

Preliminary excavation report Rathbride Road, Kildare



GIACOMETTI, MCGLADE & RUDDY 20/11/2020 17E0125 AP19-18

KILDARE CO. CO. 16/1227

SITE NAME

Rathbride Road, Kildare Town, Co. Kildare

CLIENT

Kelland Homes, Russell Square Centre, Unit 5 Fortunestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24

LICENCE

17E0125

PLANNING

Kildare Co. Co. Planning Ref. 16/1227

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Archaeology Plan Ref.

AP19-18

DATE

20th November 2020

ABBREVIATIONS USED

DCHG	Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
NMI	National Museum of Ireland
NMS	National Monuments Service
OS	Ordnance Survey
RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
LAP	Local Area Plan

Table of contents

1	Introduction	1
	Report Summary	
	Site location	
	Development and planning	
	2017 Testing	
	Archaeological potential	
	Monitoring programme	
2	Excavation	5
	Location	
	Field 2	
	Field 4	
	Field 1	
3	Discussion	33
	Early Neolithic pit cluster	
	The burnt spread and trough	
	The kilns	
	The field boundary ditches	
	Penannular enclosure	
4	Conclusion	46
	Remaining archaeology	
	Post-excavation analysis	
	References	49

Appendices:

Appendix A Context Register

Appendix B Finds Register

Appendix C Sample Register

Appendix D Bone Register

Appendix E Drawing Register

Appendix F Archive Register

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Thanks also to the specialists for the project, notably Lorna O'Donnell, David Stone, Ruth Cardon and Eoin Grogan.

Staff

I would also like to thank the hard work of the crew in completing the various phases of the site

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Section 1 Introduction

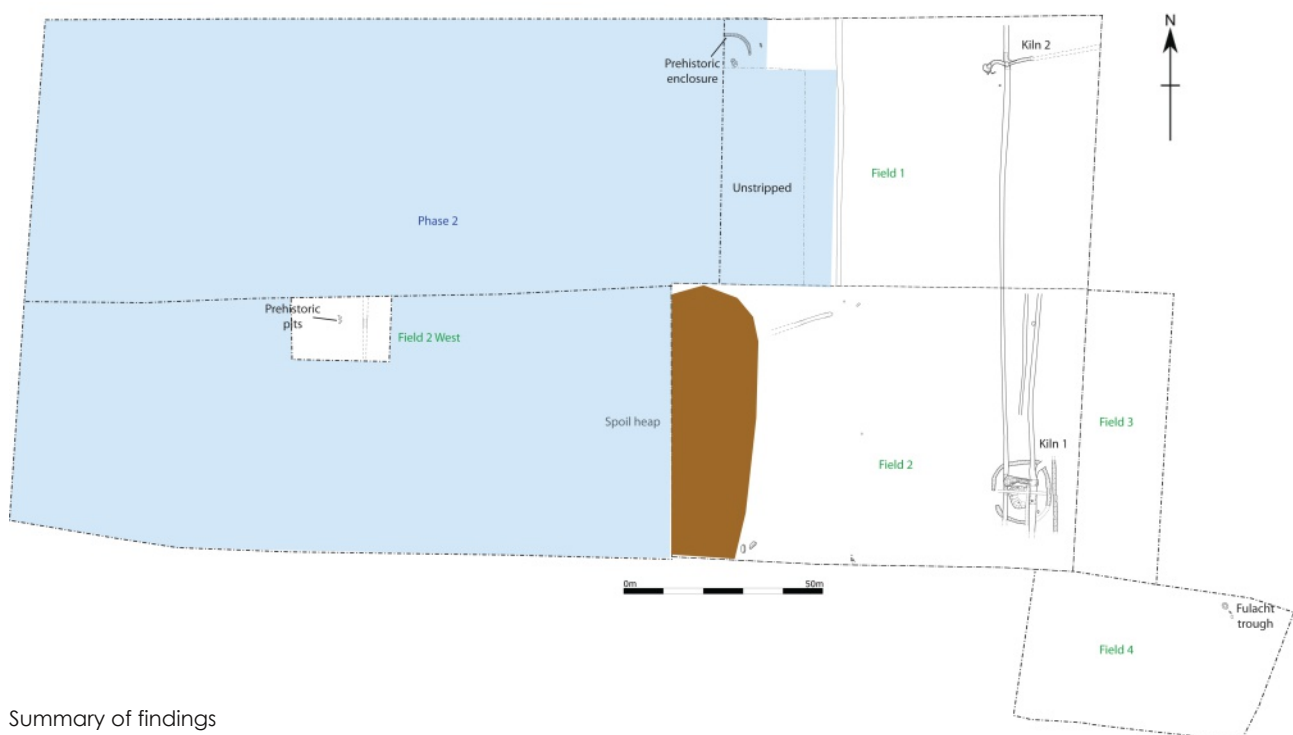
Report summary

Archaeological features were identified and excavated prior to the construction of a residential development site to the west of the Rathbride Road, north of Kildare town. The site is located at the edge of the Curragh, an open grassland that was a focal point for prehistoric activity.

The earliest evidence for occupation was a cluster of pits that contained sherds of an Early Neolithic carinated bowl. They may represent small offering pits, and are the earliest evidence of human occupation in the wider area to date, dating to c. 3900-3600BC on the basis of the pottery. A small, possibly short-lived, fulacht fiadh site was also found. A penannular enclosure, possibly also of prehistoric date, was identified during the monitoring programme, however this was not excavated and is to be

dealt with in a second phase of works on the site.

The most substantial features uncovered were two cereal-drying kilns, both of which are preliminarily dated to the early medieval period. Both were partially stone-lined, one comma-shaped and the other dumbbell-shaped in plan. The latter kiln was located within a circular enclosure that appeared contemporary. A four-posted structure, possibly representing a raised grain store or granary, was also excavated within the kiln enclosure. It was associated with a shallow depression that may have served as a threshing surface. These were not associated with any additional early medieval settlement and may have been attached to the powerful abbey of St Brigit's at Kildare. The lack of protection around the features may be indicative of the power the abbey held over its hinterland. A later medieval field system truncated the kilns



Summary of findings

and represents agricultural changes carried out within the lands of the abbey after the arrival of the Anglo-Normans.

Site location

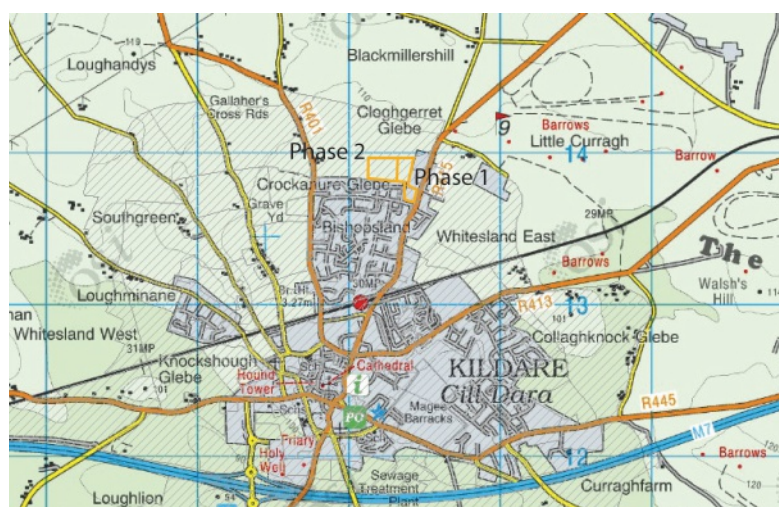
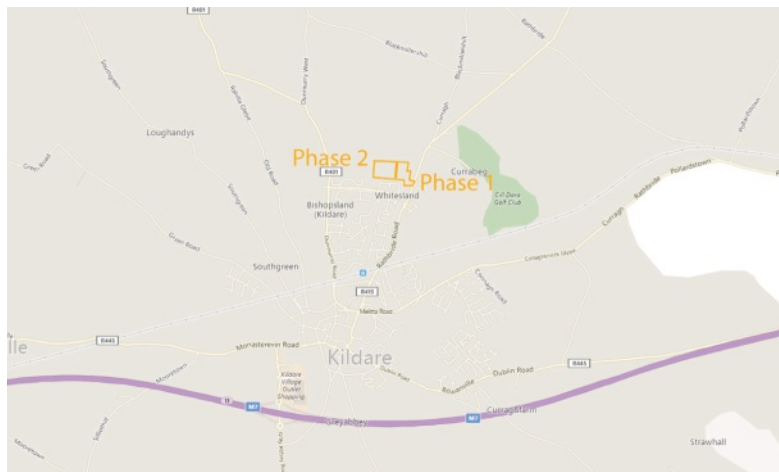
The site is located at the edge of the residential development north of Kildare town, on the western side of the Rathbride Road. It is 1km north of the Archaeological Restraint Zone for the historic town of Kildare (KD022-029), and 250m southeast of the most westerly extent of The Curragh, an elevated plain housing a complex of a hundred and seventy-nine prehistoric monuments that date from the Neolithic into the Iron Age (Clancy 2005).

The site comprises of three rectangular fields and one small section of a rear garden. It is bounded by fields to the north and west, by the modern residential development, Rathbride Abbey, to the south and by residential and commercial buildings on Rathbride Road to the east.

Development & planning

The proposed development (Kildare County Council Refs. 07/910, 14/282 & 16/1227) comprises the construction of c. 100 dwellings in detached and semi-detached houses and apartments, a crèche and retail building. It also provides for internal roads, landscaping, open spaces, car parking, undergrounding of overhead ESB wires on site and provision of new pylon, with access off the Rathbride Road.

The developer decided not to proceed with the western portion of the proposed development (Phase 2) under the existing licence application. Phase 2 is now covered by a new



Site location shown on Ordnance Survey Streetview (top),
Discovery Series (centre) and Ordnance Survey 2011-2013
aerial imagery (bottom)

application (Kildare County Council Ref 20/159), which involves the construction of 74 No. dwellings comprised of a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bed houses. The archaeological impact assessment for the Phase 2 site noted that some sections of the Phase 2 lands were resolved during Phase 1, while an archaeological enclosure was identified but has not yet been resolved (McGlade 2020a).

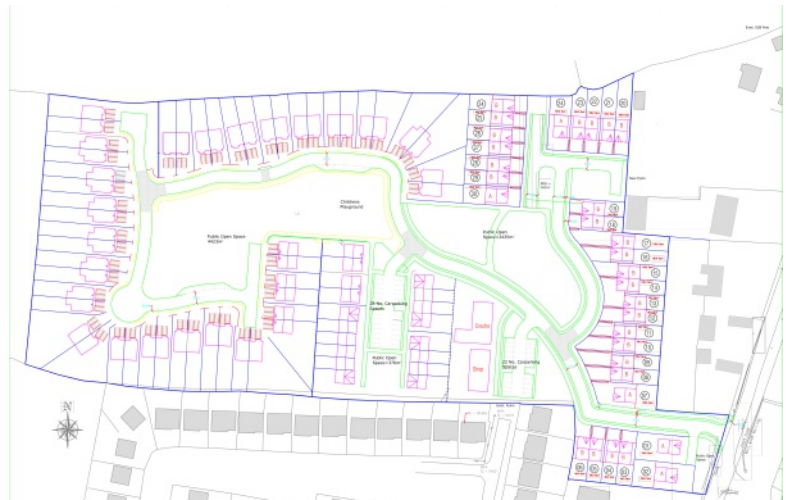
2017 testing programme

Twenty-five archaeological test-trenches and five archaeologically-monitored engineering trial pits were excavated over four fields covering c. 10% of the total site area in 2017 by the author (Licence No. 07E0125, Excavations Ref. 2017:483). One of the primary aims of the testing programme was to establish whether the complex of prehistoric funerary monuments in the Curragh extended into the proposed development site.

Fifty-eight potential archaeological features were identified and tested. Forty-five of these were interpreted as modern features, post-medieval agricultural features, or as variations in the natural subsoil.

Thirteen of the features were interpreted as archaeological or as probably archaeological. These are located in the eastern quarter of Field 1, and in the centre-west of Field 2. No archaeological features were identified in Fields 3 or 4. Field 3 had been previously stripped and heavily disturbed as part of a previous development on the Rathbride Road.

The Field 1 archaeological features probably represent a settlement or kiln-like activity. Iron artefacts and burnt animal bone were associated with the features, but no pottery or flint was identified.



Original plan of the proposed development attached to planning application 16/1227 (top)

Development plan for Phase 2 of the development attached to planning application 20/159 (centre)

Plan of the trenching programme carried out in 2017 (bottom)

The Field 2 archaeological features comprise one posthole of uncertain date, and several other undated features nearby.

It is possible that this archaeology represents Iron Age or early medieval settlement at the edges of the Curragh Archaeological Complex, however no evidence was found to suggest that the prehistoric funerary monuments of the Curragh extend into the proposed development site.

Archaeological potential

Based on a desktop assessment and testing programme carried out in 2017 it was recommended that the eastern quarter of Field 1 be archaeologically excavated in advance of the proposed development. It was recommended that the remainder of Fields 1, 2 and 4 be archaeologically monitored during topsoil stripping of the site, and that the archaeological features in the centre-west of Field 2 be assessed and excavated during the monitoring programme.

