comprised seven burnt mound type materials which sealed trough [C29] and pits [C26], [C31] and [C40]]. The mound was immediately adjacent to the stream which marked the eastern limit of the site. The burnt mound material ran outside of the eastern limit of excavation and was not fully excavated. It measured 15m by 14m with a maximum depth of 0.5m. A number of residual Mesolithic lithics were recovered from the mound.

**Trough:**

The trough was sub-oval in shape, had a rounded profile and a flat base. The primary fill (C37) was compact, grey, clayey silt with frequent inclusions of heat affected stones. The second fill (C36) was a thin layer of moderately compacted, yellow, coarse sand with occasional small stone inclusions which can be interpreted as a division in events. The base was below the water table and so it filled naturally with water from the adjacent stream. A number of small pits were also excavated associated with the site. These were interpreted as small pot-boilers.

**Finds:**

Flint flakes were recovered from the burnt mound in Site B. These were interpreted as Mesolithic in date.

**Dating:**

Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough 1 in Site A  
C14 (WK-20671) 3558±37 BP (2020–1770 BC)

**References**

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyclogh North, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.144 Remains of plank trough at Ballyclogh North, Co. Wicklow.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyclogh North	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 326863, 184362
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in a low lying area situated adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	Approximately 100m to the south of the subject site was Site A022/040, a shallow burnt mound with a further shallow burnt spread and a single pit. None of the features on this site were radiocarbon dated but lithics found in the burnt spread suggested that it was a result of Bronze Age activity.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed the remains of a burnt mound, timber trough, platform and numerous pits.
Burnt Mound:	The spread consisted of six layers, some of which can be attributed to natural silting or re-deposited natural. A large amount of flint artefacts were discovered within the main deposit of the spread (C9); these flint finds formed the majority of the lithic assemblage recovered at this site. The spread was a black silty sand containing frequent inclusions of heat-shattered sandstone and occasional charcoal flecking.
Trough:	The trough [C54] was cut through the natural subsoil. An oak platform was located to its northwest. The base and sides of the trough were lined with planks which were in a very poor state of preservation. This lining consisted of three planks on the sides of the trough and four along the base. One side the trough was constructed of oak and the other of alder. The base of the trough was below the water table and as a result it filled naturally with water from the adjacent stream. The trough measured 2.3m by 2.3m with a depth of 0.5m.

**Platform:**

Platform (C10) was a rectangular shaped feature. All of the timbers identified from the platform were of oak. The wood was in a good state of preservation. Fifteen half split and radial splits oak timbers were identified from the platform and nine posts were driven into the subsoil to hold the platform in place. The platform measured 2.1m by 1.24m. This platform was connected with the burnt mound activity associated with trough [C54] and was sealed by the burnt mound. This platform was quite substantial and may have functioned as a dry, flat area where certain activities like the preparation or eating of food was carried out.

**Finds:**

A total of seventy six lithics were recovered from the site, thirteen were topsoil finds and the remainder came from burnt mound context. Most of these were dated to the Neolithic. These may relate to earlier Neolithic activity on the site.

**Dating:**

Wood (oak) from the platform  
C14 (WK-20707)  $3000 \pm 52$  BP (1400–1050 BC)

**References**

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyclogh North, Co. Wicklow (E3229)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.145 Timber trough and adjacent platform at Ballyclogh North.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyclogh North	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327846, 184442
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was in a low lying area situated adjacent to a small stream.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two separate areas of burnt mound activity, each with related water-boiling pits.

#### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: The spread (C4) was located to the south of trough [C9] and was truncated by field drain [C36]. Spread (C5) lay to the north of [C9]. Both of these spreads appeared to be a product of the repeated emptying of trough [C9] after use. Both spread (C4) and (C5) were very similar to one another composed of black silty clay and burnt stone. Overall, the deposit measured 10.45m by 6.09m with a depth of 0.5. The 12 flints recovered from the burnt mound were all flakes. Two flakes displayed evidence of retouching.

Trough: Subgroup {1002} represents rectangular trough [C9], which was filled with several layers of silts, sands and clays (C19), (C8), (C20) and (C24). Three postholes {1003} cut the base of the trough suggesting it may have been timber-lined. The trough measured 2.76m by 1.82m with a depth of 0.56m. It was filled with burnt mound material.

#### **Site B**

**Burnt Mound:** Burnt mound {1007} measured 10m in length, 8m wide, and an overall depth 0.40m. The three deposits, (C55), (C56) and (C61) represented waste material associated with the workings of trough [C65]. Each deposit contained a large amount of heat-shattered stone, although (C55) had comparatively fewer. Deposit (C56), the earliest of the three deposits, comprised black silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions. Deposit (C61) consisted of a pale grey coarse sand which overlay (C56) and was confined to the west of burnt mound .

**Trough:** Trough {1006} was located near the southeastern corner of the site, *c.* 3.50m west of the pit [C54]. The trough [C65] was truncated by a north-south orientated field drain. The single fill of the trough, (C50) consisted of a dark brown / black, loose peat with moderate amounts of heat-shattered stone and frequent charcoal inclusions. This fill (C50) lay on top of the remains of eight parallel timbers (C58) laid down east-west, as a basal lining of trough [C65]. The wood analysed from this site indicates that split alder planks were selected for the construction of the trough.

**Finds:** A total of twelve flint flakes were recovered from the burnt mound.

**Dating:** Wood (alder) from the trough lining at Site B  
C14 (WK-20706) 3494±38BP (1920–1690 BC)

#### **References**

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyclogh North, Co. Wicklow (E3230)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Ballyclogh North	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327829, 184475
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low lying pasture with a small stream close to the site's eastern boundary.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a stone surface and a number of troughs.
Burnt Mound:	This deposit comprised waste material from the continued use of the trough [C8], i.e. the heat-fractured stone and charcoal-rich soil which was removed from the trough after each use. This mound material (C43) was not possible to clearly define from second burnt mound (C3, C16) associated with [C20], during excavation, due to disturbances by later agricultural activity. It measured 22m by 17m with a maximum thickness of 0.5m.
Stone surface:	This context represented a possible working platform associated with trough [C8] and possibly with trough [C20]. The spread of stones, which was concentrated around the troughs, measured 10m by 15m (150m <sup>2</sup> ). The stones were set into the natural boulder clay (C2) and were sub-rounded in shape.
Trough and platform:	The trough cut [C8] was sub-rectangular in shape and orientated east-west. It measured 4.40m by 1.90m with rounded corners and a stepped base. The western edge of the base of cut [C8] measured 0.30m in depth while the eastern edge of the base measured 0.50m in depth. The sub-rectangular

shaped cut [C8] had a sharp break of slope on top on the west side, with a gradual break of slope noted on the northern and southern sides and an imperceptible/gradual break of slope recorded on the eastern side. The cut [C8] contained two wooden constructions, wooden platform (C27) and wood-lined trough (C28). The wooden platform (C27) was placed on a sandy fill (C12) in the western part of the pit. The trough (C28) was constructed within the eastern part of the cut and was 0.20m deeper than the western part on which the timber platform was built. The plank-lining at the base of trough [C8] was in very poor condition and only traces of these remained. The timber platform (C27) was constructed over the western end of the trough and its relationship with the rectangular trough [C8] was obscured due to truncation by [C42], however it appeared to be later than the trough [C8]. All of the timbers recovered from platform (C27) were identified as alder. A shallow gully [C24] ran into the western part of the cut and this may have been dug in order to funnel water into the trough.

- Gully:** This context represented a crescent shaped shallow gully [C22] which was truncated by the trough [C20]. The cut [C22] of the gully had a maximum depth of 0.18m to the west but became shallower to the east where the feature, with a depth of 0.05m. Three stakeholes, [C30], [C32] and [C34] were located in the southern end of gully [C22] while one [C36] was located at the northern end. It is possible that gully [C22] represented an earlier phase of activity on site which was truncated by later Bronze Age activity. However due to its position relative to [C8] it is suggested that their functions were linked and that [C22] may have been a windbreak, partial enclosing element or even an attempt to confine the burnt mound material.
- Trough 2:** Trough [C20] consisted of a rectangular pit cut [C20] which measured 1.98m by 1.25m and was 0.32m deep, it had a flat base and was orientated east-west. No timber or stone lining was detected in cut [C20]. Trough [C20] truncated gully [C22]. The trough was later backfilled with burnt mound material.
- Burnt Mound 2:** Subgroup (C3, 16) represented a possible second spread of burnt mound material (C3) which sealed the three gullies [C24], [C40] and [C22], pit [C26] and trough [C8]. Burnt mound (C43) was not clearly defined from the second burnt mound (C3, 16) due to disturbances.
- Finds:** Numerous flint flakes were recovered from the topsoil and the burnt mound
- Dating:** Charcoal (ash) from the fill of trough 2 (C20)  
C14 (WK-20672) 2974±37BP (1370–1050 BC)  
Wood (alder) from the platform  
C14 (WK-20673) 3043±36BP (1420–1200 BC)

## References

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyclogh North, Co. Wicklow (E3231)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyclogh North	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327843, 184537
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located in a low lying ground with a small stream close to the site's eastern boundary.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features: Excavation of the site revealed two burnt mound areas, each of which sealed well-preserved timber troughs.

### **Site A**

Burnt Mound: The mound was immediately adjacent to the stream that marked the eastern limit of the site. The deposit was at its thickest here, and got progressively shallower west of the centre. Two finds were recovered from the spread. A flint flake and possible stone pot boiler were found in the spread (C31). The main burnt mound material (C31) was 6m in length, 0.2m in depth and its excavated width was 6.2m. This spread consisted of loose mid black sandy silt with frequent heat-shattered stones and charcoal-rich flecking. This material lay over (C26) a mid-red/brown silty peat. The burnt mound spread was truncated by a modern field drain.

Stone surface: This context represents a stone platform sealed below the southwestern limit of a burnt mound. The platform surrounded the wattle-lined trough [C38] and two pits [C35, C37]. It consisted of a substantial spread of irregular

boulders and cobbles of limestone and, occasionally sandstone. This created a working platform around the trough and pits. It measured 10m by 10m.

**Trough:**

The trough [C38] was oval in shape and measured 1.95m x 1.2m and was 0.7m deep. The primary fill of the trough (C42), was mid grey/black loose silty clay with heat-shattered stones, and moderate decayed organic particles. There were frequent inclusions of charcoal and a moderate quantity of hazelnut shells. Fragments of the wicker lining and two radially split planks with axe tool marks were recovered from this fill. The sides of trough were lined with piles of outer wicker wands. The woven structure survived to a height of 0.16m, and consisted of coppiced hazel rods woven in single groupings with the uppermost part finished with double rod wickers. The secondary fill of the trough (C32), was fairly loose, black peaty silt and had a high organic content including pieces of preserved wood and roots. The fill (C32) sealed the inner wood structure which represented a second phase of trough usage [C38], when a new lining was constructed, containing the second lining of wicker wands (C39) and the timber-lined base. The trough [C38] was located close to the edge of a stream. The base was below the water table and this allowed the wattle-lined trough to be constantly full of water even in the driest of conditions.

**Pit:**

The sub-circular pit [C35] was 1.5m in length, 1.45m in width and had a depth of 0.25m. It had a shallow rounded profile and an uneven base. The primary fill of [C35] was (C34), a loose, black/brown sandy silt with a high organic content (peaty). A large amount of prehistoric pottery sherds were also discovered within the fill of the pit. There was no surviving evidence for a lining around the base or sides of the pit. The base of the pit [C35] was below the water table so it filled naturally with water from the adjacent stream and may have functioned as a pot-boiler which was an unlined pit used to heat water in a ceramic vessel. The pottery was identified as Beaker.

**Site B**

**Burnt Mound:**

Burnt spread (C6) represented the waste material associated with the workings of the trough. The spread (C6) was a loose grey/black spread of clayey silt with frequent inclusions of small heat-shattered stones and charcoal flecks. It was almost circular (2.8m x 2.6m) in shape, but heavily disturbed, and quite shallow.

**Trough:**

The rectangular shaped trough measured 1.85m in length, was 1.7m wide and was 0.45m in depth. It had a shallow round profile and a flat base. The primary fill of the trough (C10), was dark brown/black clayey silt with frequent heat-affected stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. The upper fill of the trough (C5), was mid brown, loose silty clay with occasional stone inclusions and considerable organic content. The trough [C7] was located close to the edge of a stream and the base of the trough was below the water table which allowed the trough to be constantly full of water even in the driest of conditions. This water logging helped to preserve 9 halved round

wood timbers located at the base of the trough. The north-eastern, south-eastern and south-western sides of the trough were lined with planks resting on the base, these were then supported in each corner of the trough by a pair of stakes driven into the subsoil.

**Finds:**

Large sherds of beaker pottery was recovered from pit C35. Worked flint was recovered from topsoil deposits.

**Dating:**

Wood (alder) from trough lining Site B  
C14 (WK-20674) 2949±49BP (1320–1000 BC)

**References**

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyclogh North, Co. Wicklow (E3232)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.146 Wattle and plank-lined troughs at Ballyclogh, Co. Wicklow.

Location:	Townland:	Kilmurry South	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Redcross	NGR: 327820, 184567
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was identified in low lying pasture, with a small stream situated to the east.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a small burnt spread and a single trough.
Burnt Spread:	The deposit was in the form of a very shallow spread of compact sandy silt containing heat-shattered sandstone, which occurred in one main patch adjacent to trough [C7], and to the west, measuring 1.20m by 0.70m. Traces of this material were noted elsewhere on the site, of similar depth but in smaller patches. The subgroup can be interpreted as the discarded waste from the process of heating water within trough [C7]. It measured 4.3m by 3.55m.
Trough:	The trough was sub-circular in shape and measured 1.84m by 1.3m with a depth of 0.3m. The primary fill (C5) consisted of a shallow, coarse silty sand, which would probably have accumulated during use. The majority fill of the cut however, was (C3) which was above, and thus later than (C5).
Finds:	None

### References

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilmurry South Co. Wicklow (E3233)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Kilmurry South	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Redcross	NGR: 327806, 184632
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on a slightly raised part of a low lying boggy field.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, trough and pit.
Burnt Mound:	The mound was adjacent to a stream that defined the eastern limit of the site. It represents the waste material from the working of the site i.e. the heat-fractured stone and charcoal-rich associated soil removed from the troughs after their working cycle was completed. Four deposits were visible in section which related to different working cycles of the trough. The main deposit measured 16.4m by 9m with a thickness of 0.4m.
Trough:	The sub-circular trough measured 1.6m in length, was 1.5m wide and was 0.6m in depth. It had a concave profile. The primary fill of the trough (C9), was moderately compact, dark brown silty clay which contained inclusions of heat shattered stones and a frequent charcoal inclusions. The secondary fill of the trough (C8), was compact, grey sandy silt. The uppermost fill of the trough was (C7), a soft dark brown clayey silt which had inclusions of roots, natural wood and occasional small stones.
Pit 1:	The sub-oval pit measured 1.35m in length, was 1.35m wide and was 0.24m in depth. It had a concave profile and an oval base. The primary fill of the pit (C13), was a loose yellow silty sand clay which contained frequent

inclusions of heat shattered stones. The uppermost fill (C12) of the pit [C14], was a loosely compact, mid brown grey silty peat, which had frequent root inclusions.

Pit 2: The pit [C18] was cut into the natural subsoil (C2). The sub-circular pit (C18) was 1.75m in length, 1.42m in diameter and had a depth of 0.35m. The cut contained a single fill (C17), which was a loose mid black silty sand and contained frequent inclusions of angular heat shattered sandstone and a moderate amount of charcoal flecking. Two worked timbers (C15) were also contained within this fill, they were not driven into the ground and had no apparent construction purpose.

**Finds:** Convex end scraper was recovered from pit 2

**Dating:** None

### **References**

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilmurry South, Co. Wicklow (E3234)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Location:	Townland:	Kilmurry North	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Redcross	NGR: 327709, 185196
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Red Tobin	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was located on gently sloping ground, which was previously used for pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, hearth, trough, pits and a lithic scatter or knapping area.
Burnt Mound:	The remains of a burnt mound associated with trough [C30] and the other features excavated at the site was made up of eight deposits, (C4), (C5), (C6), (C7), (C9), (C47), (C49) and (C57). These were not a series of successive spreads overlying each other, but spatially separate and lying on the natural subsoil. They were all shallow and some were abutting each other. These spreads combined in plan seemed to loosely take on a U-shape around the trough, characteristic of a burnt mound.
Trough:	Trough C30 consisted of a large sub-rectangular cut measuring 2.40m x 1.75m, with a depth of 0.54m. It was oriented north-south and contained two distinct fills (C31 and C3). The primary fill, (C31), consisted of soft grey clay with frequent inclusions of charcoal, occurring in flecks, and it also contained occasional small stones. This fill was only 0.02m deep and might well represent a deliberately applied clay lining to the trough, possibly to aid water retention. The secondary fill, (C3), which was 0.52m deep, was a dark

black friable sandy silt with frequent inclusions of charcoal as well as occasional heat-affected angular and sub-angular stones.

- Hearth:** Hearth C78 comprised a spread of material 0.08m deep and measuring 0.36m x 0.30m. It was 0.66m to the north of trough [C30]. The fill (C35) consisted of a loosely compacted sandy clay, which contained occasional small stone inclusions. This had the orange-red colour characteristic of soil subjected to high temperatures and indicative of a hearth.
- Stake-Holes:** A cluster of 13 stakeholes was located 2.7m to the northeast of trough [C30]. The central part of the cluster formed an east facing C-shape, measuring 1.55m across and excluded two of the stakeholes. [C26] was situated 1m to the northwest of the main cluster, whilst [C63] lay 1.25m to the east and followed the line of the lower branch of the C-shape.
- Pit:** Pit [C59] was a sub-oval pit with an east-west orientation, located 2.6m to the east of trough [C30]. It measured 1.29m x 0.6m and had a maximum depth of 0.33m. The cut was concave in profile with a base that was offset to the west. This side was significantly steeper than the opposing side, which was gently sloping and slightly uneven. [C59] was filled by (C38), which was a loosely compacted black peat with frequent inclusions of angular heat-affected stone and charcoal.
- Finds:** A total of 210 lithics were retrieved from the natural subsoil beneath the burnt mound. There were some outlying flints but the majority of them were found in a concentration measuring 4m x 2.6m, which was suggestive of a work area, immediately to the north of the trough [C30]
- Dating:** Charcoal (alder, hazel) from the fill of trough (C30)  
C14 (WK-20675) 3884±39BP (2480–2200 BC)  
Charcoal (alder, hazel) from the fill of trough (C30)  
C14 (WK-20676) 2863±39BP (2470–2200 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the fill of pit (C59)  
C14 (WK-20677) 3774±39BP (2340–2030 BC)  
Charcoal (unknown) from the burnt mound  
C14 (WK-20678) 4001±40BP (2630–2450 BC)

## References

Tobin, R 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilmurry North, Co. Wicklow (E3236)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyvaltron	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327635, 185686
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was identified in a low-lying area at the base of a west facing slope, within a field under rough pasture.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### Pre-Excavation features

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### Excavation Record

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, trough and pit.
Burnt Spread:	The burnt mound (C3) recorded on this site comprised a substantial volume of heat-shattered stone. This material extended to the east beyond the limits of the excavation.
Trough:	The trough was irregular in shape and measured 2.5m by 1.6m with a depth of 0.42m. The fill of the pit was composed of burnt mound material.
Pit:	This pit comprised a large cut [C13] which contained several fills of burnt mound type material. It measured 3.7m by 2.3m with a depth of 1.25m. It may have functioned as a well.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of trough  
C14 (WK-20680) 3884±39BP (1270–1010 BC)

### References

Dehaene, G 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Ballyvaltron, Co. Wicklow (E3238)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Ballyvaltron	Six inch map no: 36
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327585, 185697
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Goorik Dehaene	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was identified in low lying ground on the edge of a marshy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Neolithic features unrelated to the burnt mound activity were revealed.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a burnt mound, a number of pits and a number of adjacent Early Neolithic features that will not be discussed here.
Burnt Spread:	Features in the north of the site are associated with a burnt spread and comprise a burnt spread, two troughs and four pits. The burnt spread comprised an irregular oval deposit (12m north-south by 9m) up to 0.4m in depth.
Pits:	The first pit was subcircular (0.55m by 0.52m by 0.17m) with two fills, and the upper fill contained carbonised hazelnut shells. The second, third and fourth pits were under the burnt spread. The second pit comprised an oval rounded cut (0.92m by 0.47m by 0.27m) filled with burnt-spread material. The irregular cut (1.91m by 1.84m by 0.43m) of the third pit was stepped to the east and north-east. The fourth pit comprised a subcircular cut with a single fill. The troughs were both under the burnt spread.
Troughs:	The first trough comprised an oval cut (2.93m north-east/south-west by 1.85m by 0.27m) with a single fill. Four stake-holes were recorded in the base of the trough, indicating a possible internal fixing or structure. The second trough comprised a subcircular cut (2.38m by 2.18m by 0.5m) with

two stake-holes. Fragmentary remnants of organic (possible wooden) material were evident at the base of the feature, indicating possible lining material.

**Finds:** None

**Dating:** Charcoal (unknown) from possible kiln structure  
C14 (WK-20833) 3291±59BP (1730–1440 BC)

**References**

Dehaene, G 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Kilmurry North, Co. Wicklow (E3239)*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Location:	Townland:	Coolacork	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 326687, 189419
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was identified in low lying ground on the edge of a marshy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	None		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site revealed a spreads of burnt stone, troughs and working surfaces.
Burnt Spreads:	This subgroup represents various spreads of burnt mound material. These spreads were located across Area B and are probably indicative of modern disturbance of a large burnt mound that was originally related to the trough [C17]. The lithics recovered from three of these deposits comprised a core, a flake and two pieces of debitage. The pottery recovered from spread material (C38) has been identified as 20 sherds (and 10 fragments) of early Neolithic Carinated Bowl. The fact that the rest of the activity on site dates to the Bronze Age would indicate that this Neolithic pottery was disturbed from its original location by the later Bronze Age activity.
Stone Surface:	This possible stone platform was located in the north-eastern corner of the site adjacent to the limit of excavation and a stream. It is represented by a compacted area of stones and alluvial deposits that were located around the trough [C96]. This stone layer was probably a platform associated with the workings of the burnt mound. It measures 13m by 11.5m. The lithics recovered from the alluvial sand layer (C97) comprised a retouched flake, an arrowhead and a piece of debitage.

Trough 1:	The sub-oval trough measured 1.6m in length, 1.4m wide and was 0.8m in depth. The base of the cut was below the water table so it filled naturally with water from the adjacent stream. The base of the trough was lined with four oak planks (C89). Pegs were then driven into the subsoil on all corners to secure the base planks. Fragments of a possible wattle structure (C101) were visible around the edge of the base timbers. The fill of the trough, (C57), comprised loose dark greyish black silty clay that contained occasional inclusions of coarse pebbles and a moderate amount of charcoal flecking.
Trough 2:	The trough [C17], was cut through the natural subsoil. This feature was also cut by a modern drain [C22] which ran roughly east-west across the site. This trough was probably related to the burnt spreads (C5), (C7) and (C9) – (C13). The base of the trough [C17] was below the water table so it filled naturally with water from the adjacent stream.
Trough 3 and platform:	This subgroup represents a trough [C87] and possible working platform [C62], which was located in the southeast corner of the site adjacent to a stream. The trough [C87], was cut through the natural subsoil. The base of the trough was lined with oak planks (C58). Pegs were then driven into the natural subsoil on all corners to secure the base planks. Fragments of a possible wattle lining, (C101), were visible around the edge of the base timbers. The fills of trough [C87] comprised material that was similar to that found in burnt mounds. A cut area, [C62], was located on the north-eastern, eastern and south-eastern sides of the trough [C87]. One of the fills of [C62], (C65), contained frequent inclusions of timber fragments, which suggests that the cut [C62] contained a working platform associated with the trough.
Hearth:	This feature contained a single fill (C90), comprised of black silty clay that contained a moderate amount of charcoal inclusions. The hearth is probably related to the burnt mound activity at the site, and may have been used to heat the stones before they were placed in the troughs.
Trough 4:	The trough [C50], was cut through a layer of natural silting/alluvial deposit, (C73), and was associated with a second phase of activity. There was no evidence of a lining around the base or sides of the trough. The base of the trough [C50] was below the water table so it filled naturally with water from the adjacent stream. The spreads of burnt mound material around the trough were probably related to the use of the trough.
<b>Finds:</b>	Numerous worked lithics were recovered from across the site. Neolithic pottery was recovered from the burnt spread while a blue glass bead was recovered from the topsoil. A single sherd of Bronze Age pottery was found in a modern drain.
<b>Dating:</b>	Wood (unknown) from trough lining (C96) C14 (WK-20688) 3599±41BP (2130–1780 BC) Wood (unknown) from trough lining (C87)

C14 (WK-20687) 3578±42BP (2040–1770 BC)

## References

Whitty, Y 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Coolacork, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.



Plate 10.147 Stone surface and timber trough at Coolacork, Co. Wicklow.



Location:	Townland:	Roscath	Six inch map no: 31
	Parish:	Dunganstown	NGR: 327083, 189657
	Barony:	Arklow	Altitude: NA
	County:	Wicklow	
Excavation Details:	Project:	N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement	
	Site Director:	Yvonne Whitty	
	Consultants:	Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.	
	Year:	2006	
Physical Setting:	The site was identified in low lying ground on the edge of a marshy area.		
Cultural Landscape:	There were no recorded prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the site prior to excavation however a number of burnt mounds were revealed in this townland during the road development.		
Adjacent excavated sites:	Early Bronze Age pits and hearth features.		

### **Pre-Excavation features**

The site was revealed during archaeological monitoring in advance of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement. There was no surface trace of the site prior to excavation.

### **Excavation Record**

Summary of Features:	Excavation of the site a boiling trough associated with pyrolithic activity and a number of hearths and pits. As these later features may not be related to pyrolithic technology, they will not be discussed here. Middle – late Bronze Age activity on this site was characterised by clusters of and isolated pit, hearths and burnt mound material that date to the middle/late Bronze Age. Evidence for burnt mound activity was identified in the trough that was located in the southeast of the site.
Trough:	A rectangular shaped trough [41] was located on the southeast side of the site adjacent to the limit of excavation and a stream. It was cut through the natural subsoil. One posthole was located in each corner of the trough. The stakeholes were also located in three of the corners of the trough, with the exception being the southwest corner, where posthole [73] was located. The relatively small diameter of the posts indicates that they were not particularly robust and together with the stakeholes probably formed a type of working structure within the trough rather than supporting a larger structure, like a roof. The upper fills of the trough, (42) and (58), appear to have been deliberately deposited after the post structure was removed. Fill (58) consisted of material similar to that found in burnt mounds – black sandy clay with frequent heat shattered stones.

**Pit:** A large sub-oval pit [63] aligned northwest-southeast was located south of trough [41]. The pit had vertical and stepped sides with a U-shaped base and had 15 fills, of which fill (117) had two stakeholes, [140] and [141], cut into it. The basal fill of the pit was soft black clayish-sand with inclusions of charcoal and burnt stones (178) which was likely to be a deliberate deposit of burnt mound material. Fill (185) above this was orange silty clay, indicating a possible partial collapse of the pit sides. A sample of the alder charcoal was chosen for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 1310–970 BC. The only artefacts recovered from pit [63] were bodysherd of pottery from a large, possibly bucket shaped or biconical domestic vessel. The quantity of burnt mound material identified in the fills indicates that it was backfilled with waste material, probably associated with trough [41].

Pit [63] was re-cut by [139] which was filled by (77), a soft grey silty clay containing organic remains and (4) a grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of orange silt, both of which are indicative of the natural silting of pit [139]. There were no finds associated with pit [139] so a function of/reason for the re-cut of the pit was not determined.

**Finds:** Numerous worked lithics were recovered from across the site. Early Bronze Age pottery was also retrieved from the large pit.

**Dating:** Charcoal (alder) from the fill of pit (C63)  
C14 (WK-20692) 2925±53BP (1310–970 BC)

## References

Whitty, Y. 2009. *Archaeological excavations at Roscath, Co. Wicklow*. Unpublished excavation report prepared for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Adamswood	LK26	Limerick	141373	142906	S. McCutcheon	
Adamswood	LK27	Limerick	141225	142900	S. McCutcheon	
Adamswood	LK28	Limerick	142393	142646	E. Dennehy	EBA
Addergoole	LS07	Laois	233745	175509	J.Lynch	E-L BA
Addergoole	LS08	Laois	233752	175571	J.Lynch	CL
Aghadegnan	LD01	Longford	213468	276908	J. Channing	
Aghafin	WM27	Westmeath	215941	237706	P. Lynch	LBA
Aghamore	LM09	Leitrim	205992	286230	L.McGowen	
Aghareagh	LD04	Longford	211527	274992	M. Stephens	
Aghmacart	LS09	Laois	233757	175866	J.Lynch	LN
Aghmacart	LS10	Laois	233693	175533	J. Lynch	CL
Aghnahunshin	LM10	Leitrim	206074	285975	M.Seaver	CL
Agnahoe	TE02	Tyrone	266055	358981	M. Mossop	
Ahanaglogh	WD02	Waterford	238055	104648	J.Tierney	MBA
Ahanaglogh	WD03	Waterford	237965	104635	J.Tierney	CL
Ahanaglogh	WD05	Waterford	237772	104460	D.Noonan	
Ahanaglogh	WD06	Waterford	237438	104437	D.Pollock	EBA
Annagh Hill	GY33	Galway	145904	239801	L. McKinsty	
Annahagh	MN04	Monnaghan	268667	334061	F. Walsh	MBA
Annahagh	MN05	Monnaghan	268775	334034	F. Walsh	EBA
Annaholty	TY43a	Tipperary	169675	165119	M. McNamara	
Annaholty	TY43b	Tipperary	169644	165071	M. McNamara	
Annaholty	TY44	Tipperary	169518	164978	L. McKinsty	BA*
Annaholty	TY45	Tipperary	169411	164887	L. McKinsty	BA*
Annaholty	TY46	Tipperary	169265	164764	L. McKinsty	MBA/MED
Annaholty	TY47	Tipperary	168772	164054	L. McKinsty	LBA.IA
Ardagawna	RM13	Roscommon	199176	230232	L. Ó Séaghdha	EIA
Ardan	OY04	Offaly	34500	27050	L. Hegarty	MBA
Ardan	OY05	Offaly	34500	26900	L. Hegarty	EBA
Ardracchan	MH63	Meath	282981	266758	M. Mossop	BA*
Ardracchan	MH64	Meath	282806	267082	M. Mossop	
Ardracchan	MH65	Meath	282787	267218	M. Mossop	
Ardracchan	MH84	Meath	281974	268861	C. McManus	
Ardnabourkey	CO89	Cork	183992	62592	L. Clarke	EBA
Ardnaglew	WM47	Westmeath	236898	234419	L.McKinsty	EBA
Ardnehue	CW02	Carlow	278015	177527	L. Hegarty	
Ardskea Beg	GY34	Galway	144688	242015	N. O'Neill	
Arodstown	MH11a	Meath	287373	251053	E. Byrnes	EBA
Arodstown	MH11b	Meath	287373	251053	E. Byrnes	
Arodstown	MH12	Meath	287227	251068	E. Byrnes	EBA
Ask	WX05	Wexford	317528	162677	N. Bower	EBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Ask	WX06	Wexford	317522	162769	N. Bower	MBA-IA
Askea	CW01	Carlow	272947	175758	R. Ó Maoldúin	
Athboy Road	MH20	Meath	279500	257300	A. Hayden	
Athronan	MH38	Meath	289882	256015	L. McGowan	EBA
Athronan	MH39	Meath	289465	256114	R. Tobin	EBA
Attireesh	MO23	Mayo	100079	285319	R. Gillespie	LBA
Attireesh	MO24	Mayo	100133	285283	R. Gillespie	M-L BA
Attireesh	MO25	Mayo	100144	285310	R. Gillespie	EBA
Attireesh	MO26	Mayo	100161	285317	R. Gillespie	EBA
Attyflin	LK06	Limerick	151824	149143	C. McConway	
Attyflin	LK07	Limerick	151824	149180	C. McConway	
Attyflin	LK10	Limerick	151451	148715	C. McManus	
Aughinida	CO44	Cork	137250	76530	E.Larsson	
Aughnagomaun/Ashhill	TY58	Tipperary	213417	149861	E. Moore	LBA
Balgeeth	MH32	Meath	288627	259260	R. Tobin	EBA
Balla	MO74	Mayo	125420	28383	D. Delany	
Ballaghboy	SO01	Sligo	178275	308100	J. Channing	
Ballaghboy	SO02	Sligo	178275	308100	J. Channing	
Ballard	CO100	Cork	187855	106790	B. Molloy	LBA
Ballinacar	SO05a	Sligo	168400	338200	R. Crumlish	EBA
Ballinacar	SO05b	Sligo	168400	338200	R. Crumlish	
Ballinacar	SO05c	Sligo	168400	338200	R. Crumlish	
Ballinafad	SO03	Sligo	177940	308616	J. Channing	
Ballinaskea	WW28	Wicklow	327039	178561	Y. Whitty	EBA/MBA
Ballinaspig More	CO39	Cork	163319	69078	D.Murphy	
Ballinaspig More	CO40	Cork	162180	69140	D.Murphy	
Ballinaspig More	CO41	Cork	163851	69178	D.Murphy	
Ballinaspig More	CO42	Cork	162560	69150	E. Danaher	CL
Ballinaspig More	CO43	Cork	162640	69130	E.Danaher	BA*
Ballincaroonig	CO91	Cork	185080	64352	L. Clarke	LBA
Ballincurra	LK29	Limerick	158790	134681	K. Taylor and L. McKinsty	
Ballincurra	LK30	Limerick	159477	134512	K. Taylor	EBA
Ballinderry Big	WM43	Westmeath	232285	234628	P. Lynch	EBA
Ballingarrane	LK31	Limerick	137002	144869	B. Halpin	
Ballinglanna North	CO71	Cork	181463	103192	J. Tierney	IA
Ballinglanna North	CO73a	Cork	181394	104810	J. Tierney	CL
Ballinglanna North	CO73b	Cork	181394	104810	J. Tierney	EBA
Ballingowen	KY11	Kerry	86750	113350	L.Dunne	
Ballinillaun	GY20	Galway	144570	222643	T. McMorran	LBA
Ballinillaun	GY21	Galway	144719	222930	T. McMorran	EBA
Ballinrobe Demesne	MO06	Mayo	118664	264178	G. Walsh	CL

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Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Ballinrobe Demesne	MO07	Mayo	118669	264168	G. Walsh	EBA
Ballinrobe Demesne	MO08	Mayo	118688	264157	G. Walsh	
Ballinrobe Demesne	MO09	Mayo	118664	264178	G. Walsh	
Ballinrobe Demesne	MO10	Mayo	118681	264164	G. Walsh	
Ballinteenoe	TY56	Tipperary	176430	171070	K. Taylor	
Ballinter	MH31a	Meath	288989	261143	R. Tobin	LN/EBA
Ballinter	MH31b	Meath	288719	260783	R. Tobin	LN
Ballinter	MH31c	Meath	288764	260763	R. Tobin	EBA
Ballinter	MH44	Meath	289868	261711	S. Linnane	LN
Ballinvally	KK31	Kilkenny	263258	157521	E. Devine	EBA
Ballinveiltig	CO83	Cork	161019	68810	M. Hurley	CL
Ballinvinny South	CO22	Cork	173801	79527	E. Cotter	MBA
Ballyadam	CO75	Cork	183877	73714	R.M. Cleary	CL
Ballyadam	CO76	Cork	184001	73506	R.M. Cleary	EBA/LBA
Ballyadam	CO77	Cork	184251	73670	R.M. Cleary	CL
Ballyadam	CO78	Cork	184261	73724	R.M. Cleary	EBA
Ballyalbanagh	AM07	Antrim	328641	396043	N. Crothers	
Ballyard	TY37	Tipperary	171856	167019	P. Long	LBA/IA
Ballybar Lower	CW10	Carlow	272465	171107	L. Hackett	M–L BA
Ballybar Lower	CW11	Carlow	272265	171013	L. Hackett	
Ballybeg	MH85	Meath	278413	271650	P. Lynch	
Ballybrennan	WM01	Westmeath	264040	247050	B. Molloy	
Ballybrown	LK59	Limerick	15060	15400	K. Wiggins	
Ballyburn Lower	KD15	Kildare	277606	281790	L. Hackett	EBA
Ballyburn Lower	KD16	Kildare	277883	181393	L. Hackett	LBA–IA
Ballyburn Lower	KD18	Kildare	277405	182109	L. Hackett	EBA
Ballycahane Lower	LK04	Limerick	155110	14480	M. Gowen	Meso
Ballycahane Upper	LK02	Limerick	155110	14480	M. Gowen	
Ballyclogh	CO11	Cork	179860	104514	D. Lehane	CL
Ballyclogh	CO12	Cork	179892	104536	D. Lehane	LBA
Ballyclogh North	WW40a	Wicklow	327954	183944	Y. Whitty	EBA
Ballyclogh North	WW40b	Wicklow	327954	183944	Y. Whitty	No
Ballyclogh North	WW41	Wicklow	327863	184362	Y. Whitty	MBA
Ballyclogh North	WW42a	Wicklow	327846	184442	Y. Whitty	
Ballyclogh North	WW42b	Wicklow	327846	184442	Y. Whitty	EBA
Ballyclogh North	WW43	Wicklow	327829	184475	Y. Whitty	MBA/LBA
Ballyclogh North	WW44a	Wicklow	327843	184537	Y. Whitty	
Ballyclogh North	WW44b	Wicklow	327843	184537	Y. Whitty	LBA
Ballyclogh South	WW39	Wicklow	327979	183756	Y. Whitty	
Ballycorick	CE12	Clare	128531	166794	B. Halpin	
Ballycorick	CE13	Clare	128573	166832	B. Halpin	