Overall, archaeological potential was confirmed in the northeast of the site, and considered high across the main body of the site (Fields 1 and 2). Archaeological potential in the smaller disturbed southwestern fields (3 and 4) was considered to be much lower.

Monitoring Programme

Archaeological monitoring took place in two phases. For the first phase, which took place in Fields 2, 3 and 4, the topsoil was stripped down to the archaeological levels by mechanical excavator, and all potential archaeological features were assessed, and if necessary excavated.

A small section of Field 2 measuring c. 30m east-west by 10m was opened in advance of the creation of a second spoilheap to the west. Archaeology was identified within this section. No further stripping was carried out in this location at this time.

For the second phase, the northern strip of

Field 1 was stripped fully as above, but the monitoring programme halted pending discussions between the client and Kildare County Council. The client and Kildare County Council agreed a revised strategy for monitoring the remainder of the northern field, which entailed a second phase of testing. This second phase of testing was carried out along the proposed roads, and seeing as no further archaeological features were encountered the remainder of the field was handed over to the client without full monitoring.



Monitoring in Field 2, looking east

Section 2 Excavation

Location

Fields 1 and 2 are long rectangular east-west running fields set back from the Rathbride Road measuring c. 300m by 70m. Field 1 lies to the north of Field 2 and is separated from it by a mature hedgerow. Each of these two fields are subdivided into two areas by a north-south running fence approximately at the centre of each field. The eastern extents of these fields were resolved under the current phase of works. The western extents were added to Phase 2 of the proposed development and will be dealt with under a separate planning application (Kildare Co. Co. Ref. 20/159).

Fields 1 and 2 were used for pasture and are relatively flat, sloping gently down from the highest point in the northeast to the southwest.

Field 4 is a small rectangular field situated to the south of Field 2 directly off the Rathbride Road. It measures approximately 65m east-west and 35m north-south. It is bounded by a bank and mature hedge to the east, north and west, and by a modern concrete wall to the south and west (the latter behind the hedge). Access to Fields 1 and 2 was through a gap in the northwest corner of the field.

Field 2

The archaeology in Field 2 was concentrated near the southeastern corner of the field. This consisted of a penannular gully forming an enclosure containing the remains of a structure and a dumbbell-shaped cereal drying kiln. These were truncated by three north-south running linears that crossed the field. Several smaller features were recorded throughout the remaining stripped area. The excavation took place in June 2019 during a period of dry warm weather.

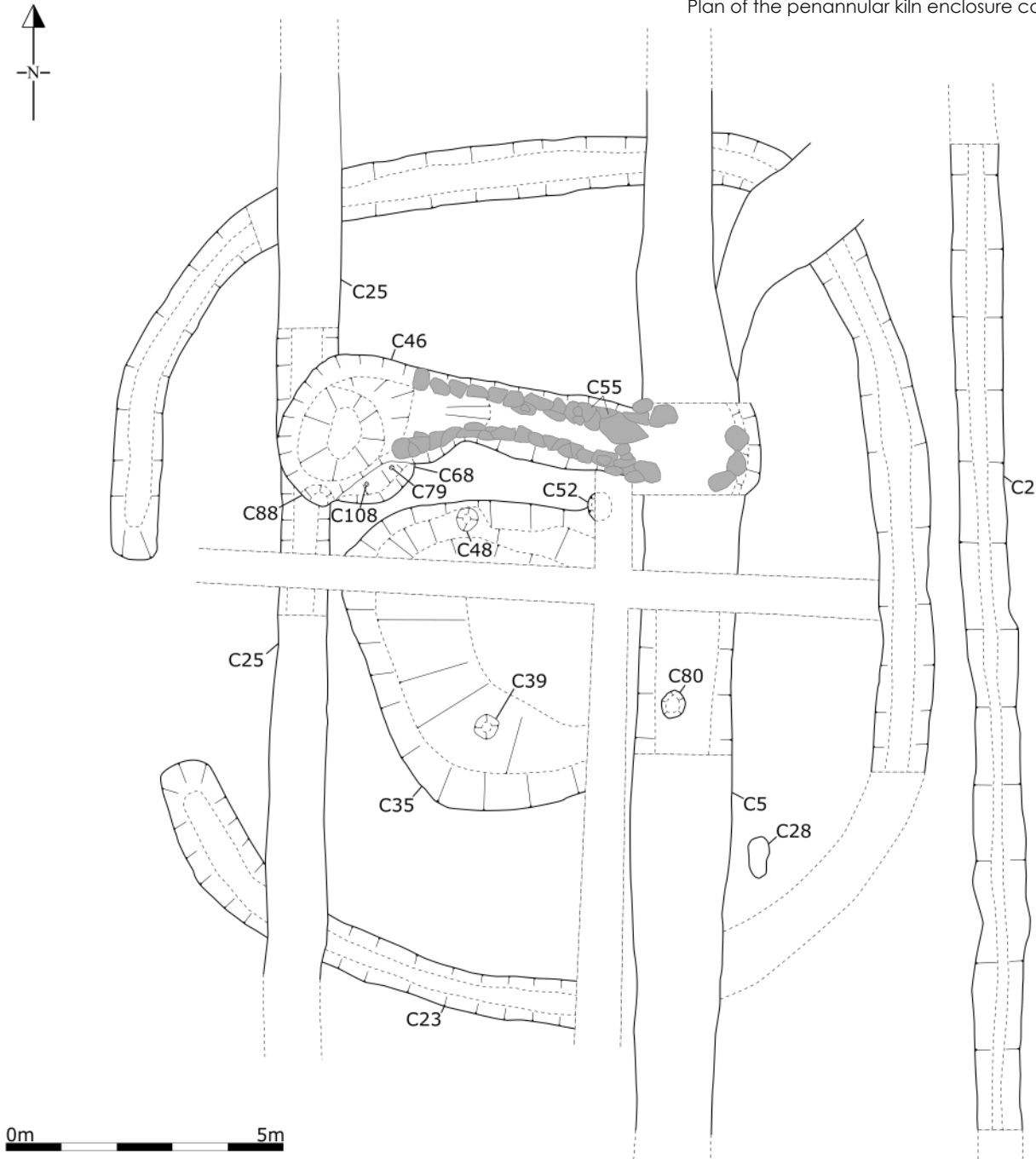


View of the penannular enclosure, kiln and four-posted structure, looking west (top)



View of the penannular enclosure, kiln and four-posted structure, looking east (bottom)

Plan of the penannular kiln enclosure complex



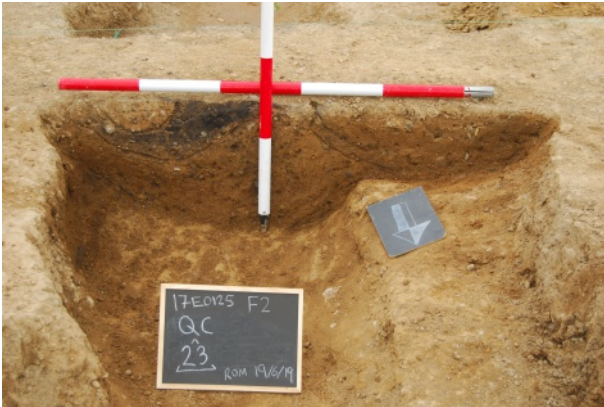
Enclosed kiln complex

Enclosing gully

A shallow penannular gully (C23), enclosed an area measuring 14m north-south and 12.75m east-west internally, which contained a kiln and a structure. An opening was situated to the southwest measuring 3.4m in width. The cut was generally U-shaped in profile with a sharp break of slope at the top, steep sides and a sharp to gradual break of slope at the base. The

base was flat to slightly concave. The termini were rounded in shape and were slightly wider and deeper than the rest of the ditch.

The gully contained several deposits throughout its length. The earliest deposits were (C56), greyish brown stony silt, located along the eastern section, and (C74), orangish brown stony silt, which covered the base of the rest of the ditch except the termini. The termini were filled with a charcoal-rich silty sand (C24) that extended further north and southeast within the



Mid-ex view of eastern arc of gully C23 being truncated by furrow C75, looking south (top left)

Mid-ex view of northern arc of gully C23, looking northeast (centre left)

Mid-ex view of northern arc of gully C23, looking east (bottom left)

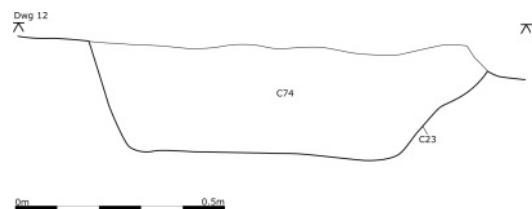
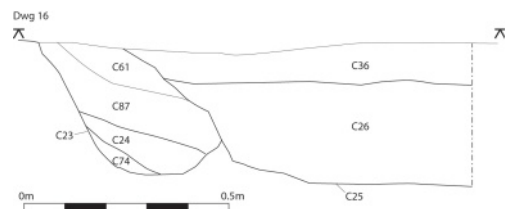
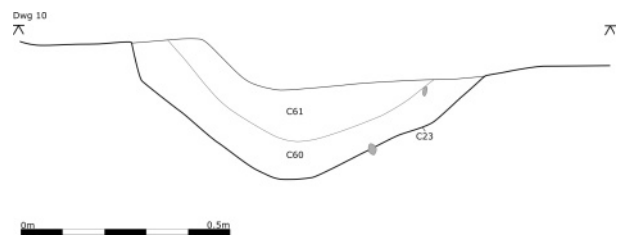
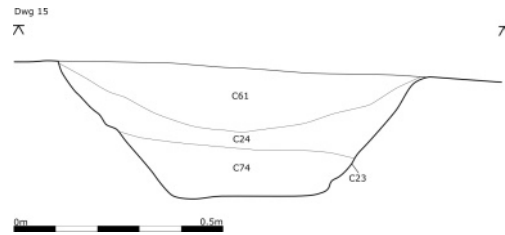
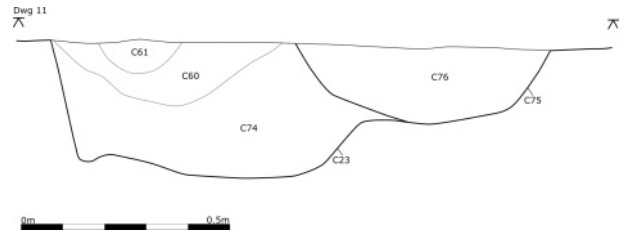
North-facing section of eastern arc of gully C23 being cut by furrow C75 (top right)

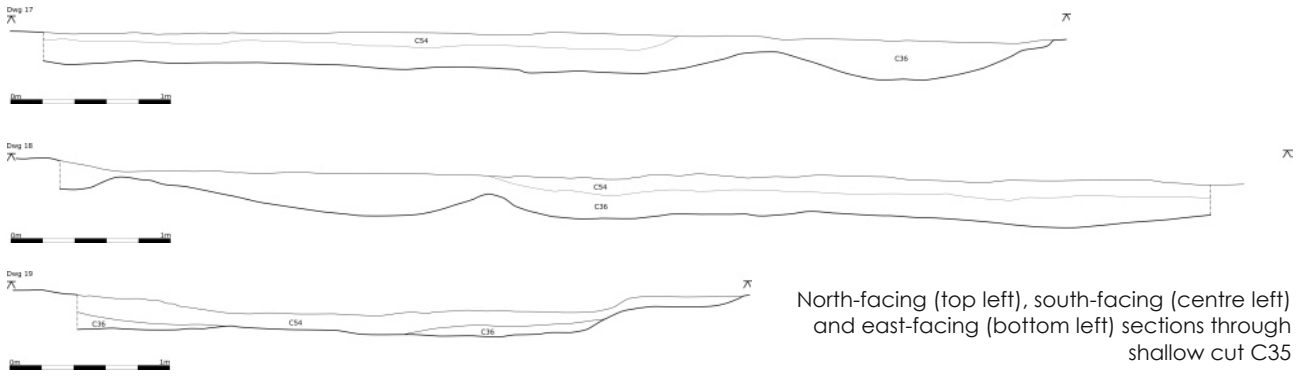
West-facing section of northern arc of gully C23 (centre right)

West-facing section of northern arc of gully C23 (upper centre right)

West-facing section of southern arc of gully C23 (lower centre right)

North-facing section of eastern arc of gully C23 (bottom right)





North-facing (top left), south-facing (centre left) and east-facing (bottom left) sections through shallow cut C35

Mid-ex view of posthole C39, looking southwest (top right)

Post-ex view of posthole C48, looking north (centre right)

Post-ex view of posthole C52, looking east (bottom right)

gully. These deposits probably represent waste from the enclosed kiln (C62). Two separate localised deposits were recorded, orangish brown stony silt (C57) along the eastern section, and dark brown stony clay (C87) in the southwest of the gully. The upper fill, a mid-brown clayey silt (C61) extended across almost the entire length of the gully except to the east.

No artefacts were retrieved from any of the deposits within the enclosure gully. There was also a lack of animal bone, though this may be due to the nature of the soil. A small amount of burnt bone was retrieved from one of the fills (C24). Fragments of baked clay lining were also retrieved from this fill, possibly relating to the superstructure of the kiln enclosed by the gully.

Structure

The enclosure formed by the gully (C23) was truncated by later field boundary ditches with approximately 20% of the interior area having been truncated. However, the remains of a structure were identified. The structure comprised of a shallow cut with four postholes. The shallow cut, (C35) formed a sub-square area measuring 5.5m by 5.5m with rounded corners surviving at the northwest and southwest. The eastern side had been removed by a later north-south running ditch (C5), but the lower part of a posthole (C80) survived at the base of the ditch. It was located off-centre within the enclosure being 3m from the entrance, the south and the east sides of the enclosing gully and 6m from the northern side. The cut had shallow, gently sloping sides and the base was well compacted natural clay that may have formed a floor surface and sloped very slightly to the east.



Context	description	length	width	depth
C35	sunken floor	5.50m	5.50m	0.20m
C39	posthole	0.40m	0.40m	0.50m
C48	posthole	0.45m	0.45m	0.50m
C52	posthole	0.35m	0.35m	0.40m
C80	posthole	0.30m	0.40m	0.40m
C51	spread	0.46m	0.37m	0.04m

Four postholes were identified within the shallow cut (C35). The northwest (C48) and northeast (C52) postholes were located along the northern side of the shallow cut. The southwest posthole (C39) was uncovered in the base of the shallow cut 1.6m from the southwest corner. The southeast posthole (C80) was truncated by a later ditch (C5), which had removed the east side of the shallow cut (C35), however it was approximately in line with the southeastern side of the cut.

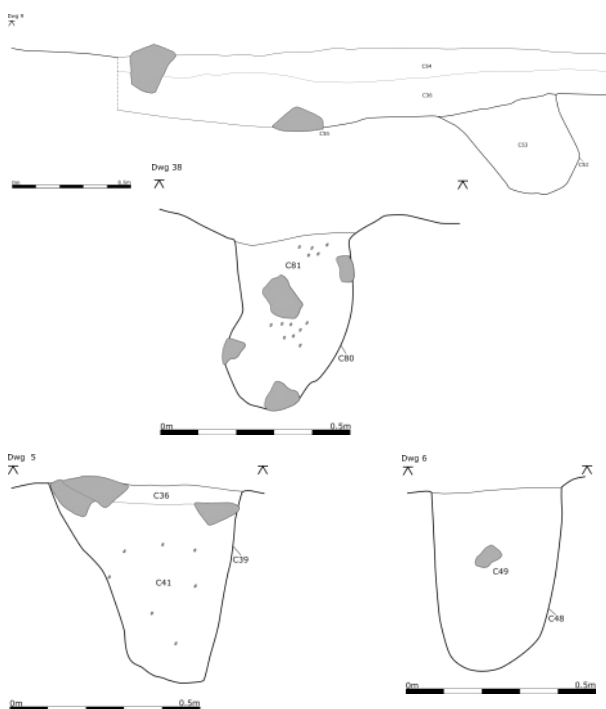
The northwest posthole (C48) was circular in plan with near-vertical sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (C49) of greyish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks.

The northeast posthole (C52) was circular in plan with straight sides and concave base but was inclined to the north at a 50° angle. It contained a single fill (C53) of brownish grey gravelly silt.

The southwest posthole (C39) was circular in plan with near-vertical sides except to the southwest side where it was less steep. It contained packing stones around the sides (C41) and a single fill (C40) of grey gravelly sand with charcoal flecks.

The southeast posthole (C80) was circular in plan with steep sides. There was a slight bulge to the northwest at the base. It contained a single fill (C81) of pale yellow sandy silt with charcoal flecks.

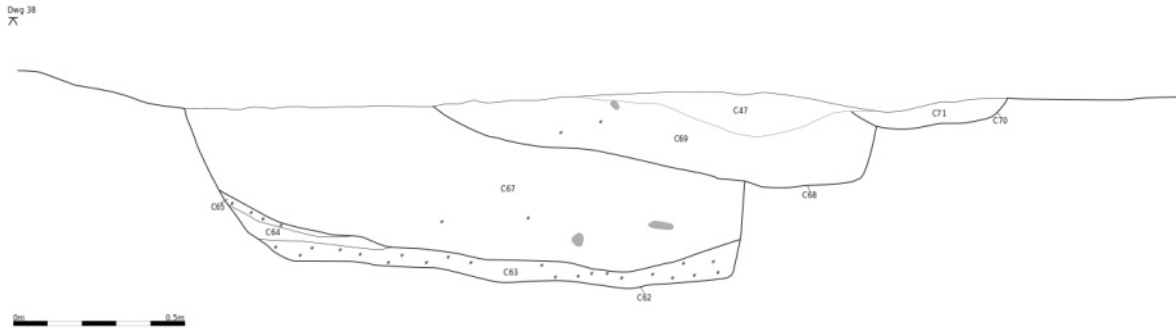
A small shallow spread of charcoal, (C51), was uncovered to the north side of the floor cut (C35), but there was no evidence of any other type of habitation debris or layer. The main deposit within the cut was a mid-brown silty clay (C36) that also covered the postholes. This deposit contained a small amount of animal bone fragments and spread further to the north also covering the backfilled remains of the dumbbell-shaped kiln (C62).



Post-ex view of posthole C80, looking southwest (top)

Oblique overview of structure with all four postholes visible and baulk of shallow pit C35 still in place, looking south (centre)

Sections of the postholes uncovered (bottom)



Dumbbell-shaped Kiln (Kiln 1)

A dumbbell-shaped kiln (C62) was located within the enclosure directly north of the structure. The kiln was orientated roughly east-west with the stoke-hole chamber to the west and the drying chamber to the east. The flue (C58) was lined along the north and south sides with large unhewn stones (C55).

Western chamber

The western chamber was sub-circular in shape, measuring 2.4m east-west, 1.7m north-south and 1.06m in depth. The steep sides were concave to the north and west but straight to the south. The base was slightly concave. The western side of the chamber was truncated by a

medieval ditch (C25). Two stake-holes (C79 & C108) near the edge of the southern side of the chamber at the point where the sides became straight and the shape less circular. Both had charcoal-rich fills and are probably related to the above-ground superstructure of the kiln. They were truncated by a later shallow pit (C68) that also cut through the upper fills of the western chamber. A posthole (C88) was uncovered near the base of the chamber to the southwest. Only the basal 0.24m of the posthole survived, which was filled by a brown silty clay (C89) with occasional charcoal inclusions. The posthole is probably a feature of the original structure of the kiln.



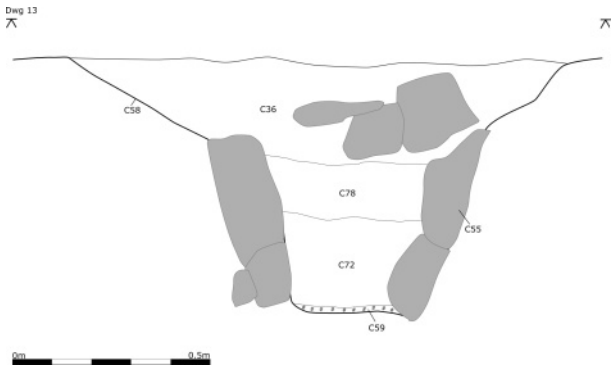
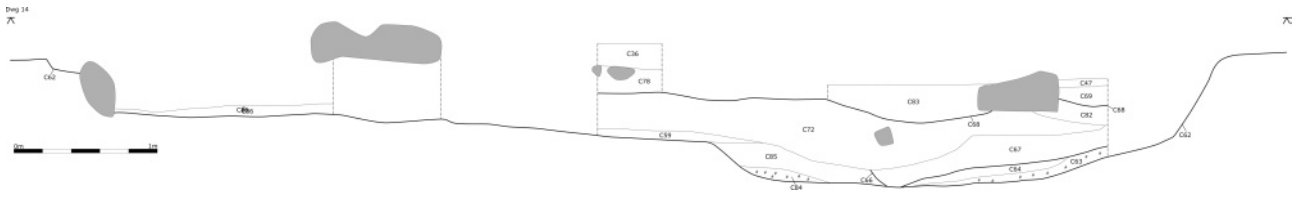
West-facing section through western chamber of Kiln C62 (top)

Mid-ex view of the western chamber of Kiln C62, looking east (centre left)

Post-ex view of the western chamber, firing spot and flue of Kiln C62, looking east (bottom left)

Post-ex view of western chamber of Kiln C62, looking north (bottom right)





The firing area sloped down from the west side of the flue towards the western chamber with the firing area being 0.2m deeper than the flue, but at the same level as the base of the western chamber. The firing area measured 1m in width between the stone lining where it flared out into the western chamber, and 0.50m at the point where there was a step up to the base of the flue. The clay base was oxidized, and the stones of the lining on either side were scorched. The natural at the edge of the cut behind the lining was also hardened. This may represent a preparatory firing of the kiln, with the intention of consolidating the sides of the firing area or it may indicate a phase of use prior to the construction of the stone lining.

Flue

The flue (C58) was U-shaped in profile, measured 4.5m in length, 1.1 meters wide and 0.54m in depth, deepening to 0.66m in depth at the western end. It was lined with sub-rounded

North-facing section through Kiln C62 (top)

East-facing section through flue C58 (centre left)

Post-ex view of firing spot and flue of Kiln C62, looking east (bottom left)

Post-ex view of flue C58 with western chamber in background, looking west (bottom right)

limestone blocks, which continued into firing chamber. The stones of the lining (C55) sat vertically against side of the cut (C58). The space between the lining measured from 0.50m to 0.54m in width, expanding to 1.0m at the west end. A displaced side stone lay over the east end of the flue.

The well-constructed stone lining (C55) consisted of large limestone blocks, some with evidence of weathering and erosion. Two sandstone blocks were also present towards the eastern end. The main uprights range in dimensions up to a maximum of 0.58m in height, 0.45m in width and 0.23m in thickness. Attempts were made to fit the stones together well, with the natural shape of the stones being used to tie them into the adjoining stones, and smaller stones used to fill in the gaps. Charcoal was identified behind lining to the north, probably washed though when superstructure was removed.

Some burnt clay survived on top of the stones lining the firing chamber, possible remains of fired roofing or superstructure. Some of the smaller stones on top of the larger uprights may also relate to an arched clay superstructure.

Eastern chamber

The eastern drying chamber was heavily truncated by a north-south running post-medieval field boundary ditch (C5). What remained at the east and west sides indicated that it was circular in plan and stone lined. The cut for the chamber measured 2m in width east-west. The stone lining measured 0.5m in thickness giving the lined chamber a width of 1.5m. The north and south sides had been truncated by the ditch (C5). A shallow layer of pale grey ash and charcoal (C86) with a diameter of 1.5m and depth of 0.05m covered the base of the eastern chamber and was the only deposit to survive truncation by the ditch (C5).

Fills

The flue and western chamber of the kiln contained deposits relating to the use and re-use of the kiln and its subsequent obsolescence. The earliest fills were two separate layers of charcoal, one within the firing area and the other in the western chamber of the kiln. Within the firing area of the kiln, directly above



Post-ex view of stone lining C55 within flue, looking north (top)

Mid-ex view of Ditch C5 truncating eastern chamber of Kiln C62, looking west (bottom)

the oxidized clay base, was a layer of charcoal (C84). This deposit contained bone fragments that had been heat affected but not to such a degree that they became white or blue in colour. This was covered by a layer of pale brown sandy silt ash with pockets of pale yellow clay (C85).

The basal fill of the western chamber (C63) was a silty charcoal containing fragments of burnt clay. This was probably a result of raking out the firing area after an episode of use. Overlying the charcoal deposit was a layer of grey ash (C64). This was followed by another shallow layer of charcoal (C65).

Both the secondary deposit (C85), and the charcoal layer (C65), were cut by a cleaning out event (C66) in the firing area. A layer of charcoal (C59) extending west from the base of the flue, partially overlay (C85) but was not truncated by (C66).

The black silty charcoal deposit (C59) extended fully along the base of the flue to the eastern chamber and contained animal bone fragments.

The cleaning out event in the firing area (C66) was filled by a layer of mid grey silt (C67) that contained charcoal flecks and animal bone fragments. A fragment of clay lining was also retrieved from this deposit, which probably came from the above-ground superstructure of the kiln.

Overlying both the deposit in the flue (C59) and in the western chamber (C67) was a well compacted deposit of pale yellow-grey clay (C72). This deposit contained pockets of sand but was sterile of any finds or ecofacts.

The upper fill within the flue (C78) was generally a mid-brown silty clay that contained occasional charcoal flecking and rare burnt clay fragments. A localised deposit (C73) of brown gravelly silt overlay (C78) within the cut of the flue (C58).

The final deposit backfilling the western chamber was mid-yellowish brown clayey silt (C82) that was separated from (C78) by a large ex situ boulder.

The upper fill of the western chamber was later cut by a shallow pit (C68). The southern side of the pit cut into natural and the north side truncated the backfilled material (C82) of the western chamber. The pit (C68) contained two fills. The primary fill (C69) was a mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. The upper fill (C47) was a dark grey sandy silt containing frequent charcoal. This was cut by another small shallow pit (C70) measuring 0.68m long, 0.47m wide and just 0.05m deep. The pit contained a single fill (C71) that was a well compacted mid-brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks.

Additional features within the enclosure

A shallow spread of charcoal (C28) measuring 1.3m by 0.4m and 0.11m in depth was located within the enclosure (C23) to the southeast of the structure (C35).