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Ballycroghan	DW01a	Down	353800	379900	W.D Hodges	
Ballycroghan	DW01B	Down	353800	379900	W.D Hodges	
Ballycroghan	DW01c	Down	353800	379900	W.D Hodges	
Ballycroghan	DW01d	Down	353800	379900	W.D Hodges	
Ballycuddahy	LS11	Laois	234936	185775	T. O' Neill	CL
Ballydowney	KY10a	Kerry	95262	91837	J.Kiely	EBA
Ballydowney	KY10b (i–ii)	Kerry	95242	91829	J.Kiely	
Ballydowney	KY10c	Kerry	95242	91822	J.Kiely	
Ballydowney	KY10d	Kerry	95270	91787	J.Kiely	MBA
Ballyduff East	WD22a	Waterford	251433	110103	P. Long and L. Hegarty	
Ballyduff East	WD22b	Waterford	251433	110103	P. Long and L. Hegarty	LBA
Ballyellin	WX07	Wexford	321185	167747	K. Martin	EBA-LBA
Ballyellin	WX08	Wexford	321292	167791	K. Martin	EBA
Ballyglass	SO22	Sligo	144401	330215	D. Delany and R. Jones	
Ballyglass West	GY31	Galway	144536	209608	A. Kerrigan	E–L BA
Ballyglass West	MO41	Mayo	147590	300670	R. Gillespie	EN
Ballyhenry	WW08	Wicklow	327750	198550	C. McManus	
Ballyhenry	WW09	Wicklow	327750	198550	C. McManus	
Ballyhenry	WW17	Wicklow	327811	198698	E. Stafford	
Ballyhenry	WW21	Wicklow	Unknown	Unknown	E. Moore	
Ballyhinode	LS12	Laois	234164	181868	E. Cotter	
Ballyhinode	LS13	Laois	234160	181565	E. Cotter	
Ballykennedy	AM05	Antrim	328641	396043	N. Crothers	
Ballykeoghan	KK49a	Kilkenny	257468	120578	G. Laidlaw	CL
Ballykeoghan	KK49b	Kilkenny	257468	120578	G. Laidlaw	LBA
Ballykilmore	WM48	Westmeath	241743	237140	C.Hardy	EBA, IA
Ballykilmore	WM49a	Westmeath	241549	236949	C. Hardy	EBA
Ballykilmore	WM49b	Westmeath	241549	236949	C. Hardy	MBA
Ballykilmore	WM49c	Westmeath	241549	236949	C. Hardy	MN
Ballykilmore	WM49d	Westmeath	241549	236949	C. Hardy	
Ballykilmore	WM49e	Westmeath	241549	236949	C. Hardy	
Ballylean	CE14	Clare	125998	160532	K. Taylor	
Ballylean	CE15	Clare	126091	160701	G. Hull	CL
Ballylin	LK05	Limerick	126154	139184	H. Feighan	E–M BA
Ballyline	CE62a	Clare	138473	186446	S. McNamara	EBA
Ballyline	CE62b	Clare	138473	186446	S. McNamara	EBA
Ballyloughan	WX09	Wexford	317405	161143	P. Stevens	EBA
Ballylumford	AM01	Antrim	343700	400270	P. Duffy	EBA
Ballymackeamore	LK32	Limerick	147204	139664	B. Halpin	EBA–IA
Ballymackeamore	LK33	Limerick	147078	139716	B. Halpin	EBA
Ballymackeamore	LK34	Limerick	147061	139722	K. Taylor	M

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Ballymacclode	WD30	Waterford	264952	110315	D. Pollock	LBA
Ballymaley	CE02	Clare	135060	180685	M. Tierney	
Ballyman	DN01	Dublin	323800	218600	E. O'Brien	EM
Ballymenagh	DY04	Derry	280410	422520	N. Crothers	
Ballymount	KD25	Kildare	281508	200968	G. McCarthy	LN
Ballymount	KD26	Kildare	281581	201100	R. Handbidge	EBA
Ballymount	KD27	Kildare	281581	201100	G. McCarthy	LBA
Ballymountain	KK16	Kilkenny	260700	115690	L. Hegarty	MBA
Ballynabarny	WW18	Wicklow	328320	193760	R. Elliot	
Ballynabarny	WW19a	Wicklow	328230	194560	E. Stafford	
Ballynabarny	WW19b	Wicklow	328230	194560	E. Stafford	
Ballynabarny	WW19c	Wicklow	328230	194560	E. Stafford	
Ballynacallymore	DY05	Derry	283040	421180	N. Crothers	
Ballynacorra West	CO87	Cork	188778	70122	T. O'Neill	LBA
Ballynacorra West	CO88	Cork	188807	70122	T. O'Neill	EBA
Ballynacragga	LK35	Limerick	124530	150671	T. Bartlett and K. Taylor	MBA
Ballynagarbry	WM02	Westmeath	217840	239912	B. Molloy	MBA
Ballynagard	CE16	Clare	126599	154266	B. Halpin	MBA
Ballynahina	CO45	Cork	180464	93880	A.Quinn	LBA
Ballynahoulort	KY19a	Kerry	82749	116355	M.Connolly	
Ballynahoulort	KY19b	Kerry	82749	116355	M.Connolly	
Ballynahoulort	KY19c	Kerry	82749	116355	M.Connolly	
Ballynakelly	DN25	Dublin	300579	288451	R. Tobin	
Ballynakelly	DN31	Dublin	300750	227900	C.McCarthy	
Ballynakill	KD14	Kildare	281310	240622	D. Murphy	EBA
Ballynamona	CO72	Cork	182792	111731	L. Hegarty	MBA
Ballynamona	KK14	Kilkenny	262800	156129	J. Wren	MBA
Ballynamona	MH19	Meath	286200	251900	D. Murphy	
Ballynamony	KD31	Kildare	276974	189540	R. Tobin	EIA
Ballynamuddagh	WW06	Wicklow	327580	215970	N. Gregory	
Ballynapark	WW35a	Wicklow	327882	182909	G. Dehaene	
Ballynapark	WW35b	Wicklow	327882	182909	G. Dehaene	EBA
Ballynapark	WW36	Wicklow	327889	183005	E. O'Carroll	
Ballynapark	WW37a	Wicklow	327961	183213	G. Dehaene	MBA
Ballynapark	WW37b	Wicklow	327961	183213	G. Dehaene	
Ballynattin	WW04	Wicklow	323115	171613	A. Connolly	LBA
Ballynattin	WW25	Wicklow	31850	17112	M. McQuade	
Ballypitmave	AM06	Antrim	320048	370573	N. Crothers	
Ballyquirk	KK32	Kilkenny	261531	156323	R. Elliot	CL
Ballyquirk	KK33a	Kilkenny	262596	157025	R. Jennings	
Ballyquirk	KK33b	Kilkenny	262596	157025	R. Jennings	MBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Ballyquirk	KK33c	Kilkenny	262596	157025	R. Jennings	
Ballyquirk	KK33d	Kilkenny	262596	157025	R. Jennings	MBA
Ballyremon Commons	WW01	Wicklow	321819	211685	V. Buckley	EBA
Ballyshaneduff or The Derries	LS04	Laois	257404	206178	T. Breen	
Ballyshaneduff or The Derries	LS05	Laois	257404	206178	T. Breen	
Ballytarsna	TY57	Tipperary	212094	147522	E. Moore	CL
Ballyvaltron	WW48	Wicklow	327365	185686	G. Dehaene	LBA
Ballyvaltron	WW49	Wicklow	327585	185697	G. Dehaene	EBA/MBA
Ballyvass	KD03	Kildare	276937	188147	N. Gregory	
Ballyvass	KD30	Kildare	276955	188017	T. Doyle	LM
Ballyveloge	LK36	Limerick	152710	151510	K. Wiggins	
Ballyvergin	WX02	Wexford	287948	123877	D. Noonan	MBA
Ballyvolane	CO102	Cork	187550	89520	B. Molloy	
Ballyvollane	LK24	Limerick	164068	159882	F. Coyne	
Ballyvollane	LK25	Limerick	163838	158910	A. Hayes	
Ballywilliam	DW11	Down	357340	380610	R.M Chapple	EBA
Ballywilliam	TY55a	Tipperary	179470	174300	M. McNamara	
Ballywilliam	TY55b	Tipperary	179470	174300	M. McNamara	
Baloo Lower	DW10a	Down	354813	333610	C. Dunlop	EBA
Baloo Lower	DW10b	Down	354813	333610	C. Dunlop	EBA
Baloo Lower	DW10c	Down	354813	333610	C. Dunlop	LBA
Baloo Lower	DW10d	Down	354813	333610	C. Dunlop	EBA
Balreask	MH33a	Meath	288588	258796	R. Tobin	
Balreask	MH33b	Meath	288558	258701	R. Tobin	CL/EBA
Balreask	MH33c	Meath	288563	258606	R. Tobin	EM
Baltrasna	MH23a	Meath	307185	250457	C. Murray	EBA
Baltrasna	MH23B	Meath	307185	250457	C. Murray	
Banagher	OY02	Offaly	Unknown	Unknown	P. Stevens	
Banda	RM16	Roscommon	164416	295132	J.Kyle	EBA
Bannagagole	CW13	Carlow	266942	163569	S. Phelan	MBA
Barnacoyle Big	WW10	Wicklow	329557	161800	C. McManus	
Barnacragh	GY11	Galway	181170	228507	J. Tierney	EBA
Barnahely	CO62	Cork	17629	6447	M. McCarthy	IA
Barnakyle	LK11	Limerick	152700	150160	C. McManus	
Barnashillane	CO104	Cork	188765	78635	B. Molloy	
Barrees	CO55	Cork	67209	52026	W. O'Brien	MBA
Barrees	CO56	Cork	67209	52026	W. O'Brien	LBA
Bawnard East	CO90	Cork	189174	69706	T. Connell	LBA
Bawnfunne	WD17	Waterford	254970	109741	R. O'Hara	LBA
Bawnfunne	WD18	Waterford	255151	109817	R. O'Hara	EBA
Bawnfunne	WD19	Waterford	255233	109870	R. O'Hara	IA



Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Baysrath	KK34a	Kilkenny	251515	138280	F. Walsh	MBA
Baysrath	KK34b	Kilkenny	251515	138280	F. Walsh	LBA
Bearnafunshin	CE17	Clare	138122	183970	B. Halpin	
Bearnafunshin	CE18	Clare	138426	185885	E. Dennehy	
Bekan	MO32	Mayo	144177	279165	B. Guinan	
Belan	KD32	Kildare	276902	189801	R. Tobin	EBA
Bennettstown	MH72	Meath	301857	243732	R. Elliot	MBA
Bennettstown	MH73	Meath	301664	243960	R. Elliot	CL
Berrilstown	MH67	Meath	295902	255898	S. Rathbone	EBA
Blackrath	KD24	Kildare	281489	200892	G. McCarthy	EBA
Blanchvillespark	KK35	Kilkenny	260785	155653	T. Coughlan	MBA
Blanchvillespark	KK50	Kilkenny	261442	156269	T. Coughlan	EBA
Blanchvillespark	KK51	Kilkenny	261442	156269	T. Coughlan	LBA
Blundelstown	MH51	Meath	292119	261903	L. Cagney	LN
Bockagh	RM17	Roscommon	160548	297385	T. Janes	M–L BA
Bockagh	RM18	Roscommon	160044	297621	J. Kyle	EBA
Bockagh	RM19a	Roscommon	160142	297679	J. Kyle	
Bockagh	RM19b	Roscommon	160142	297679	J. Kyle	M–L BA
Bockagh	RM19c	Roscommon	160142	297679	J. Kyle	
Bockagh	RM20a	Roscommon	160218	297533	J. Kyle	E–L BA
Bockagh	RM20b	Roscommon	160218	297533	J. Kyle	
Bockagh	RM20c	Roscommon	160218	297533	J. Kyle	LBA
Bofeenaun	MO01	Mayo	111494	304287	C. McDermott	LBA
Boherard	LS14	Laois	232614	184601	E. Danaher	EBA
Boherard	LS15a	Laois	232908	184596	E. Danaher	
Boherard	LS15b	Laois	232908	184596	E. Danaher	EBA
Boherard	LS15c	Laois	232908	184596	E. Danaher	
Boherard	LS15d	Laois	232908	184596	E. Danaher	
Boherard	LS16a	Laois	233687	184939	E. Danaher	MBA
Boherard	LS16b	Laois	233687	184939	E. Danaher	CL
Boleybeg	KD20	Kildare	299038	197138	E. Dennehy	LIA/EM
Bonnetstown	KK03	Kilkenny	245686	158793	P. Stevens	MBA
Boolies	MH52a	Meath	271052	274634	I. Russell	LBA
Boolies	MH52b	Meath	271052	274634	I. Russell	
Boolies	MH53	Meath	271636	274569	I. Russell	EBA
Borris	TY61a	Tipperary	219814	157155	G. Conboy	CL
Borris	TY61b	Tipperary	219814	157155	G. Conboy	EBA
Borris	TY62	Tipperary	219814	157155	G. Conboy	MBA
Boyanaghcalry	WM24	Westmeath	213780	238207	F. Waslh	MBA
Boyerstown	MH46	Meath	283602	265922	L. Clarke	LBA
Boyerstown	MH47	Meath	283636	266461	L. Clarke	EBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Boyerstown	MH48	Meath	283125	265818	L. Clarke	EBA
Boyerstown	MH49	Meath	283222	266418	L. Clarke	LN
Bracetown	MH43	Meath	302489	242517	L. Clarke	EBA/LBA
Brackbaun	LK62	Limerick	188384	116647	M. McQuade	MBA
Brackbaun	LK63	Limerick	188390	116830	B. Molloy	IA
Brackernagh	GY02	Galway	179621	230890	B. Quinn	
Braganstown	LH07	Louth	303421	294468	C. Ó Drisceoil	
Breezmount	DW04	Down	337650	362100	C. McManus	
Bun	CN14	Cavan	237127	314891	D. Gallagher and R. O' Hara	LBA
Buntalloon	KY05	Kerry	83414	115933	J. Keily	MBA
Burgersland	CO80	Cork	184690	73340	M. Hurley	
Burrow or Glennanummer	OY06	Offaly	223351	237903	T. Coughlan	MBA
Burrow or Glennanummer	OY07	Offaly	223450	237951	T. Coughlan	M–L BA
Burrow or Glennanummer	OY08a	Offaly	223671	238072	T. Coughlan	M–L BA
Burrow or Glennanummer	OY08b	Offaly	223636	238065	T. Coughlan	EBA
Burtonhall Demesne	KD19	Kildare	278421	180262	A. Stephenson	IA
Busherstown	CW06	Carlow	277545	174624	A. Richardson	LBA–IA
Bushfield or Mahernaskeagh	LS17	Laois	229658	185373	I. Russell	EM
Bushfield or Mahernaskeagh	LS18	Laois	229599	185440	I. Russell	IA
Bushfield or Mahernaskeagh	LS19	Laois	228765	185508	K. Wiggins	CL
Butlerstown Little	CO18	Cork	174381	77677	T. Coughlan	
Caheraphuca	CE45	Clare	139206	188029	D. Bayley	E–L BA
Caheraphuca	CE46	Clare	139078	187630	D. Bayley	
Caheraphuca	CE47	Clare	138994	187460	D. Bayley	LBA
Caheraphuca	CE48	Clare	138943	187441	D. Bayley	EBA
Caheraphuca	CE49	Clare	138874	187424	D. Bayley	LBA
Caheraphuca	CE50	Clare	138957	187367	D. Bayley	LBA
Caheraphuca	CE51	Clare	138903	187351	D. Bayley	EBA
Caheraphuca	CE52	Clare	138855	187335	D. Bayley	EBA
Caheraphuca	CE53	Clare	138894	187242	D. Bayley	EBA
Caheraphuca	CE54	Clare	138854	187190	D. Bayley	EBA
Caheraphuca	CE55	Clare	139009	187503	D. Bayley	E–L BA
Caherdrinny	CO74	Cork	181037	106871	L. Hegarty	
Caherleaheen	KY22	Kerry	85271	111945	L. Dunne	EBA/LBA
Cahernalough	CE19	Clare	133741	180404	B. Halpin	
Caherweelder	GY25	Galway	144426	215719	E. O' Mahony	LBA
Caherweelder	GY26	Galway	144465	215906	E. O' Mahony	MBA
Caherweelder	GY27	Galway	144481	215982	E. O' Mahony	MBA
Caherweelder	GY28	Galway	144599	216442	E. O' Mahony	E–L BA
Caherweelder	GY29	Galway	180424	228489	M. Drumm and J. Tierney	E–M BA
Cahiracon	CE20	Clare	122565	155121	E. Dennehy and R. MacLeod	LBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Cahiracon	CE21	Clare	122625	155211	E. Dennehy	
Cahiracon	CE22	Clare	122702	155474	E. Dennehy	LBA
Cahiracon	CE23	Clare	122702	155474	E. Dennehy and B. Sutton	MBA
Cahiracon	CE24	Clare	122219	155498	T. Bartlett and E. Dennehy	EBA/M BA
Cahircalla Beg	CE38	Clare	132803	175465	G. Hull	E–L BA
Cahircalla More	CE43	Clare	132700	175500	K. Taylor	E–L BA
Calary Lower	WW12	Wicklow	324850	211550	J. Ó Néill	
Calliagstown	MH57a	Meath	268690	276832	S. Reilly	LBA
Calliagstown	MH57b	Meath	268690	276832	S. Reilly	LBA
Caltragh	SO06	Sligo	168654	334754	B. Halpin	MBA
Caltragh	SO07	Sligo	168220	334440	S. Joubert	MBA
Caltragh	SO09	Sligo	168820	334440	S. Joubert	EBA
Caltragh	SO10	Sligo	168820	334440	S. Joubert	EBA
Caltragh	SO11	Sligo	168820	334440	S. Joubert	
Caltragh	SO14	Sligo	168000	334330	S. Linnane	E–M BA
Caltragh	SO15	Sligo	168000	334330	S. Linnane	MBA
Caltragh	SO16a	Sligo	168780	334550	S. Linnane	LBA
Caltragh	SO16b	Sligo	168780	334550	S. Linnane	
Caltragh	SO16c	Sligo	168780	334550	S. Linnane	
Camlin	TY69	Tipperary	213414	185321	C. Flynn	LBA
Cannonswood	LS20	Laois	233672	176633	J. Lynch	EBA
Cappagh	CO82	Cork	162775	50319	T. Cummings	MBA
Cappagh Beg	CE25	Clare	137828	182095	E. Dennehy	
Cappagh Beg	CE26	Clare	137828	182095	E. Dennehy	
Cappaloughlin	LS21	Laois	237636	189975	T. O' Neill	LBA
Cappaloughlin	LS22a	Laois	237677	190184	T. O' Neill	EBA
Cappaloughlin	LS22b	Laois	237677	190184	T. O' Neill	LBA
Cappaloughlin	LS22c	Laois	237677	190184	T. O' Neill	EMA
Cappamore	LK16	Limerick	777000	522000	J. Kiely	
Cappanrush	WM50	Westmeath	239103	234810	C.Hardy	MN
Caraun More	GY15	Galway	164083	225314	N. Bermingham	LBA
Caraun More	GY16	Galway	164378	225345	N. Bermingham	LBA
Caraun More	GY17	Galway	164175	225335	T. Péterváry	MBA
Carmanhall	DN09	Dublin	320009	225551	T. Breen	LBA
Carnreagh	DW09	Down	325250	359030	S. Large	
Carrahil	CE27	Clare	139085	186905	E. Dennehy	
Carranstown	MH21	Meath	305350	271350	G. Dehaene	
Carranstown	MH30	Meath	305500	271300	L. Hackett	EBA
Carrickaready	WD27	Waterford	242339	101613	J. Wren	EBA
Carrickmines Great	DN15	Dublin	322489	223569	F. Reilly	EBA
Carricknaveagh	DW06	Down	336500	361200	C. McManus	

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Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Carricknaveagh	DW07	Down	337500	361400	C. Long	
Carriganard	WD23	Waterford	258294	109320	L. Hegarty	IA
Carrigane	CO65	Cork	185194	114633	M. McQuade	EBA
Carrigane	CO66	Cork	185194	114633	M. McQuade	MBA
Carrigane	CO67	Cork	185500	114833	M. McQuade	MBA
Carrigatogher (Harding)	TY50a	Tipperary	181510	176497	R. McLeod	EM
Carrigatogher (Harding)	TY50b	Tipperary	181510	176497	R. McLeod	LBA
Carrigatogher (Harding)	TY51	Tipperary	181530	176705	K. Taylor	
Carrigatogher (Harding)	TY52a	Tipperary	181397	176656	L. Hackett	IA
Carrigatogher (Harding)	TY52b	Tipperary	181306	176626	L. Hackett	LBA
Carrigatogher (Harding)	TY52c	Tipperary	181292	176660	L. Hackett	CL
Carrigatogher (Harding)	TY54	Tipperary	180900	176325	K. Taylor	MBA
Carrigatogher (ryan)	TY53	Tipperary	181474	176803	L. Hackett	CL
Carrignafoy	CO81	Cork	180668	67356	M. Ní Loingsigh	
Carrignanonsagh	WD08	Waterford	240358	105412	D.Noonan	
Carrigrohane	CO38	Cork	160680	69690	D.Murphy	
Carrigtwohill	CO79	Cork	183210	73120	R.M Cleary	LBA
Carrowcor	MO33a	Mayo	141437	278744	B. Guinan	
Carrowcor	MO33b	Mayo	141437	278744	B. Guinan	
Carrowkilla	CE28	Clare	127202	163829	E. Dennehy	EBA/L BA
Carrowmore	MO43	Mayo	129075	373315	D. Murphy	MBA
Carrowntreila	MO40	Mayo	123681	314887	R. Gillespie	EBA
Carstown	LH02	Louth	311650	279490	D. Murphy	
Carton Demesne	KD05a	Kildare	139115	100336	E. Sullivan	
Carton Demesne	KD05b	Kildare	139073	100314	E. Sullivan	
Carton Demesne	KD06	Kildare	138865	100615	E. Sullivan	
Cashelduff	MO62	Mayo	153705	300316	A. Kerrigan	LBA
Castlecooke	CO95	Cork	186645	104895	B. Molloy	EBA
Castlecooke	CO98	Cork	186695	104625	N. Gilligan	MBA
Castleinch	KK04	Kilkenny	247534	153117	P. Stevens	LBA
Castlekeeran	MH56	Meath	268690	276832	S. Reilly	EBA/IA
Castlemary	CO85	Cork	189390	67520	T. Connell	MBA
Castlemary	CO86	Cork	189595	67909	T. O'Neill	MBA
Castlemungret	LK37	Limerick	153790	154030	K. Wiggins	
Castlemungret	LK38	Limerick	153790	154030	K. Wiggins	
Castleredmond	CO10	Cork	189513	71854	M. Doody	
Castletown	KK09	Kilkenny	226930	172790	T. Coughlan	
Castletown	KK10	Kilkenny	226960	172750	T. Coughlan	
Castletown	KK11	Kilkenny	226400	172500	T. Coughlan	
Castletown	LH03	Louth	Unknown	Unknown	R. Lynch	
Castleview	CO15	Cork	17454	7194	M.McCarthy	MBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Catstown	KK01a	Kilkenny	249700	131960	M. Ryan	IA
Catstown	KK01B	Kilkenny	249700	131960	M. Ryan	MED
Causetown	MH27	Meath	289518	273222	T. Breen	
Cavankilgreen	TE03	Tyrone	264772	355114	J. McKee	
Chapelbride	MH54a	Meath	276947	274659	D. Gallagher	MBA
Chapelbride	MH54b	Meath	276947	274659	D. Gallagher	
Chapelbride	MH54c	Meath	276947	274659	D. Gallagher	CL/EBA
Charlesland	WW22	Wicklow	329670	210260	B. Molloy	EBA
Charlesland	WW23	Wicklow	329630	210840	B. Molloy	
Cherryville	KD07	Kildare	269073	211840	T. Breen	E–M BA
Cherryville	KD08	Kildare	269331	211879	T. Breen	EBA
Cherryville	KD09a	Kildare	269617	211959	T. Breen	MBA
Cherryville	KD09b	Kildare	269617	211959	T. Breen	LN
Cherryville	KD10	Kildare	268661	211680	T. Breen	E–M N
Cherrywood	DN04a	Dublin	324250	223220	J. Ó Néill	
Cherrywood	DN05	Dublin	324250	223220	J. Ó Néill	
Clare	MO15	Mayo	134978	274977	S. Zajac	
Clareabbey	CE41	Clare	134863	175403	K. Taylor	LBA
Clareabbey	CE42	Clare	134456	175394	G. Hull	EBA
Claristown	MH06	Meath	314150	267710	I. Russell	LN
Clarkill	AH01	Armagh	300112	322032	N. Crothers	
Clashadunna East	CO30	Cork	208297	77332	D. Noonan	MBA
Clashnevin	TY68	Tipperary	192462	178888	J. Moran	LBA
Clashroe	CO14	Cork	130115	113142	M.F. Hurley	EBA
Clogh	WX10	Wexford	310222	154752	N. Jackman	EBA
Clogh	WX11	Wexford	312364	155543	J. Lehane	LBA
Clogh East	LK39	Limerick	139862	144047	K. Taylor	LBA
Cloghacloka	LK03	Limerick	153400	15040	M. Gowen	Neo
Cloghacloka	LK09	Limerick	153400	150400	P. Logue	
Clogharevaun	GY10	Galway	157692	224124	B. Wilkins and A. Bruce	MBA
Cloghers	KY06a	Kerry	84240	113030	J. Keily	
Cloghers	KY06b	Kerry	84240	113030	J. Keily	EBA
CloghJordan Road	OY01	Offaly	Unknown	Unknown	B. Halpin	
Cloghoge	WW38	Wicklow	327961	183329	E. O'Carroll	
Cloghvally Upper	MN07	Monnaghan	268775	334034	F. Walsh	E–MBA
Clohoge	KK02	Kilkenny	658296	654549	B. O' Flaherty	
Clonadacasey	LS23	Laois	241519	195295	T. O' Neill	MBA
Clonadacasey	LS24a	Laois	240762	194389	T. O' Neill	LBA
Clonadacasey	LS24b	Laois	240762	194389	T. O' Neill	LBA
Clonadacasey	LS24c	Laois	240762	194389	T. O' Neill	LBA
Clonboyne	LS25	Laois	244223	196725	D. Murphy	CL

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Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Cloncowan	MH13	Meath	275293	248847	C. Baker	EBA
Clonkerdon	WD01	Waterford	215096	93970	J.Quinlan	
Clonmelsh	CW09	Carlow	271384	170134	L. Hegarty	
Clonmoney North	CE04	Clare	143671	162799	D. Murphy	MBA
Clonmore North	TY34	Tipperary	202085	123905	M. Molloy	MBA
Clonrud	LS26	Laois	237480	189205	K. Wiggins	E–M BA
Clontakelly	DW08	Down	337800	366000	C. Long	
Clonmeath	MH14	Meath	285761	251025	E. Byrnes	EBA
Cloonaddadoran	LS02	Laois	246900	294700	R. Crumlish	LBA
Cloonaghboy	MO63	Mayo	140716	300532	R. Gillespie	EM
Cloonaghboy	MO64	Mayo	141301	300284	A. Kerrigan	LBA
Cloonaghboy	MO65	Mayo	141346	300272	A. Kerrigan	EBA
Cloonbar	GY06	Galway	132803	354785	T. O' Neill	EBA
Cloonbulban	MO34a	Mayo	143877	277784	B. Guinan	
Cloonbulban	MO34b	Mayo	143877	277784	B. Guinan	
Clooncolry	LM11	Leitrim	206234	290246	L.McGowen	
Cloondace	MO37	Mayo	Unknown	Unknown	S. Zajac	
Cloondarone	GY35	Galway	142493	249154	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY36	Galway	142554	249129	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY37	Galway	142540	249100	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY38	Galway	142551	249087	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY39	Galway	142701	248852	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY40	Galway	142718	248787	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY41	Galway	142756	248470	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY42	Galway	142749	248424	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY43	Galway	142724	248412	L. McKinstry	
Cloondarone	GY44	Galway	142737	248242	L. McKinstry	
Clooneen	CE65	Clare	139186	188268	D. Bayley	EBA
Clooneybeirne	RM08	Roscommon	188382	265189	L. Morahan	
Cloonfane	MO66	Mayo	152863	300629	A. Kerrigan	EBA
Cloonfane	MO67	Mayo	152778	300621	A. Kerrigan	MED
Cloonfane	MO68	Mayo	152403	300745	A. Kerrigan	EM
Cloongownagh	RM04	Roscommon	190644	299970	A. M. Lennon and M. Henry	LIA
Cloongownagh	RM05	Roscommon	190500	300088	J. Carroll	
Cloongownagh	RM06	Roscommon	190500	300088	J. Carroll	MBA
Cloonmeen West	MO69	Mayo	150493	300957	R. Gillespie	M–L BA
Cloonturk	LM05	Leitrim	205909	290813	L.McGowen	CL
Cloughballybeg	CN01	Cavan	267593	284991	M. Gowen	
Cloughjordan	TY65a	Tipperary	Unknown	Unknown	E. Dennehy	LBA
Cloughjordan	TY65b	Tipperary	Unknown	Unknown	E. Dennehy	LBA
Clowanstown	MH82	Meath	295772	257211	M. Mossop	NL

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Clowanstown	MH83a	Meath	295518	257771	M. Mossop	CL
Clowanstown	MH83b	Meath	295518	257771	M. Mossop	NL
Clowanstown	MH83c	Meath	295518	257771	M. Mossop	EBA
Coarhamore	KY03	Kerry	37860	73710	J. Sheehan	LBA
Coldwinter	DN08	Dublin	319443	251886	K. Campbell	MBA
Coldwood	GY24	Galway	145908	224401	E. O' Mahony	BA?
Commons	LK40	Limerick	145144	140831	B. Halpin	
Commons	LK41	Limerick	145145	140832	M. Dowling and K. Taylor	
Commons	LK42	Limerick	145091	140838	T. Bartlett and K. Taylor	
Conwal	DL03	Donegal	217182	412039	M. McQuade	
Cooflin	LS27	Laois	234205	185107	E. Danaher	LBA
Cooflin	LS28	Laois	234378	184994	E. Danaher	MBA
Cooflin	LS29	Laois	234136	184920	E. Danaher	MBA-EM
Cooksland	MH15	Meath	285761	251025	C. Baker	CL
Cooksland	MH45	Meath	295722	253348	S. Linnane	EBA
Cookstown	LH05	Louth	293107	294920	T. Breen	
Cookstown	LH06	Louth	292934	295028	T. Breen	
Cookstown	MH87a	Meath	275488	273708	G. McLoughlin	
Cookstown	MH87b	Meath	275488	273708	G. McLoughlin	
Cookstown Great	MH86	Meath	275870	273471	G. McLoughlin	
Coolacork	WW50	Wicklow	326687	189419	Y. Whitty	CL
Coolagh	DY06	Derry	258750	422020	N. Crothers	
Coolaholloga	TY22	Tipperary	185690	180760	D. Murphy	EBA
Coolamurphy	WX04	Wexford	291845	137598	G. Feegan	
Coolane	KD35	Kildare	276600	187460	T. Doyle	
Coolavally	MO11	Mayo	119481	253526	F. Ryan	
Coolderry	TY35	Tipperary	171895	167157	P. Long	LN/CL
Coolderry	TY36	Tipperary	172224	167304	P. Long	CL
Coole Lower	CO101	Cork	186930	95035	B. Molloy	EBA
Cooleen	TY42	Tipperary	170320	165708	R. McLeod	CL/EBA
Coolfore	LH11	Louth	304610	280000	C. Ó Drisceoil	
Coolgarraff	KY09	Kerry	95573	92747	J. Kiely	IA
Coolkeeragh	DY01	Derry	247510	421170	E. Halpin	
Coolmoohan	CO94	Cork	187020	105620	B. O'Meara	LBA
Coolnastudd	WX12	Wexford	314260	156946	E. Moore	CL
Coolnastudd	WX13	Wexford	314657	157218	E. Moore	CL
Coolroe	MO12	Mayo	133145	271228	R. Gillespie	CL
Coolroe	MO13	Mayo	133157	271231	R. Gillespie	MBA
Coolroe	MO14	Mayo	133163	271234	R. Gillespie	EBA
Cooltymurraghy	GY12	Galway	177716	228176	M. Drumm and D. Fallon	EBA
Coonagh West	LK60	Limerick	152919	157094	F. Reilly	MBA/LBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Coonagh West	LK61	Limerick	152975	157055	F. Reilly	CL/MBA
Cootehill	CN07	Cavan	596000	144300	J. Carroll	
Cornagheragh	CN09	Cavan	242641	302459	R. Ó Maoldúin	
Cornaher	WM51	Westmeath	239621	235099	L. McKinsty	LBA
Corraun	LS30	Laois	231967	184651	E. Danaher	MBA
Corraun	LS31	Laois	232009	184605	E. Danaher	LN-EBA
Correagh	WM41a	Westmeath	229977	236182	P. Lynch	EBA
Correagh	WM41b	Westmeath	230011	236194	P. Lynch	MBA
Corrin	CO46	Cork	181355	95687	A.O'Connell	
Corrin	CO47	Cork	181382	96126	A.O'Connell	CL
Corrovorrin	CE03	Clare	135060	180685	M. Tierney	
Courteencurragh	WX14	Wexford	317759	160160	D.A McCullough	CL
Crabbsland	LK19	Limerick	160451	155620	F. Coyne	EBA
Cragbrien	CE29	Clare	130809	169192	G. Hull	M-I BA
Cragbrien	CE30	Clare	130893	169247	G. Hull	IA
Cranagh	WW34	Wicklow	327900	182637	E. O'Carroll	EBA
Cranavonane	CW12	Carlow	268554	167895	T. Coughlan	MBA
Cranmore	MO70	Mayo	154432	299983	A. Kerrigan	E-M BA
Cranmore	MO71	Mayo	154525	299927	A. Kerrigan	MBA
Creavamoy	AM08	Antrim	317140	405930	N. Crothers	
Creggan Lower	WM23	Westmeath	207588	240435	E. Lyne	LBA
Cregganmacar	WM28	Westmeath	216966	237549	P. Lynch	IA
Cregganmacar	WM29	Westmeath	217106	237511	P. Lynch	LBA
Cregganmacar	WM30	Westmeath	217444	237470	P. Lynch	EBA
Cregganmacar	WM31	Westmeath	217310	237450	P. Lynch	M-L BA
Crocane	CO92	Cork	189132	66468	T. O'Neill	LBA
Cronykeery	WW13	Wicklow	291410	986520	I. Doyle	
Cross	LS32	Laois	234486	185333	T. O' Neill	LBA
Crumlin	LH12	Louth	304475	303970	P. Lynch	
Crumlin	LH13	Louth	304460	303870	P. Lynch	
Cuffsborough	LS33	Laois	234393	183130	D. Murphy	M-L BA
Cuffsborough	LS34	Laois	234379	182856	D. Murphy	M-L BA
Culiaghmore	RM14	Roscommon	189223	229223	G. Conboy	EBA
Culleenwaine	OY11	Offaly	201615	181327	J. Tierney	EBA
Cummeen	SO13	Sligo	166250	336250	M. Henry	
Curragh	LS35a	Laois	234179	181479	E. Cotter	LBA-EIA
Curragh	LS35b	Laois	234179	181479	E. Cotter	CL
Curragh	LS35c	Laois	234179	181479	E. Cotter	
Curragh	LS36	Laois	234435	180618	E. Cotter	CL
Curragh Upper	CO96	Cork	186540	98770	B. Molloy	LBA
Curraheen	CO34	Cork	160722	69228	E. Danaher	



Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Curraheen	CO36	Cork	160650	69500	I.Russell	LBA-IA
Curraheen	CO37a	Cork	160780	69300	I.Russell	CL
Curraheen	CO37b	Cork	160780	69300	I.Russell	CL
Curraheen	CO37c	Cork	160780	69300	I.Russell	LBA
Curraheen	CO37d	Cork	160780	69300	I.Russell	LBA
Curraheen	CO37e	Cork	160780	69300	I.Russell	LBA
Curraheen	CO38f	Cork	160780	69300	I.Russell	
Curraheen	CO37g	Cork	160780	69300	I.Russell	LBA
Curraheen	CO84	Cork	160987	68966	M. Hurley	EM
Curraheen	RM09	Roscommon	156643	292351	A. Kerrigan	LBA
Curraheen	RM10	Roscommon	156683	299247	A. Kerrigan	M-L BA
Curraheen	RM11	Roscommon	157248	298959	A. Kerrigan	M-L BA
Curraheen	CE64a	Clare	142093	195405	S. Delaney	
Curraheen	CE64b	Clare	142093	195405	S. Delaney	MBA
Dalystown	WM03	Westmeath	239812	242205	B. Molloy	MBA
Danesfort	KK36	Kilkenny	253245	148462	R. Jennings	CL
Danesfort	KK52	Kilkenny	251953	146745	R. Jennings	BA*
Danganbeg	KK53a	Kilkenny	251462	138754	E. Devine	MBA
Danganbeg	KK53b	Kilkenny	251462	138754	E. Devine	IA
Deerpark East	MO16	Mayo	99747	285277	R. Gillespie	EBA
Deerpark East	MO17	Mayo	99731	285322	R. Gillespie	LN
Deerpark East	MO18	Mayo	99697	285268	R. Gillespie	EBA
Deerpark East	MO19	Mayo	99747	285268	R. Gillespie	MBA
Deerpark East	MO20	Mayo	99596	285438	R. Gillespie	EBA
Deerpark East	MO21	Mayo	99615	285433	R. Gillespie	
Deerpark East	MO22	Mayo	99662	285492	R. Gillespie	LBA
Derragh	MO36	Mayo	Unknown	Unknown	P. King	
Derrigra East	CO23	Cork	134163	54809	R.Tobin	
Derrinnumera	MO39	Mayo	10425	29400	B. Guinan	
Derry	LS01	Laois	249975	197539	C. Duffy	
Derrybrusk	FH02	Fermanagh	228600	338900	F. Carroll	LBA
Derrycool	CO24	Cork	142811	56204	R.Tobin	
Derryfadda	TY01	Tipperary	222777	166009	J. O'Neill	MBA
Derrygarra Upper	CN02	Cavan	240986	309765	D. Murphy	EBA
Derrygarra Lower	CE57	Clare	140463	191046	J. Nunan	Med
Derrygarra Lower	CE58	Clare	140399	190444	J. Nunan	LBA
Derryharney	FH01	Fermanagh	229800	336500	M. Conway	
Derryknockane	LK12	Limerick	155824	151717	C. McManus	
Derryvullan	FH03a	Fermanagh	226800	340600	F. Carroll	BA
Derryvullan	FH03b	Fermanagh	226800	340600	F. Carroll	
Derver	MH61	Meath	266636	279668	D. Gallagher	IA/EM

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Derver	MH62	Meath	266808	279314	D. Gallagher	EBA/IA
Devlis	MO38	Mayo	150685	179143	B. Guinan	
Dollas Upper	LK43	Limerick	149068	139089	B. Halpin	EBA
Dooradoyle	LK08	Limerick	157279	653596	C. McConway	
Doughiska	GY01a	Galway	134700	226657	M. Fitzpatrick and R. Crumlish	EBA
Doughiska	GY01b	Galway	134700	226657	M. Fitzpatrick and R. Crumlish	No
Doughiska	GY01c	Galway	134700	226657	M. Fitzpatrick and R. Crumlish	MBA
Doughiska	GY14a	Galway	134700	226650	L. McKinsty	E–L BA
Doughiska	GY14b	Galway	134700	226650	L. McKinsty	EBA
Doughiska	GY14c	Galway	134700	226650	L. McKinsty	M–L BA
Doughiska	GY14d	Galway	134700	226650	L. McKinsty	EM
Dowdallshill	LH01	Louth	305970	309267	T. Breen	
Downshill	WW11	Wicklow	325910	210490	J. Ó Néill	
Drombeg	CO07	Cork	124625	35129	E.M. Fahy	LBA
Drominycarra	LK18a	Limerick	159711	143029	S. McCutcheon	
Drominycarra	LK18b	Limerick	158230	142900	S. McCutcheon	
Dromkeen East	KY01	Kerry	83481	130803	D. Twohig	
Dromnea	CO13	Cork	84524	38635	R.M. Cleary	MBA
Dromnevane	KY21a	Kerry	91140	71503	L.Lynch	
Dromnevane	KY21b	Kerry	91140	71503	L.Lynch	
Dromore	KY18	Kerry	93635	103260	L.Hegarty	LBA
Dromore West	MN01	Monnaghan	259654	315717	B. Halpin	
Dromthacker	KY04a	Kerry	86018	116597	R.M. Cleary	
Dromthacker	KY04b	Kerry	85899	116448	R.M. Cleary	EBA
Dromvane II	CO25	Cork	140135	55667	R.Tobin	
Drumalure Beg	CN12	Cavan	238960	313539	D. Gallagher	
Drumalure Beg	CN13	Cavan	238866	313688	D. Gallagher	
Drumaroad	DW02	Down	337200	344300	A. Gahan	
Drumaskibbole	SO21	Sligo	169420	330860	T. Rogers and R. Jones	
Drumbaragh	MH28	Meath	745100	762200	B. Halpin	
Drumbaragh	MH55	Meath	270122	275065	D. Gallagher	EBA
Drumbo	CN03	Cavan	243242	307240	D.Murphy	LBA
Drumbo	CN04	Cavan	243042	307909	D.Murphy	LBA
Drumcalpin	CN05	Cavan	242599	308271	D. Murphy	LBA
Drummany	CN06	Cavan	240696	310632	D. Murphy	
Drummin	TY21	Tipperary	185800	180780	D. Murphy	
Drumminacloghaun	CE63	Clare	144104	201641	S. McNamara	EBA-LBA
Drumnafern	TE04	Tyrone	275159	375159	F. Malone	
Drumnafern	TE05	Tyrone	274627	360085	F. Malone	
Drumree	MH66	Meath	282787	267218	H. Schweitzer	EBA
Drumsna	LM01	Leitrim	200316	297332	H.Opie	EBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Dungeer	WX01	Wexford	290024	123445	D. Noonan	IA
Dungooly	LH28	Louth	301172	314703	C. McConway	
Dunkitt	KK15	Kilkenny	257970	116340	N. Gregory	LBA
Dunlo	GY32a	Galway	185050	230100	T. O' Driscoll	M–L BA
Dunlo	GY32b	Galway	185050	230100	T. O' Driscoll	BA?
Dunlo	GY32c	Galway	185050	230100	T. O' Driscoll	IA
Dunmore	GY07	Galway	150850	263800	B. Quinn	
Edendariff	DW03	Down	337200	345700	A. Gahan	
Edenderry	DW12	Down	308209	342885	N.Crothers	
Enniscoffey	WM04	Westmeath	248946	246769	E. Connolly	
Enniscoffey	WM05	Westmeath	250822	247210	E. Connolly	LN
Enniscoffey	WM06	Westmeath	250736	247173	B. Molloy	EBA
Enniskillen	FH04	Fermanagh	224700	344100	F. Carroll	
Errew	LM12a	Leitrim	210830	293430	T.Péterváry	EBA
Errew	LM12b	Leitrim	210830	293430	T.Péterváry	LBA
Errew	LM12c	Leitrim	210830	293430	T.Péterváry	
Errew	LM12d	Leitrim	210830	293430	T.Péterváry	LBA
Erris	RM02	Roscommon	181867	303578	H. Opie	
Fahee South	CE01	Clare	129182	198841	D. O' Drisceoil	MBA
Fallakeeran	MO35a	Mayo	143877	277784	B. Guinan	
Fallakeeran	MO35b	Mayo	143602	271038	B. Guinan	
Farranastack	KY12	Kerry	93052	141185	M.Dowd	LBA
Farranderg	LH20	Louth	303450	307900	E. Danaher	
FAUGHART LOWER	LH23	Louth	305326	310851	S. Delaney	LBA
Fauleens	MO58	Mayo	152993	300612	A. Kerrigan	E–L BA
Fauleens	MO59	Mayo	152964	300618	A. Kerrigan	LBA
Fauleens	MO60	Mayo	153123	300548	A. Kerrigan	EBA
Fauleens	MO61	Mayo	153419	300446	A. Kerrigan	M–L BA
Fennor	TY64a	Tipperary	226823	163015	G. Conboy	
Fennor	TY64b	Tipperary	226823	163015	G. Conboy	CL/EBA
Fermoy	CO48	Cork	182128	98526	D.Murphy	LBA
Fermoy	CO49a	Cork	182185	98334	A.O' Connell	EN
Fermoy	CO49b	Cork	182185	98334	A.O' Connell	CL
Fermoy	CO49c	Cork	182185	98334	A.O' Connell	EBA
Fermoy	CO49d	Cork	182185	98334	A.O' Connell	MBA
Fermoy	CO50	Cork	182217	97505	T.O' Neill	LBA
Fermoy	CO64	Cork	182113	98246	F. Reilly	CL–LBA
Fermoy Wood	CO58	Cork	181441	96233	B. Sutton	IA
Finniterstown	LK44	Limerick	144128	141395	G. Hull	M
Fleenstown Little	MH22	Meath	307155	249824	C. Murray	
Flemby	KY07	Kerry	91006	110152	L.Dunne	

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Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Fonthill	DN07	Dublin	Unknown	Unknown	J. Ó Néill	
Foulkscourt	KK29a	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	
Foulkscourt	KK29b	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	
Foulkscourt	KK29c	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	LBA
Foulkscourt	KK29d	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	MBA
Foulkscourt	KK29e	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	
Foulkscourt	KK29f	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	
Foulkscourt	KK29g	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	MBA
Foulkscourt	KK29h	Kilkenny	229112	167372	C. Hardy	LBA
Friarsland	LS37	Laois	233371	184948	A.M Lennon	
Furzypark	GY08	Galway	149388	226470	B. Wilkins	MBA
Gainstown	MH75a	Meath	285084	264615	S. Linnane	EBA
Gainstown	MH75b	Meath	285084	264615	S. Linnane	LN
Gainstown	MH76	Meath	285368	264267	T. Connell	CL/EBA
Gallowshill	KD34	Kildare	270540	194535	L. Cagney	EBA
Gardenhill	LK67	Limerick	167175	161325	A. Harte	LBA
Garranes	CO57	Cork	62282	41785	W. O'Brien	MBA-LBA
Garraun	TY48	Tipperary	174708	169835	P. Long	MBA
Garraunderragh	KY13	Kerry	93050	107950	N. O' Callaghan	MBA
Garraunderragh	KY14	Kerry	92917	107315	J.Kiely	LBA
Georgia	LM06	Leitrim	205863	286990	M.Seaver	MP
Glashare	KK30a	Kilkenny	232284	171022	C. Hardy	LBA
Glashare	KK30b	Kilkenny	232284	171022	C. Hardy	
Glashare	KK30c	Kilkenny	232284	171022	C. Hardy	
Glen	MO02a	Mayo	70195	284747	P. King	LBA
Glen	MO02b	Mayo	70195	284747	P. King	LBA
Glencove	WD24	Waterford	258294	109320	B. Wilkins	MBA
Golan	TE06	Tyrone	265351	357639	F. Malone	
Gormanstown	MH02	Meath	315588	267064	F. Ryan	
Gortaficka	CE68a	Clare	139592	139549	J. Nunan	
Gortaficka	CE68b	Clare	189162	189124	J. Nunan	EBA-MBA
Gortavoher	CE66	Clare	140657	193043	S. Delaney	EBA
Gortlustia	RM07	Roscommon	191380	279458	J. Ó Néill	
Gortnagroagh	LS38	Laois	235043	185939	E. Danaher	LBA
Gortnahown	CO68	Cork	180562	110046	J. Lyttleton	
Gortnalagh	LK68	Limerick	166842	160836	A. Harte	MBA/LBA
Gortnatubbrid (Ballyvourney I)	CO02	Cork	120010	76856	M..J. O'Kelly	
Gortroe	MO27	Mayo	100219	285215	R. Gillespie	LN
Gortroe	MO28	Mayo	100219	285215	R. Gillespie	LN
Gortroe	MO29	Mayo	100333	285174	R. Gillespie	MBA
Gortroe	MO30	Mayo	100473	285200	R. Gillespie	CL

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Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Gortroe	MO31	Mayo	100220	285315	R. Gillespie	CL
Gortybrigane	TY39a	Tipperary	171719	167691	P. Long	MBA
Gortybrigane	TY39b	Tipperary	171719	167691	P. Long	MBA
Gortybrigane	TY40	Tipperary	171323	168266	P. Long	LBA
Gortybrigane	TY41a	Tipperary	171323	168266	B. Sutton	EBA
Gortybrigane	TY41b	Tipperary	171323	168266	B. Sutton	
Gracedieu West	WD11	Waterford	266417	113039	I.Russell	LBA
Graigue	LS03	Laois	270530	177200	T. Breen	
Graigueshoneen	WD04	Waterford	238326	104775	J.Tierney	EBA-LBA
Graigueshoneen	WD07	Waterford	238664	104913	M.Tierney	MBA
Grallagh	MO44	Mayo	129064	373412	D. Murphy	LBA
Grallagh	TY26	Tipperary	183950	179060	D. Murphy	
Grange	DN26	Dublin	722716	740769	S. Elder	
Grange	DN27	Dublin	722624	741152	S. Elder	
Grange	KK05	Kilkenny	243472	169597	P. Stevens	MBA
Gransha	DY02	Derry	246070	419930	R.M Chapple	EBA
Greenan	WD29	Waterford	244535	107688	T.Janes	LBA
Greeneenagh	GY05	Galway	163451	217357	Martin Jones	LBA
Greenhills	TY67	Tipperary	203215	181566	J. Kiely	EBA
Greenhills	TY70	Tipperary	203511	181636	J. Kiely	EBA
Greenhills	TY71a	Tipperary	203669	181667	J. Kiely	LBA
Greenhills	TY71b	Tipperary	203669	181667	J. Kiely	EBA/LBA
Griffinstown	WM07	Westmeath	255466	246180	B. Molloy	
Groin	KY08	Kerry	95227	92710	E.Dennehy	
Haggardstown	LH27	Louth	306113	302429	E. Corcoran	
Hallsfarm	WM56	Westmeath	233544	233681	L. McKinsty	EBA-IA
Hallsfarm	WM57	Westmeath	233591	233780	L. McKinsty	EBA
Harlockstown	MH24	Meath	305046	251010	C. Murray	EBA
Harlockstown	MH25	Meath	305141	250751	C. Murray	
Harristown	LH08	Louth	300019	290971	C. Duffy	
Heathstown	WM14	Westmeath	212936	238801	A. Hayes	EBA
Heathstown	WM15	Westmeath	212936	238801	A. Hayes	EBA
Hermitage	LK21	Limerick	165260	161540	T. Collins and A. Hayes	M-L BA
Hill of rath	LH14	Louth	305445	278155	C. Duffy	
Hill of rath	LH15	Louth	305336	278332	K. Capbell	
Holdenstown	KK37	Kilkenny	256828	152048	Y. Whitty	IA
Hughestown	RM03	Roscommon	188996	300960	M. Henry	EBA
Inchagreenoge	LK45	Limerick	126737	149291	K. Taylor	EBA
Inchagreenoge	LK46	Limerick	126737	149291	K. Taylor	EBA
Inchanappa South	WW26	Wicklow	32720	19840	G. McLoughlin	CL/EBA
Inchaquire	KD22	Kildare	280280	198748	G. McCarthy	E-M BA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Inchaquire	KD23	Kildare	280790	199422	G. McCarthy	EBA
Inchinclare	LK47	Limerick	153829	149291	K. Taylor	LIA/EM
Inchirourke	TY63a	Tipperary	225210	161878	G. Conboy	LBA/IA
Inchirourke	TY63b	Tipperary	225210	161878	G. Conboy	
Islands	KK24a	Kilkenny	228125	164504	C. Hardy	EBA/LBA
Islands	KK24b	Kilkenny	228211	164385	C. Hardy	MBA
Islands	KK25	Kilkenny	228429	164969	C. Hardy	MBA
Islands	KK26a	Kilkenny	228479	165120	C. Hardy	LN
Islands	KK26b	Kilkenny	228479	165120	C. Hardy	LBA
Islands	KK27	Kilkenny	228579	165363	C. Hardy	MBA/LBA
Jamestown	DN32	Dublin	211900	240000	C.McCarthy	LN
Johnstown	CW03a	Carlow	277833	176819	L. Hegarty	EBA
Johnstown	CW03b	Carlow	277837	176848	L. Hegarty	
Johnstown	CW04	Carlow	277825	176880	L. Hegarty	
Johnstown	CW05a	Carlow	277650	176216	A. Richardson	M–L BA
Johnstown	CW05b	Carlow	277610	176184	A. Richardson	M–L BA
Johnstown	MH07	Meath	277328	240460	R. Elliot	
Johnstown	MH74	Meath	295927	251219	S. Elder	MBA/LBA
Johnstown North	WW05	Wicklow	177500	326500	N. Gregory	
Jordanstown	DN10	Dublin	318793	257044	R. Tobin	
Jordanstown	KK54	Kilkenny	265103	159227	P. Wierzbicki	EBA
Keelbanada	RM21	Roscommon	165185	294370	D. Bayley	EBA
Keelbanada	RM22	Roscommon	165383	294268	D. Bayley	EBA
Keelty	CE44	Clare	132084	177257	K. Taylor	No
Keelty	SO12	Sligo	168944	344550	C. Read	
Kellymount	KK55	Kilkenny	265250	159397	P. Wierzbicki	EBA
Kellymount	KK56	Kilkenny	265164	159463	P. Wierzbicki	EBA/MBA
Kellymount	KK57	Kilkenny	265338	159597	P. Wierzbicki	CL/IA
Kellymount	KK58a	Kilkenny	265130	159277	P. Wierzbicki	EBA
Kellymount	KK58b	Kilkenny	265130	159277	P. Wierzbicki	
Kellymount	KK58c	Kilkenny	265130	159277	P. Wierzbicki	
Kellymount	KK58d	Kilkenny	265130	159277	P. Wierzbicki	LBA
Kennastown	MH77a	Meath	285368	264267	K. Martin	LBA
Kennastown	MH77b	Meath	285368	264267	K. Martin	LN
Kennastown	MH77c	Meath	285368	264267	K. Martin	CL
Kennastown	MH77d	Meath	285368	264267	K. Martin	CL
Kennastown	MH77e	Meath	285368	264267	K. Martin	EBA
Kennastown	MH78	Meath	287616	264517	K. Wiggins	CL
Kilavally	WM58	Westmeath	241137	236346	E. Moore	MBA
Kilbraherd	WM08	Westmeath	233799	241593	B. Molloy	MBA
Kilbane	LK58a	Limerick	162010	156100	N. Callaghan	

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Kilbane	LK58b	Limerick	162010	156100	N. Callaghan	
Kilbeg	WM32	Westmeath	228350	236980	T. Coughlan	LBA
Kilbeg	WM33	Westmeath	228870	236700	T. Coughlan	MBA
Kilbeg	WM34a	Westmeath	228954	236684	F. Walsh	E–L BA
Kilbeg	WM34b	Westmeath	228954	236684	F. Walsh	EBA
Kilbeg	WM35	Westmeath	228964	236662	F. Walsh	EBA
Kilbeg	WM36	Westmeath	228989	236661	F. Walsh	EBA
Kilbeg	WM37a	Westmeath	229025	236626	F. Walsh	
Kilbeg	WM37b	Westmeath	229025	236626	F. Walsh	EBA
Kilbeg	WM38a	Westmeath	229179	236519	F. Walsh	MBA
Kilbeg	WM38b	Westmeath	229179	236519	F. Walsh	LBA
Kilbeg	WM38c	Westmeath	229025	236626	F. Walsh	EBA
Kilbeg	WM39	Westmeath	229413	236336	E. Lyne	LN–EBA
Kilbeg	WM40	Westmeath	229900	236150	C. McManus	EBA
Kilbeggan South	WM45	Westmeath	233392	234312	T. Coughlan	EBA
Kilbegly	RM12	Roscommon	190038	230053	N. Jackman	EBA
Kilbrien	CO51	Cork	179899	92767	E. Cotter	MBA
Kilcor South	CO09	Cork	186540	89174	M.F. Hurley	MBA
Kildorragh	LM02	Leitrim	198596	298618	H. Opie	EM
Kildrum	CO69	Cork	183844	113353	J. Tierney	CL
Kilduff	CN11	Cavan	238369	313935	G. Kelleher and V. Ginn	EBA
Kilfinny	LK48	Limerick	146579	140100	E. Dennehy and R. McLeod	
Kilfinny	LK49	Limerick	146482	140152	G. Hull	EBA
Kilgaroan	WM42	Westmeath	230855	235689	D. Bayley	EBA, EM
Kilgobbin	DN28	Dublin	319000	224220	S. Elder	
Kilgowen	KD28	Kildare	283166	204098	L. Hackett	EBA
Killalane	TY49a	Tipperary	175376	170485	P. Long	MBA
Killalane	TY49b	Tipperary	175921	170740	P. Long	EM
Killalough	CO21	Cork	173769	79528	E. Cotter	MBA
Killaspy	KK13	Kilkenny	261164	115575	D. Pollock	CL
Killaspy	KK17	Kilkenny	261340	115660	L. Hegarty	LBA
Killaspy	KK20	Kilkenny	262150	115250	C. Gleeson	MBA/LBA
Killeagh	CO99	Cork	189900	75240	N. Gilligan	MBA
Killeen	MH37	Meath	293372	253615	S. Conran	EBA
Killeens	CO04	Cork	163530	73754	M..J. O'Kelly	MBA
Killeens	CO05	Cork	163514	73791	M..J. O'Kelly	MBA
Killeens	CO06	Cork	163484	73783	M..J. O'Kelly	
Killeens	CO19	Cork	163286	74351	T. Coughlan	
Killescragh	GY18	Galway	162615	224917	K. Curran	E–L BA
Killescragh	GY19	Galway	163306	225224	K. Curran	E–L BA
Killickaweeny	KD13	Kildare	285490	240633	D. Murphy	

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Killincarrig	WW24	Wicklow	329750	210840	B. Molloy	
Killinure	DW05	Down	337800	363450	C. McManus	
Killoran	TY02	Tipperary	222223	166226	P. Stevens	EBA
Killoran	TY03	Tipperary	222205	166572	J. O'Neill	MBA
Killoran	TY04	Tipperary	222211	166765	J. O'Neill	LBA
Killoran	TY05	Tipperary	222223	166679	J. O'Neill	MBA/LBA
Killoran	TY06	Tipperary	222229	166600	P. Stevens	
Killoran	TY07	Tipperary	220603	166853	P. Stevens	
Killoran	TY08	Tipperary	221285	166626	P. Stevens	MBA
Killoran	TY09	Tipperary	220062	166934	P. Stevens	
Killoran	TY10	Tipperary	221210	166999	P. Stevens	CL
Killoran	TY11	Tipperary	221682	166355	P. Stevens	
Killoran	TY12	Tipperary	220529	166807	P. Stevens	
Killoran	TY13	Tipperary	221125	166905	P. Stevens	
Killoran	TY14	Tipperary	221125	166905	P. Stevens	
Killoran	TY15	Tipperary	221676	166443	P. Stevens	LBA
Killoran	TY16	Tipperary	220565	166574	P. Stevens	LBA
Killoran	TY17	Tipperary	220979	166453	P. Stevens	BA
Killoran	TY18	Tipperary	221117	166808	P. Stevens	BA
Killoteran	WD14	Waterford	254628	110508	L. Clarke	
Killoteran	WD15	Waterford	253998	109523	I. Russell	LBA-IA
Killoteran	WD16	Waterford	253979	109559	I. Russell	EBA-MBA
Killow	CE39	Clare	136888	174611	K. Taylor	LBA
Killow	CE40	Clare	136822	175115	K. Taylor	LBA
Killulla	CE05	Clare	140147	164893	D. Murphy	LBA
Killulla	CE06	Clare	140106	164955	D. Murphy	EBA
Killulla	CE07	Clare	140081	164977	D. Murphy	MBA
Killybegs	DL01	Donegal	317150	337530	M. Connolly	
Killybegs	DL02	Donegal	317138	337571	M. Fitzpatrick	
Killybegs	WX15	Wexford	320323	167218	K. Martin	MBA/LBA
Kilmacanogue	WW14	Wicklow	324900	214750	J. Ó Néill	
Kilmacredock Upper	KD04	Kildare	297726	235448	F. Reilly	
Kilmaniheen West	KY16	Kerry	108497	122115	G.Hull	LBA
Kilmaniheen West	KY17	Kerry	108339	122042	G.Hull	LBA
Kilmessan	MH35	Meath	288635	257959	R. Tobin	LBA
Kilmessan	MH36	Meath	289069	257228	S. Conran	EBA
Kilmorebrannagh	KD12	Kildare	274377	240484	D. Murphy	EBA
Kilmurry	KK12	Kilkenny	264150	148500	A. Stephenson	MBA
Kilmurry North	WW47	Wicklow	327709	185196	R. Tobin	CL
Kilmurry South	WW45	Wicklow	327820	184567	Y. Whitty	
Kilmurry South	WW46	Wicklow	327806	184632	Y. Whitty	



Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Kilnacarrig	WW02	Wicklow	330142	211120	A. Hayden	EBA
Kilnacarrig	WW03	Wicklow	330051	210967	A. Hayden	MBA/EBA
Kilnaglery	CO01	Cork	175414	61473	S. P. O Riordáin	
Kilree	KK59	Kilkenny	254088	149310	P. Lynch	LBA
Kilsallaghan	DN30	Dublin	310100	248150	J. Connor	
Kilshanny	CO70	Cork	183418	113013	J. Lyttleton	LBA
Kiltimon	WW20	Wicklow	327897	202897	R. Ó Baoil	
Kiltotan and Collinstown	WM20	Westmeath	245084	238720	A. Richardson	EBA
Kiltycarney	LM03	Leitrim	197132	298261	H. Opie	EBA
Kimartin	WW15	Wicklow	29268	9040	I. Doyle	
Kingstown	DN03	Dublin	317240	226025	M. Clinton	BA
Kinnegalliagh	AM09	Antrim	322540	399790	N. Crothers	
Knock	DN11	Dublin	318693	260752	R. Tobin	
Knock	DN12	Dublin	318745	260312	R. Tobin	
Knockadrina	KK38	Kilkenny	251422	139420	E. Lyne	EBA
Knockaun	CE08	Clare	140398	163095	D. Murphy	M/L BA
Knockaun	CE09	Clare	140425	164584	D. Murphy	EBA
Knockaunkennedy	TY19	Tipperary	190170	177970	R. O'Brien	MBA/EM
Knockhouse Lower	WD20	Waterford	256326	111197	I. Clarke	
Knockhouse Upper	WD21	Waterford	255831	112299	A. O' Connell	
Knockmark	MH16	Meath	294079	252635	E. Byrnes	
Knocks	MH79	Meath	295647	251919	S. Elder	EBA/LBA
Knocktopher Commons	KK48	Kilkenny	252725	137311	G. Laidlaw	EBA/IA
Knockuregare	LK50	Limerick	161316	134119	K. Taylor	
Knoxspark	SO04	Sligo	167229	328211	M. Deevy	
Lackenavea	TY38	Tipperary	172171	167597	P. Long	LBA
Lagore Little	MH17	Meath	294079	252635	R. Tobin	
Lagore Little	MH18	Meath	299593	253502	R. Tobin	
Lahardan Upper & Rathcunikeen	TY59	Tipperary	217459	155854	D. McCullough	
Lahesseragh	TY20	Tipperary	185280	177030	R. O'Brien	LBA
Laughanstown	DN16	Dublin	322892	223026	M. Seaver	E–LBA
Leahys	LK51	Limerick	124487	150683	K. Taylor and M. Jones	LBA
Leahys	LK52	Limerick	124330	151108	E. Dennehy	MBA
Leap	LS39	Laois	234456	182557	D. Murphy	EBA
Lecarrow	MO03	Mayo	70412	285869	P. King	EBA
Lecarrow	MO04	Mayo	70412	285869	P. King	EBA
Leshamstown	MH68	Meath	295390	251814	H. Schweitzer	EBA
Leshamstown	MH69	Meath	295422	251767	H. Schweitzer	
Leshemstown	MH40	Meath	294647	251843	R. Tobin	
Leshemstown	MH41	Meath	293971	252732	L. McGowan	EBA
Liscormick	CE31	Clare	124641	158781	G. Hull	

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Liscormick	CE32	Clare	124528	157751	M. Jones	E–M BA
Lisdornan	vMH04	Meath	312600	268550	I. Russell	EBA
Lisdrumliska	AH02	Armagh	307200	325000	W. Baillie and R. Ó Maoldúin	
Lisheen	CE33	Clare	129873	168273	G. Hull	LBA
Lisheen	CE34	Clare	129455	167565	G. Hull	LBA
Lisnagar Demesne	CO52	Cork	179449	91657	D. Murphy	EBA
Lisnagar Demesne	CO53	Cork	179470	91702	D. Murphy	LBA
Lisnagry	LK64	Limerick	169265	164764	A. Richardson	MBA
Lisnamuck	LD02	Longford	214940	276510	R. Ó Maoldúin	
Lisnamuck	LD03a	Longford	214950	276430	R. Ó Maoldúin	
Lisnamuck	LD03b	Longford	214970	276407	R. Ó Maoldúin	
Lisnamuck	LD03c	Longford	215010	276383	R. Ó Maoldúin	
Lissarulla	GY04	Galway	139500	235000	E. Kieran	
Lissava	TY29	Tipperary	203326	125166	M. Molloy	MBA
Lissava	TY30	Tipperary	203258	125057	M. Molloy	EBA
Lissava	TY31	Tipperary	203258	125057	M. Molloy	EBA
Lissava	TY32	Tipperary	203018	124735	M. Molloy	
Lissava	TY33	Tipperary	203050	124775	M. Molloy	MBA
Lissue	AM03	Antrim	322780	363250	A. Gahan	
Littlemill	LH22	Louth	302726	305324	D. O' Donnchadha	EM
Loughlioni	KD11	Kildare	271705	211901	T. Breen	EBA
Lusk	DN22	Dublin	322066	254790	E. Larsson	
Macetown	WM46	Westmeath	256000	249500	A. Harte	
Macosquin	DY03	Derry	282250	428620	N. Crothers	
Macrone Upper	CO97	Cork	186680	104155	N. Gilligan	MBA
Maddockstown	KK39	Kilkenny	256886	154199	P. Wierzbicki	LBA
Magheraboy	SO08	Sligo	168320	335000	M. Henry	
Magheraboy	SO17	Sligo	168750	335650	S. McCabe	LN–EBA
Magheraboy	SO18	Sligo	168750	335650	S. McCabe	E–L BA
Maglin	CO32	Cork	159920	69082	D. Murphy	EBA
Maglin	CO33	Cork	158896	69101	E. Danaher	
Marlinstown	WM18	Westmeath	245733	251385	P. Stevens	EBA
Mashanaglass	CO08	Cork	136244	70870	E.M. Fahy	
Mayfield	KD02	Kildare	266375	211216	B. Ó Riordáin	
Mearsparkfarm	WM52	Westmeath	234693	234394	L. Cagney	MBA
Mearsparkfarm	WM53	Westmeath	234693	234394	L. Cagney	LBA
Mearsparkfarm	WM54	Westmeath	234693	234394	L. Cagney	MBA
Mearsparkfarm	WM55	Westmeath	235107	234394	L. Cagney	EBA–LBA
Meenane	CO16	Cork	177154	85345	E. Cotter	LBA
Meenane	CO28	Cork	176736	84414	B. Halpin	LBA
Mell	LH16	Louth	306210	276585	K. Capbell	

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Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Mell	LH17	Louth	305730	277375	K. Capbell	
Mell	LH21	Louth	305810	277375	K. Capbell	
Middle Division	AM02	Antrim	340200	390600	N. Crothers	
Milltown North	LK53	Limerick	133849	147673	B. Halpin	
Mitchellsfort	CO17a	Cork	176156	83111	E.Cotter	
Mitchellsfort	CO17b	Cork	176164	83122	E.Cotter	
Mitchellsfort	CO17c	Cork	176189	83137	E.Cotter	
Mitchelstown	CO59	Cork	181441	96233	B. Sutton	EBA
Moanduff	CW14	Carlow	267261	164397	R. Lynch	CL/MBA
Moanmore	CW15	Carlow	266476	162016	R. Jennings	LBA
Moanmore	CW16	Carlow	266856	163259	S. Phelan	CL
Moher	LM08	Leitrim	205905	287415	A. Collins	LN
Moher a–b	LM07	Leitrim	205842	287752	A. Collins	E–L BA
Monamintra	WD31	Waterford	262372	106742	D. Lalonde	LBA
Monanny	MN02	Monnaghan	284266	305232	F. Walsh	E–M BA
Monanny	MN03	Monnaghan	284167	305190	F. Walsh	M–L BA
Monard	CO20	Cork	166060	76642	T.Coughlan	
Moneycross Upper	WX16	Wexford	312629	155715	H. Schweitzer	LBA-IA
Moneycross Upper	WX17	Wexford	313094	156219	J. Lehaney	CL
Monreagh	CE59	Clare	140584	192871	S. McNamara	M–L BA
Monreagh	CE67a	Clare	140607	193039	S. Delaney	EBA
Monreagh	CE67b	Clare	140607	193039	S. Delaney	LBA
Moone	KD33	Kildare	276988	194779	E. Dennehy	IA
Moore Lodge	AM10	Antrim	293270	416110	N. Crothers	
Moorechurch	MH05	Meath	313650	268100	I. Russell	NL
Morett	LS06	Laois	254298	203762	E. Moore	
Mount	CE35	Clare	127891	165427	K. Taylor	MBA
Moyveela	GY22	Galway	144840	223156	G. Mullins	LBA
Moyveela	GY23	Galway	144919	223257	G. Mullins	LBA
Muckridge	CO31	Cork	208572	79760	D.Noonan	CL
Mullaghbane	TE07	Tyrone	265829	358613	K. Ward	
Mullamast	KD21	Kildare	278261	196057	A. Stephenson	EBA
Mullenmadoge	MO72	Mayo	143188	299827	R. Gillespie	LBA
Mullenmadoge	MO73	Mayo	143612	299845	R. Gillespie	LBA
Murphystown	DN13	Dublin	320140	225400	T. Breen	
Murphystown	DN14	Dublin	318819	226033	T. Breen	
Newdown	WM12	Westmeath	212936	238801	A. Hayes	LN
Newdown	WM13	Westmeath	212936	238801	A. Hayes	EBA
Newford	GY09	Galway	149255	226484	B. Wilkins	Neo
Newrath	KK22	Kilkenny	259150	114460	B. Wilkins	
Newrath	KK23	Kilkenny	259249	114295	T. Cummins	MBA

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Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Newrath	LH09	Louth	303982	296472	C. Ó Drisceoil	
Newrath Little	MH88	Meath	272822	275472	J. Kyle	
Newrath Little	MH89	Meath	272971	274714	Y. Whitty	
Newtown	DN06	Dublin	311900	242422	M. Reid	EBA
Newtown	DN23	Dublin	311554	242330	H. Schweitzer	
Newtown	LK22	Limerick	163423	156412	M. Connolly	
Newtown	LH18	Louth	304615	280460	C. Ó Drisceoil	
Newtown	LH19	Louth	305640	280565	C. Ó Drisceoil	
Newtown	WM16	Westmeath	245168	250626	P. Stevens	E–M BA
Newtown	WM17	Westmeath	244959	250491	P. Stevens	MBA
Newtown	WM19	Westmeath	244984	250501	P. Stevens	LBA
Newtownbalregan	LH24	Louth	302030	308495	A. Hayes	
Newtownbalregan	LH25	Louth	302115	308829	D. Bailey	LBA
Nugentstown	MH90	Meath	276909	272764	P. Lynch	
Old Kilcullen	KD29	Kildare	283644	206511	L. Cagney	EBA
Oldcourt	DN17	Dublin	311380	225720	E. Larsson	
Oldglass	LS40a	Laois	234692	178700	T. O' Neill	EBA
Oldglass	LS40b	Laois	234692	178700	T. O' Neill	EBA
Oldglass	LS41a	Laois	234742	178800	T. O' Neill	MBA
Oldglass	LS41b	Laois	234742	178800	T. O' Neill	EBA
Park	TY66	Tipperary	200173	181436	J. Tierney	MBA
Parkbaun	WX18a	Wexford	318902	165560	K. Martin	EBA
Parkbaun	WX18b	Wexford	318902	165560	K. Martin	EBA
Parksgrove	KK06	Kilkenny	243523	170491	P. Stevens	IA
Parksgrove	KK07	Kilkenny	243545	170304	P. Stevens	LA
Parksgrove	KK08	Kilkenny	243523	170044	P. Stevens	IA
Peafield	LK20	Limerick	162147	155482	T. Collins	EBA
Perssepark	GY03	Galway	180552	231334	B. Quinn	
Philpotstown	MH59	Meath	286602	264220	K. Martin	MBA
Philpotstown	MH60	Meath	291734	262039	S. Rathbone	
Phoenixstown	MH91	Meath	279374	270947	E. Lyne	
Phoenixstown	MH92	Meath	279462	270776	E. Lyne	
Pollamore Near	CN08	Cavan	243330	303658	R. Ó Maoldúin	
Poll drain	MO46	Mayo	128998	373809	D. Murphy	EBA
Pottlebane	MH58	Meath	267131	278668	D. Gallagher	NL
Proleek	LH26	Louth	307083	311958	C. Powell	
Propoge	CO29	Cork	208520	77974	D. Noonan	LBA
Prospect	LK23	Limerick	164201	160987	T. Cummins	
Prumplestown	KD17	Kildare	276627	182513	L. Hackett	EBA
Prumplestown Lower	KD38	Kildare	276696	183723	P. Long	LBA
Putiaghan Upper	CN15	Cavan	236867	314880	G. Kelleher and V. Ginn	EBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Putiaghan Upper	CN16	Cavan	236800	315120	G. Kelleher and V. Ginn	LIA–EM
Putiaghan Upper	CN17	Cavan	236867	314880	G. Kelleher	EBA
Puttaghan	OY03	Offaly	33800	26600	T. Janes	Modern?
Raheen	LK01	Limerick	174873	28538	M. Gowen	EBA
Raheen	TY28	Tipperary	202476	124172	M. Molloy	MBA
Raheenagurren West	WX19	Wexford	316375	158033	T. Breen	IA
Raheenagurren West	WX20	Wexford	316405	158050	T. Breen	LBA
Raheenagurren West	WX21a	Wexford	316494	158024	T. Breen	
Raheenagurren West	WX21b	Wexford	316494	158024	T. Breen	
Raheenagurren West	WX21c	Wexford	316494	158024	T. Breen	EBA
Rampere	WW27	Wicklow	286431	191779	M. McQuade	MBA
Randalstown	MH42	Meath	250800	305800	C. Murray	EBA
Rath	MH26	Meath	305050	254100	H. Schweitzer	
Rathbane South	LK13	Limerick	158569	154454	C. McLoughlin	
Rathbane South	LK14	Limerick	158589	154566	C. McLoughlin	
Rathbane South	LK17	Limerick	159226	154404	E. O' Donovan	EBA
Rathcam/Lemongrove	WM10	Westmeath	248130	246250	B. Molloy	
Rathcash	KK40	Kilkenny	258178	154199	T. Coughlan	LBA
Rathcash	KK41a	Kilkenny	258294	154293	T. Coughlan	MBA
Rathcash	KK41b	Kilkenny	258294	154293	T. Coughlan	EBA/IA
Rathcash East	KK42	Kilkenny	259555	154466	T. Coughlan	EBA
Rathcrogue	CW08	Carlow	275622	172938	J. Hughes	
Rathcunikeen	TY60	Tipperary	217582	155970	D. McCullough	MBA
Rathduff Bayley	KK44	Kilkenny	251005	143564	T. Coughlan	MBA
Rathduff Upper	KK45	Kilkenny	251280	142559	E. Lyne	EBA/MBA
Rathduff Upper	KK43	Kilkenny	251286	142167	E. Lyne	MBA
Rathgarvin/Clifden	KK46	Kilkenny	257026	154123	P. Wierzbicki	EBA
Rathkelly	MO05	Mayo	118664	264268	G. Walsh	
Rathmore	KY02	Kerry	115040	92970	M. Ryan	EBA
Rathmore	WW07a	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07b	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07c	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07d	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07e	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07f	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07g	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07h	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07i	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07j	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07k	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07L	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Rathmore	WW07m	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07n	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07o	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmore	WW07p	Wicklow	328005	199043	C. McLoughlin	
Rathmullan	MH08	Meath	306630	273660	I. Russell	MBA
Rathmullan	MH29	Meath	300680	287360	M. McQuade	
Rathpatrick	KK18	Kilkenny	264270	155770	J. Wren	EBA
Rathpatrick	KK19	Kilkenny	264100	115580	C. Gleeson	LBA/IA
Rathpatrick	KK21	Kilkenny	264380	115750	C. Gleeson	LBA
Rathwilladoon	CE56	Clare	141150	193931	E. Lyne	MBA
Raynestown	MH80	Meath	298224	248835	S. Elder	EBA
Richardstown	LH10	Louth	301352	291028	M. Seaver	
Richhill	LK65a	Limerick	165771	158926	A. Richardson	LBA
Richhill	LK65b	Limerick	165810	158889	A. Richardson	
Richhill	LK65c	Limerick	165834	158929	A. Richardson	CL
Richmond	TY23	Tipperary	184610	180440	D. Murphy	MED
Richmond/Gortlandroe	TY24a	Tipperary	184600	180160	D. Murphy	
Richmond/Gortlandroe	TY24b	Tipperary	184600	180160	D. Murphy	LBA
Richmond/Gortlandroe	TY24c	Tipperary	184600	180160	D. Murphy	EBA
Richmond/Gortlandroe	TY24d	Tipperary	184600	180160	D. Murphy	
Rinawade Upper	KD01	Kildare	98900	34300	C. Gracie	
Rincullia	LK55	Limerick	128507	149549	E. Dennehy	
Robertstown	LK54	Limerick	126820	149314	E. Dennehy	
Roestown	MH50	Meath	295903	254143	L. Cagney	CL
Roevehagh	GY30	Galway	144564	218745	T. McMorran	LBA
Roganstown	DN18	Dublin	315550	249150	G. Dehaene	
Roscatch	WW51	Wicklow	327083	189657	Y. Whitty	LBA
Rossan	MH09	Meath	260550	243580	E. Corcoran	LBA
Rossbrien	LK15	Limerick	157397	153550	C. McLoughlin	
Rossmacaffry	FH05	Fermanagh	333380	433170	B. Sloan	EBA
Russagh	OY09	Offaly	226348	237528	E. O'Carroll	LBA
Russagh	OY10	Offaly	226487	237525	E. O'Carroll	LBA
Sallymount	LK66	Limerick	166414	160220	A. Harte	CL
Sarsfieldstown	MH03	Meath	315200	266920	I. Russell	LBA
Scartbarry	CO54	Cork	178392	87553	T. O'Neill	MBA
Scartbarry	CO63	Cork	178331	87370	J. Tierney	LBA-IA
Scrahane	WD09	Waterford	241420	106683	D. Noonan	LBA
Scrahane	WD10	Waterford	240657	105887	J. Tierney	
Scratenagh	WW29	Wicklow	327587	179562	G. Dehaene	CL
Scratenagh	WW30	Wicklow	327759	179835	G. Dehaene	MBA
Scratenagh	WW31	Wicklow	327770	179883	G. Dehaene	