The final deposit within the enclosure was a spread of loose grey gravel (C54). This measured 7.5m in length and 6.2m in width and was 0.06m deep. It lay above the deposit (C36) and was sterile of any finds or ecofacts. It had the same composition as the naturally occurring gravel in the vicinity and may have been the result of excavation of one of the later field boundary ditches, perhaps relating to eroded or ploughed out bank material.

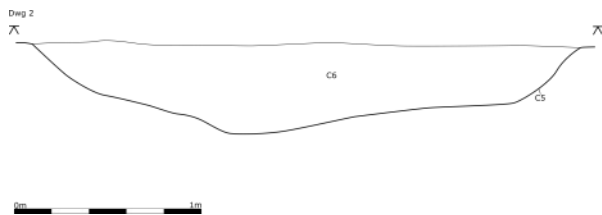
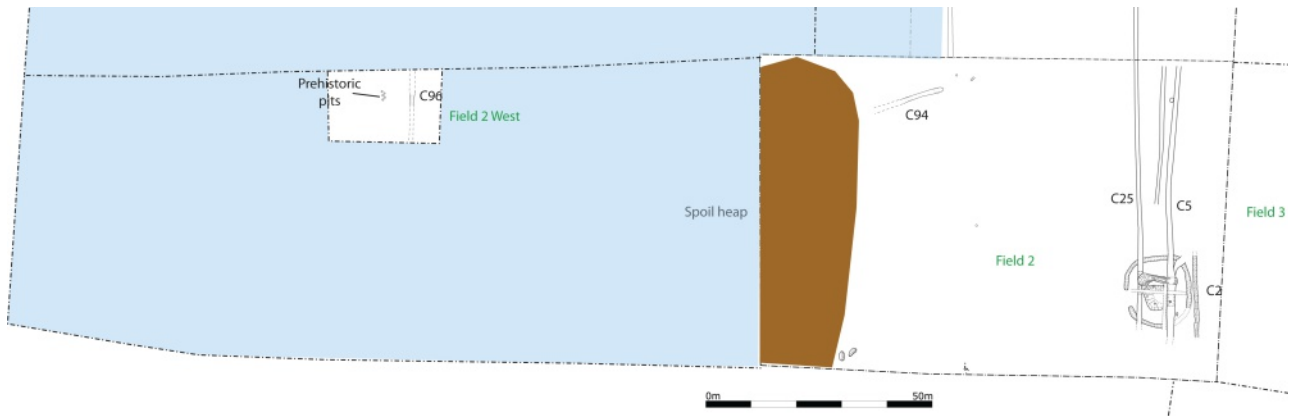
Later features

Three north-south running linears truncated the enclosure gully (C23). A plough furrow (C75) truncated the eastern extent of the enclosure. It was 0.5m in width and 0.12m in depth. The fill (C76) was mid-orangey brown clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions. To the west of the furrow, at a distance of 2.2m, a post-medieval field boundary ditch (C5) truncated the enclosure gully as well as the structure and the kiln (see 2020).

Field boundary ditches

The earliest field boundary ditch appears to have been Ditch C25. This ditch was traced in both Fields 1 and 2 (recorded as C1000 in Field 1), measuring at least 140m in length. It was generally U-shaped in profile with a sharp break of slope at the top, steep sides and a concave base. Where it truncated the enclosure gully (C23) it contained two fills. The basal fill (C27) was light brown silty sand with frequent small stone inclusions. Two medieval pottery sherds (19E0125:27:1-2) were retrieved from this fill. The upper fill (C26) was pale yellow silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones. A small amount of snail shell was retrieved from this deposit.

To the east of, and parallel to (C25) the second field boundary ditch (C5) also truncated the kiln enclosure ditch and features within it. This ditch ran from the south of Field 2, extending along



Plan showing the location of the main ditches identified within Field 2 (top left)

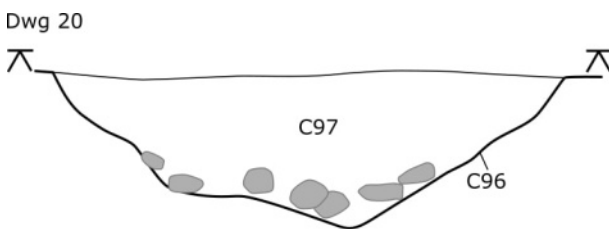
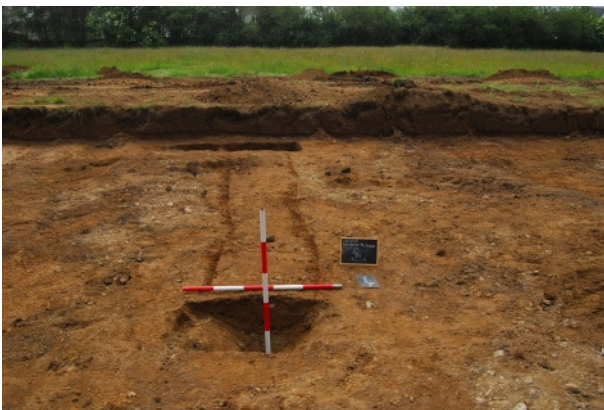
Overview of Ditch C5 truncating Kiln C62 to the left and Ditch C25 truncating it to the right, looking south (centre left)

North-facing section of Ditch C5 (bottom left)

Section through Ditch C2 with metallised surface C4 in background, looking east (right)

the same orientation as the north-south western boundary of Field 4. It was not visible in Field 1. It measured 65m in length, 0.55m in width and 0.38m in depth. It was generally U-shaped in profile with a sharp break of slope at the top, steep straight sides and a concave base. It contained two fills, (C6 & C7). The basal fill, (C7), was dark brown silty clay moderately compacted. The upper fill (C6) was brownish grey silty clay with occasional stone inclusions.

The most easterly ditch (C2) ran parallel to (C5) and (C25) and was traced to the south into Field 4. The overall length, covering both fields, was 110m. It was quite shallow and relatively broad measuring 0.37m in depth and 0.48-0.9m in



Mid-ex view of Ditch C94, looking southwest (top)

Mid-ex view of Ditch C96, looking north (centre)

South-facing section through Ditch C96 (bottom)

width. The single fill (C3) was a well-compacted pale yellowish brown silty sand. Running along the eastern side of this ditch were the very patchy remains of a metallised surface (C4). It is assumed that the surface originally ran along the entire length of the ditch as it appeared at both the north and south extents. The maximum width was 1.2m and it was composed of well

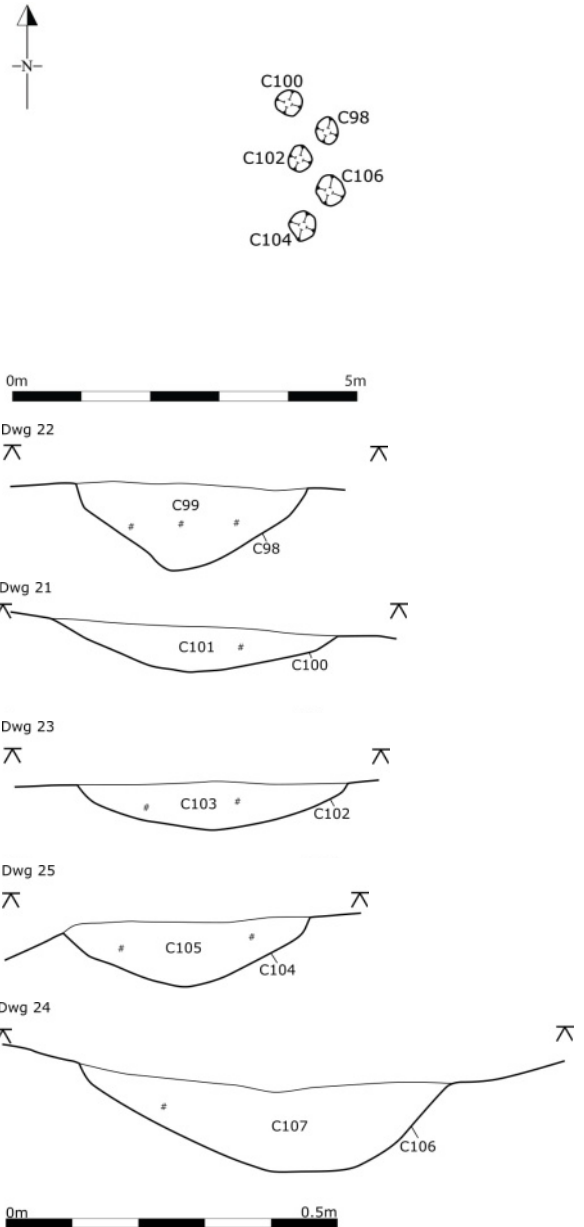
compacted small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.

Approximately 100m of Field 2 was stripped east-west, with the western boundary of the stripped area formed by a spoil heap. The remainder of Field 2 to the west, including the area beneath the spoil heap, has been included in Phase 2 and will be dealt with under a separate planning application (Kildare Co. Co. Ref. 20/159). In the northwest corner of the stripped portion of Field 2 an east-northeast to west-southwest orientated ditch (C94) was recorded. This ditch was U-shaped in profile with steep straight sides and a concave base. It measured at least 8.7m in length and was 0.78m in width and 0.39m in depth. The single fill (C95) was mid-reddish brown silty sand moderately compacted. The colour faded to grey near the base but consistency and compaction did not vary. There were occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular pebble inclusions. The fill was sterile and was probably the result of gradual sedimentation rather than deliberate backfilling. It terminated to the northeast. It is unknown if it restarted beyond the terminus in the portion of the site that was not monitored following agreement between the developer and Kildare County Council. It continued to the west into the Phase 2 lands.

A north-south orientated post-medieval ditch (C96) was identified within a small section of Field 2 to the west of the spoil heap, which had been opened in advance of the creation of a second spoilheap. This ditch lies within the Phase 2 portion of the site and was to the east of the prehistoric pit cluster (see below). It had a single fill (C97), a yellowish brown sandy clay with inclusions of land snail and post-medieval ceramic (black glazed red earthenware rim sherd). The ditch was exposed for 10m and was 0.85m in width and 0.3m in depth. It will be encountered again during the Phase 2 works.

Prehistoric pit cluster

Five circular shallow pits were uncovered in the small section of Field 2 opened to the west of the spoilheap, close to the northern boundary of the field. They were of similar dimensions, with a shallow U-shaped profile, and were



regularly spaced. They each contained a charcoal-rich fill and are possibly contemporary however their function or purpose is unclear. The southernmost pit (C104) measured 0.44m in diameter and 0.12m in depth. The fill (C105) was black silty sand with frequent charcoal and occasional burnt stone inclusions. This pit also contained a sherd of prehistoric pottery (17E0431:105:1), which has been identified as Early Neolithic carinated bowl, dating to c. 3900-3600 BC (Grogan & Roche 2020).

Pit (C106) was located to the northeast of (C104) and measured 0.45m in diameter and was also just 0.12m deep. The fill (C107) was dark brown silt with frequent charcoal and

Pre-ex view of prehistoric pits with broken saddle quern visible sealing pit C104 in centreground, looking south (top left)

Mid-ex view of pit C98, looking east (centre left)

Post-ex view of prehistoric pits, looking north (bottom left)

Plan of prehistoric pits (top right), with sections of each of the prehistoric pits below

occasional small fragments of burnt stone. A broken saddle quern (17E0431:107:1) was retrieved from this fill.

Directly north of pit (C104) and northwest of pit (C106), pit (C102) also measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.12m deep. The fill (C103) was dark brown silty sand with frequent charcoal. Two refitting sherds (17E0431:103:1) of a separate Early Neolithic carinated bowl vessel were retrieved from the fill of this pit (Grogan & Roche 2020).

Pit (C98) was located directly north of pit (C106) and to the northeast of pit (C102). It was the largest of the group measuring 0.46m in diameter and 0.2m in depth. The fill (C99) was black silt with frequent charcoal and occasional small burnt stone inclusions.

To the northwest of pit (C98) and directly north of pit (C102), pit (C100) measured 0.45m in diameter and was 0.12m deep. The fill (C101) was black silt with frequent charcoal and occasional small burnt stone inclusions. A small eroded sherd (17E0125:101:1) of probable Early Neolithic carinated bowl was retrieved from the fill of this pit (Grogan & Roche 2020).

Isolated features

Stake-hole cluster 1

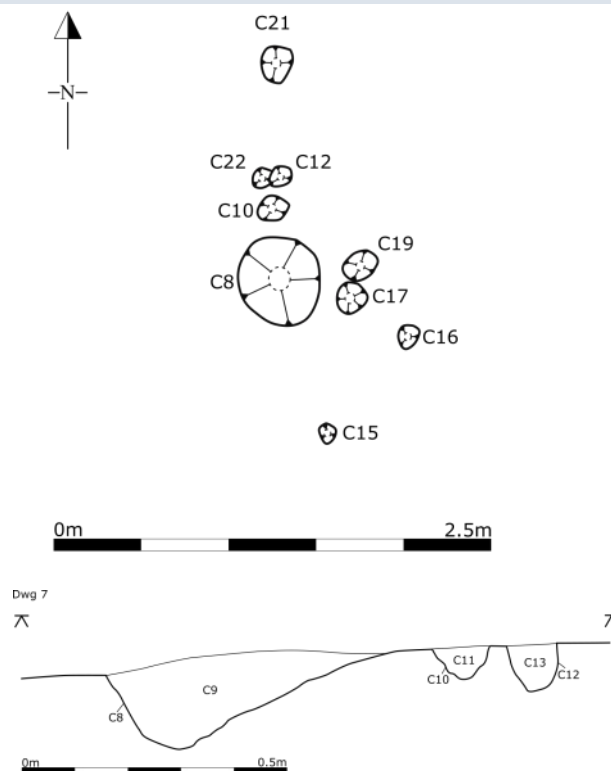
Along the southern edge of Field 2 to the western of the enclosure (C23) a cluster of five stake-holes (C10, C12, C15, C16, C22) and two small postholes (C17, C19) were excavated and recorded. An additional feature (C8) may represent the base of a posthole. Lying to the north of stake-holes a small spread of reddish clay (C21) was probably related to the cluster.

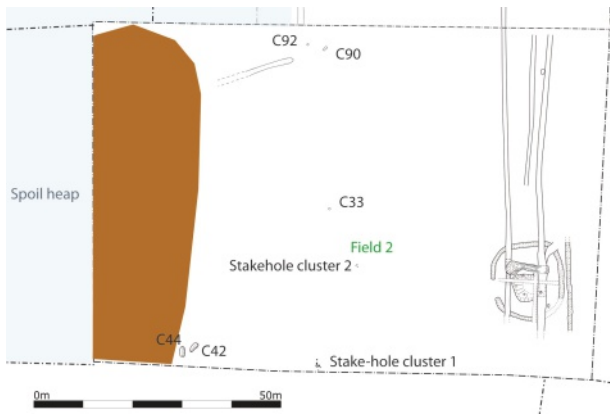
Plan of stake-hole cluster 1 (top)

Section through posthole C8 and stake-holes C10 and C12 (centre)

Post-ex view of stake-hole cluster 1, looking north (bottom)

Context	description	length	width	depth
C8	posthole	0.30m	0.30m	0.18m
C10	stake-hole	0.09m	0.09m	0.08m
C12	stake-hole	0.10m	0.10m	0.10m
C15	stake-hole	0.05m	0.05m	0.05m
C16	stake-hole	0.07m	0.07m	0.08m
C17	posthole	0.20m	0.20m	0.18m
C19	posthole	0.17m	0.15m	0.12m
C21	spread	0.20m	0.12m	0.03m
C22	stake-hole	0.05m	0.05m	0.06m





Plan showing the location of the isolated features in Field 2 (top left)

Post-ex view of stakehole cluster 2, looking north (bottom left)

Mid-ex view of pit C42, looking southeast (top right)

Mid-ex view of pit C44, looking east (bottom right)

The features were within an area of 2.2m north-south and 1.1m east-west. Two of the stake-holes contained charcoal within the fills – (C11 fill of C10 and C13 fill of C12). There was no evident pattern or form to the cluster to suggest a purpose and they did not conform to a structure shape.

Stake-hole cluster 2

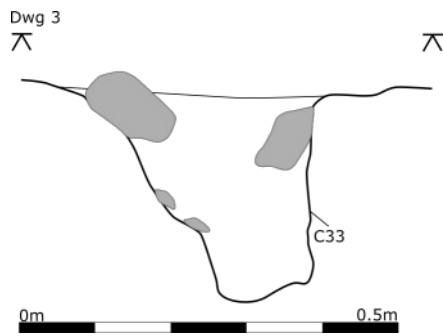
This group comprised of just three stake-holes (C14, C29 and C30) that were situated near the centre of Field 2. They were each spaced within 0.20m of each other and had the same dimensions of 0.08m in diameter and 0.08m in depth. These may represent the movement or replacing of a single stake, possibly part of a fence.

Post-medieval pits

Two pits (C42 & C44) were situated near the southwest corner of the site, 0.5m apart. Pit C42 was an irregular shape in plan with the long axis orientated northeast-southwest. The sides were gently sloping on the east and west but steeper to the north and south. The base was concave. It contained one fill (C43) a dark grey-brown silty clay that contained well-preserved

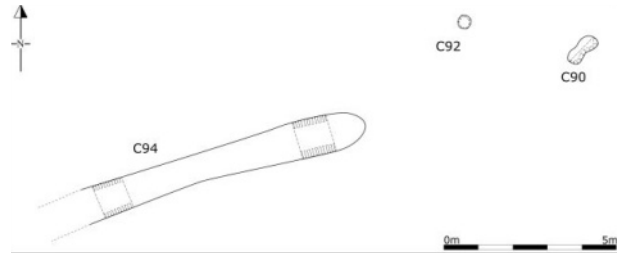
animal bone, charcoal and a fragment of red brick.

Pit (C44) was sub-oval shape in plan with the long axis north-south. It had a sharp break of slope at the top with uneven sides varying from gently sloping to steep. The base was also uneven but mostly concave. The fill (C45) was very similar to (C43) being dark greyish brown silty clay containing occasional charcoal. These were probably rubbish pits.



West-facing section (top left) and post-ex view of pit C33, looking north (bottom left)

Plan showing the location of postholes C90 and C92 (top right) and mid-ex views of posthole C90 (centre right) and C92 (bottom right)



A spread of charcoal covering oxidised clay natural (C50) was located close to and west of pit (C44). The spread measured 0.6m by 0.4m with a maximum 0.07m in depth. The remains probably represent an episode of post-medieval 'back-yard burning' as a means of waste disposal.

Isolated postholes

A single posthole (C33) was situated near the centre of Field 2 with no other features in proximity to it. The posthole was circular in plan with a sharp break of slope at the top. The sides were steep to vertical with a slight step on the north side. The break of slope at the base was sharp and the base was slightly concave. It contained a single fill (C34) and there were two packing stones near the surface. The packing stones were placed at the north and south edges and were sub-rounded in shape. The fill was pale yellow silty sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

A posthole (C92) was excavated to the northeast of the terminus of ditch C94 in the northwest corner of the stripped portion of Field 2. The posthole was circular in plan, c. 0.34m in diameter and 0.26m in depth. It had vertical sides with a sharp break of slope at the top becoming slightly concave towards the base. The base was flat. The fill (C93) was a dark brown silt with charcoal flecking.

A second poorly defined posthole (C90) was uncovered nearby to the east. It was circular in shape, 0.3m in diameter and 0.25m in depth. A patch of loose natural, possibly a stone socket, was investigated to one side of the posthole. It is possible that this posthole may also be a stone socket. It had shallowly sloping sides and a concave base and did not resemble the posthole to its west (C92). It had a single fill (C91), a brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

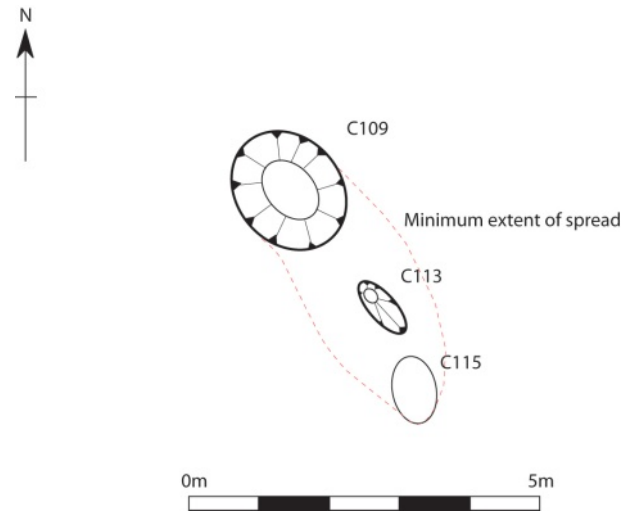
Field 4

Field 4 is bounded by the Rathbride Road on its eastern side and by residential development to the south and west. A commercial site is located to the north. The field boundary ditch (C2) and associated metalled surface or trackway (C4) discussed in Field 2 (see above) continues along the western side of the field. In the northeast corner of the field the remains of a burnt spread and associated trough were uncovered.

Fulacht trough

The trough (C109) was oval in plan with the long axis orientated northwest-southeast. It measured 1.83m in length, 1.5m in width and 1.67m in depth. The sides were straight and steep and vertical near the base. The base was also oval in plan and flat. The original cut was lined with a compacted plastic clay (C110) that was packed into the base to a depth of 0.60m along the sides of the cut using a method of rolling the clay and building it up in layers. This lining was thickest at the base and became progressively thinner towards the top. The result was a smaller, but watertight, area of containment within the trough. It contained two deposits of silty charcoal and burnt stones, (C111 & C112). The lower fill (C111) contained more burnt stone and was darker in colour than the upper fill (C112). This may be a result of the stones settling within the trough and less bioturbation due to the thicker clay lining lower in the feature.

A possible posthole (C113) was located 0.70m to the southeast of the trough (C109) and measured 0.94m in length and 0.38m in width. The long axis was orientated northwest-southeast. The sides were uneven. The circular flat base was at the northwest end of the feature with a narrow linear step to the southeast. The circular base suggests it may originally have been a posthole, which was subsequently disturbed, although it may also have been a stone socket caused by ploughing. The linear step to the southeast is reminiscent of a stone being dragged in that direction. It was filled with silty charcoal and burnt stones (C114) to a depth of 0.12m.



Plan of the trough and associated features in Field 4 (top)

Mid-ex view of trough C109, looking southwest (centre)

Mid-ex view of the thick clay lining within trough C109, looking southwest (bottom)



Post-ex view of trough C109, looking north (left)



Post-ex view of possible pit C113, looking north (top right)

Pre-ex view of remains of burnt spread C115 to south of trough, looking north (bottom right)



Spread

A spread of burnt material (C115) was located 0.30m to the southeast of the feature (C113). It measured 0.97m in length and 0.63m in width with the long axis orientated northwest-southeast. It was composed of silty charcoal and burnt stones to a maximum depth of 0.06m. Given the linear arrangement of the spread and the possible posthole (C113) it is possible that both of these features are a result of agricultural disturbance, with material being dragged from the trough (C109) to the southwest. It is also possible the spread relates to a surviving section of the burnt spread associated with the fulacht fiadh trough, with the rest having been ploughed away over time. No other features associated with the trough were uncovered.

Field 1

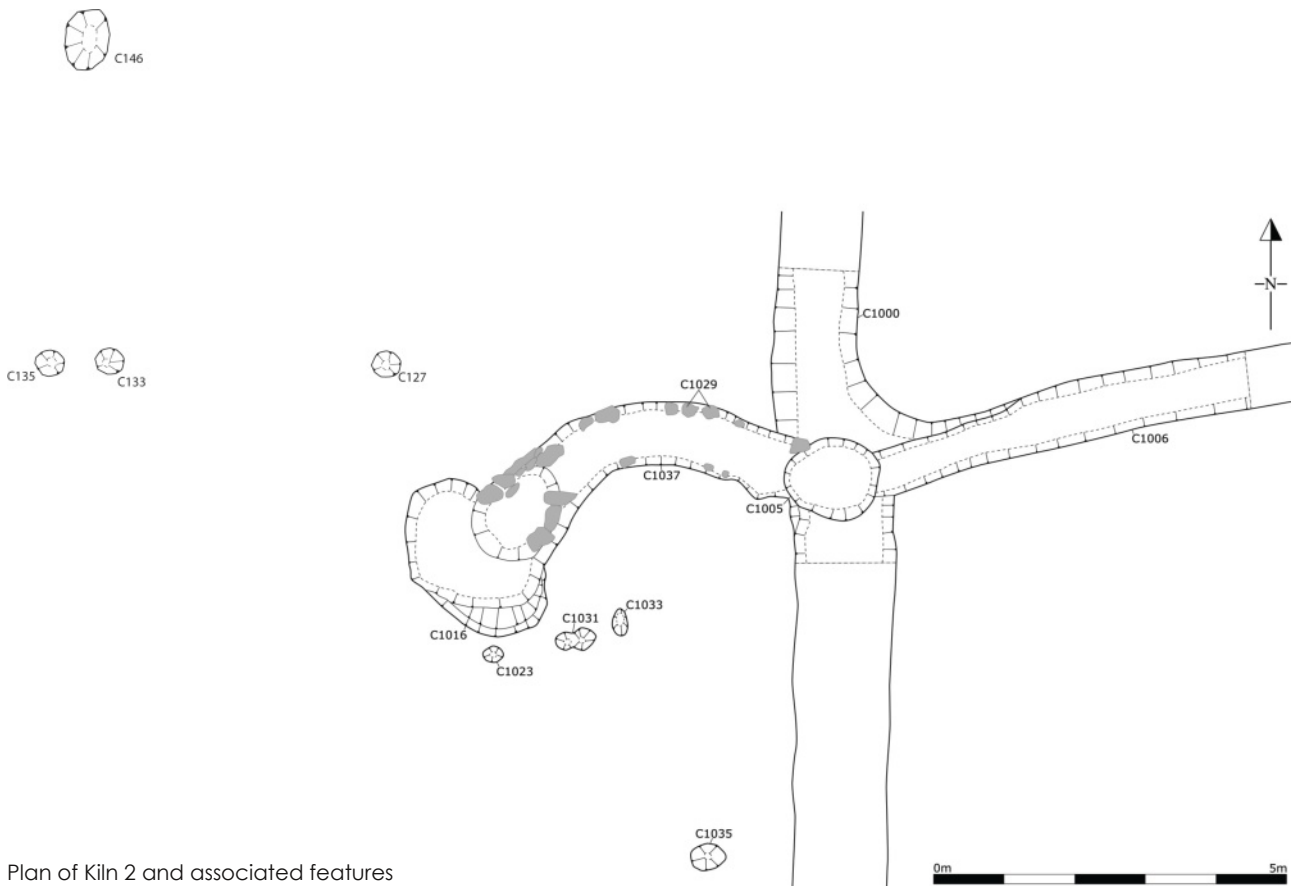
Field 1 is located to the north of Field 2. In the southern side of the field the subsoil was a mix of pale orange and pale yellow clays with pockets of grey gravel and sand. In the northern side the subsoil directly beneath the topsoil was grey pea-sized gravel. In the northeast this gravel was only 0.10m in depth and lay directly above pale yellow glacial clay with pockets of pale yellow fine sand. In the northwest the gravel layer was at a greater depth and this had been utilised in modern times by the former landowner in the form of machine dug gravel pits.