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Scratenagh	WW32	Wicklow	327782	180042	G. Dehaene	LN/CL
Scratenagh	WW33	Wicklow	327770	180138	G. Dehaene	LBA
Seafield	WD25	Waterford	242173	101213	L. Hackett	LBA
Seeoge	WM21	Westmeath	215278	237859	E. Lyne	LBA
Seeoge	WM22	Westmeath	214960	238001	E. Lyne	MBA
Shanacloon (Ballyjourney II)	CO03	Cork	120532	76754	M.J. O'Kelly	
Shanakill	WD26a	Waterford	241750	104500	J. Wren	LBA
Shanakill	WD26b	Waterford	242794	104213	J. Wren	MBA
Shanboe	LS42	Laois	223879	187154	K. Wiggins	MBA
Shanboe	LS43	Laois	224433	186572	K. Wiggins	LBA
Shanboe	LS44	Laois	224574	186510	K. Wiggins	MBA–EM
Shankill	DN02	Dublin	323990	220610	J. Ó Néill	
Shannakea Beg	CE36	Clare	121070	152770	E. O' Donovan	IA
Shannakea Beg	CE37	Clare	121499	153513	B. Halpin	EBA
Sheephouse	MH01a	Meath	304588	273213	K. Campbell	EBA
Sheephouse	MH01b	Meath	304588	273213	K. Campbell	MBA
Skahanagh	KY20	Kerry	84860	112370	L.Dunne	LBA
Skeahanagh	WM59	Westmeath	235223	234496	L. Cagney	EBA
Skiddernagh	MO42	Mayo	121980	287491	D. Murphy	LN–M
Smithstown	CE10	Clare	140795	163973	D. Murphy	LBA
Smithstown	CE11	Clare	140739	163737	D. Murphy	LBA
Smuttanagh	MO45a	Mayo	123239	284816	D. Murphy	BA?
Smuttanagh	MO45b	Mayo	123239	284816	D. Murphy	LN
Solsborough	TY25	Tipperary	184320	179680	D. Murphy	LBA
Sonnagh	MO47	Mayo	146630	300538	R. Gillespie and B. Walsh	LBA/IA
Sonnagh	MO48a	Mayo	146653	300257	R. Gillespie and B. Walsh	MBA
Sonnagh	MO48b	Mayo	146653	300257	R. Gillespie and B. Walsh	M–L BA
Sonnagh	MO49	Mayo	146570	300469	R. Gillespie and C. Gallagher	LN
Sonnagh	MO50	Mayo	146463	300532	R. Gillespie and B. Walsh	MBA
Sonnagh	MO51	Mayo	146551	300495	R. Gillespie and B. Walsh	EBA
Sonnagh	MO52	Mayo	146387	300539	R. Gillespie and C. Gallagher	MBA
Sonnagh	MO53	Mayo	146361	30055	R. Gillespie	EBA
Sonnagh	MO54	Mayo	146183	300579	R. Gillespie and C. Gallagher	MBA
Sonnagh	MO55	Mayo	146866	300558	R. Gillespie	EM
Sonnagh	MO56	Mayo	146319	300577	A. Kerrigan	MBA
Springfield	LS45	Laois	234509	184081	E. Danaher	MBA
Springfield	LS46	Laois	234578	185003	E. Danaher	LN
Srangalloon	CE60	Clare	140187	190023	J. Nunan	M–L BA
Srangalloon	CE61	Clare	129751	189290	J. Nunan	LMA/IA
Staffordstown	DN19	Dublin	319282	250627	P. Lynch	
Stagpark	CO60	Cork	180275	111397	B. Sutton	EBA

Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Stagpark	CO61	Cork	180262	111402	B. Sutton	EBA
Stonecarthy West	KK47	Kilkenny	251372	142037	T. Coughlan	EBA/MBA
Stonehouse Farm	WM60a	Westmeath	234160	234340	C. McDermott	MBA
Stonehouse Farm	WM60b	Westmeath	234160	234340	C. McDermott	
Straheglin	CN10	Cavan	235890	315800	G. Kelleher and V. Ginn	MBA
Strandfield	WX03	Wexford	301430	122520	M. McCarthy	
Syonan	WM11	Westmeath	228067	240300	B. Molloy	
Taduff East	RM15a	Roscommon	189276	239492	G. Conboy	
Taduff East	RM15b	Roscommon	189276	239492	G. Conboy	EBA and IA
Tattyboys	LH04	Louth	292150	295600	T. Breen	
Taylorstrange	DN29	Dublin	315720	225490	C. McCarthy	
Teadies Upper I	CO26	Cork	136760	55256	R.Tobin	
Teadies Upper II	CO27	Cork	136221	55144	R.Tobin	
Thomondtown	DN20	Dublin	319346	252185	P. Lynch	
Tiglin	WW16	Wicklow	329277	202882	I. Doyle	
Tinnock Lower	WX22	Wexford	318528	164764	K. Martin	EMA/MBA
Tinryland	CW07	Carlow	275079	172009	L. Hegarty	
Tintagh	RM01	Roscommon	180674	307416	H. Opie	
Tintore	LS47	Laois	234502	180628	E. Cotter	E/M BA
Tintore	LS48	Laois	234502	180628	E. Cotter	LBA
Tiroony	TE01	Tyrone	262260	370290	R. Chapple	MMBA
Tomard Lower	CW17	Carlow	269349	168496	E. O'Carroll	EBA
Tomboholla	MO57	Mayo	145749	300520	R. Gillespie	LN
Tonafortes	SO19a	Sligo	168781	332918	E. Danaher and L. Cagney	
Tonafortes	SO19b	Sligo	168781	332918	E. Danaher and L. Cagney	EBA
Tonafortes	SO20	Sligo	168781	332818	S. McCabe	
Tonaphort	WM44	Westmeath	232763	234456	T. Coughlan	MBA
Toolbracken	RM23	Roscommon	163802	295873	J. Kyle	LBA
Toome	AM04	Antrim	398900	390400	C. Dunlop	E-M BA
Towlaght	MH10	Meath	264616	243634	S. Linnane	
Townparks	MH81a	Meath	284895	267249	K. Martin	EBA
Townparks	MH81b	Meath	284895	267249	K. Martin	CL
Townparks	MH93	Meath	273219	274563	Y. Whitty	
Transtown	CO35	Cork	174805	80962	B. Halpin	MBA
Tullaheedy	TY27a	Tipperary	184130	178280	D. Murphy	CL
Tullaheedy	TY27b	Tipperary	184130	178280	D. Murphy	EBA
Tullerboy	LK56	Limerick	156065	149549	E. Dennehy	
Tullerboy	LK57	Limerick	155806	136178	B. Halpin	
Tully	LM04	Leitrim	197780	298320	H. Opie	BA?
Tullyhirm	MN06	Monnaghan	268500	334500	F. Walsh	EBA
Urraghry	GY13	Galway	180424	228489	M. Drumm and J. Tierney	EBA



Appendix 1- List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* (Alphabetically by site name)

Townland	Site	County	NGR (E)	NGR (N)	Director	Date
Urrahogal	KY15	Kerry	92888	107262	J. Kiely	LBA
Vow	AM11	Antrim	291530	417190	N. Crothers	
Walshtown Beg	CO93	Cork	188220	82010	B. O'Meara and B. Molloy	EBA
Walshtownmore	CO103	Cork	188760	79420	B. Molloy	LBA
Ward Lower	DN24	Dublin	309310	244844	H. Schweitzer	EBA
Warrenstown	KK28a	Kilkenny	228753	166446	C. Hardy	EBA
Warrenstown	KK28b	Kilkenny	228753	166446	C. Hardy	EBA
Warrenstown	MH34	Meath	292300	254065	S. Conran	LBA
Whitestown	WD28	Waterford	243087	105330	T. Janes	LBA
Williamstown	WM09	Westmeath	212936	238801	B. Molloy	
Williamstown	WM25a	Westmeath	212400	238450	E. Lyne	MBA
Williamstown	WM25b	Westmeath	212456	238415	E. Lyne	
Williamstown	WM26	Westmeath	213135	238280	E. Lyne	LBA
Williamstown or Bawn	MH70	Meath	287180	263874	K. Wiggins	CL
Williamstown or Bawn	MH71a	Meath	286517	263757	K. Wiggins	MBA
Williamstown or Bawn	MH71b	Meath	286517	263757	K. Wiggins	CL
Woodlands East	KD36	Kildare	276424	185155	L. Hackett	EBA
Woodlands East	KD37a	Kildare	276448	185085	L. Hackett	
Woodlands East	KD37b	Kildare	276448	185085	L. Hackett	LBA
Woodpark	DN21	Dublin	318917	253717	P. Lynch	
Woodstown	WD12	Waterford	255338	111743	A. O' Connell	LBA
Woodstown	WD13	Waterford	255273	111050	R. O'Hara	EBA

Cat. No.	Site	County	Stone	Extant Mound
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Y	Y
CO02	Ballyvourney I	Cork	Y	Y
CE38	Cahiracalla beg	Clare	Y	Y
KY07	Coarhamore	Kerry	Y	Y
WD07	Graigueshoneen	Waterford	Y	N
WD25	Seafield	Waterford	Y	N
LK06	Attyflin	Limerick	Y	Y
LK07	Attyflin	Limerick	Y	Y
LK52	Leahys	Limerick	Y	N
CE01	Fahee south	Clare	Y	Y
RM09	Curriah	Roscommon	Y	N
MO03	Lecarrow	Mayo	Y	Y
MO29	Gortroe	Mayo	Y	Y
KY08	Groin	Kerry	Y	N
KY09	Coolgarriff	Kerry	Y	N
CO09	Kilcor South	Cork	Y	N
CO13	Dromnea	Cork	Y	N
TY20	Lahesseragh	Tipperary	Y	N
MH32	Balgeeth	Meath	Y	N
KK16	Ballymountain	Kilkenny	Y	N

Table 10.1. Stone-built revetment features observed from excavated *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland.

Cat No.	Site	County	Formal	Stone-Built	C14 Date (2 sigma)
CO22	Ballinvinnny	Cork	Y	Y	1640–1490 Cal BC
CO05	Killeens phase 1	Cork	Y	Y	1610–1450 Cal BC
NC	Valentia Island	Kerry	Y	Y	1766–1281 Cal BC
KK14	Ballynamona	Kilkenny	Y	Y	1498–1417 Cal BC
CO57	Garranes	Cork	Y	Y	1493–1311 Cal BC
CO21	Killalough	Cork	Y	Y	1433–1333 Cal BC
CO81	Carrignafoy	Cork	Y	Y	1433–1271 Cal BC
KK23	Newrath	Kilkenny	Y	Y	1413–1289 Cal BC
CO13	Dromnea	Cork	Y	Y	1440–1260 Cal BC
KY10	Ballydowney	Kerry	Y	Y	1490–1200 Cal BC
CO09	Kilcor South	Cork	Y	Y	1300–1170 Cal BC
CO54	Scartbarry	Cork	Y	Y	1440–1020 Cal BC
MO69	Cloonmeen West	Mayo	Y	Y	1390–1054 Cal BC
NC	Cloone Northern	Waterford	Y	Y	1263–1056 Cal BC
CO94	Coolmoohan	Cork	Y	Y	1119–937 Cal BC
CO16	Meenane	Cork	Y	Y	1004–810 Cal BC
CO50	Fermoy	Cork	Y	Y	830–780 Cal BC
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Y	Y	770–400 Cal BC

Table 10.2. Stone-built hearth features observed from excavated *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland.

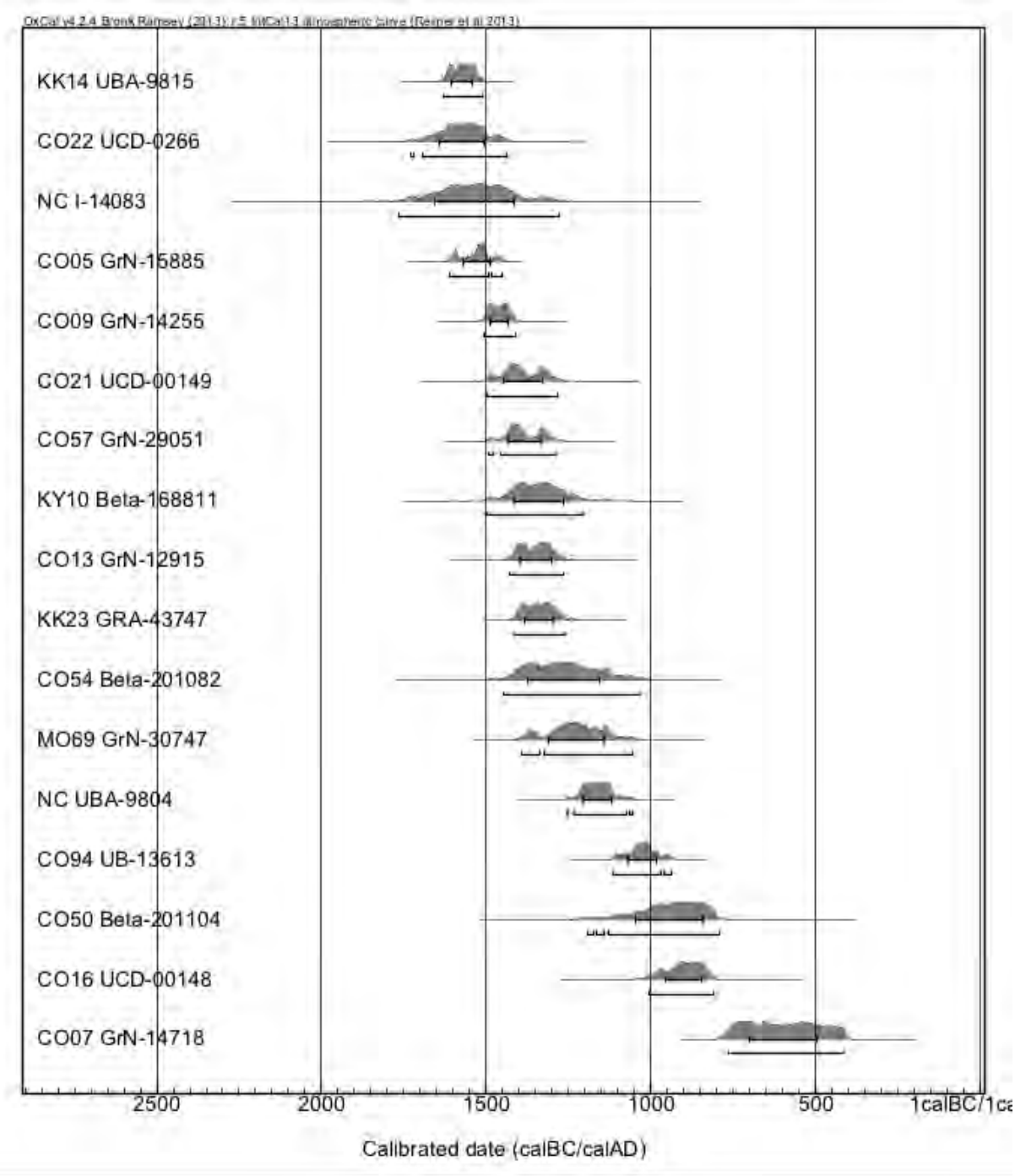


Fig 11.1. Radiocarbon dates from sites with stone-built hearths in Ireland (Oxcal 4.2).

Cat No.	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D(M)	C14 Date (2 sigma)
CO97	Macronev Upper	Cork	Sub-cir	Poss	1.36	1.15	0.48	1735–1537 cal BC
KK14	Ballynamona	Kilkenny	Sub-rect	Y	2	1.6	0.55	1634–1507 cal BC
CO98	Castlecooke	Cork	Rect	Y	2.5	1.4	0.62	1625–1513 cal BC
KK33d	Ballyquirk	Kilkenny	Sub-rec	Y	2.4	2.1	0.54	1617–1494 cal BC
LK62	Brackbaun	Limerick	Rect	Y	2.8	1.5	0.6	1634–1454 cal BC
KK16	Ballmountain	Kilkenny	Rect	Y	2.88	1.05	0.3	1536–1422 cal BC
TY34	Clonmore North	Tipperary	Rect	Y	2.48	1.24	-	1525–1412 cal BC
LK52	Leahys	Limerick	Rect	Poss	3.5	1.5	0.5	1520–1390 cal BC
CO57	Garranes	Cork	polyg	Y	1.32	1.3	0.4	1493–1311 cal BC
CO13	Dromnea	Cork	Rect	Y	2.15	1.25	0.8	1440–1260 cal BC
KY10d	Ballydowney	Kerry	Rect	Y	2.5	1.8	0.55	1490–1200 cal BC
CE04	Clonmoney North	Clare	Oval	Poss	3	2.3	0.7	1490–1200 cal BC
TY39	Gortybrigane	Tipperary	Sub-cir	Y	2.72	2.44	-	1403–1262 cal BC
CE23	Cahiracon	Clare	Sub-rect	Y	1.8	1	-	1520–1120 cal BC
WD15	Killoteran	Waterford	Oval	Y	1.4	0.25	0.17	1490–1120 cal BC
CO54	Scartbarry	Cork	Rect	Y	4.9	1	0.67	1440–1020 cal BC
CO81	Carrignafof	Cork	Sub-rect	Y	5.18	1.5	0.7	1440–1020 cal BC
MO69	Cloonmeen West	Mayo	Rect	Y	2.6	1.8	0.45	1390–1054 cal BC
RM17	Bockagh	Roscommon	Rect	Y	2.32	1.1	0.3	1258–1130 cal BC
RM10	Currinah	Roscommon	Square	Y	1.94	1.88	0.38	1306–1005 cal BC
RM19b	Bockagh	Roscommon	Oval	Y	1.8	0.8	0.33	1208–1012 cal BC
CO53	Lisnagar Demesne	Cork	Rect	Y	2.3	1.5	0.35	1140–920 cal BC
KY03	Coarhamore	Kerry	Rect	Y	2.74	2.32	0.65	960–930 cal BC
LS33	Cuffsborough	Laois	Rect	Poss	2.92	2.05	0.29	1010–830 cal BC
LM12a	Errew	Leitrim	Sub-circ	Y	1.4	1.4	0.35	1000–830 cal BC
CE38	Cahiracalla Beg	Clare	Rect	Y	1.8	0.9	0.45	1000–820 cal BC
RM09	Currinah	Roscommon	Rect	Y	2	1.34	0.32	839–799 cal BC
CO96	Curragh Upper	Cork	Rect	Y		0.9	0.4	829–787 cal BC
MO62	Cashelduff	Mayo	Sub-rect	Y	3	2.41	0.38	793–553 cal BC
CO71	Ballinglanna North	Cork	Rect	Y	2.2	1.8	0.8	766–524 cal BC
LK63	Brackbaun	Tipperary	Rect	Y	2.8	1.5	0.6	789–425 cal BC
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Rect	Y	1.5	1	0.56	770–400 cal BC
CE36	Shannakea Beg	Clare	Sub-rect	Y	0.92	1.35	0.25	761–393 cal BC
CO94	Coolmoohan	Cork	Rect	Poss	5	1.55	0.6	1119–937 cal BC

Table 10.3. Stone-lined troughs with dating evidence excavated from *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland.

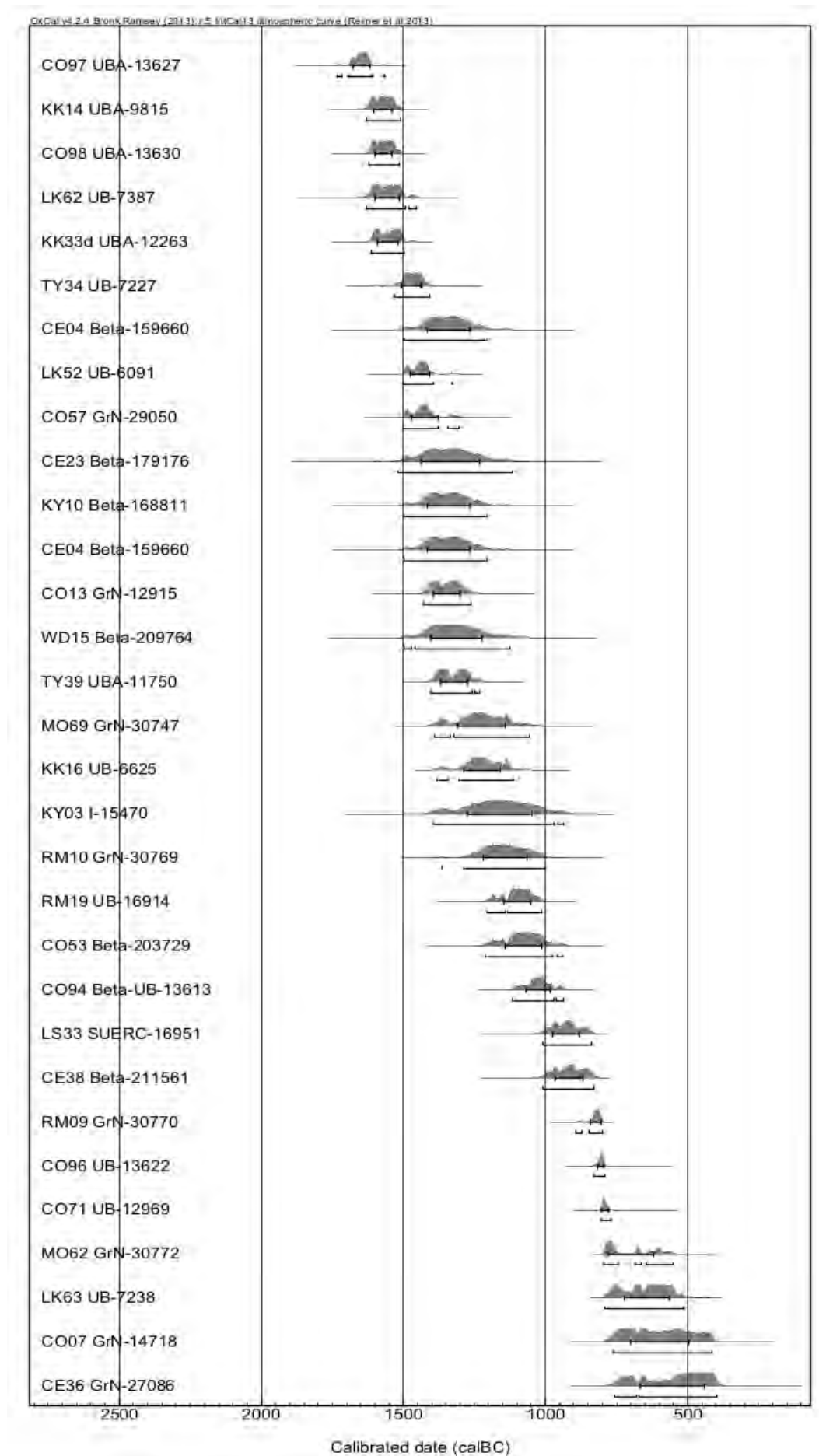


Fig 11.2. Radiocarbon dates from sites with stone-lined troughs in Ireland (Oxcal 4.2).

Cat No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	Stakes	C14 Date (2 sigma)
KK26a	Islands	Kilkenny	Circ	Y	1.86	1.84	0.4	No	2870–2490 cal BC
MH31b	Ballinter	Meath	Oval	Y	1.4	0.75	0.3	No	2620–2470 cal BC
KD21	Mullamast	Kildare	Rect	Y	1.55	1.3	0.25	Yes	2550–2530 cal BC
MO25	Attireesh	Mayo	Sub-rect	Y	1.36	1.3	0.33	Yes (6)	2575–2351 cal BC
MO30	Gortaroe	Mayo	Sub-rect	Y	1.3	0.9	0.3	No	2465–2299 cal BC
MO16	Deerpark East	Mayo	Oval	Y	1.62	0.96	0.38	Yes	1879–1691 cal BC
MO56	Sonnagh	Mayo	Rect	Y	2	0.8	0.3	Yes (2)	1660–1527 cal BC
MO48a	Sonnagh	Mayo	Sub-rect	Y	3.6	2.55	0.5	Yes (1)	1492–1413 cal BC
CE61	Sranagalloon	Clare	Rect	Y	2.7	1.8	0.2	No	1494–1324 cal BC
MO52	Sonnagh	Mayo	Rect	Y	2.4	1.3	0.45	Yes (13)	1401–1294 cal BC
GY18	Killescragh	Galway	Rect	Y	0.9	0.55	0.15	Yes (17)	1394–1132 cal BC
MO50	Sonnagh	Mayo	Rect	Y	2.5	1.6	0.5	Yes	1368–1132 cal BC
CO09	Kilcor South	Cork	Square	Y	1.41	1.45	0.5	Yes	1300–1170 cal BC
TY01	Derryfadda	Tipperary	Rect	Y	2.4	1.76	0.6	Yes (4)	1400–990 cal BC
MO24	Attireesh	Mayo	Rect	Y	1.5	0.9	0.18	Yes (3)	1256–1050 cal BC
MO64	Cloonaghboy	Mayo	Rect	Y	2.05	1	0.12	Yes (3)	1253–1043 cal BC
RM11	Curraiah	Roscommon	Rect	Y	2.28	1.5	0.25	Yes	1208–1049 cal BC
MO01	Bofeenau	Mayo	Rect	Y	0.8	1.05	0.5	Yes (2)	1290–939 cal BC
MH41	Leshemstown	Meath	Rect	Y	1.5	0.95	0.27	Yes	1220–1000 cal BC
MO23	Attireesh	Mayo	Rect	Y	1.2	1.05	0.21	Yes (13)	1187–971 cal BC
RM20c	Bockagh	Roscommon	Rect	Y	2.03	1.4	0.25	Yes	1115–932 cal BC
KK24a	Islands	Kilkenny	Sub-rect	Y	2.2	1.55	0.34	No	1130–910 cal BC
KK26b	Islands	Kilkenny	Rect	Y	1.7	1.4	0.24	Yes	1010–830 cal BC
LM12b	Errew	Leitrim	Rect	Y	1.98	1.08	0.2	No	1000–830 cal BC
MO58	Fauleens	Mayo	Sub-rect	Y	1.98	0.98	0.5	Yes	774–521 cal BC
MO47	Sonnagh	Mayo	Rect	Y	2.6	1.5	0.5	Yes	761–418 cal BC
DW01	Ballycroghan	Down	Rect	Y	1.8	0.9		Yes (4)	No date
MO47	Sonnagh	Mayo	Rect	Y	2.2	1.26	0.26	Yes	No date
AM05	Ballykennedy	Antrim	Sub-rect	Y	1.92	0.9	0.55	No	No date
AM06	Ballybentragh	Antrim	Sub-rect	Y	2.9	1.7	0.66	-	No date
WD20	Knockhouse Lower	Waterford	Sub-rect	Y	3.2	2	0.6	No	No date
SO21	Ballyglass	Sligo	Sub-rect	Y	2	0.8	0.3	Yes	No date
KY08	Groin	Kerry	Circ	Y	1.67	1.56	0.65	No	No date
DN11	Knock	Dublin	Sub-cir	Y	2.1	1.8	0.2	No	No date
TY13	Killoran	Tipperary	Sub-cir	Y	1.25	1.25	0.25	No	No date
TY13	Killoran	Tipperary	Sub-oval	Y	1.82	1.18	0.42	Pegs	No date
WW07	Rathmore	Wicklow	Sub-oval	Y	2.25	1.64	0.9	Yes (2)	No date

Table 10.4. Surviving roundwood-lined troughs excavated from *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland.

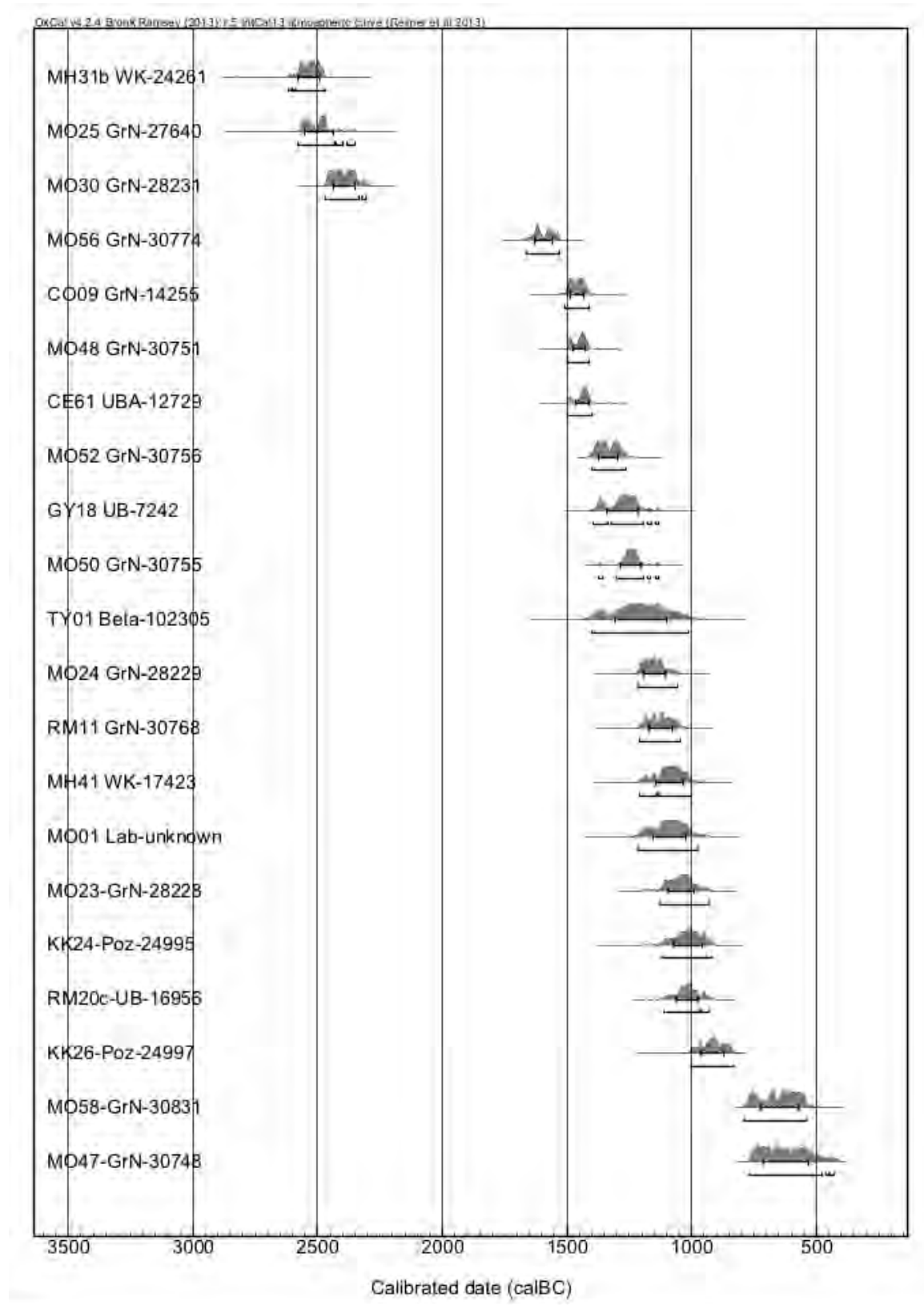


Fig 11.3. Radiocarbon dates from sites with roundwood-lined troughs in Ireland (Oxcal 4.2).

Cat No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	Stake-Holes	C14 Date (2 sigma)
MO27	Gortaroe	Mayo	Sub-rect	Y	0.67	0.66	0.09	Yes	2857–2495 cal BC
MO20	Deerpark East	Mayo	Circ	Y	0.9	0.9	0.1	Yes	2465–2205 cal BC
WD16	Killoteran	Waterford	Oval	Y	1.78	1.52	0.55	Yes	2460–2140 cal BC
RM03	Hughestown	Roscommon	Oval	Y	2.1	1.3		Yes (24)	2456–2035 cal BC
MH13	Cloncowan	Meath	Oval	Y				Yes (23)	2290–1920 cal BC
LM12c	Errew	Leitrim	Circ	Y	1.2	1.2	0.24	Yes	2200–1960 cal BC
RM12	Kilbegly	Roscommon	Oval	Y	1.62	1.12	0.4	Yes	2134–1944 cal BC
MO51	Sonnagh	Mayo	Oval	Y	1.8	1.1	0.4	Yes (3)	2134–1919 cal BC
WW22	Charlesland	Wicklow	Rect	Y	2.26	2.05	0.95	Yes	2137–1909 cal BC
WM15	Heathstown	Westmeath	Oval	Y	1	1.45	0.15	Yes (12)	2120–1890 cal BC
MH33b	Balreask	Meath	Oval	Y	1.72	1.72	0.32	Yes (23)	2060–1920 cal BC
MO03	Lecarrow	Mayo	Oval	Y	1.6	1.1	0.07	Yes (18)	2041–1892 cal BC
WM41a	Correagh	Westmeath	Rect	Y	1.5	1.1	0.29	Yes	2032–1899 cal BC
WW50	Coolacork	Wicklow	Oval	Y	1.6	1.4	0.8	Yes	2130–1780 cal BC
RM16	Banada	Roscommon	Circ	Y	1.8	1.8		Yes (7)	2009–1771 cal BC
SO05	Ballinacar	Sligo	Sub-rec	Y	1.15	0.88	0.22	Yes	1907–1692 cal BC
MH04	Lisdornan	Meath	Oval	Y	1.85	1.3	0.3	Yes	1960–1540 cal BC
GY17	Caraun More	Galway	Sub-rec	Y	2.6	1.6	1.3	Yes	1667–1393 cal BC

Table 10.5. Surviving wattle-lined troughs excavated from *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland with radiocarbon evidence..



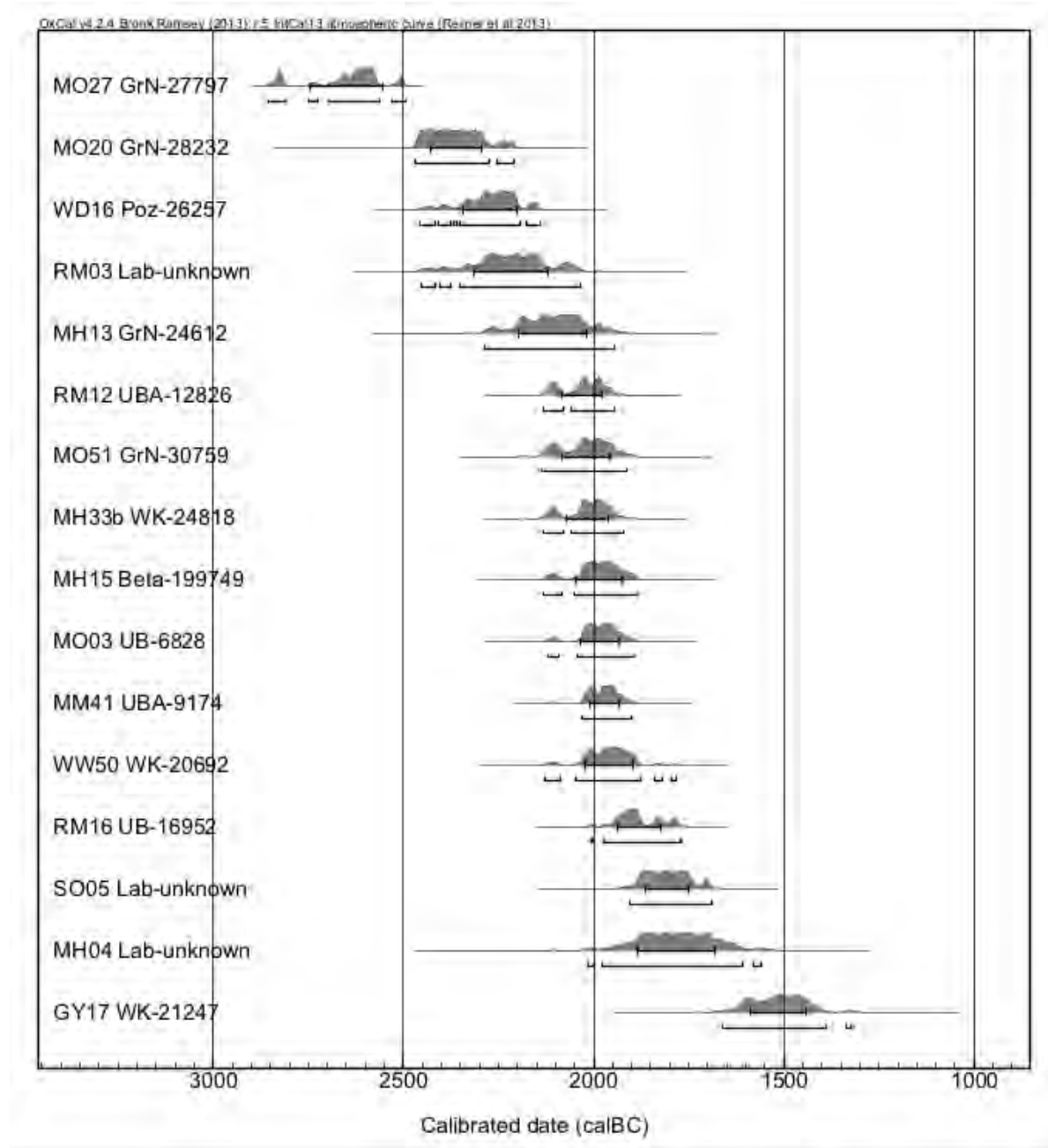


Fig 11.4. Radiocarbon dates from preserved wattle-lined troughs in Ireland (Oxcal 4.2).

Cat No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	Stakes	C14 Date (2 sigma)
KD25	Ballymount	Kildare	Sub-circ	Poss	1.9	1.8	0.51	Yes (15)	2860–2490 cal BC
WM13	Newdown	Westmeath	Sub-oval	Poss	1.8	1.2	0.5	Yes (9)	2600–2220 cal BC
SO17	Magheraboy	Sligo	Circ	Poss	1.45	1.56	0.54	Yes (26)	2580–2200 cal BC
KD26	Ballymount	Kildare	Sub-circ	Poss	3.9	1.9	0.85	Yes (42)	2470–2290 cal BC
LK33	Ballymackeamore	Limerick	Sub-oval	Poss	1.6	1.35	0.25	Yes (14)	2461–2204 cal BC
KK57	Kellymount 3	Kilkenny	Rect	Poss	2.38	1.56	0.2	Yes (22)	2399–2154 cal BC
LS20	Cannonswood	Laois	Circ	Poss	2.05	1.89	0.36	Yes(10)	2330–1970 cal BC
CO75	Ballyadam	Cork	Sub-Cir	Poss	1.6	1.4	0.5	Yes (7)	2271–2028 cal BC
RM15a	Taduff East	Roscommon	Rect	Poss	2.2	1	0.25	Yes (17)	2263–2030 cal BC
KY06b	Cloghers	Kerry	Oval	Poss	2	1.85	0.47	Yes (26)	2349–1940 cal BC
WD04	Graigueshoneen	Waterford	Circ	Poss	1.4	1.4	0.45	Yes (11)	2210–2010 cal BC
DN15	Carrickmines Great	Dublin	Circ	Poss	0.6	0.7	0	Yes (8)	2200–2010 cal BC
MH13	Cloncowan	Meath	Oval	Poss	1.7	1.7	0.74	Yes (23)	2290–1920 cal BC
LK17	Rathbane South	Limerick	Sub-cir	Poss	1.45	1.25	0.4	Yes (33)	2199–1983 cal BC
CW17	Tomard Lower	Carlow	Sub-rect	Poss	2.18	1.64	0.55	Yes (15)	2137–1977 cal BC
TY67	Greenhills	Tipperary	Sub-circ	Poss	2.1	1.9	0.5	Yes (22)	2133–1950 cal BC
GY11	Barnacragh	Galway	Sub-circ	Poss	2.39	2.2	0.38	Yes (12)	2115–1831 cal BC
WX05	Ask	Wexford	Oval	Poss	2.04	1.9	0.94	Yes (13)	2025–1695 cal BC
WD13	Woodstown	Waterford	Sub-rect	Poss	2.6	1.9	0.2	Yes (14)	1950–1750 cal BC
KK18	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Rect	Poss	2.05	1.24	0.28	Yes (12)	1881–1687 cal BC
CO99	Killeagh	Cork	Rect	Poss	2.2	1.45	0.6	Yes (18)	1610–1456 cal BC
CO28	Meenane	Cork	Sub-Oval	Poss	3.5	2.5	0.74	Yes (27)	1267–1047 cal BC
KY10b	Ballydowney	Kerry	Sub-Oval	Poss	2.6	1.6	0.5	Yes (9)	No Date
WD05	Graigueshoneen	Waterford	Rect	Poss	2.46	1.68	0.54	Yes (25)	No Date
KD05b	Carton Demesne	Kildare	Sub-circ	Poss	1.72	1.34		Yes (12)	No Date
KD35	Coolane	Kildare	Sub-oval	Poss	1.7	1.32	0.35	Yes (12)	No Date
CE11	Smithstown	Clare	Oval	Poss	2.6	1.6	0.35	Yes (16)	No Date
LK09	Cloghacloka	Limerick	Sub-rect	Poss	1.8	1.2	0.2	Yes (9)	No Date
LK57	Tullerboy	Limerick	Sub-oval	Poss	1.8	1.3	0.28	Yes (14)	No Date
KK57	Kellymount 3	Kilkenny	Sub-rect	Poss	2.3	1.92	0.68	Yes (35)	No Date
LH10	Richardstown	Louth	Sub-rect	Poss	2.4	1.4	0.5	Yes (14)	No Date

Table 10.6. Possible wattle-lined troughs excavated from *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland.

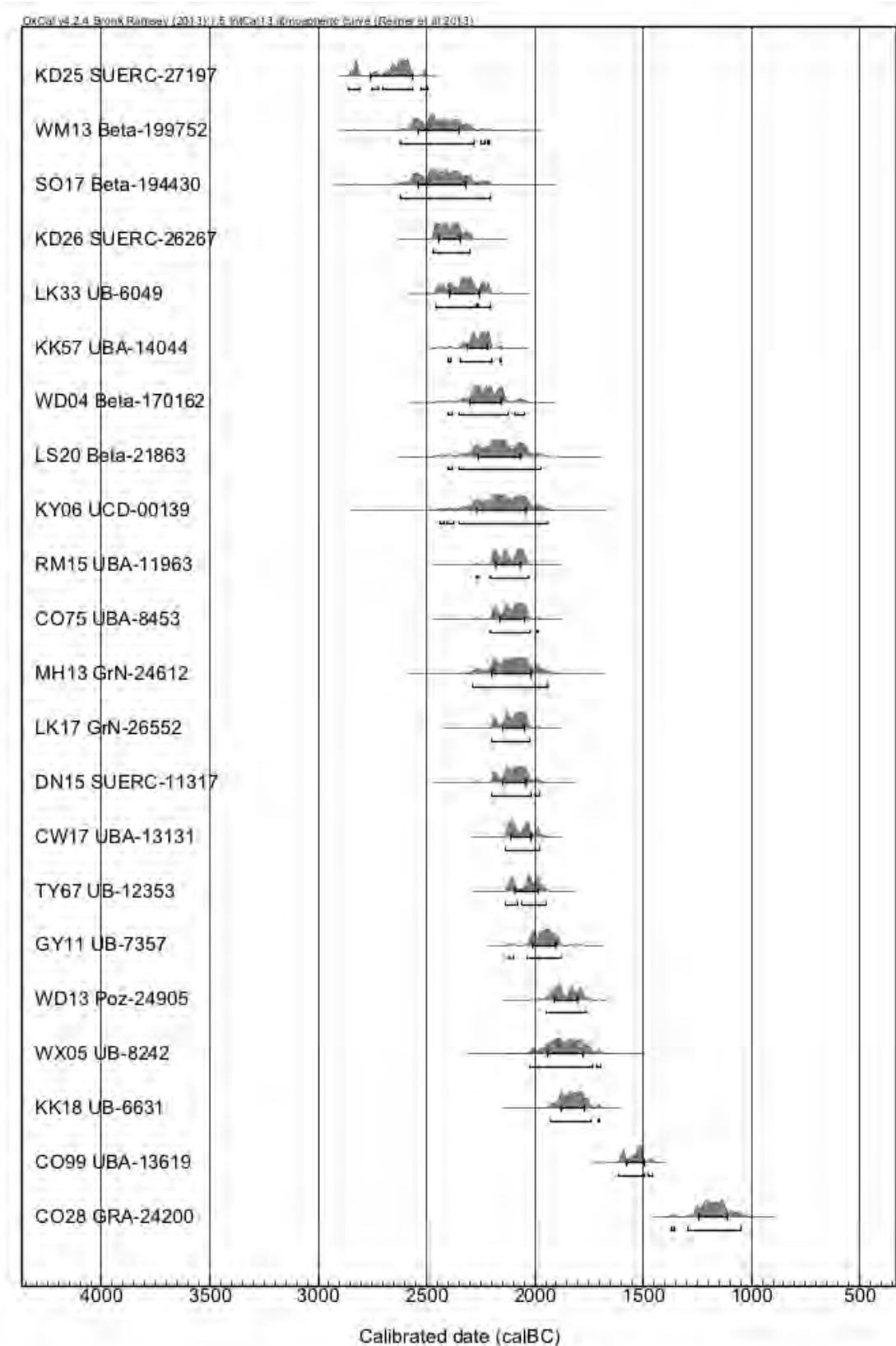


Fig 11.5. Radiocarbon dates from possible wattle-lined troughs in Ireland (Oxcal 4.2).

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

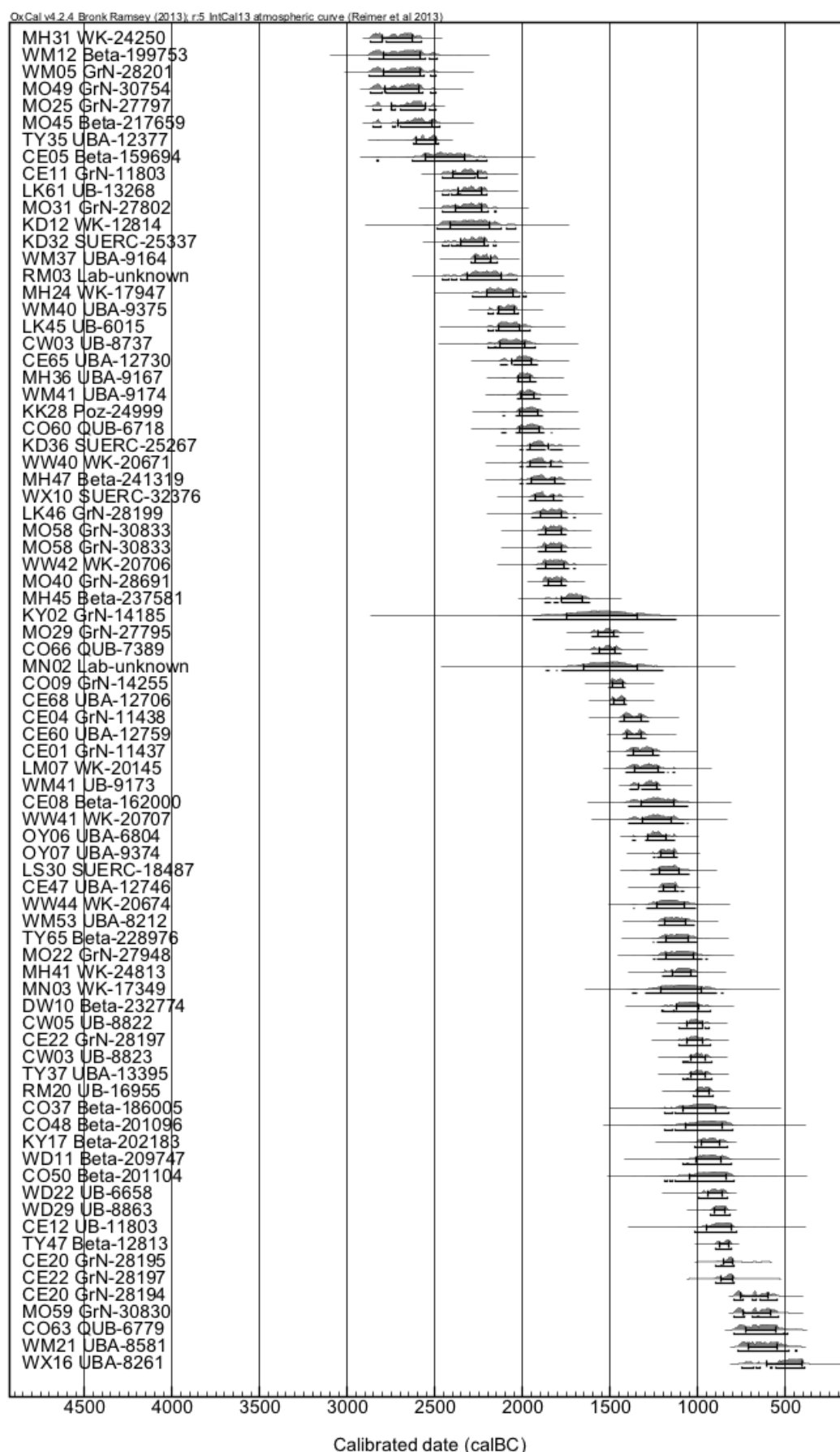
Cat No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	C14/dendro Date
LK03	Cloghacloka	Limerick	Sub-rec	Y	-	-	0.03	3236–3110 cal BC
MH31	Ballinter	Meath	Sub-rec	Y	1.9	1.17	0.45	2870–2570 cal BC
WM05	Enniscoffey	Westmeath	Rect	Y	1.5	1.3	0.04	2880–2490 cal BC
MO49	Sonnagh	Mayo	Circ	Y	1.25	1.25	0.4	2867–2497 cal BC
WM12	Newdown	Westmeath	Rect	Y	1.5	1.1	0.3	2880–2480 cal BC
MO27	Gortroe	Mayo	Sub-rec	Y	1.47	1.07	0.4	2857–2495 cal BC
MO45a	Smuttanagh	Mayo	Sub-cir	Y	1.7	1.4	0.5	2850–2480 cal BC
TY35	Coolderry	Tipperary	Rect	Y	1.5	1	0.16	2833–2473 cal BC
CO31	Muckridge	Cork	Rect	Y	2.08	3.32	1.02	2620–2280 cal BC
CO11	Ballyclogh	Cork	Rect	Y	2.3	1.3	0.4	2460–2200 cal BC
LK61	Coonagh West	Limerick	Trapez	Y	1.2	1	0.3	2457–2203 cal BC
KD32	Belan	Kildare	Sub-oval	Y	1.54	1.15	0.37	2460–2150 cal BC
MO31	Gortroe	Mayo	Sub-cir	Y	1.2	1.5	0.3	2459–2147 cal BC
WM36	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Rect	Y	1.5	0.9	0.2	2339–2153 cal BC
RM03	Hughestown	Roscommon	Oval	Y	2.1	1.3	0.3	2456–2035 cal BC
WM 37b	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Sub-cir	Y	1.5	1.5	0.15	2292–2142 cal BC
MH24	Harlockstown	Meath	Oval	Y	1.37	0.9	0.29	2290–1970 cal BC
WM41b	Correagh	Westmeath	Sub-cir	Y	1.5	1.95	0.35	2196–2029 cal BC
LK45	Inchagreenoge	Limerick	Sub-rec	Y	1.45	1.2	0.4	2198–1967 cal BC
CW03b	Johnstown	Carlow	Sub-rec	Y	1.55	1.25	0.55	2199–1924 cal BC
CW03a	Johnstown	Carlow	Sub-sq	Y	3	3	0.21	2199–1924 cal BC
WW22	Charlesland	Wicklow	Sub-rect	Y	2.26	2.05	0.97	2137–1909 cal BC
CE65	Clooneen	Clare	Sub-cir	Y	1.5	1.43	0.22	2132–1909 cal BC
KK28a	Warrenstown	Kilkenny	Sub-cir	Y	1.85	0.8	0.2	2120–1880 cal BC
KD12	Kilmorebrannagh	Kildare	Sub-cir	Y	1.78	1.62	0.26	2130–1760 cal BC
KD36	Woodlands East	Kildare	Oval	Y	1.8	0.7	0.16	2020–1770 cal BC
WW40	Ballyclogh North a	Wicklow	Sub-cir	Y	1.85	1.7	0.45	2020–1770 cal BC
MH47	Boyerstown	Meath	Rect	Y	1.9	1	0.48	2010–1760 cal BC
WX10	Clogh	Wexford	Oval	Y	1.6	0.7	0.55	1940–1760 cal BC
WM40	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Rect	Y	1.4	0.7	0.54	1923–1744 cal BC
WM41a	Correagh	Westmeath	Sub-rec	Y	2.1	1.4	0.43	1923–1744 BC
MO58	Fauleens	Mayo	Rect	Y	1.96	0.38	0.4	1898–1746 cal BC
MO40	Carrowntreila	Mayo	Oval	Y	2.17	3	0.85	1879–1744 cal BC
WW42	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	Rect	Y	2.3	2.3	0.5	1920–1690 cal BC
MH45	Cooksland	Meath	Rect	Y	2.05	1.5	0.45	1877–1613 cal BC
LK45b	Inchagreenoge	Limerick	Sub-rec	Y	2.2	1.28	0.4	1740–1500 cal BC
KY02	Rathmore	Kerry	Rect	Y	2.41	1.02	0.21	1942–1185 cal BC
MO29	Gortaroe	Mayo	Rect	Y	1.8	1	0.3	1603–1433 cal BC
MN02	Monanny	Monaghan	Sub-rec	Y	3	1.2	0.5	1900–1100 cal BC
CE68	Gortaficka	Clare	Sub-oval	Y	1.62	1.26	0.09	1496–1409 cal BC

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	C14/dendro Date
CE60	Srangalloon	Clare	Oval	Y	2.24	1.15	0.44	1433–1313 cal BC
CO04	Killeens	Cork	Rect	Y	1.76	1.13	0.52	1460–1240 cal BC
CO66	Carrigane	Cork	Rect	Y	2.2	1.8	0.36	1415–1219 cal BC
CE01	Fahee South	Clare	Rect	Y	-	-	-	1409–1212 cal BC
WW41	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	Rect	Y	2.1	1.24	0.1	1420–1200 cal BC
LM07	Moher	Leitrim	Rect	Y	2.1	1.45	0.65	1420–1130 cal BC
OY06	Burrow	Offaly	Rect	Y	2.1	1.13	0.24	1372–1129 cal BC
WD22	Ballyduff East	Waterford	Square	Y	1.6	1.43	0.5	1374–1123 cal BC
CO09	Kilcor South	Cork	Square	Y	1.41	1.45	0.5	1300–1170 cal BC
OY07	Burrow	Offaly	Rect	Y	1.9	1.2	0.3	1268–1118 cal BC
LS30	Corraun	Laois	Sub-oval	Y	3.6	3	0.54	1300–1040 cal BC
LS29	Coolfin	Laois	Sub-oval	Y	2.8	2.4	0.35	1300–1040 cal BC
CE47	Caheraphuca	Clare	Rect	Y	2.5	1.26	0.06	1299–1024 cal BC
WW44	Ballyclogh North b	Wicklow	Rect	Y	2.3	1.4	0.4	1320–1000 cal BC
WM53	Mearsparkfarm	Westmeath	Rect	Y	2.12	1.32	0.45	1260–1019 cal BC
CE08	Knockaun	Clare	Rect	Y	2	1.45	0.4	1300–930 cal BC
MH41	Leshemstown	Meath	Rect	Y	1.5	0.95	0.27	1220–1000 cal BC
MN03	Monnany	Monaghan	Sub-sq	Y	2.4	2.8	0.51	1320–890 cal BC
MO22	Deerpark East	Mayo	Rect	Y	1.44	0.76	0.07	1261–939 cal BC
TY37	Ballyard	Tipperary	Sub-rec	Y	1.9	1.22	0.49	1111–1064 cal BC
TY65A	Cloughjordan	Tipperary	Sub-rec	Y	2.8	1.8	0.81	1140–920 cal BC
CW05a	Johnstown	Carlow	Sub-rec	Y	2.28	0.78	0.2	1115–934 cal BC
CW05b	Johnstown	Carlow	Sub-rec	Y	2.04	1.41	0.2	1108–922 cal BC
CO48	Fermoy	Cork	Rect	Y	2	1.5	0.4	1190–800 cal BC
RM20a	Bockagh	Roscommon	Oval	Y	2.74	1.74	0.64	1041–911 cal BC
CE05	Killulla	Clare	Oval	Y	1.8	1.5	0.2	1120–820 cal BC
CO37e	Curraheen	Cork	Rect	Y	1.2	0.64	0.5	1120–810 cal BC
WD11	Gracedieu West	Waterford	Rect	Y	2.7	1.6	1	1060–820 cal BC
KY17	Kilmaniheen West	Kerry	Rect	Y	1.9	1.16	0.12	1010 – 830 cal BC
CO12	Ballyclogh	Cork	Rect	Y	1.5	2	0.4	1030–760 cal BC
WD29	Greenan	Waterford	Rect	Y	2.8	2	0.6	967–820 cal BC
WM21	Seeoge	Westmeath	Sub-cir	Y	3.6	3.38	0.6	901–816 cal BC
TY47	Annaholty	Tipperary	Sub-rec	Y	2.75	1.98	0.56	898–808 cal BC
CE22	Cahiracon	Clare	Rect	Y	2.3	1.27	0.56	900–790 cal BC
CE20	Cahiracon	Clare	Sub-rec	Y	2.2	1.44	0.22	900–790 cal BC
CO50	Fermoy	Cork	Sub-rec	Y	2.5	1.6	0.37	830–780 cal BC
TY03	Killoran	Tipperary	Rect	Y	2	1.35	0.6	1547±9 cal BC
Phase 2	Cahiracon	Clare	Sub-rec	Y	1.8	1.11	0.3	800–540 cal BC
MO59	Fauleens	Mayo	Sub-rec	Y	2.02	1.18	0.25	786–545 cal BC
Phase 2	Cahiracon	Clare	Rect	Y	2.3	1.27	0.56	803–525 cal BC
CO63	Scartbarry	Cork	Rect	Y	2.22	1.36	0.88	789–419 cal BC
WX16	Moneycross	Wexford	Rect	Y	2.46	1.8	0.43	748–388 cal BC

Cat No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	C14/dendro Date
	Upper							
GY03	Perssepark	Galway	Rect	Y	3.05	1.8	0.56	998 +9 cal BC
DW10	Baloo Lower	Down	Rect	Y	3	1.8	0.6	993 cal BC
LS02	Cloonaddadoran	Laois	Rect	Y	1.72	1	0.23	962+ 9 cal BC
CN04	Drumbo	Cavan	Sub-rec	Y	1.28	0.65	0.32	959 cal BC ±9
CO60	Stagpark	Cork	Rect	Y	2.02	1.45	0.65	2122–1828 cal BC
CW03b	Johnstown	Carlow	Irreg	Y	2.3	1.7	0.5	No date

Table 10.7. Surviving plank-lined troughs excavated from *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland.

Fig 11.6. Radiocarbon dates from *fulachtaí fia* with plank-lined troughs in Ireland (Oxcal 4.2).

Cat No.	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	Stakes	C14 Date (2 sigma)
C069	Kildrum	Cork	Sub-cir	Poss	2.9	2.2	0.6	Yes (3)	2138–1978 cal BC
KK56	Kellymount 3	Kilkenny	Sub-rect	Poss	1.4	1.3	0.45	Yes (3)	2133–1940 cal BC
TY33	Lissava	Tipperary	Sub-oval	Poss	2.2	1.6	0.44	Yes (4)	1685–1512 cal BC
WD07	Graigueshoneen	Waterford	Sub-rect	Poss	1.54	1.4	0.6	Yes (4)	1890–1210 cal BC
CE64	Curtaun	Clare	Oval	Poss	2.45	1.9	0.4	Yes(4)	1608–1459 cal BC
CO05	Killeens	Cork	Rect	Poss	2.5	1.8	0.15	Yes (4)	1610–1450 cal BC
WM52	Mearsparkfarm	Westmeath	Sub-rect	Poss	1.94	0.98	0.44	Yes (4)	1599–1435 cal BC
TY28	Raheen	Tipperary	Rect	Poss	1.65	0.89	0.35	Yes (4)	1525–1410 cal BC
CE68b	Gortaficka	Clare	Oval	Poss	2.13	1.33	0.14	Yes (4)	1496–1409 cal BC
TY29	Lissava	Tipperary	Rect	Poss	1.8	1.1	0.4	Yes (3)	1411–1210 cal BC
OY08a	Burrow	Offaly	Rect	Poss	2.5	1.8	0.38	Yes (4)	1408–1132 cal BC
LS33	Cuffsborough	Laois	Rect	Poss	2.28	1.8	0.24	Yes (3)	1380–1110 cal BC
WM44	Tonaphort	Westmeath	Sub-rect	Poss	3	1.8	0.8	Yes (4)	1370–1080 cal BC
LS29	Coolfin	Laois	Rect	Poss	1.6	1.05	0.15	Yes (4)	1300–1040 cal BC
LS30	Corraun 2	Laois	Sub-rect	Poss	2.05	1.35	0.2	Yes (4)	1300–1040 cal BC
WM 08	Kilbalraherd	Westmeath	Rect	Poss	2.3	1.4	0.18	Yes (4)	1300–1000 cal BC
MH52a	Boolies	Meath	Sub-rect	Poss	1.9	1.52	0.27	Yes (5)	1266–1009 cal BC
CN05	Drumcalpin	Cavan	Sub-rect	Poss	1.4	2.05	0.33	Yes (4)	1262–1007 cal BC
MH34	Warrenstown	Meath	Rect	Poss	2	1.18	0.3	Yes (4)	1260–1000 cal BC
SO18	Magheraboy	Sligo	Sub-rect	Poss	1.72	1.17	0.38	Yes (4)	1270–910 cal BC
WX16	Moneycross Upper	Wexford	Rect	Poss	1.25	0.85	0.43	Yes (4)	1193–920 cal BC
LK39	Clogh East	Limerick	Sub-rect	Poss	2.6	2	0.63	Yes (4)	1157–942 cal BC
WD31	Monamintra	Waterford	Rect	Poss	1.9	1.2	0.25	Yes (4)	1124–973 cal BC
CO94	Coolmoohan	Cork	Sub-rect	Poss	2.1	1.4	0.27	Yes (4)	1119–937 cal BC
CW10	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Sub-rect	Poss	2.2	2	0.43	Yes (4)	1117–935 cal BC
MO72	Mullenmadoge	Mayo	Sub-rect	Poss	2.5	1.3	0.5	Yes (4)	1117–922 cal BC
CO103	Walshtownmore	Cork	Rect	Poss	1.73	1.44	0.33	Yes (4)	1082–921 cal BC
LM07	Moher	Leitrim	Sub-rect	Poss	1.99	1.06	0.14	Yes (4)	1120–840 cal BC
SO16a	Caltragh	Sligo	Rect	Poss	2.3	1.4	0.33	Yes (4)	1000–800 cal BC
WM31	Cregganmacar	Westmeath	Oval	Poss	3.5	2.25	0.5	Yes (4)	928–825 cal BC
KK51	Blanchillespark	Kilkenny	Sub-cir	Poss	2.15	1.51	0.33	Yes (4)	909–823 cal BC
GY23	Moyveela	Galway	Sub-rect	Poss	2.45	1.45	0.33	Yes (3)	894–798 cal BC
CO96	Curragh Upper	Cork	Sub-Cir	Poss	3.25	2.8	0.34	Yes (3)	829–787 cal BC
KK30	Glashare	Kilkenny	Sub-rect	Poss	1.65	1.51	0.12	Yes (3)	830–590 cal BC
KK48	Knocktopher Commons	Kilkenny	Rect	Poss	2	1	0.17	Yes (4)	776–507 cal BC
GY22	Moyveela	Galway	Sub-rect	Poss	4.52	3.36	0.85	Yes (3)	731–406 cal BC
KD19	Burtonhall Demesne	Kildare	Rect	Poss	2.1	1.3	0.17	Yes (5)	509–261 cal BC

Table 10.8. Dated *fulachtaí fia* with corner posted troughs.



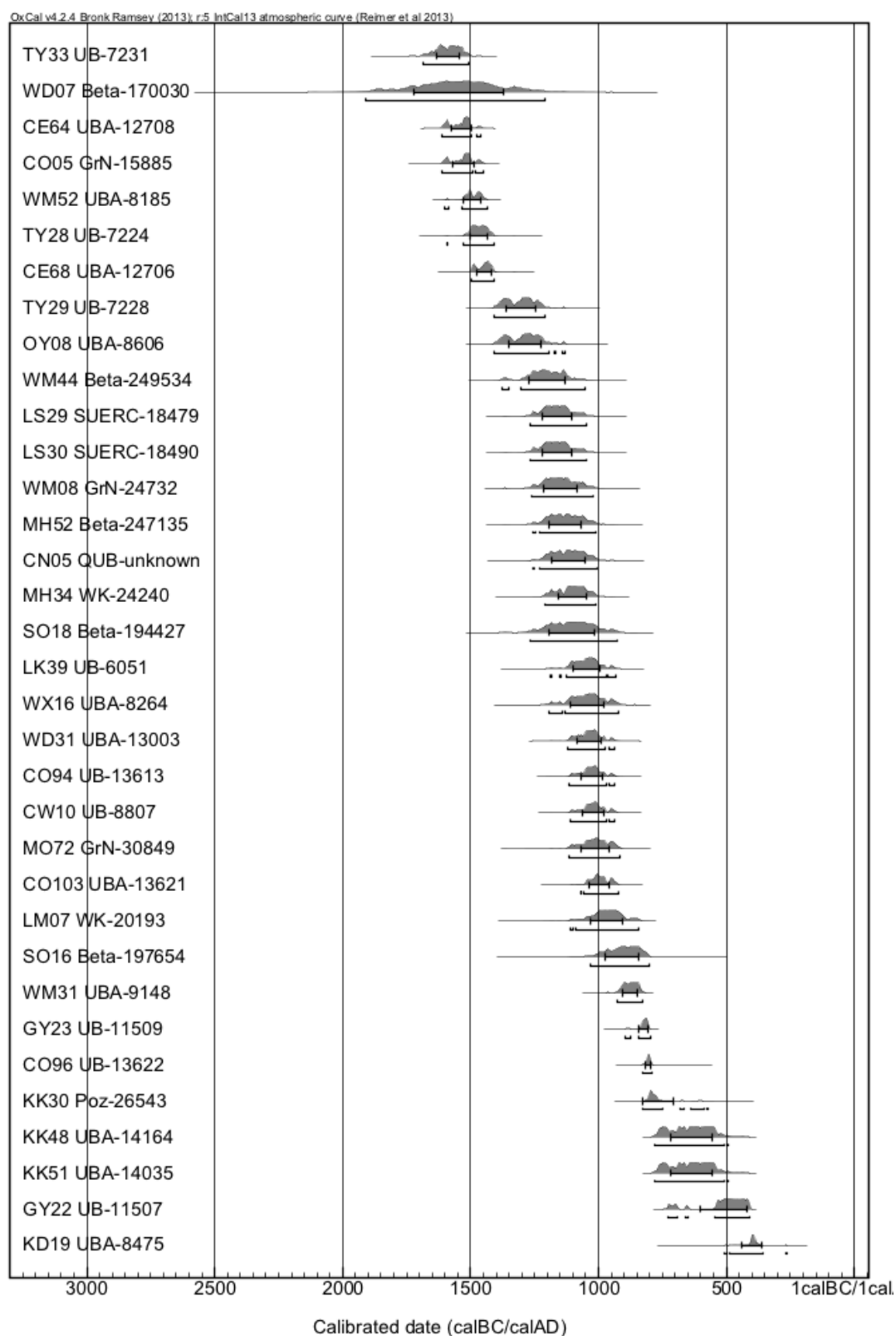


Fig 11.7. Radiocarbon dates from *fulachtaí fia* troughs with corner posts (Oxcal 4.2).

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Trough Shape	Trough Lining	Feature
CO75a	Ballyadam	Cork	Oval	Possible	Inlet
WX09	Ballyloughan	Wexford	Sub-oval	No	Inlet
DN03	Kingstown	Dublin	Sub-rectangular	Clay-Lined	Inlet
CO43	Ballinaspig More	Cork	Sub-Oval	Possible	Inlet
LK18a	Drominycarra	Limerick	Oval	No	Inlet
WM35a	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Oval	No	Inlet
CW03a	Johnstown	Carlow	Sub-rectangular	Plank	Emptying
CW10	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Sub-rectangular	Possible	Emptying
KD26	Ballymount	Kildare	Sub-circular	Possible	Emptying
CE59	Monreagh	Clare	Sub-circular	No	Emptying
CO79	Carrigtwohill	Cork	Rectangular	No	Emptying
CO71	Ballinglanna North	Cork	Circular	Stone	Emptying
DW10	Baloo	Down	Circular	Plank	Emptying
MH14	Clonmeath	Meath	Circular	No	Emptying
WX06	Ask	Wexford	Circular	Possible	Emptying
CE67	Monreagh	Clare	Circular	Possible	Emptying
KK15	Dunkitt	Kilkenny	Circular	Possible	Emptying
C081	Carrignafof	Cork	Oval	Timber and Stone	Emptying
MO34a	Cloonbulban	Mayo	Unknown	No	Channel
MO34a	Cloonbulban	Mayo	Circular	No	Channel
MO45a	Smuttanagh	Mayo	Oval	No	Channel
MO45b	Smuttanagh	Mayo	Sub-circular	No	Channel
SO15	Caltragh	Sligo	Circular	Possible	Channel
SO17	Magheraboy	Sligo	Oval	Possible	Channel
SO17	Magheraboy	Sligo	Sub-oval	Possible	Channel
S017	Magheraboy	Sligo	Circular	Possible	Channel
WD11	Gracedieu West	Waterford	Rectangular	Plank	Channel
WD12	Woodstown	Waterford	Sub-oval	No	Channel
CW10	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Sub-rectangular	No	Channel
GY11	Barnacragh	Galway	Sub-circular	Possible	Channel
WM03	Dalystown	Westmeath	Rectangular	Possible	Channel
WM06	Enniscoffey	Westmeath	Unknown	No	Channel
WM08	Kilbalraherd	Westmeath	Rectangular	Possible	Channel
WM27	Aghafin	Westmeath	Rectangular	No	Channel
WM26	Williamstown	Westmeath	Sub-rectangular	Possible	Channel
WM 35a	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Circular	No	Channel
WM 35a	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Irregular	Possible	Channel
WM39b	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Oval	No	Channel
WM40	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Oval	Possible	Channel
WM53	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Rectangular	No	Channel
CE28	Carrowkilla	Clare	Sub-rectangular	No	Channel
CE36	Shannakea Beg	Clare	Sub-rectangular	Stone-lined-lined	Channel

Cat No.	Site	County	Trough Shape	Trough Lining	Feature
CE68b	Gortaficka	Clare	Sub-oval	Plank-lined	Channel
LK53	Milltown North	Limerick	Sub-oval	No	Channel
RM16	Banada	Roscommon	Sub-oval	Possible	Channel
TY29	Lissava	Tipperary	Rectangular	Possible	Channel
TY32	Lissava	Tipperary	Circular	Possible	Channel
MH21	Carranstown	Meath	Sub-circular	No	Channel
MH28	Drumbaragh	Meath	Sub-rectangular	Possible	Channel
MH88	Newrath Little	Meath	Square	Possible	Channel
MH89	Newrath Little	Meath	Circular	Possible	Channel
		Meath	Circular	No	Channel
		Meath	Circular	No	Channel
SO16a	Caltragh	Sligo	Rectangular	Possible	Inlet
CO57	Garranes	Cork	Polygonal	Stone-lined	Channel
CO70	Kilshanny	Cork	Rectangular	Stone-lined-lined	Channel
CO74	Caherdrinny	Cork	Rectangular	Stone-lined and Plank-lined	Channel
CO99	Killeagh	Cork	Rectangular	Possible	Channel
CO93	Walshtown Beg	Cork	Oval	Possible	Channel
CO75	Ballyadam a	Cork	Sub-circular	No	Channel
CO76	Ballyadam b	Cork	Oval	Possible	Channel
CO77	Ballyadam b	Cork	Irregular	No	Channel
CO78	Ballyadam d	Cork	Oval	No	Channel
CO78	Ballyadam d	Cork	Oval	Possible	Channel
CO79	Carrigtohill	Cork	Rectangular	No	Channel
WW43	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	Sub-circular	Plank-lined	Channel
DW01	Ballycroghan	Down	Rectangular	Roundwood	Channel

Table 10.9. Water-management features associated with *fulachtaí fia* troughs.