A comma-shaped, cereal drying kiln was located in the northeast of Field 1 associated with a pit and postholes. The junction of a medieval north-south orientated field boundary ditch and an east-west ditch truncated the east chamber of the kiln.

Comma-shaped kiln (Kiln 2)

The remains of a cereal-drying kiln were uncovered in the northeast of Field 1. They consisted of a firing chamber (C1016) and drying chamber (C1005) connected by a curving flue (C1037). The feature had originally been stone-lined (C1029 and C1039) but most of the stones had been removed prior to the kiln being backfilled.

The firing chamber (C1016) was located at the western end of the kiln. It was a large sub-circular pit with an oval-shaped firing bowl at the base to the northeast at the junction with the flue. The firing bowl was heavily scorched, and the surrounding stones of the lining were all heat-affected. A single large capstone covered the firing bowl but due to degradation by heat the boulder had split in two. It managed to remain in place, with some additional stabilisation, until full excavation. The stone lining either side of the firing bowl remained in situ due to the presence of the capstone which rested on two upright stones to the north and south of the firing bowl. There was evidence that the stone lining continued west into the



Plan of Kiln 2 and associated features



Mid-ex view of firing chamber C1016, looking east (top left)

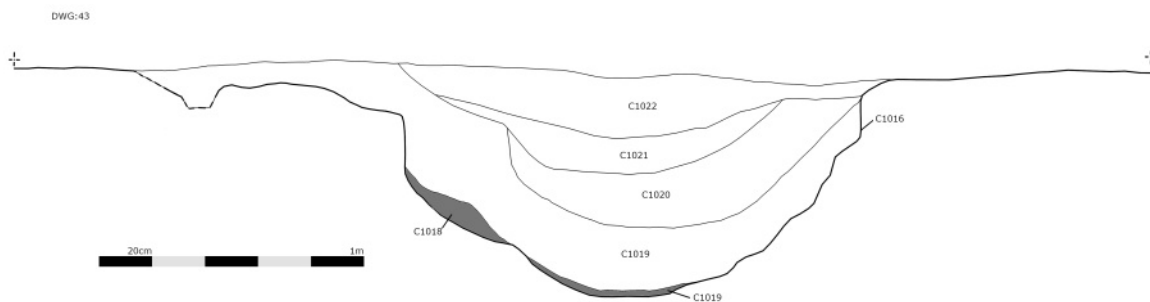
Post-ex view of firing chamber C1016 with capstone of flue still in situ, looking east (upper centre left)

Post-ex view of firing chamber C1016 and flue C1037 with postholes of possible windbreak to right, looking east (lower centre left)



West-facing section of firing chamber C1016 (bottom)

Post-ex view of firing spot at the junction of the firing chamber and the flue, looking east (right)





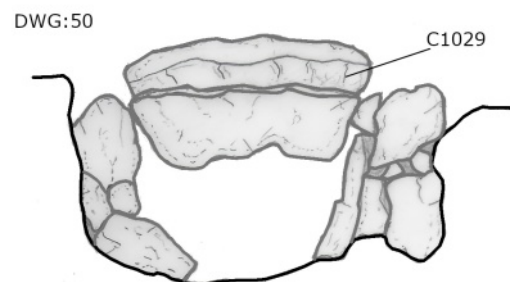
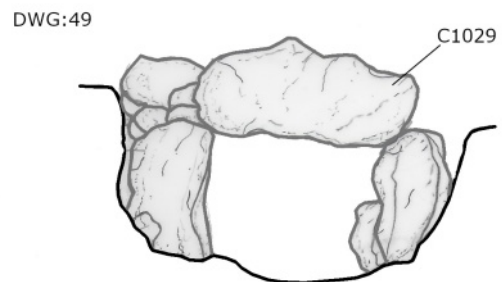
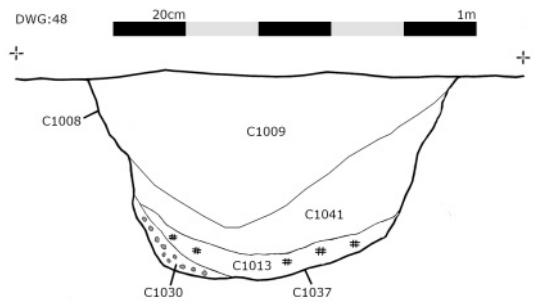
Mid-ex view of flue C1037 with part of stone lining C1029 visible, looking west (top left)

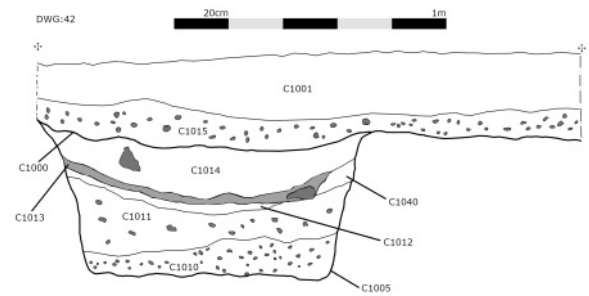
Post-ex view of flue C1037 with stone lining C1029 and capstone in situ, looking southeast (centre left)

Mid-ex view of drying chamber C1005 with stone lining C1039 in situ, looking west (bottom left)

Post-ex view of flue C1037, looking east (top right)

West-facing section of flue (centre right) and profiles of capstone (west - lower centre right, east - bottom right)





Mid-ex view of drying chamber C1005 with stone lining C1039 removed, looking west (top left)

Post-ex view of drying chamber C1005 with flue to right, Ditch C1000 to left and Ditch C1000 in background, looking south (centre left)

Post-ex view of Kiln 2, looking west (bottom left)

East-facing section of drying chamber C1005 (right)

main firing chamber (or stoke-hole) along the north and south sides in the form of stone sockets, however the stones had been removed. There was no evidence for a lining at the western end of the chamber. Where the chamber joined the flue to the northeast, further stone sockets indicated that the east side had originally been fully lined.

The flue (C1037) extended from the northeastern side of the firing chamber (C1016) and arced to the northeast, east and southeast for 3.5m where it joined the western side of the drying chamber (C1005). The cut of the flue was roughly U-shaped in profile with steep to vertical sides and a flat or shallowly concave base. Very little of the stone lining (C1029) remained within the flue but stone sockets were evident along both sides indicating that it had originally been fully lined.

The drying chamber (C1005) was smaller than the firing chamber (C1016). It consisted of an oval shaped cut with the long axis orientated east-west. It was truncated by the western terminus of an east-west orientated linear (C1006) and by a medieval north-south orientated ditch (C1000). The cut of the drying chamber was regular with straight vertical sides and a flat base. It appears that the cut may have originally been too deep as two layers of gravel (C1010 and C1011) were deposited to raise the base to the same level as the base of the flue. These layers were finished sealed with a thin layer of pale clay (C1012) upon which lay a deposit of silty charcoal (C1013). The absence of charcoal in the deposits beneath the clay layer (C1012) indicated that the gravel layers had been deposited before the kiln was put into use.

The stone lining within the flue and the firing chamber (C1029) consisted of unhewn stones of various shape, size and geology. Most of the surviving stones were set upright on their long axis against the sides of the cuts. A mixed deposit of sandy silt with pockets of pure pale yellow clay (C1040) was used as a packing material between the stones themselves and the cut of the kiln.

The stone lining (C1039) within the drying chamber was constructed with smaller unhewn stones than those used in the flue and firing chamber. They were mostly sub-angular in shape and the remains of two courses survived at the south side of the chamber. Displaced stones were found within the backfilling material (C1014).

Two distinct kiln-related deposits consisting of dense layers of charcoal and ash covered the base of the kiln. A deposit was identified along the base of the kiln within the firing bowl (C1017), which stretched eastwards down the length of the flue and into the base of the drying chamber where it was recorded as (C1013). This deposit was associated with the use of the kiln and built up over its continued use but due to its nature, silty charcoal, the layers were indistinguishable. The second charcoal deposit (C1018) was to the western side of the firing chamber and appeared to be the result of raking out the firing bowl after multiple uses. This too consisted of indistinguishable layers of charcoal and ash.

Where the stones comprising the stone lining of the flue and firing chamber had been removed, the resulting stone sockets invariably contained a loose gravel deposit (C1030). This is probably the result of the loose upper gravel subsoil falling in as the stones were removed.

All the other deposits within the kiln (C162, C1014, C1019, C1020, C1021 and C1022) were the result of the infilling of the kiln over time post abandonment. The first of these was a loosely compacted mid-grey silt (C1019) that was localised within the flue and the firing chamber. It contained occasional charcoal flecks and a small amount of charred grain or seeds. This fill became more gravelly along the flue (C1041) due to the erosion of the natural sides

Context	length	width	depth
C1005 drying chamber	1.32m	1.15m	0.60m
C1016 firing chamber	2.60m	1.50m	0.89m
C1037 flue	3.50m	0.90m	0.55m
Firing bowl (within C1016)	1.45m	1.15m	0.20m

into the kiln, possibly due to the removal of the stone lining. Within the firing chamber this was followed by a moderately compacted mid-orangey brown clayey silt (C1020) with occasional charcoal flecks. A pocket of similar material containing frequent gravel inclusions (C162) was recorded within this layer in the west side of the chamber. This was followed by loosely compacted mid-greyish brown gravelly silt (C1021) with frequent charcoal flecks. Some displaced stones from the stone lining were evident within this fill indicating the kiln was still deteriorating at this point. The final layer (C1022) within the firing chamber was a moderately compacted mid-orangey brown clayey silt with inclusions of charred seeds and a small amount of degraded animal bone.

The latest fill within the kiln (C1009) was identified along its full length and relates to the final backfilling of the feature. This fill relates to the infilling of the unevenly filled kiln, where the western chamber had largely silted up and the flue was still represented by a partially infilled depression.

In the drying chamber the secondary fill was a dark grey clay (C1014) with frequent charcoal inclusions, an initial silting up within the chamber. This is broadly contemporary with fill C1019 within the flue and firing chamber, but had a lower gravel content. It was truncated by the medieval north-south running boundary ditch (C1000) and by the east-west orientated ditch (C1006). No other fills of the kiln survived within the drying chamber.

External features associated with the kiln

Four postholes and two spreads were located immediately south of the firing chamber (C1016). The postholes formed a line running east-northeast – west-southwest and spanned a distance of 2.15m. The westernmost posthole (C1023) was oval in plan with vertical sides

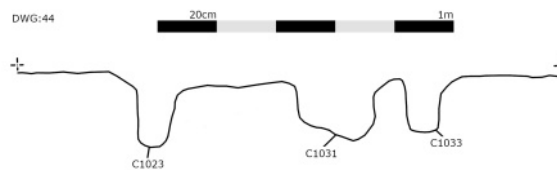
becoming convex at the top. The base was concave with a slight inclination to the east. It contained two fills. The basal fill (C1024) was mid-brown sandy silt. The upper fill (C1025) was grey gravelly sand with frequent charcoal inclusions.

A double posthole (C1031) was uncovered 0.75m to the east. It was a figure-of-eight shape in plan with the long axis orientated east-west. The sides were straight and vertical, and the base was slightly concave. This had a single fill (C1032) a mid-brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. The single fill indicates that the two postholes were in use at the same time, one possibly reinforcing or supporting the other.

The easternmost posthole (C1033) was positioned 0.35m further east. It was oval in plan with straight sides and inclined to the south at an angle of approximately 45°. The base was slightly concave. The fill (C1034) was similar to that of the double posthole, being a mid-brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks.

Given their location along the side of the firing chamber of the kiln it is likely that these postholes represent the remains of a windbreak structure, a feature that is common with many excavated kilns. While it is possible that they may relate to an above ground superstructure of the kiln, no postholes were identified to the north of the kiln. The distance between the postholes and the kiln and the inclination of the eastern post also suggests the interpretation as a windbreak is more fitting.

During the testing an additional shallow pit (T1F1 A, Giacometti 2017, 25-7) was identified to the west of the postholes and may have been an additional component of the windbreak.



East-southeast to west northwest running profile of postholes C1023, C1031 and C1033 (top)

Post-ex view of postholes C1023, C1031 and C1033, looking west (centre)

Post-ex view of postholes C1023, C1031 and C1033 to south of firing chamber C1016, looking west (bottom)

Context	Description	length	width	depth
C1023	posthole	0.30m	0.26m	0.40m
C1031	double posthole	0.60m	0.45m	0.40m
C1033	posthole	0.50m	0.30m	0.42m

Two spreads lay to the south of the postholes. A charcoal-rich deposit (C1027) was directly south of posthole (C1023). It measured 1.5 by 1.1m and 0.05m in depth. It probably represents material raked out from the kiln. The second spread (C1028) was loosely compacted mid-brown silt. It measured 3.0m by 1.8m and 0.05m in depth. It abutted the eastern side of the spread (C1027) and overlay the posthole (C1023). This may be the result of trampled subsoil through the use of the kiln and implies the kiln was still in use after the windbreak had been removed.

A small shallow isolated pit (C1035) was located 5m south of the drying chamber (C1005) of the kiln. It measured 0.5m in diameter and just 0.07m deep, resembling more of a circular-shaped depression than a pit. The fill (C1036) was a mix of black charcoal and silt, loosely compacted. This is probably the result of waste from cleaning out of the kiln.

Pits west of the kiln

To the west of the kiln a number of additional shallow pits were uncovered. The easternmost pit (C127) was located to the northwest of the firing chamber. Two pits (C133 and C135) beside one another were uncovered further to the west. The three pits were similar in size and shape, all being circular in plan, 0.4m in diameter and 0.12-0.16m in depth. The fills of all three pits (C128, C134 and C144) were also identical and sterile.

A fourth pit (C146) was identified to the north of pits C133 and C135. It was oval in plan and measured 1.1m north-south and 0.8m east-west. It survived to 0.2m in depth. The basal fill (C147) was a dark brown silty gravel and was only present to the east. The upper fill (C148) was an orangey brown silt with few stone inclusions. Both fills were sterile.

The purpose of these features remains unclear as no material was retrieved from them, however they may indicate that activity relating to the kilns extended to the west but has not survived later agricultural truncation.



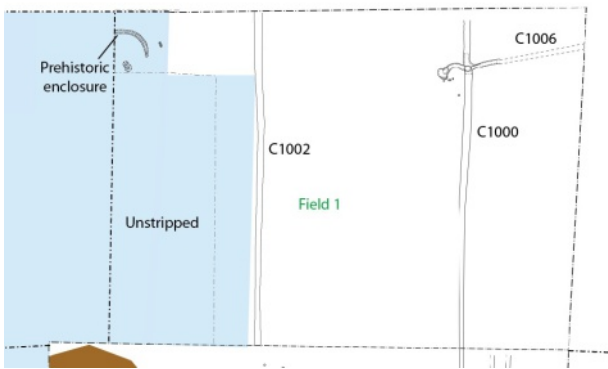
Mid-ex view of pit C127, looking east (top)

Post-ex view of pits S133 and C135, looking south (bottom)

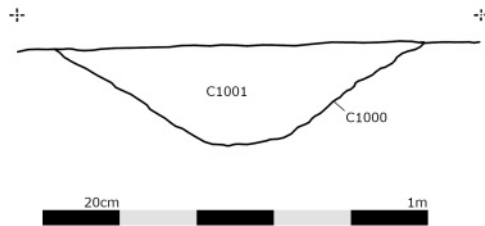
Field boundary ditches

Two north-south orientated field boundary ditches were identified within the test trenches that were opened along the route of the roadway into the north side of the development. These were traced into the stripped northern area of Field 1. A third linear, orientated east-west, was recorded near the northeast corner of the field. These linears represent a field system that is probably medieval in date.

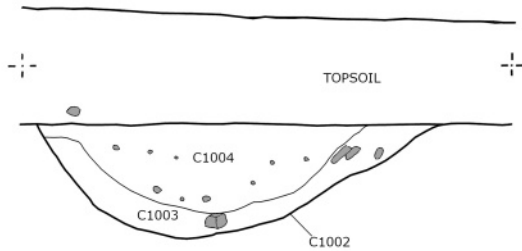
The ditch to the east (C1000) was identified as the same ditch in Field 2 (C25) which contained small sherds of medieval pottery. It ran parallel to the existing eastern field boundary at a



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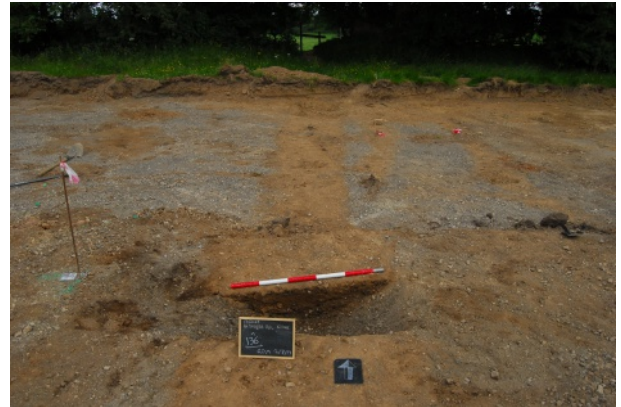


DWG:41



distance of 20m. In the section excavated in the test trench the linear contained one fill (C1001) and was sterile of any ecofacts or finds. Further to the north where the ditch truncated the drying chamber (C1005) of the kiln two fills were identified. The basal deposit (C1015) was loose gravel composed of small rounded pebbles. The upper deposit was the same dark brown silty clay (C1001) as that encountered to the south. The ditch also truncated the east-west ditch (C1006) at this point. The cut of the ditch was roughly U-shaped in profile with a sharp break of slope at the top, gently sloping sides and an imperceptible break of slope to a concave base. It measured 0.31-0.5m in depth and was 0.95m in width. The overall length, across Fields 1 and 2 was over 140m north-south.

The second ditch (C1002) ran parallel to (C1000), 40m to the west. It was roughly U-shaped in profile, with a sharp break of slope at the top, concave sides and an imperceptible



Plan showing the location of the ditches identified in Field 1 (top left)

North-facing section of Ditch C1000 and south-facing section of Ditch C1002 (bottom left)

Mid-ex view of Ditch C1000 to the north of Kiln 2, looking north (top right)

Post-ex view of Ditch C1000 truncating top of Kiln 2, looking northwest (centre right)

Mid-ex view of Ditch C1002, looking north (bottom right)



Mid-ex view of Ditch C1006 from drying chamber of Kiln 2, looking east (left)



Mid-ex working shot showing Ditch C1006 truncating and terminating within drying chamber C1005 of Kiln 2, looking north (top right)



Mid-ex-view of junction of Ditches C1000 and C1006, looking west (centre right)



Mid-ex view of Ditch C1000 truncating Ditch C1006, looking south (bottom right)

break of slope to a concave base. It was similar in dimensions to ditch C1000, measuring 0.30m in depth and 1.04m in width. The linear ran north-south across Field 1 at a length of 70m. It was not identified to the south in Field 2. It contained two fills (C1003 & C1004). The basal fill (C1003) was well compacted clay that covered the sides and base of the cut and may have been a lining as the natural in the area excavated was quite sandy. The main fill (C1004) was a moderately compacted orangey brown silty clay. A single animal tooth was retrieved from this fill.

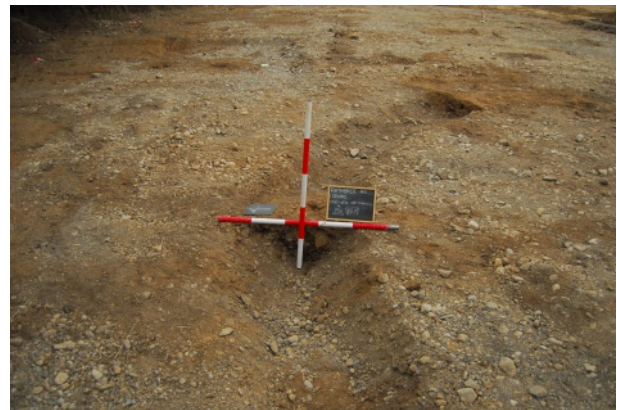
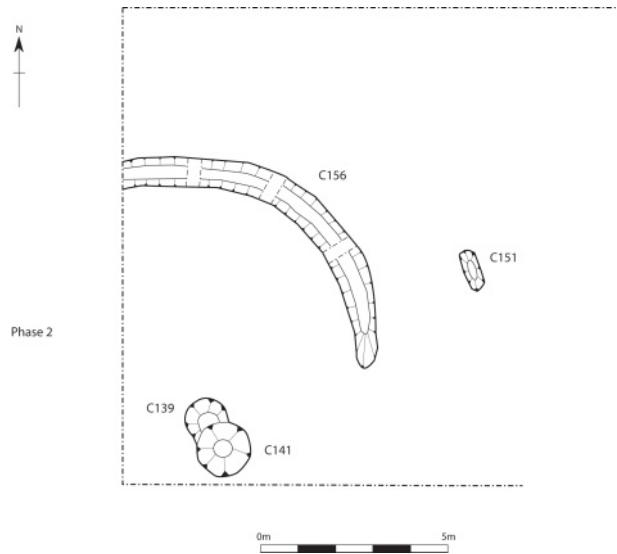
The east-west running ditch (C1006) extended from the existing eastern field boundary and truncated the drying chamber of the kiln (C1005), where it terminated. This is in line with the later north-south ditch (C1000), which truncated the terminus of the ditch, and it is possible the ditch was associated with an earlier cutting of ditch C1000. The ditch was U-shaped in profile with a sharp break of slope at the top and concave sides. There was a gradual break of slope to the concave base. The basal fill (C1007) was mid-brown silty clay with frequent small pebbles, moderately compacted. The upper fill (C132) was a greyish brown clayey silt

Context	description	length	width	depth
C1000	N-S ditch	146m	0.55-0.95m	0.30-0.50m
C1002	N-S ditch	70m	1.04m	0.30m
C1006	E-W ditch	23m	0.90m	0.55m

and very similar to the overlying topsoil. The ditch was a similar depth to the flue of the kiln to the west and it is possible that the earliest phase of the ditch was related to the kiln, possibly as a flue allowing the kiln to be used in the opposite direction.

Sub-circular enclosure

In the northwest corner of the stripped portion of Field 1 a narrow curvilinear ditch or gully (C156) was partially uncovered. The gully was located c. 4m to the south of the northern boundary of the site. The western end continued into the unstripped portion of the field. The exposed arc ran east-west before curving to the southeast where a terminus was apparent. The gully is likely to represent the remains of a penannular circular enclosure or ring-ditch. Upon the discovery of the enclosure the developer decided to include this portion of the site in Phase 2 of the project development and it will be dealt with under a separate planning application (Kildare Co. Co. Ref. 20/159).



Plan of the portion of the penannular enclosure and associated features uncovered in the northwest of Field 1 (top)

Mid-ex view of section through enclosure ditch C156, looking east (upper centre)

Mid-ex view of arc of enclosure ditch C156, looking north-west (lower centre)

Mid-ex view of arc of enclosure ditch C156, looking south-east (bottom)

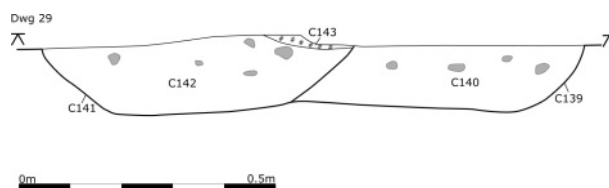


Three slots were inserted into the gully to assess the feature. It measured c. 0.7m in width and c. 0.3m in depth with a U-shaped profile. Animal bone was noted in the single fill (C157), which was a greyish brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Two concentrations of disarticulated animal bone were recorded to the east.

Two pits (C139 and C141) were identified within the enclosure. The initial pit (C139) was circular and measured 1.1m in diameter and 0.28m in depth. It had concave sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (C140), which was greyish brown silt and gravel with occasional bone inclusions. It was truncated to the southeast by pit C141. Pit C141 was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.4m east-west and 1.3m north-south, and was 0.3m in depth. It was similar in profile to the earlier pit with concave sides and a flat base. The main fill of the pit (C142) was similar to that of the earlier pit, though the fill was looser. It also had animal bone inclusions. An upper deposit (C143) of charcoal-rich silt and burnt bone was identified at the top of the pit. This may be the remains of a cremation deposit with the remainder having been lost through agricultural activity.

One pit (C151) was identified to the east of the ring-ditch. The pit was oval in plan and orientated northwest-southeast. It measured 1.1m in length and 0.4m in width and survived to a depth of 0.28m. The pit was deeper to the south and had concave sides and a concave base and was cut into the loose gravel natural. The basal fill of the pit (C155) was greyish brown silt and gravel with occasional bone inclusions. The upper fill (C152) was a dark greyish brown silt with frequent inclusions of gravel, burnt bone and charcoal. The burnt bone was more prevalent to the north and included some fragments of burnt antler. It is unknown at present whether burnt human remains are also present.

This area was covered with a layer of Terram and will be resolved in Phase 2 of the project.