Cat. No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	Interpretation
MO03	Lecarrow	Mayo	Wedge	Stone	0.5	0.5	0.4	Possible Oven
LK19	Crabbsland	Limerick	Sub-circular	Stone	0.75	0.64	0.21	Possible Oven
LK35	Ballynacragga	Limerick	Sub-oval	Stone	-	-	-	Possible Oven
WM17	Newtown	Westmeath	Oval	Stone	1.42	1.2	0.6	Possible Oven
WM42	Kilgaroan	Westmeath	Sub-circular	stone	1.64	1.52	0.35	Possible Oven
KD25	Ballymount	Kildare	Circular	stone	0.98	0.9	0.29	Possible Oven
KK14	Ballynamona	Kilkenny	sub-rectangular	stone	2	1.6	0.55	Possible Oven
KK14	Ballynamona	Kilkenny	Circular	stone	-	-	-	Possible Oven

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	Interpretation
LH01	Dowdallshill	Louth	Oval	Stone	1.6	1.6	0.5	Possible Oven
CE24	Cahiracon	Clare	Oval	Stone	1.4	0.9	0.4	Possible Oven
SO18	Magheraboy	Sligo	Sub-rectangular	Stone	2.4	2	1.4	Possible Oven
SO18	Magheraboy	Sligo	Sub-circular	Stone	1.8	1.8	0.3	Possible Oven
LH27	Haggardstown	Louth	Sub-rectangular	Stone	-	-	-	Possible Oven
WW07	Rathmore	Wicklow	Oval	Stone	1.8	1	0.35	Possible Oven
CO02	Ballyvourney	Cork	Wedge-shaped	Stone	2	1.8	0.6	Possible Oven
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Wedge-shaped	Stone	1	1	0.6	Possible Oven
TY27	Tullaheedy	Tipperary	C-shaped	Stone	3.3	1.42	0.25	Possible Oven
TY39	Gortybrigane	Tipperary	Irregular	Poss	0.5	0.4	0.28	Possible Oven
CO97	Macrone Upper	Cork	Sub-rectangular	Poss	2.3	1.9	0.05	Possible Oven
CN02	Derrygarra Upper	Cavan	Sub-circular	Poss	0.5	0.58	0.42	Possible Oven
LS33	Cuffsborough	Laois	Circular	Poss	1.75	1.44	0.04	Possible Oven
CW11	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Sub-oval	Stone	0.7	1	0.16	Possible Oven
CN16	Putiaghan Upper	Cavan	Sub-oval	No	1.2	0.8	0.1	Roasting Pit
KY15	Urrohogal	Kerry	Sub-Circular	No	0.58	0.62	0.12	Roasting Pit
LS42	Shanboe	Laois	Rectangular	No	2.3	1.35	0.14	Roasting Pit
LS44	Shanboe	Laois	Sub-rectangular	No	1.7	1	0.28	Roasting Pit
MO40	Carrowntreilla	Mayo	Oval	No	1.26	1.31	0.34	Roasting Pit
MO48b	Sonnagh	Mayo	Sub-oval	No	2.1	1.53	0.35	Roasting Pit
MO69	Cloonmeen West	Mayo	Sub-circular	No	0.5	0.48	0.3	Roasting Pit
SO18	Magheraboy	Sligo	Sub-circular	No	0.6	0.8	0.32	Roasting Pit
LK13	Rathbane South	Limerick	Oval	No	1.7	1.2	0.35	Roasting Pit
LK65	Richhill	Limerick	Sub-circular	No	1.5	0.68	0.2	Roasting Pit
LK65	Richhill	Limerick	Sub-rectangular	No	1.5	0.68	0.2	Roasting Pit
LK65	Richhill	Limerick	Sub-circular	No	0.87	0.5	0.78	Roasting Pit
WM56	Hallsfarm	Westmeath	Sub-oval	No	0.6	0.6	0.2	Roasting Pit
KD20	Boleybeg	Kildare	Oval	No	1.4	1.05	0.14	Roasting Pit
MH28	Drumbaragh	Meath	Sub-oval	No	1.4	1.9	0.43	Roasting Pit
MH66	Drumree	Meath	Rectangular	No	1.04	0.95	0.45	Roasting Pit
MH78	Kennastown	Meath	Sub-circular	No	0.6	0.4	0.07	Roasting Pit
MH81	Townparks	Meath	Irregular	No	2	0.8	0.25	Roasting Pit
MH81	Townparks	Meath	Irregular	No	1.24	0.65	0.18	Roasting Pit
MH81	Townparks	Meath	Irregular	No	1.14	0.55	0.11	Roasting Pit
MH81	Townparks	Meath	Oval	No	1.3	1.1	0.36	Roasting Pit
MH38b	Athronan	Meath	Circular	No	1.7	1.7	0.19	Roasting Pit

Cat. No	Site	County	Shape	Lining	L (M)	W (M)	D (M)	Interpretation
MH91	Pheonixtown	Meath	Linear	No	1.1	0.49	0.14	Roasting Pit
KK01	Catstown	Kilkenny	Unknown	No	2.36		0.36	Roasting Pit
KK19	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Irregular	No	1.39	0.86	0.14	Roasting Pit
KK19	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	sub-rectangular	No	1.9	1.73	0.32	Roasting Pit
KK19	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Rectangular	No	1.9	0.7	0.25	Roasting Pit
KK19	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Irregular	No	1.09	0.31	0.29	Roasting Pit
LH12	Crumlin	Louth	-	No	-	-	-	Roasting Pit
LH18	Newtown	Louth	Unknown	No	-	-	-	Roasting Pit
LH23	Faughart Lower	Louth	Sub-oval	No	1.51	0.6	0.15	Roasting Pit
LH27	Haggardstown	Louth	-	No	-	-	-	Roasting Pit
WW07	Rathmore	Wicklow	Sub-circular	No	1.4	1.4	0.2	Roasting Pit
WW07	Rathmore	Wicklow	Oval	No	1.5	1.3	0.3	Roasting Pit
WW07	Rathmore	Wicklow	Oval	No	1.2	1	0.3	Roasting Pit
TY40b	Gortybrigane	Tipperary	Sub-circular	No	2.12	0.48	0.4	Roasting Pit
TY50	Carrigatogher Harding site 6	Tipperary	Sub-circular	No	0.75	0.68	0.26	Roasting Pit
CO69	Kildrum	Cork	Circular	No	1.4	1.05	0.25	Roasting Pit
CO70	Kilshanny	Cork	Circular	No	1.56	1.77	0.76	Roasting Pit
CO73b	Ballinglanna North	Cork	-	No	-	-	-	Roasting Pit
CO73b	Ballinglanna North	Cork	-	No	-	-	-	Roasting Pit
CO87	Ballynacorra West	Cork	Sub-circular	No	0.8	0.65	0.18	Roasting Pit
	Glennfin		Circular	No	1.5	1.5	0.1	Roasting Pit
DN30	Ballynakelly	Dublin	-	No	-	-	-	Roasting Pit
LS30	Corraun	Laois	Unknown	No	1	0.85	0.2	Roasting Pit
LS30	Corraun	Laois	Sub-circular	No	1.22	1.18	0.19	Roasting Pit
WM60a	Stonehouse Farm	Westmeath	Sub-circular	No	1.2	0.84	0.28	Roasting Pit
WM60b	Stonehouse Farm	Westmeath	Unknown	No	0.55	0.35	0.05	Roasting Pit
WM60	Stonehouse Farm	Westmeath	Circular	No	1.93	1.64	0.12	Roasting Pit
KD13	Killickaweeny	Kildare	Circular	No	1.2	1.1	0.28	Roasting Pit

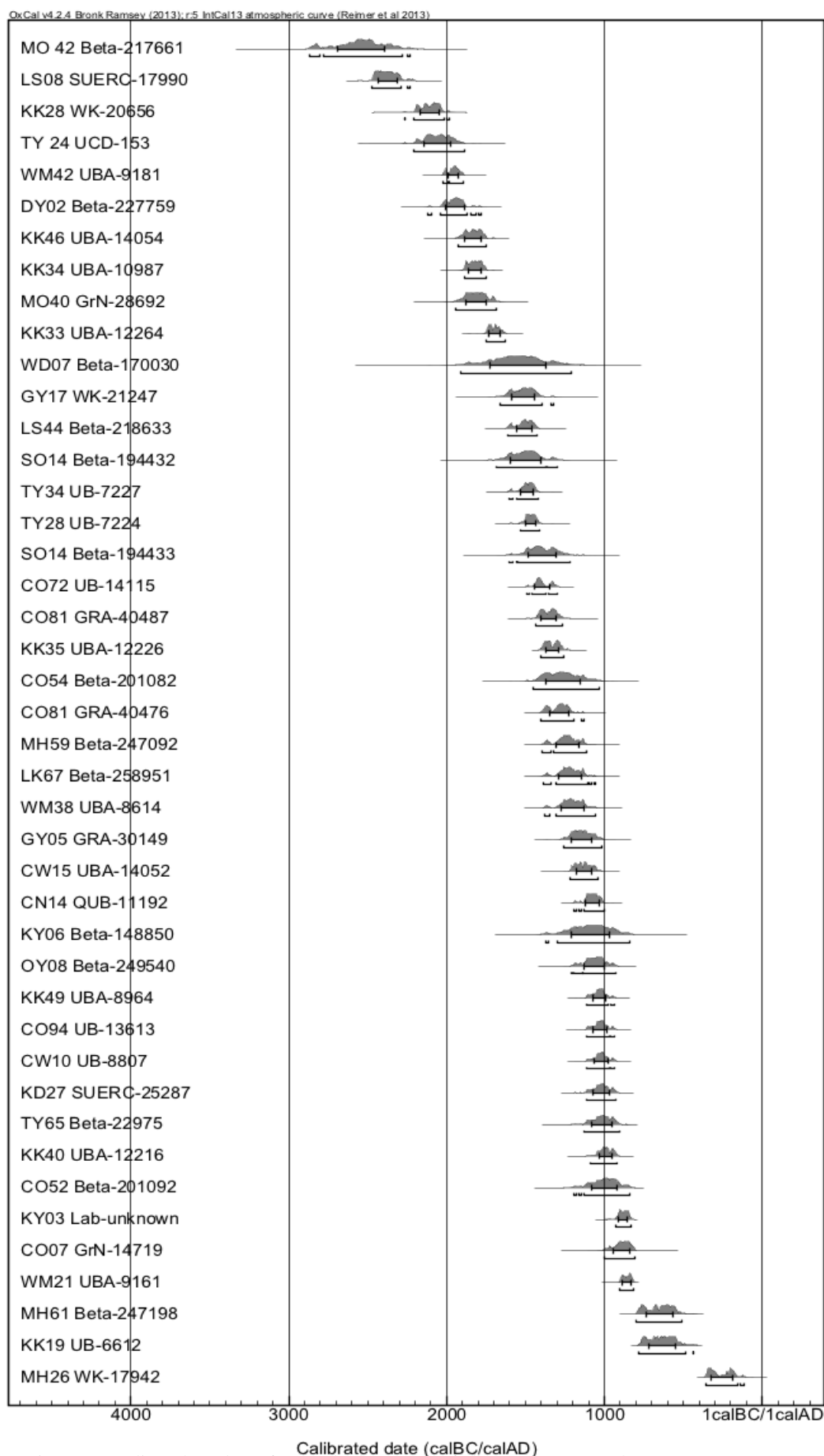
Table 10.10. Roasting pits/oven features associated with burnt stone deposits in Ireland.

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Shape	L	W	Construction	C14 Date
CO81	Carrignafoy	Cork	Circ	5	5	slot/Post	1433–1271 cal BC
CO81	Carrignafoy	Cork	Circ	4.5	3	Post	1382–1134 cal BC
KK19	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Circ	5	5	Stake	775–417 cal BC
KK49b	BallyKeoghan	Kilkenny	Circ	4.7	4.3	Post	1112–974 cal BC
OY08a	Burrow	Offaly	Circ	3.5	3.5	Stake	1200–930 cal BC
CW10	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Circ	5.4	5.55	Stake	1117–935 cal BC
CO12	Ballyvourney	Cork	Circ	5	5	Post	No
TY28	Raheen	Tipperary	Circ	1.5	1.5	Post	1525–1410 cal BC
TY34	Clonmore North	Tipperary	Circ	5.6	5.6	Post	1605–1418 cal BC
DW01	Ballycroghan	Down	Circ	2.1	2.1	Post	No
LK23	Prospect	Limerick	Circ	0	0	Post	No
MO40	Carrowntreilla	Mayo	Circ	6	6	Stake	1935–1687 cal BC
KY03	Coarhamore	Kerry	Circ			Drystone	1006–896 cal BC
MH21	Carranstown	Meath	Circ	8	2	Postt	No
CN14	Bun	Cavan	Circ	6	6	Post	1192–1006 cal BC
SO14	Caltragh	Sligo	Circ	7.5	6.8	Post/Slot	1689–1315 cal BC
KY06	Cloghers	Kerry	Circ			Post	1608–1261 cal BC
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Circ	5	5	Drystone	1000–800 cal BC
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Circ	5	5	Drystone	1000–800 cal BC
MH61	Derver 4	Meath	Circ	9.3	9.3	Post	795–421 cal BC
DN04	Cherrywood 11	Dublin	Circ	4	4	Post	No
DN04	Cherrywood 11	Dublin	Circ	3.5	3.5	Post	No
CO72	Ballynamona?	Cork	Circ	5.7	5.7	Slot?	1393–1135 cal BC
NC	Clonee	Meath	Circ	2.7	2.7	Post	No
MH91	Phoenixtown 2	Meath	Circ	2.25	2	Post	No
MH26	Rath	Meath	Circ	6.2	4.8	Post	No
TY34	Clonmore North	Tipperary	Circ	6.3	6.3	Post	1605–1418 cal BC
LH22	Faugart lower	Louth	Circ	4.9	4.5	slot	1390–1120 cal BC
TY24c	Richmond/Gortladore	Tipperary	Rect	2.2	1.4	Post	2139–1949 cal BC
LS44	Shanboe	Laois	Rect	3.5	1.5	Stake	1600–1420 cal BC
CO52	Lisnagare Demesne	Cork	Rect	2	1.5	Stake	1120–820 cal BC
WM21	Seeoge	Westmeath	Rect	8	4	Post	901–816 cal BC
KK40	Rathcash	Kilkenny	Rect	4	3	Slot	1111–917 cal BC
WW28	Ballinaskea	Wicklow	Rect	2	2.5	Post	2210–2010 cal BC
LK67	Gardenhill	Limerick	Rect	2	2.5	Slot	1380–1120 cal BC
MO42	Skiddernagh	Mayo	Rect	2	1.5	Stake	2870–2280 cal BC
MH26	Rath	Meath	Rect	3	3.2	Post	370–110 cal BC
WD07	Craiguesheen	Waterford	Rect	4	4	Post	1890–1210 cal BC
DY02	Gransha	Derry	Rect	1.05	0.87	Stake	2116–1779 cal BC
WM42	Kilgaroan	Westmeath	Rect	3	2	Post	2023–1894 cal BC
MH59	Philpotstown	Meath	sub-rect	4	3	slot	1386–1123 cal BC
KK35	Blanchvillespark	MBA	sub-rec		6.5	Slot	1400–1268 cal BC

Cat No.	Site	County	Shape	L	W	Construction	C14 Date
CO54	Scartbarry	Cork	Oval	4	4	slot	1440–1020 cal BC
CO94	Coolmoohan	Cork	Oval	7	2.9	Post	1190–920 cal BC
CO13	Ballyvourney 2	Cork	oval	2.4	2.4	Post	No
WM38	Kilbeg 6	Westmeath	Oval	3	1.9	Post	1375–1056 cal BC
DN02	Shankill	Dublin	Oval	3.6	2.1	Post	No
MH87b	Cookstown	Meath	Oval	4	4	Post	No
DN22	Lusk	Meath	Oval	3.6	2	Post	No
MH87b	Cookstown	Meath	Oval	4	4	Post	No
DW05	Killinure	Down	Oval	6.6	4.2	Post	No
CO13	Ballyvourney 2	Cork	Oval	5.6	4	Post	No
TY65a	CloghJordan	Tipperary	Oval	6.5	5.5	slot	1190–920 cal BC
NC	Colp West	Clare	Oval	2.95	2.95	Post	No
GY17	Caraun More	Galway	Oval	8	7.5	Post	1667–1393 cal BC
MO40	Carrowntreilla	Mayo	Oval	1.9	1.9	Stake	1935–1687 cal BC
KD27	Ballymount	Kildare	Oval	3.9	1.9	Stake	1130–920 cal BC
MO40	Carrowntreilla	Mayo	Oval	1.64	1.64	Stake	1935–1687 cal BC
CW15	Moanmore	Carlow	Oval	2	2	Stake	1258–1030 cal BC
KK46	Rathgarvin/Clifden	Kilkenny	Semi	6.5	6.5	Post	1904–1750 cal BC
KK34a	Baysrath	Kilkenny	sub-circ	3	0.6	slot	1887–1751 cal BC
MH21	Carranstown	Meath	Circ	2.6	2.1	Post	No
LS08	Addergoole	Laois	Oval	3	1.5	Stake	2480–2280 cal BC
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Circ	-	-	Post	1000–800 cal BC
LM02	Kildorragh	Leitrim	Circ	-	-	Post	No
KK33b	Ballyquirk	Kilkenny	Rect	-	-	Post	1617–1494 cal BC
GY05	Greeneenagh	Galway	Rect	-	2	Post	1266–1016 cal BC

Table 10.11. Possible roofed structures associated with excavated *fulachtaí fia* in Ireland.

Fig 11.8. Radiocarbon dates from *fulachtai fia* roofed structures (Oxcal 4.2).



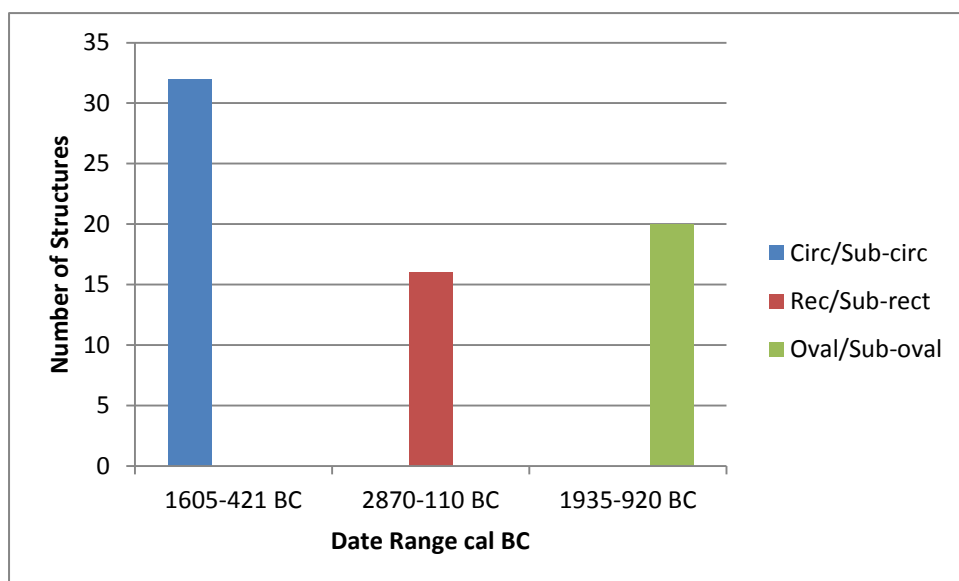


Fig 11.9. Bar-chart representing date ranges of different structure shapes associated with *fulachtaí fia*.

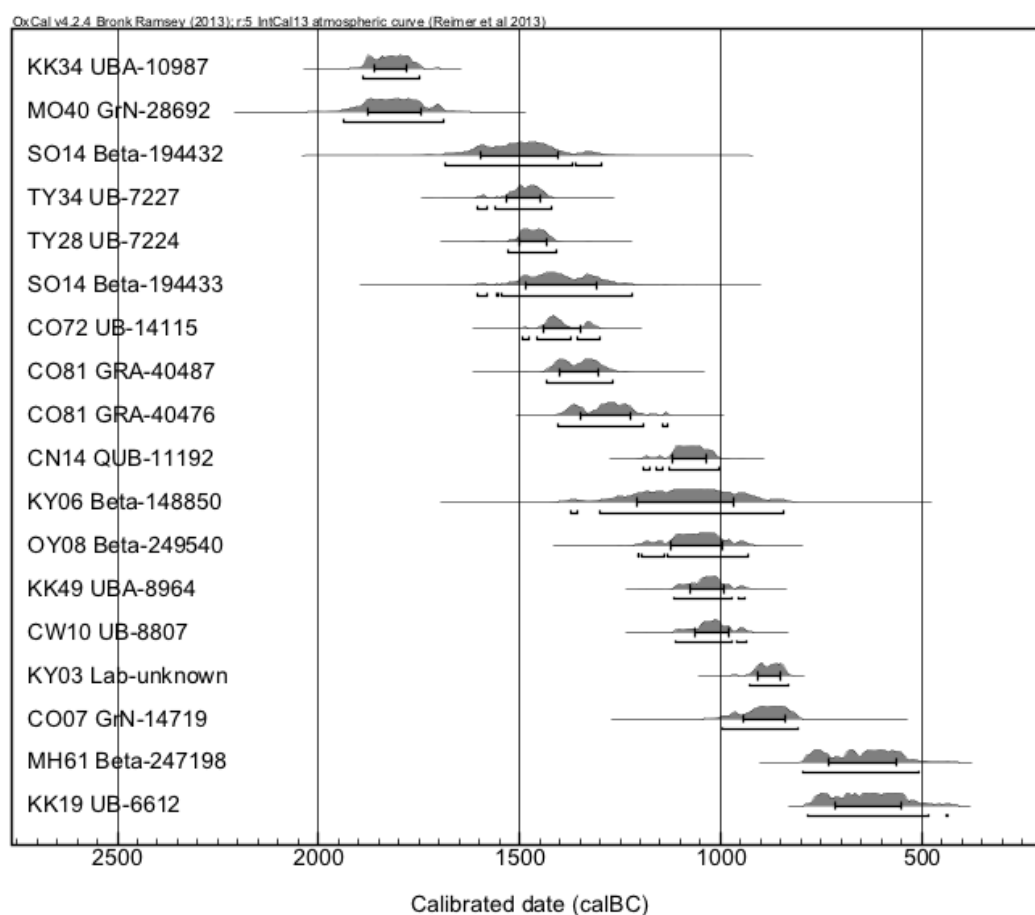


Fig 11.10. Radiocarbon dates from circular burnt mound structures.

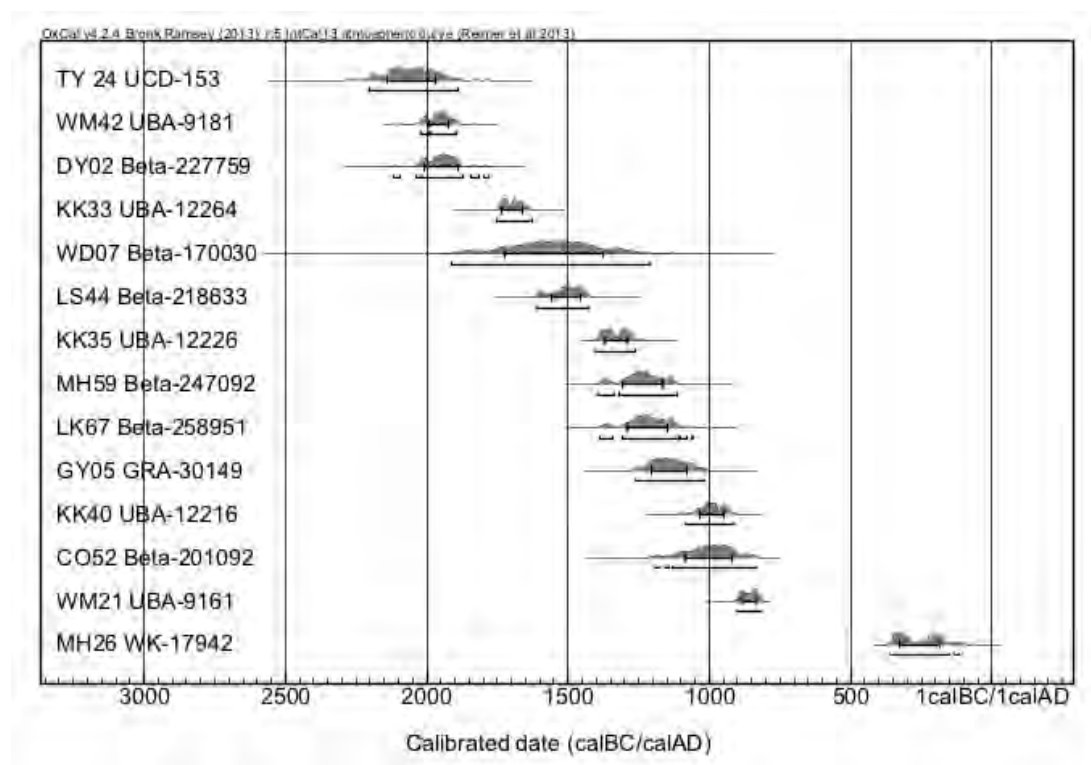


Fig 11.11. Radiocarbon dates from rectangular burnt mound structures.

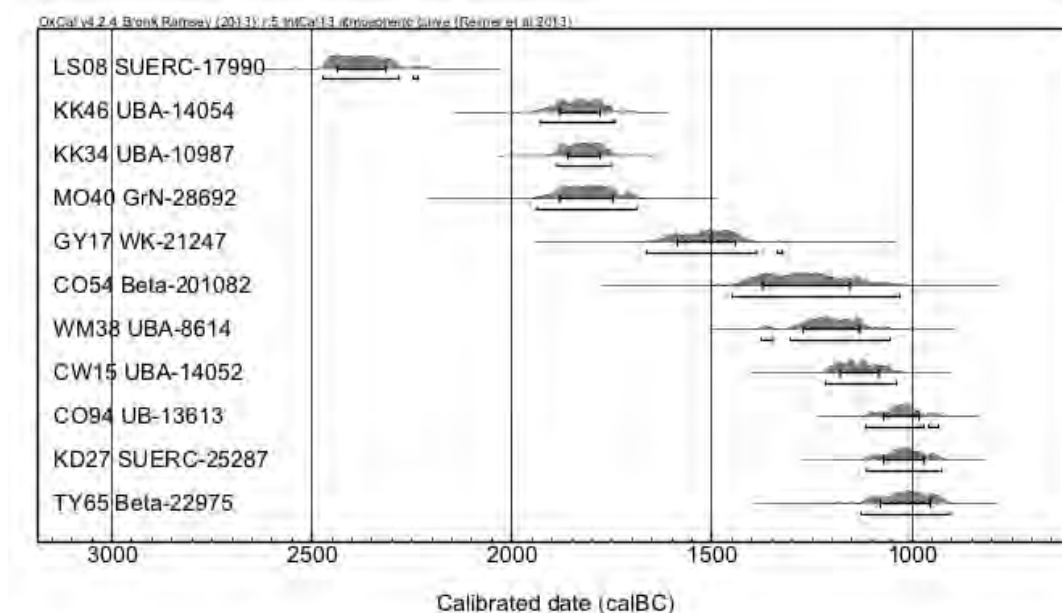


Fig 11.12. Radiocarbon dates from oval burnt mound structures.

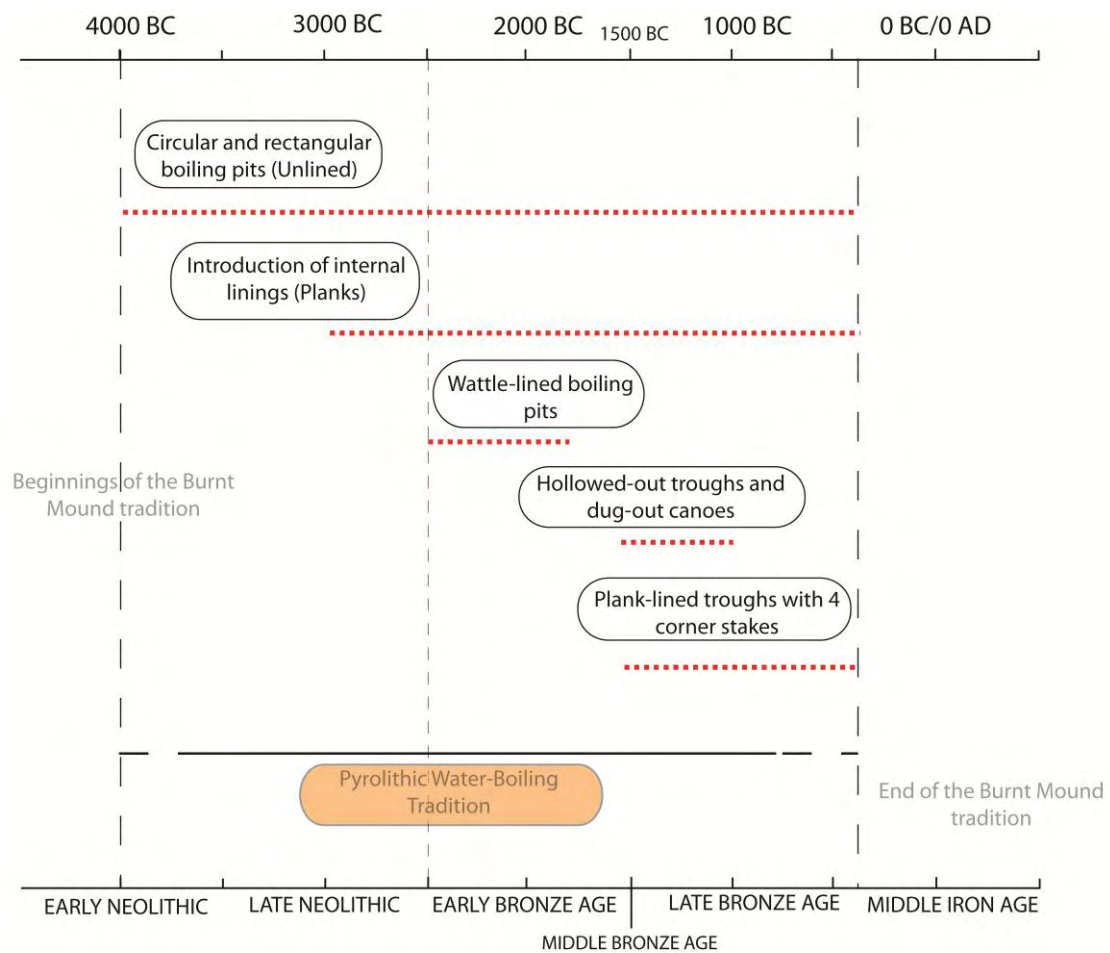


Fig 11.13. Proposed chronological development of trough lining methods in Ireland.

Site	County	Context Dated	Material	C14 Date
Scartbarry	Cork	Trough (basal fill)	Charcoal (Hazel)	1650–1190 BC
Scartbarry	Cork	Slot-trench	Charcoal (Hazel)	1440–1020 BC
Carrignafof	Cork	Slot-trench	Charcoal (Hazel)	1433–1271 BC
Carrignafof	Cork	Slot-trench (post-hole)	Charcoal (Hazel)	1509–1399 BC
Coolmoohan	Cork	Post-hole (structure)	Charcoal (Hazel)	1382–1134 BC
Coolmoohan	Cork	Associated Pit	Charcoal (Ash)	1121–935 BC
Cloughordan	Tipperary	Slot-trench	Charcoal (Unknown)	1190–920 BC
Cloughordan	Tipperary	Slot-trench (post-hole)	Charcoal (Unknown)	1210–940 BC

Table 10.12. Roofed ‘trough-structures’ associated with excavated burnt stone deposits in Ireland.

Site	County	Context Dated	Material	C14 Date
Blanchvillespark	Kilkenny	Post-hole (structure)	Charcoal (Hazel)	1400–1268 BC
Blanchvillespark	Kilkenny	Post-hole (structure)	Charcoal (Spindle)	1412–1269 BC
Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Stake-hole (structure)	Charcoal (Hazel)	775–417 BC
Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Associated pit	Charcoal (oak)	1014–844 BC
Ballykeoghan	Kilkenny	Stake (structure)	Wood (Oak)	1112–974 BC
Ballykeoghan	Kilkenny	Structure pit fill	Charcoal (Alder)	1053–838 BC
Burrow or Glennanumer	Offaly	Stake-hole (structure)	Charcoal (Alder)	1200–930 BC

Table 10.13. ‘Sunken-pit structures’ associated with excavated burnt stone deposits in Ireland.

Cat No.	Site	County	Stakes	Type
MO58	Fauleens	Mayo	Y (28 and 10)	A
MO59	Fauleens	Mayo	Y (13)	A
MN03	Monanny	Monaghan	Y (8)	A
WD13	Woodstown	Waterford	Y	A
WD19	Bawnfunne	Waterford	Y (6)	A
WD22b	Ballyduff East	Waterford	Y (8)	A
WD31	Monamintra	Waterford	Y (15)	A
WX06	Ask	Wexford	Y	A
WX21c	Raheenagurren West	Wexford	Y (30)	A
CW06	Busherstown	Carlow	Y	A
LD02	Lisnamuck	Longford	Y (5)	A
WW43	Ballyclough	Cork	Y (12)	A
WW43	Ballyclough	Cork	Y (6)	A
CO63	Scartbarry	Cork	Y (17)	A
TY66	Park 2	Tipperary	Y (17)	A
WW44b	Ballyclogh	Wicklow	Y (8)	A
SO16	Caltragh	Sligo	Y	A

Table 10.14. ‘Type A’ structures associated with burnt stone deposits in Ireland.

Cat No.	Site	County	Stakes	Type
GY31	Ballyglass	Galway	Y (16)	C
SO19b	Tonafortes	Sligo	Y (7)	C
WD23	Carriganard	Waterford	Y (22)	C
	Gortnaboul	Clare	Y	C
SO17	Magheraboy	Sligo	Y	C
WM38b	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Y (4)	C
DN01	Southern Cross	Dublin	y (94)	C
DN11	Knock	Dublin	Y (2)	C
CO43	Ballinaspig More 7	Cork	Y (14)	C
CO98	Castlecook	Cork	Y (22)	C
CO59	Mitchelstown	Cork	Y (25)	C
TY29	Lissava	Tipperary	Y	C
TY66	Park	Tipperary	Y	C
KK52	Danesfort	Kileknny	Y	C
CO62	Barnahely	Cork	Y	C

Table 10.16. ‘Type C’ structures associated with burnt stone deposits in Ireland.

Cat No.	Site	County	Stakes	Type
KY05	Buntalloon	Kerry	Y (9)	B
GY23	Moyveela	Galway	Y (2)	B
LS22a	Cappaloughlin	Laois	Y	B
CE16	Ballynagard	Clare	Y (3)	B
WM03	Dalystown	Westmeath	Y (2)	B
WM21	Seeoge	Westmeath	Y (2)	B
WM34b	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Y (4)	B
WM39	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Y (4)	B
KK16	Ballymountain	Kilkenny	Y (4)	B
KD25	Ballymount	Kildare	Y (8)	B
KD36	Woodlands East	Kildare	Y (4)	B
LK17	Rathbane South	Limerick	Y	B
KK20	Killaspy	Kilkenny	Y (3)	B
KK17	Killaspy	Kilkenny	Y (4)	B
CO10	Castleredmond	Cork	Y (4)	B
CO15	Castleview	Cork	Y (3)	B
CO46	Corrin	Cork	Y (5)	B
CO58	Fermoy wood	Cork	Y	B
TY29	Lissava	Tipperary	Y (8)	B
TY34	Clonmore North	Tipperary	Y	B
TY70	Greenhills 3	Tipperary	Y (3)	B
WW38	Cloghoge	Wicklow	Y (2)	B
CN07	Cootehill	Cavan	Y (2)	B
AH02	Lisdrumliska	Armagh	Y (1)	B
DW03	Edendariff	Down	Y (2)	B
TE03	Cavankilgreen	Tyrone	Y ?(2)	B

Table 10.15. ‘Type B’ structures associated with burnt stone deposits in Ireland.

Cat No.	Site	County	Stakes	Types D
GY11	Barnacragh	Galway	Y (57)	D
GY13	Urraghry	Galway	Y (6)	D
LM12a	Errew	Leitrim	Y?	D
LS20	Cannonswood	Laois	Y	D
MO01	Bofeenau	Mayo	Y	D
MO40	Carrowntreila	Mayo	Y (101)	D
MO56	Sonnagh	Mayo	Y (5)	D
MO58	Fauleens	Mayo	Y (28 and 10)	D
WD03	Ahanaglogh	Waterford	(Y5)	D

Cat No.	Site	County	Stakes	Types D
WD29	Greenan	Waterford	Y(8)	D
WX04	Coolamurry	Wexford	Y	D
WX08	Ballyellin	Wexford	Y (5)	D
WX09	Ballyloughan	Wexford	Y (86)	D
WX20	Raheenagurren West	Wexford	Y (38)	D
CE25	Cappagh Beg	Clare	Y (6)	D
WM09	Williamstown	Westmeath	Y (3)	D
KD21	Mullamast	Kildare	Y (25 and 19)	D
LK13	Rathbane South	Limerick	Y (12)	D
LK39	Clogh East	Limerick	Y	D
KK26	Islands	Kilkenny	Y	D
KK53	Danganbeg	Kilkenny	Y (20)	D
KK56	Kellymount 2	Kilkenny	Y (25)	D
KK57	Kellymount 3	Kilkenny	Y (9)	D
CO31	Muckridge	Cork	Y (85)	D
CO44	Aughinida	Cork	Y (7)	D
MH15	Cooksland	Meath	Y (10)	D
MH74	Johnstown	Meath	Y (22)	D
	Tankardstown	Louth	Y	D
WW29	Scratenagh	Wicklow	Y (9)	D
WW23	Charlesland	Wicklow	Y	D
MO73	Mullenmadoge	Mayo	Y (9)	D
WX19	Raheengureen	wexfod	Y 4	D
CE28	Carrowkilla	Clare	Y	D

Table 10.17. 'Type D' structures associated with burnt stone deposits in Ireland.

Cat No.	Site	County	Stakes	Types F
LS35b	Curragh	Laois	Y (7)	F
LK63	Brackbaun	Limerick	Y	F
CO28	Meenane	Cork	Possible	F
CO72	Ballynamona	Cork		F
	Scratenagh	Wicklow	Y (2)	F
GY34	Ardskeagh Beg	Galway	Y	F
LM06	Georgia	Leitrim	Y	F
LS35a	Curragh	Laois	Y (15 and 27)	F
LS35b	Curragh	Laois	Y (7)	F
MO46	Polldrain	Mayo	Y (6)	F
RM03	Hughestown	Roscommon	Y	F
RM13	Ardagawna	Roscommon	Y (24)	F
SO18	Magheraboy	Sligo	Y (9)	F
WX01	Dungeer	Wexford	Y (7)	F
WX05	Ask	Wexford	Y (67)	F
WX11	Clogh	Wexford	Y (14)	F
CW11	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Y (6)	F
WM52	Mearsparkfarm	Westmeath	Y (21)	F
WM56	Mearsparkfarm	Westmeath	Y (31)	F
KD08	Cherryville	Kildare	Y (25)	F
KD33	Moone	Kildare	Y	F
DN03	Kingstown	Dublin	Y (17)	F
DN08	Coldwinter	Dublin	Y (43) and 14	F
LK65	Richhill	Limerick	Y (7)	F
KK51	Blanchillespark 4	Kilkenny	Y (23)	F
	Meenane	Cork	Y (38)	F
CO97	Macronev Upper	Cork	Y (20)	F
CO97	Macronev Upper	Cork	Y (20)	F
TY71	Greenhills 2	Tipperary	Y (52)	F
MH13	Cloncowan	Meath	Y (8)	F
WW22	Charlesland CA1	Wicklow	Y (17)	F
AH01	Clarkill	Armagh	Y (7)	F
AH02	Lisdrumliska	Armagh	Y (7)	F
DW12	Edenderry	Down	Y (41) and 9	F
TE04	Drumnafern	Tyrone	Y (17)	F
TE07	Mullaghbane	Tyrone	Y (5)	F

Table 10.18. ‘Type F’ structures associated with burnt stone deposits in Ireland.



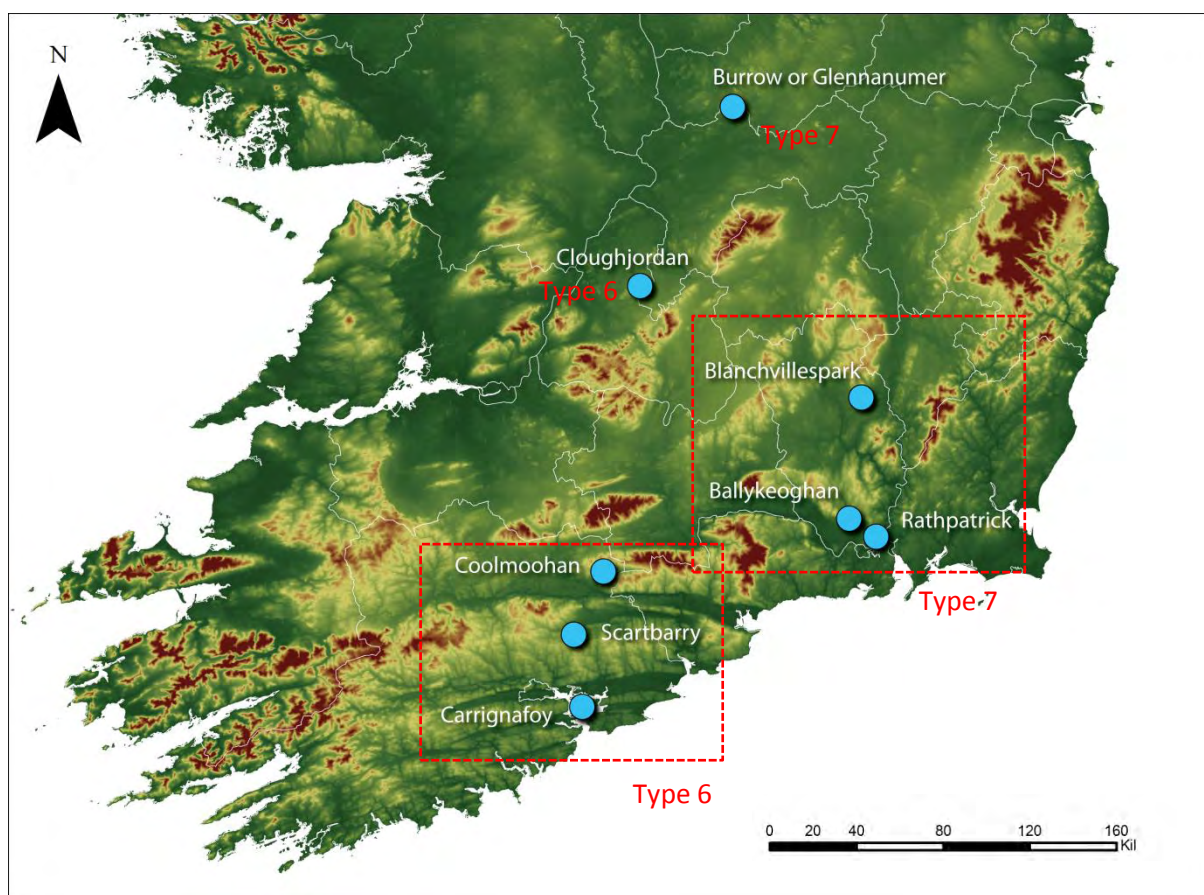


Fig 11.14. 'Type 6' and 'Type 7' burnt stones sites exhibiting tentative regional preferences.

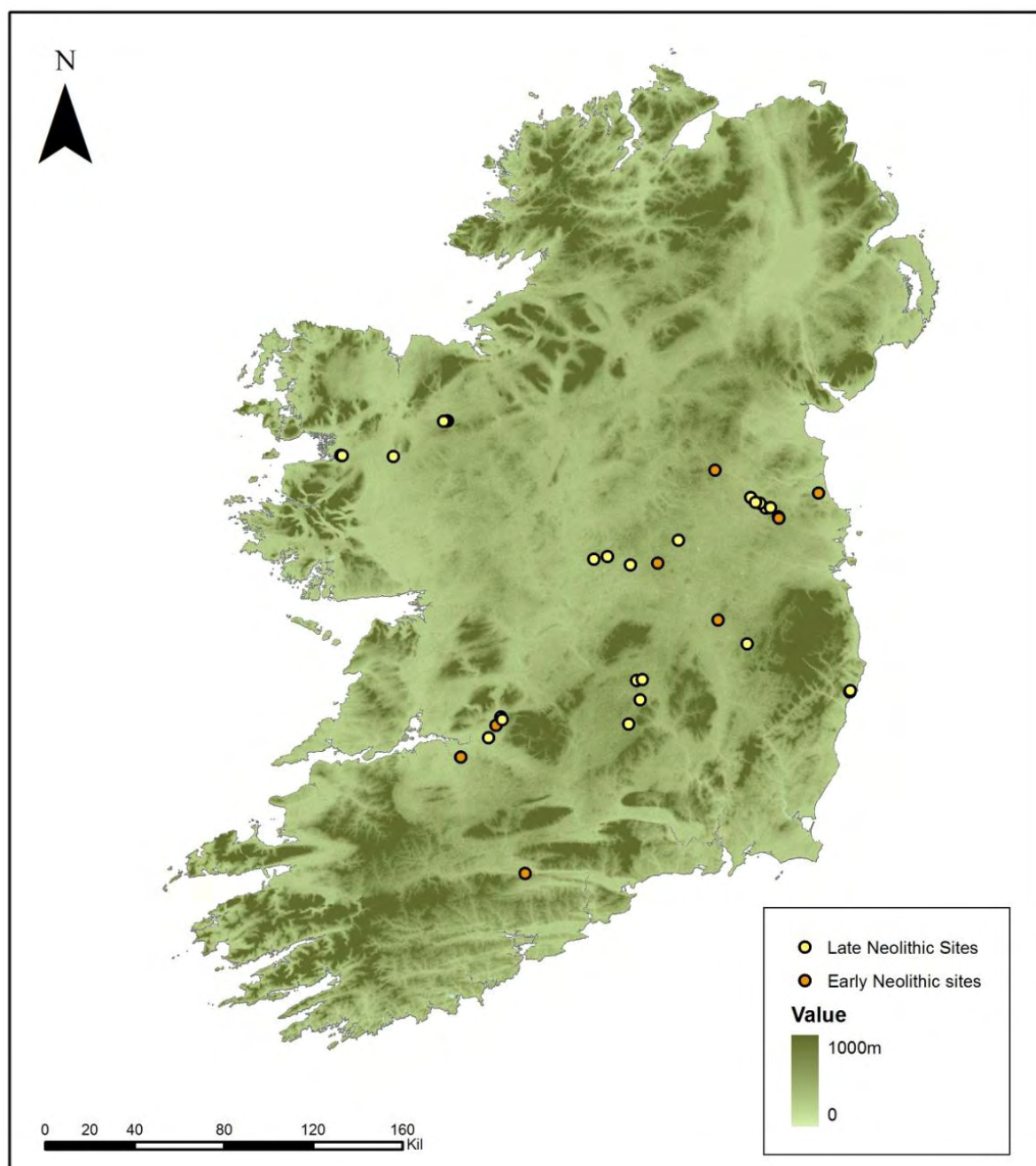


Fig 11.15. Distribution of Neolithic burnt stone sites in Ireland.

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
CN11	Kilduff	Cavan	Pit (charcoal) (Charcoal)	2458–2151 BC	B
LM05	Cloonturk*	Leitrim	Spread (charcoal)	2580–2400 BC	B
LM08	Moher	Leitrim	Spread (charcoal)	2620–2140 BC	B
LM10	Aghnahunshin*	Leitrim	Trough (charcoal) and Spread (charcoal)	2470–2200 BC	B
MO06	Ballinrobe Demesne	Mayo	Spread (charcoal)	2590–2205 BC	C
MO12	Coolroe	Mayo	Mound (Charcoal)	2571–2309 BC	B
MO20	Deerpark East	Mayo	Trough (charcoal) and deposit	2465–2205 BC	B
MO25	Attireesh	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	2575–2351 BC	B
MO26	Attireesh	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	2465–2299 BC	B
MO30	Gortroe	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	2465–2299 BC	B
MO31	Gortroe	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	2459–2147 BC	B
MO60	Fauleens	Mayo	Spread (charcoal)	2458–2286 BC	B
MO65	Cloonaghboy	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	2568–2347 BC	B
RM03	Hughestown	Roscommon	Trough (timber)	2456–2035 BC	A
RM14	Culiaghmore*	Roscommon	Trough (charcoal)	2286–2060 BC	B
RM20a	Bockagh	Roscommon	Burnt Mound	2461–2209 BC	E
SO17	Magheraboy*	Sligo	Spread (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2630–2450 BC	B
SO19b	Tonafortes	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	2400–2140 BC	B
WD16	Killoteran	Waterford	Trough stake	2460–2140 BC	A
WX12	Coolnastudd	Wexford	Trough (charcoal)	2460–2230 BC	B
WX17	Moneycross Upper	Wexford	Pit (charcoal)	2460–2150 BC	C
LS08	Addergoole	Laois	Spread (charcoal)	2480–2280 BC	B
LS10	Aghmacart	Laois	Spread (charcoal)	2400–2140 BC	B
LS11	Ballycuddahy	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2470–2230 BC	B
LS16b	Boherard	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2460–2190 BC	B
LS19	Bushfield	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2460–2130 BC	B
LS25	Clonboyne	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2480–2280 BC	B
LS35b	Curragh*	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2490–2290 BC	B
GY01a	Doughiska*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	2454–2140 BC	B
GY13	Urraghry	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	2574–2348 BC	B
GY14b	Doughiska	Galway	Spread (charcoal)	2566–2342 BC	C
GY18	Killescragh*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	2580–2015 BC	B
CE06	Killulla	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2600–2220 BC	B
CE09	Knockaun	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2580–2210 BC	B
CE15	Ballylean	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	2473–2293 BC	B
CE38	Cahircalla Beg*	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2550–2300 BC	C
CE43	Cahircalla More	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2470–2210 BC	B
CE43	Cahircalla More	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2450–2150 BC	B
CE43	Cahircalla More	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2330–2060 BC	B
CE43	Cahircalla More	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2290–2040 BC	B
CE52	Caheraphuca	Clare	Pit (charcoal)	2465–2299 BC	C
CE54	Caheraphuca	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	2458–2143 BC	B

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
LK19	Crabbsland	Limerick	Mound (charcoal)	2585–2145 BC	B
LK28	Adamswood	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	2480–2200 BC	B
LK33	Ballymackeamore	Limerick	Pit (charcoal)	2461–2204 BC	B
LK61	Coonagh West*	Limerick	Trough (timber)	2295–2064 BC	A
LK63c	Richill*	Limerick	Multiple	2457–2205 BC	B
LK64	Sallymount	Limerick	Spread (charcoal)	2470–2210 BC	B
LK65	Aughinish*	Limerick	Spread (charcoal)	2491–2292 BC	B
DN24	Ward Lower	Dublin	Trough (charcoal)	2470–2030 BC	B
WM06	Enniscoffey	Westmeath	unknown	2470–2230 BC	C
WM13	Newdown	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	2600–2220 BC	B
WM18	Marlinstown	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	2400–2140 BC	B
WM20	Kiltotan	Westmeath	Pit (charcoal)	2458–2150 BC	C
WM47	Ardnaglew*	Westmeath	Spread (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	2572–2460 BC	B
WM49a	Ballykilmore	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	2546–2293 BC	B
WM69	Skeahanagh*	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	2466–2203 BC	B
KD11	Loughlion	Kildare	Pit (charcoal)	2490–2120 BC	C
KD14	Ballynakill	Kildare	Spread (charcoal)	2460–1960 BC	C
KD17	Prumplestown*	Kildare	Multiple	2458–2137 BC	B
KD21	Mullamast*	Kildare	Trough (timber)	2550–2530 BC	A
KD22	Inchaquire*	Kildare	Trough (charcoal)	2460–2060 BC	B
KD24	Blackrath	Kildare	Spread (charcoal)	2470–2141 BC	B
KD26	Ballymount	Kildare	Post-hole (charcoal)	2470–2290 BC	C
KD32	Belan*	Kildare	Trough (charcoal) and human bone	2460–2150 BC	A
CO11	Ballyclogh	Cork	Trough (timber)	2460–2200 BC	A
CO31	Muckridge	Cork	unknown	2620–2280 BC	C
CO47	Corrin*	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2480–1970 BC	B
CO43	Ballinaspig More*	Cork	unknown	2540–2490 BC	C
CO49b	Fermoy	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2400–2140 BC	B
CO75	Ballyadam	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	2335–2063 BC	B
CO77	Ballyadam	Cork	Pit (charcoal)	2271–2028 BC	B
CO78	Ballyadam	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2203–1983 BC	B
CO95	Castlecooke	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2284–2059 BC	B
CO73a	Ballinglanna North	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2293–2140 BC	B
CO83	Ballinveiltig	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	2459–2204 BC	B
CO95	Castlecooke	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2284–2059 BC	B
KD08	Cherryville	Kildare	Pit (charcoal)	2500–2190 BC	C
KK13	Killaspy	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	2461–2211 BC	C
KK32	Ballyquirk	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2292–2143 BC	B
KK36	Danesfort	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	2467–2295 BC	C
KK38	Knockadrina*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2272–2039 BC	B
KK47	Stonecarthy West	Kilkenny	Mound (charcoal)	2398–2136 BC	B
KK49a	Ballykeoghan	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2348–2132 BC	B

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
KK52	Danesfort 2*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2464–2214B	B
KK54	Jordanstown 3*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	2457–2202BC	B
KK57	Kellymount 3*	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	2399–2154BC	C
KK58	Kellymount 6*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2273–2038BC	B
CW14	Moanduff 1*	Carlow	Trough (charcoal)	2464–2287BC	B
CW15	Moanmore 3*	Carlow	Mound and Trough (charcoal)	2577–2299BC	B
CW17	Tomard Lower*	Carlow	Trough (charcoal)	2575–2470BC	B
TY10	Killoran	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	2585–2195 BC	B
TY27	Tullaheedy*	Tipperary	unknown	2619–2202 BC	C
TY36	Coolderry 2*	Tipperary	Mound and Trough (charcoal)	2429–2151 BC	B
TY37	Coolderry*	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	2495–2153 BC	B
TY42a	Gortybrigane	Tipperary	Mound (charcoal)	2290–2030 BC	B
TY43	Cooleen*	Tipperary	unknown	2263–2030 BC	C
TY57	Ballytarsna	Tipperary	Trough (timber)	2460–2140 BC	A
TY61a	Borris	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	2486 – 2299	B
TY64a	Fennor*	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	2460 – 2130	B
OY11	Culleenwaine	Offaly	Trough (charcoal)	2462-2294	B
TY67	Greenhills 2*	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	2561-2299	B
TY71b	Greenhills 3	Tipperary	Hearth (charcoal)	2465-2243	A
MH04	Lisdornan*	Meath	Multiple	2460–2030 BC	A
MH15	Cooksland*	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	2565–2336 BC	C
MH31b	Ballinter	Meath	Mound (charcoal)	2620–2470 BC	B
MH33	Balreask*	Meath	Pit (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2480–2290 BC	B
MH50	Roestown*	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2402–2045 BC	B
MH54c	Chapelbride*	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	2465–2206 BC	B
MH63	Ardbraccan*	Meath	Multiple	2474–2210 BC	B
MH70	Williamstown	Meath	Mound (charcoal)	2465–2206 BC	B
MH71b	Williamstown	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	2402–2045 BC	C
MH73	Bennettstown	Meath	Mound (charcoal)	2461–2205 BC	B
MH76	Gainstown*	Meath	Mound and Pit (charcoal)	2566–2294 BC	B
MH77c	Kennastown	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2468–2208 BC	B
MH77d	Kennastown	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2402–2045 BC	B
MH78	Kennastown	Meath	Mound (charcoal)	2474–2210 BC	B
MH80	Raynestown	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	2343–2041 BC	C
MH81b	Townparks*	Meath	Multiple	2456–2059 BC	B
MH83a	Clowanstown 2	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	2576–2341 BC	B
MH83c	Clowanstown 2	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2457–2026 BC	B
WW	Scratenagh*	Wicklow	Hearth and Pit (charcoal)	2630–2350 BC	B
WW	Kilmurry North	Wicklow	Trough (charcoal)	2480–2030 BC	B

Table 10.19. Chalcolithic radiocarbon dates from *fulachtaí fia* and burnt stone deposits in Ireland (calibration after Oxcal v. 4.2). \* Numerous dates available

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
CN02	Derrygarra Upper	Cavan	Mound (charcoal)	2134–1972 BC	B
CN15	Putiaghan Upper	Cavan	Spread (charcoal)	2275–2041 BC	B
CN17	Putiaghan Upper	Cavan	Spread (charcoal)	2205–2039 BC	C
KY04b	Dromthacker	Kerry	Mound (charcoal)	2140–2080 BC	B
KY15	Buntalloon	Kerry	Pit (charcoal)	1744–1524 BC	C
KY06b	Cloghers	Kerry	Trough (charcoal)	2349–1940 BC	B
KY10a	Ballydowney	Kerry	Spread (charcoal)	1892–1540 BC	B
KY22	Caherleaheen*	Kerry	Pit(charcoal)	2130–1783 BC	C
LM01	Drumsna	Leitrim	Unknown	2040–1750 BC	C
LM03	Kiltycarney	Leitrim	Unknown	1900–1720 BC	C
LM12	Errew	Leitrim	Spread (charcoal)	2200–1960 BC	B
MO03	Lecarrow	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	2041–1892 BC	B
MO04	Lecarrow	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	2137–1945 BC	B
MO07	Ballinrobe Demesne	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	2198–1740 BC	B
MO14	Coolroe	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	2021–1747 BC	B
MO16	Deerpark East	Mayo	Trough stake	1879–1691 BC	A
MO18	Deerpark East	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	2129–1749 BC	B
MO40	Carrowntreila*	Mayo	Trough (charcoal) and Stake-Hole (charcoal)	1879–1744 BC	B
MO46	Polldrain*	Mayo	Trough (charcoal) and Pit(charcoal)	2280–1890 BC	B
MO51	Sonnagh	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	2134–1919 BC	B
MO53	Sonnagh	Mayo	Spread (charcoal)	1725–1612 BC	B
MO58	Fauleens*	Mayo	Stake from structure	1898–1746 BC	A
MO66	Cloonfane	Mayo	Spread (charcoal)	2014–1778 BC	B
MO70	Cranmore	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1867–1499 BC	B
MO71	Cranmore	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1729–1458 BC	B
MN05	Annahagh	Monnahan	Trough (charcoal)	2290–2020 BC	B
MN06	Tullyhirm	Monnahan	Spread (charcoal)	2140–1740 BC	B
MN07	Cloghvally Upper	Monnahan	Mound (charcoal)	1830–1600 BC	B
MN02	Monanny	Monnahan	Trough timber	1900–1100 BC	A
OY05	Ardan*	Offaly	Trough (charcoal)	2141–1944 BC	B
OY08b	Burrow or Glennanummer	Offaly	Pit(charcoal)	2277–2040 BC	C
RM12	Kilbegly*	Roscommon	Trough Timbers	2134–1944 BC	A
RM15b	Taduff East*	Roscommon	Trough (charcoal)	2263–2030 BC	B
RM16	Banda	Roscommon	Trough (charcoal)	2009–1771 BC	B
RM18	Bockagh	Roscommon	Trough stake	1900–1740 BC	A
RM21	Keelbanada	Roscommon	Spread (charcoal)	2018–1774 BC	B
RM22	Keelbanada	Roscommon	Trough (charcoal)	2195–1979 BC	B
SO05a	Ballinacar	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	1911–1729 BC	B
SO09	Caltragh	Sligo	Mound (charcoal)	2195–1861 BC	B
SO10	Caltragh	Sligo	Spread (charcoal)	2194–1834 BC	C
SO14	Caltragh	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	1910–1410 BC	B
SO18	Magheraboy*	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	2120–1890 BC	B

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
WD03	Ahanaglogh	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	2300–2040 BC	B
WD04	Graigueshoneen*	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	2210–2010 BC	B
WD06	Ahanaglogh	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	2040–1420 BC	B
WD07	Graigueshoneen	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1890–1210 BC	B
WD13	Woodstown	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1950–1750 BC	B
WD18	Bawnfunne	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1890–1690 BC	B
WD27	Carrickaready	Waterford	Spread (charcoal)	2127–1944 BC	B
CW03a	Johnstown*	Carlow	Pit (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2199–1924 BC	B
CW08	Rathcrogue	Carlow	Pit (charcoal)	2031–1770 BC	C
WX05	Ask	Wexford	Trough (charcoal)	2025–1695 BC	B
WX07	Ballyellin*	Wexford	Stake-Hole (charcoal)	2015–1752 BC	B
WX08	Ballyellin*	Wexford	Mound (charcoal) and Pit(charcoal)	2015–1754 BC	B
WX09	Ballyloughan*	Wexford	Trough (charcoal) and Stake-Hole (charcoal)	2191–1914 BC	B
WX10	Clogh	Wexford	Trough (charcoal)	1940–1760 BC	B
WX13	Coolnastudd	Wexford	Unknown	2271–2230 BC	C
WX14	Courteencurra	Wexford	Trough (charcoal)	2290–2030 BC	B
WX18a	Parkbaun	Wexford	Mound (charcoal)	2029–1755 BC	B
WX18b	Parkbaun	Wexford	Mound (charcoal)	1901–1637 BC	B
WX21c	Raheenagurren West	Wexford	Stake-Hole (charcoal)	2150–1960 BC	B
WX22	Tinnock Lower*	Wexford	Pit (charcoal)	2016–1744 BC	C
LS07	Addergoole*	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1960–1750 BC	B
LS14	Boherard*	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2350–2130 BC	B
LS15b	Boherard*	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2130–2080 BC	B
LS20	Cannonswood	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2330–1970 BC	B
LS22a	Cappaloughlin	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2180–2140 BC	B
LS22c	Cappaloughlin	Laois	Pit(charcoal)	1830–1620 BC	C
LS26	Clonrud	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2280–2030 BC	B
LS31	Corraun	Laois	Spread (charcoal) and Pit(charcoal)	2210–2010 BC	B
LS39	Leap	Laois	Spread (charcoal)	2280–2030 BC	B
LS40a	Oldglass*	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1830–1620 BC	B
LS40b	Oldglass	Laois	Spread (charcoal)	2020–1860 BC	B
LS41a	Oldglass	Laois	Spread (charcoal)	1750–1600 BC	B
LS41b	Oldglass	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	2040–1880 BC	B
GY06	Cloonbar	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	2030–1780 BC	B
GY11	Barnacragh	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	2115–1831 BC	B
GY12	Cooltymurraghy	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	2293–2042 BC	B
GY19	Killescragh*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	2280–926 BC	B
GY28	Caherweelder*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1944–1773 BC	B
GY29	Caherweelder*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	2264–1985 BC	B
GY31	Ballyglass West*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1740–1618 BC	B
CE08	Knockaun*	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1950–1530 BC	E

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
CE37	Shannakea Beg	Clare	Unknown	2036–1786 BC	C
CE42	Clareabbey	Clare	Pit(charcoal)	2200–1960 BC	C
CE45	Caheraphuca	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1877–1620 BC	B
CE48	Caheraphuca	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2340–2149 BC	B
CE51	Caheraphuca*	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2287–2140 BC	B
CE53	Caheraphuca	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	2204–1974 BC	B
CE55	Caheraphuca	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1730–1510 BC	B
CE63	Ballyline*	Clare	Troughs (charcoal)	2129–1828 BC	B
CE64	Drumminacloghaun	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2339–2042 BC	B
CE66	Clooneen	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	2132–1909 BC	B
CE67	Gortavoher	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	2023–1887 BC	B
CE68	Monreagh	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1871–1665 BC	B
CE69	Gortaficka*	Clare	Pit(charcoal)	2287–2137 BC	C
LK01	Raheen*	Limerick	Stake and plank (timber)	2049–1878 BC	A
LK17	Rathbane South*	Limerick	Trough (charcoal) and Mound (charcoal)	2199–1983 BC	B
LK20	Peafield	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	2030–1895 BC	B
LK30	Ballincurra	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	2135–1934 BC	B
LK32	Ballymackeamore	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	2200–1950 BC	B
LK43	Dollas Upper	Limerick	Mound (charcoal)	2360–2140 BC	B
LK45	Inchagreenoge*	Limerick	Trough (charcoal) and stake	2198–1967 BC	A
LK46	Inchagreenoge	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	1966–1744 BC	B
LK49	Kilfinny	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	2200–1950 BC	B
DN06	Newtown	Dublin	Trough (charcoal)	2285–1926 BC	B
DN08	Coldwinters	Dublin	Trough (charcoal)	1922–1618 BC	B
DN15	Carrickmines Great*	Dublin	Trough (charcoal)	2200–2010 BC	B
DN16	Laughanstown*	Dublin	Trough (charcoal)	2140–1890 BC	B
WM02	Ballynagarbry	Westmeath	Unknown	1740–1510 BC	C
WM14	Heathstown	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	2020–1770 BC	B
WM15	Heathstown	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal) and Trough Stake	2200–1890 BC	B
WM16	Newtown	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	1700–1520 BC	B
WM30	Cregganmacar	Westmeath	Spread (charcoal)	2015–1886 BC	B
WM33	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Spread (charcoal)	1880–1690 BC	B
WM34a	Kilbeg*	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	2188–1980 BC	B
WM34b	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	2136–1960 BC	B
WM35	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Spread (charcoal)	2339–2153 BC	B
WM36	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	2122–1921 BC	B
WM37b	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal) and Trough stake	2137–1939 BC	A
WM38c	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Pit(charcoal)	2292–2142 BC	B
WM39	Kilbeg*	Westmeath	Trough (timber)	1923–1744 BC	A
WM40	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)s and Pit(charcoal)	2196–2029 BC	B
WM41a	Correagh*	Westmeath	Pit(charcoal)	2032–1899 BC	C



Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
WM42	Kilgaroan	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	2023–1894 BC	B
WM43	Kilgaroan	Westmeath	Pit (charcoal)	2134–1937 BC	E
WM44	Tonaphort*	Westmeath	Pit(charcoal)	2296–2029 BC	C
WM45	Kilbeggan South*	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	2200–1980 BC	B
WM48	Ballykilmore	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1887–1744 BC	B
WM49b	Ballykilmore	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	1874–1641 BC	B
WM55	Mearsparkfarm*	Westmeath	Pit(charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2273–2257 BC	B
WM56	Hallsfarm*	Westmeath	Pit(charcoal)	2139–1983 BC	C
WM57	Hallsfarm*	Westmeath	Pit(charcoal)	2135–1956 BC	C
KD07	Cherryville	Kildare	Pit(charcoal)	1940–1620 BC	C
KD12	Kilmorebrannagh	Kildare	Trough (charcoal) and Stake-Hole (charcoal)	2130–1760 BC	B
KD15	Ballyburn Lower*	Kildare	Mound (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	1900–1700 BC	B
KD18	Ballyburn Lower*	Kildare	Trough (charcoal)	2131–1907 BC	B
KD23	Inchaquire	Kildare	Trough (charcoal)	2140–1880 BC	B
KD28	Kilgowen	Kildare	Spread (charcoal)	2210–2030 BC	B
KD29	Old Kilcullen	Kildare	Trough (charcoal)	2210–1930 BC	B
KD34	Gallowshill	Kildare	Drain	2280–1940 BC	D
KD36	Woodlands East	Kildare	Hearth and Trough (timber)	2020–1770 BC	A
CO14	Clashroe	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	1910-1730 B	C
CO32	Maglin	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	1760-1500 BC	B
CO49c	Fermoy	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2280–1870 BC	B
CO52	Lisnagar Demesne	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1950-1670 BC	B
CO54	Scartbarry*	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	1940-1630 BC	B
CO59	Mitchelstown	Cork	Pit(charcoal)	1916-1696 BC	C
CO60	Mitchelstown	Cork	Stake-Hole (charcoal)	2122-1828 BC	B
CO61	Stagpark	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	2023-1773 BC	B
CO64	Fermoy*	Cork	Pit(charcoal)	2335-2036 BC	C
CO65	Carrigane	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2139-1937 BC	B
GY39	Cloondarone	Galway	Spread (charcoal)	2127-1891 BC	B
CO69	Kildrum*	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	2138–1978 BC	B
CO75	Ballyadam	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	2335–2063 BC	B
CO76	Ballyadam*	Cork	Pit(charcoal)	2033–1770 BC	C
CO77	Ballyadam	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	2271–2028 BC	B
CO78	Ballyadam	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	2203–1983 BC	B
CO87	Ballynacorra West	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	2150–1970 BC	B
CO101	Coole Lower	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	2015–1784 BC	B
CO93	Walshtown Beg	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1939–1772 BC	B
CO73	Ballinlanna North	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	2293–2140 BC	B
KK18	Rathpatrick*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1931–1740 BC	B
KK24a	Islands	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2120–1880 BC	B
KK28a	Warrenstown	Kilkenny	Trough peg	2120–1880 BC	A
KK28b	Warrenstown	Kilkenny	Mound (Charcoal)	2130–1880 BC	B

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
KK31	Ballinvally	Kilkenny	Pit(charcoal)	1894–1743 BC	C
KK33b	Ballyquirk	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1752–1628 BC	B
KK34a	Baysrath	Kilkenny	post-hole	1887–1751 BC	C
KK36	Danesfort	Kilkenny	Pit(charcoal)	2467–2295 BC	B
KK41b	Rathcash	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2024–1883 BC	B
KK42	Rathcash East*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2281–2042 BC	B
KK45	Rathduff Upper*	Kilkenny	Pit(charcoal)	2134–1937 BC	C
KK46	Rathgarvin/Clifden *	Kilkenny	Pit(charcoal) and Mound (charcoal)	1927–1746 BC	B
KK47	Stonecarthy West *	Kilkenny	Mound (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2398–2136 BC	B
KK48	Knocktopher Commons	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	1879–1690 BC	B
KK50	Blanchvillespark 4	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1895–1753BC	B
KK36	Danesfort 2*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal) and well	2464–2214B	B
KK55	Kellymount 1	Kilkenny	Pit(charcoal)	2140–1966BC	C
KK58a	Kellymouny 2*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	2133–1940BC	B
CW17	Tomard Lower*	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	2575–2470BC	C
TY02	Killoran	Tipperary	Unknown	2138–1935 BC	C
TY22	Coolaholloga	Tipperary	Spread (charcoal)	2281–2044 BC	B
TY24c	Richmond/Gortlandroe	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	2139 – 1949 BC	B
TY30	Lissava	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1934 – 1748 BC	B
TY43	Cooleen*	Tipperary	Mound (charcoal) and Pit(charcoal)	2263 – 2030 BC	B
TY45	Annaholty	Tipperary	Pit(charcoal)	2131 – 1912 BC	B
TY61	Borris	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1880– 1660 BC	B
TY67	Greenhills 1	Tipperary	Pit(charcoal)	2133-1950 BC	C
TY68	Greenhills 2	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal) and Pit(charcoal)	2561-2299 BC	B
TY69	Greenhills 3	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1876-1683 BC	B
MH01	Sheephouse	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2029–1777 BC	B
MH04	Lisdornan*	Meath	Burnt Mound (charcoal) and Trough stake	2460–2030 BC	A
MH11	Arodstown*	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2290–2010 BC	B
MH12	Arodstown	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2280–2030 BC	B
MH13	Cloncowan	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2290–1920 BC	B
MH14	Clonymeath*	Meath	Mound (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2285–2041 BC	B
MH23	Baltrasna	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2140–1940 BC	B
MH24	Harlockstown*	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2290–1970 BC	B
MH30	Carranstown	Meath	Trough (timber)	2031–1933 BC	B
MH31a	Ballinter	Meath	Mound (Charcoal)	1770–1620 BC	B
MH31c	Ballinter	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2030–1870 BC	B
MH32	Balgeeth*	Meath	Trough (charcoal) and Spread (charcoal)	2130–1900 BC	B
MH33	Balreask*	Meath	Pit(charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2480–2290 BC	B

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context dated	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
MH36	Kilmessan*	Meath	Burnt Mound (charcoal)	2030–1880 BC	B
MH37	Killeen	Meath	burnt Mound (charcoal)	2008–1767 BC	B
MH38	Athronan*	Meath	Trough (charcoal) and Pit(charcoal)	1930–1750 BC	B
MH39	Athronan	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2120–1890 BC	B
MH41	Leshemstown	Meath	Stake-Hole (charcoal)	1880–1680 BC	B
MH42	Randalstown	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2120–1890 BC	B
MH43	Bracetown*	Meath	Mound (charcoal)	2135–1908 BC	B
MH45	Cookstown	Meath	Pit(charcoal)	1877–1613 BC	C
MH47	Boyerstown	Meath	Pit(charcoal)	2010–1760 BC	C
MH48	Boyerstown	Meath	Mound (charcoal)	2287–2035 BC	B
MH55	Drumbaragh*	Meath	Burnt Mound (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	2016–1756 BC	B
MH56	Castlekeeran	Meath	Burnt Spread (charcoal)	2030–1774BC	B
MH66	Drumree	Meath	Cremation Pit(charcoal)	2130–1773 BC	D
MH67	Berrilstown	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	2285–2035 BC	B
MH68	Leshamstown	Meath	Trough (charcoal) and Pit(charcoal)	2131–1886 BC	B
MH75a	Gainstown	Meath	Pit(charcoal)	1963–1745 BC	B
MH77e	Kennastown	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	2203–1973 BC	B
MH79	Knocks	Meath	Pit(charcoal)	2293–2036 BC	C
WW28	Ballinaskea	Wicklow	Trough (charcoal)	2210 – 2010 BC	B
WW34	Cranagh	Wicklow	Trough (charcoal)	2130–1880 BC	B
WW35b	Ballynapark	Wicklow	Trough (charcoal)	1890–1680 BC	B
WW40a	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	Trough (charcoal)	2020–1770 BC	B
WW42b	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	Trough (timber)	1920–1690 BC	A
WW51	Coolacork*	Wicklow	Trough (timbers)	2130–1780 BC	A

Table 10.20. Early Bronze Age radiocarbon dates from *fulachtaí fia* and burnt stone deposits in Ireland (calibration after Oxcal v. 4.2). \* Numerous dates available

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
CN10	Straheglin	Cavan	Well (charcoal)	1599–1425 BC	C
CE01	Fahee South	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1409–1212 BC	B
CE04	Clonmoney North	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1490–1200 BC	B
CE07	Killulla	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1680–1390 BC	B
CE05	Killulla	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1400–1030 BC	B
CE16	Ballynagard*	Clare	Trough (charcoal) and Mound (charcoal)	1518–1407 BC	B
CE23	Cahiracon	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	1520–1120 BC	B
CE24	Cahiracon	Clare	Unknown	1731–1517 BC	C
CE28	Carrowkilla	Clare	Pit (charcoal)	1690–1310 BC	C
CE29	Cragbrien	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	1372–1100 BC	
CE35	Mount	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1631–1440 BC	C
CE55	Caheraphuca*	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1730–1510 BC	B
CE56	Rathwilladoon	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	1601–1436 BC	B
CE59	Monreagh	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1409–1269 BC	
CE60	Srangalloon*	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1433–1313 BC	B
CE64b	Curtaun	Clare	Pit (charcoal)	1608–1459 BC	B
CE68	Gortaficka	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1496–1409 BC	B
KY05	Buntalloon	Kerry	Trough (charcoal)	1744–1524 BC	B
KY10	Ballydowney	Kerry	Hearth	1490–1200 BC	A
KY13	Garraunderragh	Kerry	Mound (charcoal)	1530–1400 BC	B
KY02	Rathmore	Kerry	Trough timber	1942–1185 BC	A
LMO7	Moher a-b	Leitrim	Multiple	1610–1390 BC	B
GY01c	Doughiska	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1516–1168 BC	B
GY08	Furzypark	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1611–1443 BC	B
GY10	Clogharevaun	Galway	Mound (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	1496–1373 BC	B
GY14	Doughiska*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1494–1397 BC	B
GY17	Caraun More	Galway	Trough timber	1667–1393 BC	A
GY18	Killescragh	Galway	Timber Platform	1394–1132 BC	A
GY19	Killescragh*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1610–1410 BC	B
GY27	Caherweelder	Galway	Trough (charcoal) and Mound (charcoal)	1668–1501 BC	B
GY28	Caherweelder	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	1448–1316 BC	B
GY31	Ballyglass West*	Galway	Trough (charcoal) and Mound (charcoal)	1740–1618 BC	B
GY33	Annagh Hill	Galway	Pit (charcoal)	1367–1117 BC	C
GY34	Ardskeagh Beg	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	1878-1691 BC	B
GY35	Cloondarone A	Galway	Spread (charcoal)	1668-1519 BC	B
GY36	Cloondarone 3	Galway	Spread (charcoal)	1432-1312 BC	B
GY37	Cloondarone 4	Galway	Spread (charcoal)	1497-1321 BC	B
GY38	Cloodarone 5	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	1437-1313 BC	B
GY43	Cloondarone 12	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	1426-1308 BC	B
LS16a	Boherard	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1620–1440 BC	B

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
LS23	Clonadacasey	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1670–1490 BC	B
LS28	Coolfin*	Laois	Well (charcoal) and linear feature	1520–1400 BC	B
LS42	Shanboe*	Laois	Trough (charcoal) and Well (charcoal)	1510–1380 BC	B
LS44	Shanboe	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1600–1420 BC	B
LS45	Springfield	Laois	Pit (charcoal)	1690–1510 BC	C
MN04	Annahagh	Monnaghan	Trough (charcoal)	1690–1490 BC	B
MO13	Coolroe	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1387–1215 BC	B
MO16	Deerpark East	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1691–1433 BC	B
MO29	Gortroe	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	1603–1433 BC	B
MO23	Carrowmore	Mayo	Pit (charcoal)	1520–1390 BC	C
M48a	Sonnagh	Mayo	Trough timber	1492–1413 BC	A
M48a	Sonnagh*	Mayo	Pit (charcoal)	1413–1212 BC	C
	Sonnagh	Mayo	Trough timber	1368–1132 BC	A
MO52	Sonnagh	Mayo	Trough timber	1401–1294 BC	A
MO54	Sonnagh	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	1528–1214 BC	B
MO56	Sonnagh	Mayo	Post	1660–1527 BC	A
	Cloonmeen West	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1390–1054 BC	B
OY06	Burrow or Glennanummer	Offaly	Multiple	1408–1132 BC	B
	Cranmore	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1729–1458 BC	B
OY04	Ardan*	Offaly	Trough (charcoal)	1634–1444 BC	B
OY07	Burrow or Glennanummer	Offaly	Trough (charcoal)	1372–1129 BC	B
RM06	Cloongownagh	Roscommon	Spread (charcoal)	1620–1310 BC	B
RM17	Bockagh*	Roscommon	Trough (charcoal)	1489–1317 BC	B
SO06	Caltragh	Sligo	Mound (charcoal)	1741–1516 BC	B
SO07	Caltragh*	Sligo	Mound (charcoal)	1737–1459 BC	B
SO14	Caltragh	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	1910–1410 BC	B
SO15	Caltragh	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	1630–1400 BC	B
WD02	Ahanaglogh	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1690–1500 BC	B
WD07	Graigueshoneen	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1890–1210 BC	B
WD16	Killoteran*	Waterford	Mound (charcoal)	1490–1120 BC	B
WD24	Glencove	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1608–1433 BC	B
WD26a	Shanakill	Waterford	Mound (charcoal)	1436–1316 BC	B
LK35	Ballynacragga*	Limerick	Multiple	1517–1413 BC	B
LK52	Leahys*	Limerick	Trough (charcoal) and hearth		B
LK60	Coonagh West	Limerick	Spread (charcoal)	1491–1319 BC	B
LK61	Coonagh West	Limerick	linear	1604–1434 BC	D
LK62	Brackbaun	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	1634–1454 BC	B
LK64	Lisnagry	Limerick	Trough (charcoal) and Mound (charcoal)	1614–1463 BC	B
LK67	Gardenhill	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	1380–1120 BC	B
LK68	Gortnahagh	Limerick	Mound (charcoal) and	1750–1540 BC	B

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
			Trough (charcoal)s		
CW12	Cranavonane	Carlow	Mound (charcoal)	1386–1135 BC	B
WX02	Ballyvergin	Wexford	Pit (charcoal)	1650–1420 BC	C
WX07	Ballyellin*	Wexford	Mound (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	1603–1388 BC	B
WX15	Killybegs*	Wexford	Trough (charcoal) and Spread (charcoal)	1406–1060 BC	B
KK03	Bonnetstown	Kilkenny	Spread (charcoal)	1604–1438 BC	B
KK05	Grange*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1617–1407 BC	B
KK12	Kilmurry	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1506–1410 BC	B
KK14	Ballynamona*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal) and channel	1634–1507 BC	B
KK16	Ballymountain	Kilkenny	Mound (charcoal)	1536–1422 BC	B
KK20	Killaspy*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1749–1536 BC	B
KK23	Newrath	Kilkenny	Hearth	1413–1289 BC	A
KK24b	Islands	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1740–1520 BC	B
KK25	Isalnds	Kilkenny	Mound (charcoal)	1670–1490 BC	B
KK27	Isalnds*	Kilkenny	Mound (charcoal)	1610–1410 BC	B
KK29d	Foulkscourt	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	1730–1510 BC	C
KK29g	Foulkscourt	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	1400–1130 BC	C
KK33b	Ballyquirk	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1617–1494 BC	B
KK35	Blanchvillespark*	Kilkenny	Structure (charcoal)	1412–1269 BC	B
KK41a	Rathcash	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1727–1530 BC	B
KK43	Rathduff Upper*	Kilkenny	burnt Mound (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	1610–1460 BC	B
KK44	Rathduff Bayley	Kilkenny	Mound (charcoal)	1607–1455 BC	B
KK45	Rathduff Upper	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	1497–1417 BC	C
CW13	Bannagagole	Carlow	Trough (charcoal)	1679–1519	B
KK56	Kellymount 2	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1679–1523BC	B
WM02	Ballynagarbry	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1740–1510 BC	B
WM16	Newtown	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	1700–1520 BC	B
WM17	Newtown	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1420–1260 BC	B
WM22	Seeoge	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1616–1457 BC	B
WM24	Boyanaghcalry*	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1605–1428 BC	B
WM25e	Williamstown	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	1605–1420 BC	B
WM31	Cregganmacar*	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1431–1313 BC	B
WM33	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Pit (charcoal)	1375–1056 BC	C
WM41b	Correagh	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal) and Spread (charcoal)	1389–1213 BC	B
WM44	Tonaphort	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal) and post-hole	1499–1301 BC	B
MH52	Mearsparkfarm*	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	1736–1531 BC	B
MH55	Mearsparkfarm	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	1410–1269 BC	B
WM58	Kilavally	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1521–1428 BC	B
WM60	Stonehouse Farm	Westmeath	Pit (charcoal)	1630–1450 BC	C

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
KD09a	Cherryville	Kildare	Pit (charcoal)	1540–1370 BC	C
KD22	Inchaquire	Kildare	Trough (charcoal) and cist	1670–1430 BC	B
MH01b	Sheephouse	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	1415–1220 BC	B
MH03	Sarsfieldstown*	Meath	Trough (charcoal) and linear	1450–1110 BC	B
MH08	Rathmullan	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	1630–1400 BC	C
MH43	Bracetown	Meath	Mound (charcoal)	1387–1129 BC	B
MH54a	Chapelbride	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	1612–1433 BC	B
MH59	Philpotstown*	Meath	Multiple	1608–1417 BC	B
MH64	Ardbraccan*	Meath	Trough (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	1601–1392 BC	B
MH71a	Williamstown or Bawn	Meath	Well (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	1379–1117 BC	B
MH72	Bennettstown	Meath	Spread (charcoal)	1626–1440 BC	B
MH74	Johnstown	Meath	Well (charcoal)	1408–1132 BC	C
LH23	Faugart Lower	Louth	Hearth	1390–1120 BC	A
TY01	Derryfadda	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1400–990 BC	B
TY03	Killoran	Tipperary	Trackway	1590–1570 BC	A
TY05	Killoran	Tipperary	platform	1425–1120 BC	A
TY08	Killoran	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1750–1410 BC	B
TY28	Raheen*	Tipperary	burnt Mound (charcoal) and Trough (charcoal)	1748 – 1536 BC	B
TY29	Lissava	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1411 – 1210 BC	B
TY33	Lissava	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1685 – 1512 BC	B
TY34	Clonmore North*	Tipperary	Mound (charcoal) and structure	1525 – 1412	B
TY39	Gortybrigane*	Tipperary	Mound (charcoal) and Spread (charcoal)	1403 – 1262 BC	B
TY44	Annaholty*	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal), Mound (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	1496 – 1401 BC	B
TY45	Annaholty*	Tipperary	wooden feature	1524 – 1414 BC	A
TY46	Annaholty	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1612 – 1501 BC	B
TY49a	Killalane	Tipperary	Spread (charcoal)	1501 – 1418 BC	B
TY66	Park 2*	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal) and Well (charcoal)	1508–1422 BC	B
TY60	Rathcunikeen	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal) and Pit (charcoal)	1729-1534 BC	B
TY62	Borris*	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1740 – 1520 BC	B
TY54	Carrigatogher Harding site 6	Tipperary	Post	1400-1130 BC	B
TY69	Camlin 1	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal) and Well (charcoal)	1530-1410 BC	B
CO04	Killeens	Cork	Trough timber	1460-1240 BC	A
CO05	Killeens	Cork	Trough timber	1610-1450 BC	A
CO09	Kilcor south	Cork	Trough timber	1300-1170 BC	A
CO13	Dromnea	Cork	Hearth	1440-1260 BC	A

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
CO14	Clashroe	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1390-1120 BC	B
CO21	Killalough	Cork	Trough timber	1535 BC	A
CO22	Ballinvinnny	Cork	Hearth	1640-1490 BC	A
CO32	Maglin	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	1760-1500 BC	B
CO30	Clashadunna	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1410-1120 BC	B
CO49	Fermoy	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1750-1440 BC	B
CO51	Kilbrien	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1760-1420 BC	B
CO54	Scartbarry*	Cork	Multiple	1650-1190	B
CO55	Barrees	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	1630-1460 BC	B
CO57	Garranes*	Cork	Multiple	1681-1516 BC	B
CO66	Carrigane	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1608-1437 BC	B
CO67	Carrigane	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	1415-1219 BC	B
CO82	Cappagh	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	1527-1427 BC	B
CO85	Castlemary	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	1500-1310 BC	B
CO86	Castlemary	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	1690-1500 BC	B
CO97	Macronev Upper	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1734-1537	B
CO99	Killeagh	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1610-1456	B
CO72	Ballynamona 2*	Cork	Trough (charcoal) and Mound (charcoal)	1492-1316	B
WW28	Ballinaskea*	Wicklow	Pit (charcoal)	1430 – 1120	C
WW30	Scratenagh	Wicklow	Spread (charcoal)	1610-1250 BC	C
WW37e	Ballynapark	Wicklow	Spread (charcoal)	1520-1390	B
WW41	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	platform	1400-1050BC	A
WW43	Ballyclogh North*	Wicklow	Multiple	1420-1200	B
WW49	Ballyvaltron	Wicklow	Spread (charcoal)	1730-1440	B

Table 10.21. Middle Bronze Age radiocarbon dates from *fulachtaí fía* and burnt stone deposits in Ireland (calibration after Oxcal v. 4.2). \* Numerous dates available



## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
LSO2	Clonaddoran	Laois	Trough (timber)	961 BC	A
CN03	Drumbo 1	Cavan	Mound (charcoal)	906–814 BC	A
CN04	Drumbo 2	Cavan	Trough (timber)	959 BC ±9 BC	A
CN05	Drumcalpin	Cavan	Trough (stake)	1154–932 BC	A
CN14	Bun	Cavan	Spread (charcoal)	997–841 BC	B
CE05	Killulla	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1120–820 BC	B
CE08	Knockaun	Clare	Trough (timber)	1300–930 BC	A
CE10	Smithstown	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	820–770 BC	B
CE11	Smithstown	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1140–800 BC	B
CE20	Cahiracon*	Clare	Trough (timber)	1000–830 BC	A
CE22	Cahiracon*	Clare	Trough (timber)	900–790 BC	A
CE33	Lisheen	Clare	Pit (charcoal)	1020–830 BC	C
CE34	Lisheen	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	1065–910 BC	B
CE39	Killow	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	920–800 BC	B
CE47	Caheraphuca	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	1299–1024	B
CE41	Clareabbey	Clare	Spread (charcoal)	1000–820 BC	B
CE49	Caheraphuca*	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	1007–850 BC	B
CE55	Caheraphuca	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	1108–922 BC	B
CE58	Derrygarraiff	Clare	Trough (charcoal)	1006–850 BC	B
CE59	Monreagh	Clare	Pit (charcoal)	975–832 BC	C
CE67b	Monreagh	Clare	Mound (charcoal)	925–802 BC	B
GY14	Doughiska*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1124–846 BC	B
GY14	Doughiska	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	904–802 BC	B
GY16	Caraun More	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1120–910 BC	B
GY19	Killescragh	Galway	Trackway (timber)	1190–926 BC	C
GY23	Moyveela	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	1010–909 BC	B
GY25	Caherweelder	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	974–831 BC	B
GY28	Caherweelder*	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1125–947 BC	B
GY26	Caherweelder	Galway	Spread (charcoal)	1192–1005	B
GY30	Roevehagh	Galway	Pit (charcoal)	976–832 BC	C
GY32a	Dunlo	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	1058–901 BC	B
KY03	Coarhamore	Kerry	Mound (charcoal)	960–930 BC	D
KY12	Farranastack	Kerry	Trough (charcoal)	1100–900 BC	B
KY14	Garraunderragh	Kerry	Trough (charcoal)	1000–790 BC	B
KY16	Kilmaniheen West	Kerry	Trough (charcoal)	1130–920 BC	B
KY17	Kilmaniheen West	Kerry	Mound (charcoal)	1010–830 BC	B

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
KY20	Skahanagh	Kerry	Trough (charcoal)	996–837 BC	B
LS07	Addergoole*	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1020–830 BC	B
LS21	Cappaloughlin	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1160–920 BC	B
LS24a	Clonadacasey*	Laois	Well (charcoal)	1010–830 BC	C
LS32	Cross	Laois	Trough (charcoal)	1000–830 BC	B
LS33	Cuffsborough*	Laois	Well (charcoal)	1010–830 BC	C
LS34	Cuffsborough	Laois	Pit (charcoal)	1120–900 BC	C
LS43	Shanboe	Laois	Spread (charcoal)	1220–990 BC	B
LM12	Errew	Leitrim	Spread (charcoal)	1000–830 BC	C
MO01	Bofeenaun	Mayo	Trough (timber)	1290–939 BC	A
MO22	Deerpark East	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1261–939 BC	B
MO23	Attireesh	Mayo	Trough (charcoal)	1187–971 BC	B
MO44	Grallagh	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	1010–830 BC	C
MO48b	Sonnagh	Mayo	Pit (charcoal)	1044–805 BC	C
MO72	Mullenmadoge	Mayo	Stake-hole (charcoal)	1117–922 BC	A
MO73	Mullenmadoge	Mayo	Stake-hole (charcoal)	1115–841 BC	A
MN03	Monanny	Monnaghan	Trough (timber)	1320–890 BC	A
OY07	Burrow	Offaly	Trough (timber)	1268–1118 BC	A
OY08	Burrow*	Offaly	Structure (charcoal)	1200–930 BC	A
RMO9	Currinah	Roscommon	Post-hole (charcoal)	839–799 BC	A
RM11	Currinah	Roscommon	Post (timber)	1208–1049 BC	A
RM10	Currinah	Roscommon	Trough (charcoal)	1306–1005 BC	B
SO16a	Caltragh	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	1000–800 BC	B
SO18	Magheraboy*	Sligo	Trough (charcoal)	1270–910 BC	B
WD04	Graigueshoneen*	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1390–820 BC	B
WD09	Scrahane	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1100–900 BC	B
WD11	Gracedieu West	Waterford	Trough (timber)	1020–830	A
WD22	Ballyduff east	Waterford	Mound (charcoal)	1113–904 BC	B
WD31	Monamintra	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1124–973 BC	B
WD30	Ballymacloide	Waterford	Mound (charcoal)	1280-900	B
WD26a	Shanakill	Waterford	Spread (charcoal)	1001-893	C
WD28	Whitestown	Waterford	Spread (charcoal)	1055-898	C
	Carrickbeg	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	1208-930	B
WD25	Seafield	Waterford	Pit (charcoal)	941-828	C
WD29	Greenan	Waterford	Trough (charcoal)	967-820	B
WM19	Newtown	Westmeath	Mound (charcoal)	1120–850 BC	B
RM20c	Brockagh 4	Roscommon	Trough (timber)	1115–932 BC	A
RM20a	Brockagh 4	Roscommon	Trough (timber)	1041–911 BC	A
RM23	Toobracken	Roscommon	Wood	1111–902 BC	A

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
WM15	Mearsparkfarm*	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	1018-904 BC	B
WM55	Mearsparkfarm*	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	973-827 BC	B
LK21	Hermitage	Limerick	Mound (charcoal)	1190-820 BC	B
LK39	Clogh east*	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	1020-902 BC	B
LK51	Leahys	Limerick	Trough (charcoal)	1212-994 BC	B
CW05a	Johnstown	Carlow	Trough (charcoal)	1115-934 BC	B
CW05b	Johnstown	Carlow	Pit (charcoal)	1108-922 BC	C
CW06	Busherstown*	Carlow	Mound (charcoal)	1016-850 BC	B
CW10	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Pit (charcoal)	1117-935 BC	C
KK04	Castleinch	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	943-803 BC	B
KK07	Parksgrove	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1049-835 BC	B
KK15	Dunkitt	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1010-897 BC	B
KK17	Killaspy	Kilkenny	Mound (charcoal)	1213-975 BC	B
KK19	Rathpatrick*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1014-844 BC	B
KK21	Rathpatrick*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	997-834 BC	B
KK24a	Islands	Kilkenny	Platform (timber)	1130-910 BC	C
KK26b	Islands	Kilkenny	Trough (timber)	1010-830 BC	A
KK27	Islands*	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	1060-840 BC	C
KK29c	Foulscourt*	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	970-810 BC	B
KK34b	Baysrath	Kilkenny	Pit (charcoal)	1207-979 BC	C
KK39	Maddockstown	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1189-980 BC	B
KK40	Rathcash	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1111-917 BC	B
KK49	Ballykeoghan	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	930-802 BC	B
TY01	Derryfadda	Tipperary	Unknown	1400-990 BC	C
TY04	Killoran	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1305-940 BC	B
TY16	Killoran	Tipperary	Trough (timber)	932 BC	A
TY15	Killoran	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1145-795 BC	C
TY20	Lahesseragh	Tipperary	Pit (charcoal)	1187-911 BC	C
TY24b	Richmond	Tipperary	Spread (charcoal)	816-971 BC	B
TY25	Solsborough	Tipperary	Spread (charcoal)	972-829 BC	B
TY38	Lackenavea	Tipperary	Pit (charcoal)	1112-924 BC	C
TY37	Ballyard	Tipperary	Trough (timber)	1111-1064 BC	A
TY40	Gortybrigane	Tipperary	Mound (charcoal)	927-827 BC	B
TY45	Annaholty*	Tipperary	Trough (timber)	973-835 BC	A
TY47	Annaholty	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	898-808 BC	A
TY50b	Carrigatogher*	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1007-848 BC	B
TY52b	Carrigatogher	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1011-904 BC	B
TY58	Aughnagomaun	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1052-896 BC	B
WW51	Roscath	Wicklow	Pit (charcoal)	1210-930 BC	C
CO87	Ballynacorra West	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	1220-970 B	B

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
CO53	Lisnagar Demesne	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1140-920 BC	B
CO94	Coolmoohan 9.1	Cork	Structure (charcoal)	1119-937 BC	A
CO25	Propoge 1	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1120-910 BC	B
CO75	Ballyadam	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	996-920	B
CO103	Walshtownmore 31.1	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1082-921 BC	B
CO91	Ballincaroonig	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	1120-900 BC	B
CO37	Curraheen 5	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	985-785 BC	B
CO56	Barrees	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	1120-890 BC	B
CO100	Ballard 8.1	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1013-906	B
CO48	Fermoy 1	Cork	Trough (timber)	1190-800 BC	A
CO50	Fermoy 4	Cork	Spread (charcoal)	1030-810 BC	B
CO64	Fermoy 5*	Cork	Pit (charcoal)	997-825 BC	C
CO28	Meenane 1	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	1267-1047 BC	B
CO79	Carrigtwohill	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	917-841 BC	B
CO36	Curraheen 4	Cork	Pit (charcoal)	1000-800 BC	C
CO12	Ballyclogh 2	Cork	Trough (timber)	1030-760 BC	A
CO96	Curragh Upper 16.1	Cork	Trough (timber)	829-787 BC	A
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Mound (charcoal)	1000-800 BC	B
DN06	Carmanhall	Dublin	Spread (charcoal)	1200-920 BC	B
DN16	Laughanstown	Dublin	Trough (charcoal)	920-810 BC	B
LH24	Newtownbalregan	Louth	Trough (charcoal)	1270-970 BC	B
MH42	Leshemstown	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	1220-1000 BC	B
TY65a	CloghJordan*	Tipperary	Structure (charcoal)	1190-920 BC	B
WM08	Kilbalraherd	Westmeath	Spread (charcoal)	1300-1000 BC	B
WM03	Dalystown	Westmeath	Trough (charcoal)	1300-1000 BC	B
CO70	Kilshanny 3	Cork	Trough (charcoal)	926-843 BC	B
TY70	Greenhills 3	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1125-943 BC	B
MH63a	Ardbraccan*	Meath	Well (charcoal)	1299-1026 BC	C
MH74	Johnstown	Meath	Well (charcoal)	997-816 BC	C
MH46	Boyerstown 2	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	1190-920 BC	C
MH77a	Kennastown	Meath	Pit (charcoal)	1110-843 BC	C
MH52a	Boolies	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	1266-1009 BC	B
KD27	Ballymount	Kildare	Trough (charcoal)	1130-920 BC	B
KD16	Ballyburn lower*	Kildare	Pit (charcoal)	1112-898 BC	C
MH09	Rossan	Meath	Trough (charcoal)	1100-790 BC	B
MO02	Glen	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	1260-1010 BC	B
MO02	Glen	Mayo	Mound (charcoal)	1293-1053 BC	B
GY31	Ballyglass west*	Galway	Trough (charcoal)	1125-978 BC	B
KK58d	Kellymount 6	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1187-941BC	B

Cat. No	Site Name	County	Context date	Cal BC (2 sigma)	Reliability
KK59	Kilree 1	Kilkenny	Trough (charcoal)	1262–1056 BC	B
CW15	Moanmore	Carlow	Pit (charcoal)	1256–937 BC	C
KD37b	Woodlands East	Kildare	Trough (charcoal)	1000–820 BC	B
KD38	Prumplestown Lower	Kildare	Multiple (charcoal)	905–800 BC	B
WX10	Clogh	Wexford	Trough (charcoal)	995–840 BC	B
WX16	Moneycross Upper	Wexford	Trough (timber)	1193–920 BC	A
WX18	Raheenagurren West	Wexford	Trough (charcoal)	1120–920 BC	B
TY58	Aughnagomaun/Ashhill	Tipperary	trough stake-hole	1052 – 896 BC	A
WM51	Cornaher	Westmeath	Pit (charcoal)	970–843 BC	
WW33	Scratenagh	Wicklow	Mound (charcoal)	1260–1000 BC	B
WW43	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	Trough (charcoal)	1370–1050 BC	B
WW44b	Ballyclogh North	Wicklow	trough timber	1320–1000 BC	A
WW48	Ballyvaltron	Wicklow	Trough (charcoal)	1270–1010 BC	B
GY40	Cloondarone 7	Galway	Mound (charcoal)	1007-843 BC	B
TY69	Camlin 1	Tipperary	Trough (charcoal)	1120-920 BC	B
GY03	Perssepark	Galway	Trough (timber)	0998BC ± 9	A
DW10	Baloo	Down	Trough (timber)	993 BC	A
FH02	Derrybrusk 2	Fermanagh	Trough (timber)	1260–1001 BC	A
FH03	Derrybrusk 1	Fermanagh	Trough (timber)	1193–931 BC	A
CO05	Killeens	Cork	Trough (timber)	0970BC ± 9	A
WX13	Killybegs	Wexford	Mound (charcoal)	1251–916 BC	B

Table 10.22. Late Bronze Age radiocarbon dates from *fulachtaí fia* and burnt stone deposits in Ireland (calibration after Oxcal v. 4.2). \* Numerous dates available

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
KY03	Coarhamore	Kerry	Bronze Age pottery and spindle whorl
KY04b	Dromthacker	Kerry	Hammerstone
KY10c	Ballydowney	Kerry	Chert axe
CN11	Straheglin	Cavan	Flint flake, amber bead and ring-pin
CN12	Kilduff	Cavan	Flint flake
CN13	Drumalure Beg	Cavan	Flint scraper
CN14	Bun	Cavan	Bronze Age pottery and flint flakes and scraper
CE05	Killulla	Clare	Whetstone
CE08	Knockaun	Clare	Whetstones and Bronze Age pottery
CE11	Smithstown	Clare	Flint
CE40	Killow	Clare	Chert and flint flakes
CE45	Caheraphuca	Clare	Lithics and coarse stone tools
CE46	Caheraphuca	Clare	Chert lithics
CE51	Caheraphuca	Clare	Chert lithics
CE54	Caheraphuca	Clare	Platform flake
CE59	Monreagh	Clare	Saddle quern and stone axe
CE60	Srangalloon	Clare	Mudstone axe
CE61	Srangalloon	Clare	Yew handle/club
CE63	Ballyline	Clare	Mudstone axe
LM03	Kiltycarney	Leitrim	Flint flake
LMO4	Tully	Leitrim	Barbed and tanged arrowhead
LM05	Cloonturk	Leitrim	Struck flint flake
LMO6	Georgia	Leitrim	Disc scraper
LM07	Moher	Leitrim	Chert debitage and rubbing stone
LM08	Moher	Leitrim	Chert and flint flakes
LM09	Aghamore	Leitrim	Barbed and tanged arrowhead and hammerstone
LM10	Aghnahunshin	Leitrim	Barbed and tanged arrowhead,scraper and axe
LM11	Clooncolry	Leitrim	Chert scrapers
MN03	Monanny	Monaghan	Fint flake
MN04	Annahagh	Monaghan	Flint blade
MN05	Annahagh	Monaghan	Chert debitage
RM05	Cloongownagh	Roscommon	Chert flake
RM14	Culiaghmore	Roscommon	Rotary quern
CW02	Ardnehue	Carlow	Flint and chert blade
CW03	Johnstown	Carlow	Bann Flake
CW05	Johnstown	Carlow	Chert borer and flint flake
CW06	Busherstown	Carlow	Flint debitage and stone axe
CW07	Tinryland	Carlow	Bronze Age pottery
CW10	Ballybar Lower	Carlow	Flint, Bronze Age pottery, wooden artefacts, leather frag
CW10	Ballybarm Lower	Carlow	Worked bone
WD01	Clonkerdon	Waterford	Bronze Axes
WD03	Ahanaglogh	Waterford	Beaker pottery
WD07	Graigueshoneen	Waterford	Beaker pottery and quern stone fragments

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
WD10	Scrahane	Waterford	Flint flake
WD11	Gracedieu West	Waterford	Flint flakes
WD12	Woodstown	Waterford	Flint debitage
WD20	Ballyduff East	Waterford	Saddle quern and rhyolite flakes
WD23	Carriganard	Waterford	Stone pounders/hammerstones
WD27	Carrickaready	Waterford	Flint flake
WD30	Ballymacloche	Waterford	Gold bracelets and stone tools
WD31	Monamintra	Waterford	Flint flakes
WX03	Strandfield	Wexford	Bronze Age pottery
WX05	Ask	Wexford	Whetstone, flint flakes, scrapers, arrowhead and beaker pottery
WX06	Ask	Wexford	Flakes and scrapers
WX07	Ballyellin	Wexford	Flint and coarse stone tools
WX08	Ballyellin	Wexford	Flint
WX09	Ballyloughan	Wexford	Bronze Age pottery
WX10	Clogh	Wexford	Bronze Age pottery
WX12	Coolnastudd	Wexford	Flint lithics
WX14	Courteencurragh	Wexford	Flint flake
WX15	Killybegs	Wexford	Flint flakes and scrapers
WX18	Parkbaun	Wexford	Flint
WX19	Raheenagurren West	Wexford	Lithics and spindle whorl
WX20	Raheenagurren West	Wexford	Burnt flake
WX21	Raheenagurren West	Wexford	Flint flakes
WX22	Tinnock Lower	Wexford	Flint flake
OY04	Ardan	Offaly	Chert and quartz flakes
OY05	Ardan	Offaly	Flint flake
OY10	Culleenwaine	Offaly	Flint flakes, bade and scraper
MO02a	Glen	Mayo	Pestle stone
MO02b	Glen	Mayo	Hammerstone
MO03	Lecarrow	Mayo	Bronze Age pottery
MO05	Rathkelly	Mayo	Barbed and tanged arrowhead and flint flake
MO10	Ballinrobe Demesne	Mayo	Grinding stones
MO11	Coolavally	Mayo	Chert debitage
MO12	Coolroe	Mayo	Chert flakes, chunks and scraper
MO13	Coolroe	Mayo	Scraper, chert flakes and core
MO14	Coolroe	Mayo	Chert flakes
MO15	Clare	Mayo	Chert core
MO20	Deerpark East	Mayo	Chert flakes
MO23	Attireesh	Mayo	Chert hollow-scraper
MO24	Attireesh	Mayo	Chert and flint blades
MO29	Gortroe	Mayo	Hammerstone
MO32	Bekan	Mayo	Chert debitage
MO33a	Carrowcor	Mayo	Flint scraper, stone axe and other lithics
MO34	Cloonbulban	Mayo	Chert scrapers and debitage

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
MO35	Fallakeeran	Mayo	Flint and chert debitage
MO39	Derrinnumera	Mayo	Struck flint flake
MO41	Ballyglass West	Mayo	Silstone arrowhead, scraper and flint flakes
MO44	Grallagh	Mayo	Chert scraper
MO47	Sonnagh	Mayo	chert flakes
MO48	Sonnagh	Mayo	Flint scrapers
MO50	Sonnagh	Mayo	Yew rod
MO51	Sonnagh	Mayo	Chert blade
MO52	Sonnagh	Mayo	Tin and metal bead
MO58	Fauleens	Mayo	Yew artefact and flint blade
GY01	Doughiska	Galway	Stone axe
GY04	Lissarulla	Galway	Flint scraper and flake
GY05	Greeneenagh	Galway	Copper alloy stick pin
GY08	Furzypark	Galway	Bronze Age pottery
GY11	Barnacrach	Galway	Chert scraper and flint blade
GY13	Urraghry	Galway	Mesolithic lithics
GY17	Caraun More	Galway	Wooden paddle
GY19	Killescragh	Galway	Yew artefact and flint debitage
GY20	Ballinillaun	Galway	chert platform flake
GY24	Coldwood	Galway	Chert flake and barbed and tanged arrowhead
GY28	Caherweelder	Galway	Chert end scraper, slag
GY29	Caherweelder	Galway	Meso chert scraper
GY31	Ballyglass West	Galway	Chert blade
GY32a	Dunlo	Galway	Amber bead
GY32c	Dunlo	Galway	Rubbing stone
LS15c	Boherard	Laois	Flint scraper, beaker pottery and hammerstone
LS25	Clonboyne	Laois	Hone stone
LS34	Cuffsborough	Laois	worked hazel artefact and plano-convex knife
LS35	Curragh	Laois	Flint flakes
LS36	Curragh	Laois	Flint flakes
LS42	Shanboe	Laois	chert hollow based arrowhead
LS44	Shanboe	Laois	Hammerstone
LK15	Rossbrien	Limerick	3 stone beads
LK17	Rathbane South	Limerick	chert hollow based arrowhead
LK18	Drominycarra	Limerick	Struck flint
LK19	Crabbsland	Limerick	Early Medieval metal finds
LK24	Ballyvollane	Limerick	Beaker pottery and Wooden shoval
LK30	Ballincurra	Limerick	Flint scraper
LK33	Ballymackeamore	Limerick	Flint scraper
LK39	Clogh East	Limerick	Flint flake and cruth-headed stick pin
LK45	Inchagreenoge	Limerick	Worked wood, lithics, coarse stone tools, quern and pottery
LK49	Kilfinny	Limerick	Flint scraper and flint
LK56	Tullerboy	Limerick	Scrapers



Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
LK57	Tullerboy	Limerick	Worked chert
LK60	Coonagh West	Limerick	Chert tools
LK61	Coonagh West	Limerick	Y-shaped wooden object
LK62	Brackbaun	Limerick	Polished stone axe
LK64	Richill	Limerick	Chert and flint debitage
WM17	Newtown	Westmeath	Chert debitage and chert blade
WM20	Kiltotan and Collinstown	Westmeath	Flint flakes and chunks
WM21	Seeoge	Westmeath	Flint blades, knife and debitage
WM23	Creggan Lower	Westmeath	Worked chert
WM25	Williamstown	Westmeath	Worked chert and blades
WM36	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Antler pick
WM37	Kilbeg	Westmeath	Antler pick
WM42a	Correagh	Westmeath	Antler half and flint flakes
WM42b	Correagh	Westmeath	Neolithic axe
WM60	Skeahanagh	Westmeath	Flint flakes
WM60	Stonehouse Farm	Westmeath	Worked chert
DN03	Kingstown	Dublin	Flint flake
DN04	Cherrywood	Dublin	Pottery, hammerstones, arrowheads and lithics
DN09	Carmanhall	Dublin	Flint flake
DN14	Murphystown	Dublin	Flint scrapers and debitage
DN15	Carrickmines Great	Dublin	Bronze Age pottery and many worked lithics
DN16	Laughanstown	Dublin	Bronze Age pottery, scrapers and flint flakes
DN17	Oldcourt	Dublin	Flint flake
DN22	Lusk	Dublin	Flint debitage
DN29	Taylorstrange	Dublin	Flint lithics, hammerstones and Bronze Age pottery
DN30	Ballynakelley	Dublin	Bronze Axe
SO07	Caltragh	Sligo	Chert debitage
SO09	Caltragh	Sligo	Chert and flint worked lithics
SO17	Magheraboy	Sligo	Scrapers and chert blade
SO18	Magheraboy	Sligo	Chert lithics
SO19a	Tonafortes	Sligo	Flint flake
SO19b	Tonafortes	Sligo	Chert flake
SO21	Ballyglass	Sligo	Chert scraper
KD03	Ballyvass	Kildare	Flint scrapers
KD04	Kilmacredock Upper	Kildare	Saddle quern
KD05a	Carton Demesne	Kildare	Arrowhead, stone mould and flint flakes
KD05b	Carton Demesne	Kildare	Plano-convex knife
KD06	Carton Demesne	Kildare	Flint flake
KD07	Cherryville	Kildare	flint flake and worked cobble
KD09	Cherryville	Kildare	Neolithic axeheads, arrowheads and other lithics
KD10	Cherryville	Kildare	Leaf-shaped arrowhead and Neolithic pottery
KD11	Loughlion	Kildare	Flint debitage and whetstone
KD12	Kilmorebrannagh	Kildare	Stone bead

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
KD13	Killickaweeny	Kildare	Flint scraper
KD16	Ballyburn Lower	Kildare	Rubbings stones, anvil stone and flint flake
KD17	Prumplestown	Kildare	Prehistoric pottery
KD20	Boleybeg	Kildare	Chert debitage
KD21	Mullamast	Kildare	Bronze Age pottery and debitage
KD22	Inchaquire	Kildare	Flint and chert lithics
KD23	Inchaquire	Kildare	Mesolithic flint borer
KD25	Ballymount	Kildare	Flint debitage
KD26	Ballymount	Kildare	Flint debitage
KD28	Kilgowen	Kildare	Flint flake
KD31	Ballynamony	Kildare	Flint debitage
KD32	Belan	Kildare	Flint flake and re-touched flake
KD33	Moone	Kildare	worked horse metatarsal and antler cut off
KD36	Woodlands East	Kildare	Worked flint flake
KD38	Prumplestown Lower	Kildare	Axe half and bow
LH01	Dowdallshill	Louth	flint flakes
LH02	Carstown	Louth	unworked flint
LH07	Braganstown	Louth	Arrowheads, scrapers, cores and debitage
LH08	Harristown	Louth	Flint, macehead and Bronze Age pottery
LH12	Crumlin	Louth	Flint flakes
LH14	Hill of Rath	Louth	Flint flakes
LH16	Mell	Louth	Flint debitage
LH17	Newtown	Louth	Convex end scraper
LH18	Newtown	Louth	Flint debitage
LH19	Farrandreg	Louth	Flint debitage
LH20	Mell	Louth	Flint scraper and debitage
LH24	Newtownbalregan	Louth	Flint scraper and debitage
LH25	Proleek	Louth	Flint flake
LH27	Dungooly	Louth	Worked flint
KK01	Catstown	Kilkenny	Stone discs and whetstone
KK04	Castleinch	Kilkenny	Copper alloy pin
KK06	Parksgrove	Kilkenny	Iron Slag
KK07	Parksgrove	Kilkenny	Whetstone
KK15	Dunkitt	Kilkenny	Stone discs
KK16	Ballymountain	Kilkenny	Flint nodules
KK18	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Barbed and tanged arrowheads
KK19	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Flint scraper and blades
KK21	Rathpatrick	Kilkenny	Flint blade
KK24a	Islands	Kilkenny	Leaf-shaped arrowhead
KK30a	Glashare	Kilkenny	Neolithic flints
KK33c	Ballyquirk	Kilkenny	Hammerstone
KK33d	Ballyquirk	Kilkenny	Rubbing stones and flint flake
KK37	Holdenstown	Kilkenny	Quern stone and spindle whorls

Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
KK40	Rathcash	Kilkenny	Natural flint chunk
KK41	Rathcash	Kilkenny	flint blade and saddle quern
KK43	Rathduff Upper	Kilkenny	burnt flint flake
KK45	Rathduff Upper	Kilkenny	Flint flake and hone stone
KK46	Rathgarvin/Clifden	Kilkenny	Rubbing stone
KK48	Knocktopher Commons	Kilkenny	Flint flake
KK49	Ballykeoghan	Kilkenny	Saddle quern and stone disc
CW13	Bannagagole	Carlow	Rubbing stones, hone stone, flint flake and re-touch
KK52	Danesfort 2	Kilkenny	Rubbing stones, scrapers and stick pin
KK53	Dananbeg 1	Kilkenny	Hone stones, stone discs
KK53	Dananbeg 1b	Kilkenny	polished stone axehead
KK54	Jordanstown	Kilkenny	micro disc scraper and flint debitage
KK57	Kellymount 2	Kilkenny	Chert flake and amber bead
KK57	Kellymount 3	Kilkenny	Hone stones and saddle quern
KK58	Kellymount 6	Kilkenny	Chert flake
KK59	Kilree 1	Kilkenny	Saddle quern
CW14	Moanduff	Carlow	Chert arrowhead and flake
CO02	Ballyvourney	Cork	Stone disc, pounder and spindle whorl
CO04	Killeens	Cork	Gold ring
CO07	Drombeg	Cork	Stone disc, perforated stone and saddle quern
CO14	Clasroe	Cork	Flint flakes
CO18	Butlerstown Little	Cork	Saddle quern
CO26	Teadies Upper	Cork	Lignite bracelet
CO28	Meenane	Cork	Flint flake and hammerstone
CO30	Clashduanna East	Cork	Flint debitage
CO36	Curaheen 4	Cork	Disc-headed pin
CO43	Ballinaspig More	Cork	Whetstone
CO46	Corrin	Cork	Flint scraper
CO47	Corrin	Cork	Flint debitage and arrow tip
CO49b	Fermoy	Cork	Flint hoard
CO51	Kilbrien	Cork	Flint debitage
CO57	Garranes	Cork	Thumb nail scraper and hammerstone
CO59	Stagpark	Cork	Prehistoric pottery
CO61	Stagpark	Cork	Flint flakes
CO70	Ballinglanna	Cork	Flint flake
CO96	Curragh Upper	Cork	Whetstone
CO79	Carrigtohill	Cork	Lignite bracelet and flint flake
TY01	Derryfadda	Tipperary	Saddle quern
TY07	Killoran	Tipperary	Thumb nail scraper
TY19	Knockaunkennedy	Tipperary	Chert flakes
TY23	Richmond	Tipperary	Flint debitage and stone axe
TY24	Richmond/Gortlandroe	Tipperary	Spindle whorl
TY27	Tullaheedy	Tipperary	Chert fragments

## Appendix 2-Additional tables and charts

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
TY34	Clonmore North	Tipperary	Hollow-based arrowhead and BA pottery
TY44a	Annaholty	Tipperary	Hammerstone
TY50a	Killalane	Tipperary	Flint flake
TY53	Carrigatogher Harding	Tipperary	Spindle whorl
TY57	Ballytarsna	Tipperary	Flint blade
TY60	Rathcunikeen	Tipperary	Chert flake
TY52	Carrigatoher Harding site 6	Tipperary	Slag
TY55	Ballywilliam	Tipperary	Flint chunks
OY11	Culleenwaine	Offaly	End scraper and blade
TY67	Greenhills 1	Tipperary	End scraper
TY70	Greehills 2	Tipperary	Chert debitage and rubbing stone
TY71	Greenhills 3	Tipperary	Chert flakes and core
TY69	Camlin 1b	Tipperary	Chert core, bronze axehead and arrowhead
MH01a	Sheephouse farm	Meath	Flint scraper
MH01b	Sheephouse farm	Meath	Stone axe fragment
MH02	Gormanstown	Meath	Flint debitage and hammerstone
MH04	Lisdornan	Meath	Prehistoric pottery
MH06	Claristown	Meath	Pestle and mortar
MH09	Rossan	Meath	Flint and chert
MH14	Clonymeth	Meath	Flint blade
MH15	Cooksland	Meath	Flint flake
MH16	Knockmark	Meath	Flint knife
MH20	Athboy Road	Meath	Leaf-shaped arrowhead
MH23	Baltrasna	Meath	Flint debitage
MH24	Harlockstown	Meath	Flint scraper
MH29	Rathmullen	Meath	Worked flint
MH30	Carranstown	Meath	Stone lithics
MH38	Athronan	Meath	Cores, blades and flakes
MH41	Leshemstown	Meath	Flint scraper
MH42	Randalstown	Meath	Middle Bronze Age spearhead
MH43	Bracetown	Meath	Chert blade, core and scraper. Polished bone
MH45	Cooksland	Meath	Flint debitage and end scraper
MH50	Roestown	Meath	Multiple worked lithic finds
MH51	Blundelstown	Meath	Debitage and scrapers
MH59	Philpotstown	Meath	Blade, scraper, flake and loom weight
MH63a	Ardbraccan	Meath	Hone stone
MH64	Ardbraccan	Meath	Debitage
MH65	Ardbraccan	Meath	chert blade
MH66	Drumree	Meath	Flint flakes
MH67	Berrilstown	Meath	flint flakes, retouched artefact and quartz crystal
MH68	Leshamstown	Meath	Flint debitage
MH71a	Williamstown or Bawn	Meath	Whetstone and flint debitage
MH72	Bennettstown	Meath	Flint scraper, cores and flakes

Cat No.	Site	County	Finds
MH74	Johnstown	Meath	Flint core, blade and flake
MH75b	Gainstown	Meath	Scraper
MH76	Gainstown	Meath	Struck flint
MH77	Kennastown	Meath	Plano-convex knife
MH79	Knocks	Meath	Flint flake debitage, arrowhead, scrapers, knives and cores
MH80	Raynestown	Meath	Flint flake
MH81	Townparks	Meath	Medieval ring-brooch
MH82	Clowanstown	Meath	Neo pottery, wooden artefacts and lithics
MH83	Clowanstown	Meath	Stone tools
WW02	Kilnacarrig	Wicklow	Flint debitage
WW06	Ballynamuddagh	Wicklow	Flint flakes
WW10	Barnacoyne big	Wicklow	Bronze Age pottery
WW16	Tiglin	Wicklow	Flint scraper
WW17	Ballyhenry	Wicklow	Multiple worked lithic finds
WW25	Ballynattin	Wicklow	Flint flake
WW05	Johnstown North	Wicklow	Multiple worked lithic finds
WW07	Rathmore	Wicklow	Gold ring
WW15	Kilmartin	Wicklow	Bronze Age pottery
WW22	Charlesland	Wicklow	Musical pipes
WW23	Charlesland	Wicklow	Saddle quern
WW27	Rampere	Wicklow	Struck flint
WW28	Ballinaskea	Wicklow	flint scraper, flint awl, flint flake and possible grinding stone
WW29	Scratenagh	Wicklow	Natural chunk and 2 waste flakes
WW31	Scratenagh	Wicklow	Flint core, natural chunk
WW32	Scratenagh	Wicklow	Flint flakes
WW34	Cranagh	Wicklow	Natural chunk, flint flake
WW35	Ballynapark	Wicklow	Lithic finds and bronze axe fragment
WW35	Ballynapark	Wicklow	Flint flakes
WW36	Ballynapark	Wicklow	Flint flakes
WW38	Cloghoge	Wicklow	Flint flakes
WW39	Ballycloge South	Wicklow	Flint flakes
WW40	Ballycloge North	Wicklow	2 flint blades and cores
WW41	Ballycloge North	Wicklow	Multiple worked lithic finds
WW42	Ballycloge North	Wicklow	flint flakes
WW43	Ballycloge North	Wicklow	flint flakes, scraper, core, blade
WW44	Ballycloge North	Wicklow	Lithic tools and beaker pottery
WW46	Kilmurry South	Wicklow	flint convex end scraper
WW47	Kilmurry North	Wicklow	212 waste flakes
WW49	Ballyvaltron	Wicklow	flint flakes and scraper
WW50	Coolacork	Wicklow	Flint debitage and Bronze Age pottery

Table 10.23. List of excavated *fulachtaí fia* with artefact finds in Ireland.