Northeast-facing section through pits C139 and C141 (top)

Mid-ex view of pits C139 and C141, looking southwest (centre)

Post-ex view of pit C151, looking north (bottom)

Section 3 Discussion

Early Neolithic pit cluster

A series of regularly shaped and regularly spaced pits (C98, C100, C102, C104, C106) in Field 1 are ambiguous in purpose. They were isolated from any other archaeological features in the field but four of the pits contained artefacts. In one of the pits (C106) a broken saddle quern (Find no. 17E0125:107:1) was retrieved. The quern was a large granite stone, pink in colour, with a slightly concave polished surface on the upper side. None of the other faces of the stone had been worked in any way. Saddle querns were used for grinding grains from the Neolithic period and are well documented from Bronze Age sites in Ireland (Connolly 1994). They were used in conjunction with a hand-held rubbing stone. Although they may well have been used contemporaneously with the rotary quern, introduced to Ireland during the Iron Age (Caulfield 1977), it was eventually superseded by that more economic machine. There is a notable concentration of saddle querns in Counties Kildare, Carlow and west Wicklow (Connolly 1994, 28) an area which is dominated by the fertile Liffey plain. In a study carried out in the 1990s few saddle querns were identified at Neolithic sites in Ireland leading to the suggestion that though grain was being grown on Neolithic sites, saddle querns were either not a part of the processing involved, or were too valuable to be left behind (ibid., 31). The presence of the saddle quern at Rathbride Road, which is associated with Early Neolithic pottery, is therefore noteworthy. The deposition of such an artefact is likely to have been significant and intentional.

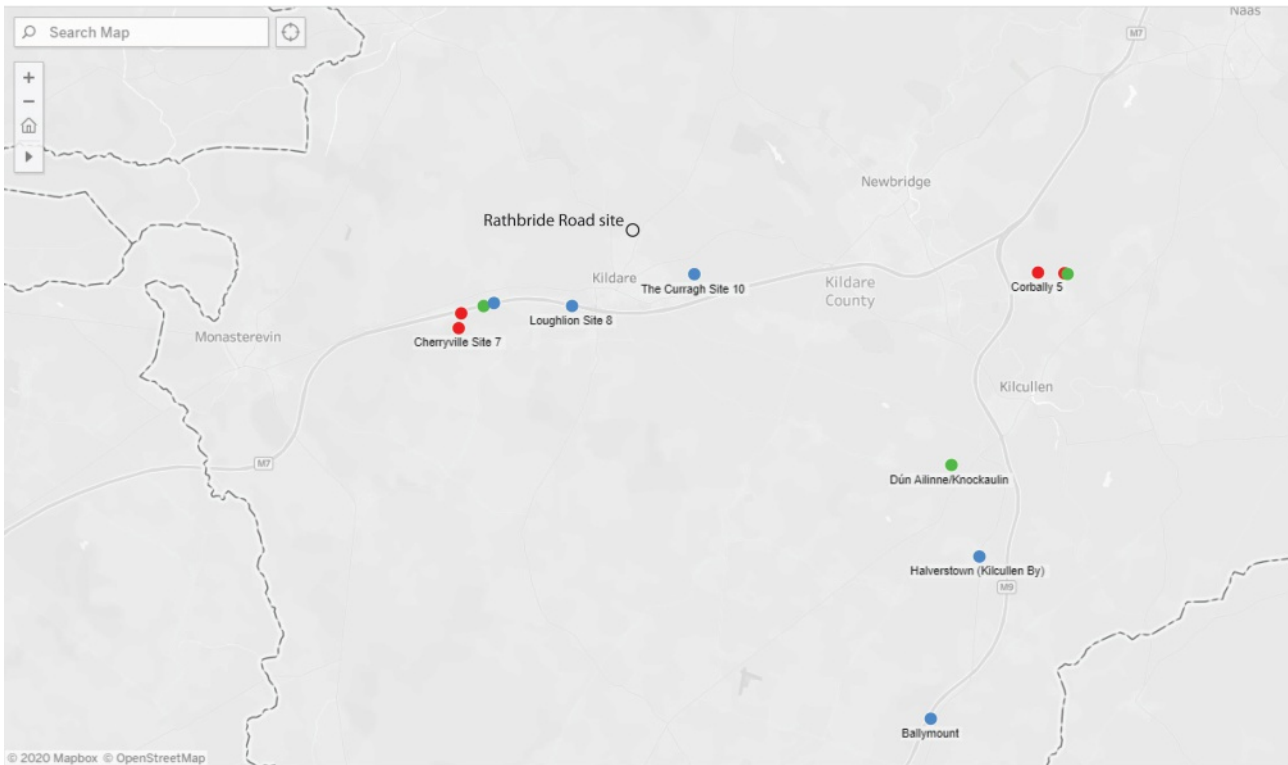
Three of the other pits (C100, C102 and C104) produced single sherds of prehistoric pottery, which has been identified as Early Neolithic carinated bowl (Grogan & Roche 2020). While this is a small assemblage, with only four body sherds retrieved from the three pits, it is

significant as it is the first record of material from this period in the area (ibid.). Indeed the only sites radiocarbon dated to the Early Neolithic period in Kildare County are at Cherryville Site 7, Corbally and Hughestown, with Cherryville being the closest at over 4km to the southwest (Chapple 2019a). The assemblage relates to a minimum of two separate vessels, with blackened accretions on the internal surface of one of the vessels indicating it was used in cooking (ibid.). Vessels of this type represent the earliest type of Neolithic pottery in Ireland, and dated sites indicate that this pottery type was in use from c. 3900-3600BC (ibid.).

Sherd of Early Neolithic carinated bowl retrieved from pit C104 (top)

View of prehistoric pit cluster, looking south (bottom)





Map of sites that have returned Neolithic radiocarbon dates in the vicinity of the site (after Chapple 2019b). Early Neolithic sites in red, Middle Neolithic sites in green and Late Neolithic sites in blue. The majority of these sites reflect archaeological work that has been carried out in advance of infrastructural projects, which explains the linear arrangement, particularly along the M7 to the south. It will be interesting to see what date is returned for the prehistoric pits uncovered at Rathbride Road.

Early Neolithic pits, either in clusters or solitary, have been found on house sites, in the vicinity of megalithic monuments and on sites with more ephemeral occupation evidence (Smyth 2012, 17). In many cases these pits contain similar inclusions, with charcoal, burnt and unburnt stone, stone tools and pottery recorded (ibid.). It has also been noted that the fragmentary state of artefacts within these pits is a factor, with whole or nearly whole pottery vessels rarely recovered, and that large quantities of material are rarely identified within them (ibid.). Bayesian modelling of the dates from pit complexes indicates that the Early Neolithic tradition ended by 3520/3460 cal BC (Whitehouse et al. 2014), however pit

complexes return during the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (McLoughlin et al. 2016; Carlin 2011, 110).

These pits are occasionally interpreted as waste disposal pits, however, as is the case at Rathbride Road, the occurrence of a small quantity of broken material in each pit is unusual. Why not put all the rubbish in one pit? Why is there a single artefact in each pit? The deposition is structured, and appears to have an intention that goes beyond practical waste disposal. Several authors (e.g. Case 1973, Cooney 2000, cited in Smyth 2012, 14) have suggested that in some cases these pits may represent ritualistic deposition or offerings, and made sense to the prehistoric people who created them (Waddell 1998, 7).

Such pit offerings are known from other cultures around the world, such as the Lima Culture in Peru, where the more arid conditions allowed for the preservation of organic offerings such as frogs, fish and marine animals, vegetables and plant matter, as well as inorganic remains or pottery and other artefacts. In Irish examples bone is rarely identified, particularly in the Early Neolithic period (Smyth 2012, 17), so the pits are unlikely to be a feature of burial. It

is possible that the Irish pits also contained offerings of organic material that has not survived. The saddle quern and carinated bowl fragments are items that would be associated with domestic activity. They may have been returned to the ground when they had outlived their use or became damaged, or perhaps they were intentionally broken prior to their deposition, each in a separate pit. The true reason for their deposition and the meaning attached to it by those that deposited the artefacts has been lost, however the deliberate deposition and separation of the artefacts in different pits implies a significant intent, and that these were not incidental depositions.

The pits uncovered at Rathbride Road may represent a cluster of offering pits in a relatively isolated location. At present there is little evidence of human occupation in the region during the Early Neolithic period. The pits may indicate that this area was occupied in c. 3900-3600BC, and it is possible further evidence of Early Neolithic settlement will be uncovered nearby in the future.

The Burnt Spread and Trough

The remains of a fulacht fiadh were uncovered towards the eastern end of the site. At Rathbride Road, as with many recorded fulacht fiadh sites, the intervening millennia of agricultural activity has obliterated the burnt mound of waste material that would have surrounded the trough with only scraps of this surviving. Hawkes, in his recent publication on prehistoric burnt mounds in Ireland has suggested a number of categories to help compare these site types (Hawkes 2018, 111-114). The fulacht fiadh site uncovered at Rathbride Road can be categorised as Type 3-4, a trough with little or no surviving burnt mound material. This may indicate the site was only used for a short period of time. While agricultural activity has clearly impacted the associated burnt spread, little burnt mound material was noted within the remainder of the field suggesting the mound could not have been very extensive to begin with.

The trough (C109) had a well-constructed clay lining (C110) that made the pit water-tight. Clay



Mid-ex view of section through the main fill and the clay lining of the trough of the fulacht fiadh, looking west (top)

Mid-ex view of the scant remains of the burnt spread associated with the fulacht trough, looking northwest (bottom)

lined troughs have been identified at other fulacht fiadh sites, such as at Cloghers and Dromthacker, Co. Kerry and Carrigtohill, Co. Cork (Hawkes 2018, 70). The trough contained typical deposits of burnt stones and charcoal-rich soils. A possible posthole was located to the southeast of the trough but no other associated features were uncovered.

Burnt spreads and associated troughs are broadly dated to the Bronze Age, though examples are known from the Neolithic period until the Iron Age. They are the most numerous archaeological site type in Ireland with an estimated over 7,000 recorded examples to date (Hawkes 2018). They are also more commonly known as fulacthaí fia. The sites generally take the form of a horse-shoe shaped mound surrounding a central trough although some sites show several phases of use and others contain more complex features associated with the burnt mound. The mound invariably consists of burnt stones and charcoal-rich soils that are the waste material of a process of heating water in a trough by immersing heated stones from a fire. The hot stones can bring the water to boiling temperature and keep it heated over long periods of time. The exact function of fulacthaí fia have been the source of debate for many years as very little material culture evidence has been found in relation to these sites. The longest-running and most broadly accepted theory is that they were used for cooking meat (O’Kelly 1954; Hawkes 2018). Other theories abound, including brewing (Quinn & Moore 2009), bathing (Lucas 1965; O Drisceoil 1988), and processing of materials (Denvir 1999; Brown et al 2016). The abundance of these sites indicates that these were a fairly common feature to the people of the Bronze Age and were probably utilised for a variety of purposes.

While the presence of the Early Neolithic pit cluster was somewhat unexpected, the presence of a fulacht fiadh on the site was not. The site is located in the immediate vicinity of the Curragh, which was an area of extensive human activity from at least the Neolithic period. A large number of upstanding monuments across the Curragh, and extending into the Kildare hinterland, attest to human occupation of the wider area from the Neolithic into the later

prehistoric period. Within the Curragh plain, 179 earthworks have been identified, of which 135 are barrows, making it one of the largest concentrations in Ireland (Clancy 2005). There is ample evidence for occupation of the landscape in the vicinity of the site during the Bronze Age and fulacthaí fia, which are typical features of such a landscape, are to be expected.

The enclosure identified during the monitoring works to the west may also relate to this period, perhaps being an outlying ring-ditch or structure. This enclosure was also suggested through the analysis of aerial photography (Giacometti 2017). This feature was not fully investigated during the current excavation. It will be excavated and recorded in Phase 2 of the works under a separate planning application (Kildare Co. Co. Ref. 20/159).

The Kilns

The longstanding agricultural usage of the site at Rathbride Road is emphasised by the presence of two cereal-drying kilns, which are likely to date to the early medieval period. Kilns were essential to cereal processing for a number of reasons. The process reduced the moisture content of the grains, preventing rot during storage. It also fumigated the crop for insects such as the grain weevil (Monk & Kelleher, 2005). Drying facilitated the grain for threshing and milling and aided the malting process (McQuade, Molloy & Moriarty, 2009). Kilns were valuable resources and owned and operated by high status members of the community. Only shares of a kiln were afforded to lower class farmers (McQuade, Molloy & Moriarty, 2009). In the case of the Rathbride Road kilns no other early medieval archaeology was uncovered during the excavation. While it is possible the kilns were associated with another as yet unidentified early medieval settlement, perhaps under the control of the ecclesiastical foundation at Kildare, no evidence for such dwellings was identified during the excavation. They may well have been owned directly by the famous and powerful medieval abbey of St. Brigid and be indicative of the control this foundation had over the surrounding landscape.

The earliest evidence of cereal drying kilns in

Ireland has come from relatively recent excavations, placing some structures firmly in the Bronze Age (2200-700 BC). These include two examples from Tipperary, one from Knockgraffon (McQuade, Molloy & Moriarty, 2009, 33) and another from Carrigatogher (Harding) townland near Nenagh (Hackett 2010). The cereal drying kiln continued in use, in one form or another, right into the twentieth century in Ireland.

Kilns are essentially formed of three components, the drying chamber in which the grain would have been spread over an elevated wattle or woven straw floor, the firing chamber in which the hearth was placed, with room for stoking and tending the fire, and the flue, a channel between the two chambers. The structures were dug into the subsoil with a covering roof of clay, sod or straw above the ground.

Kiln forms have been classified into four types: the figure-of-eight shaped, the dumbbell-shaped, the comma-shaped and the keyhole

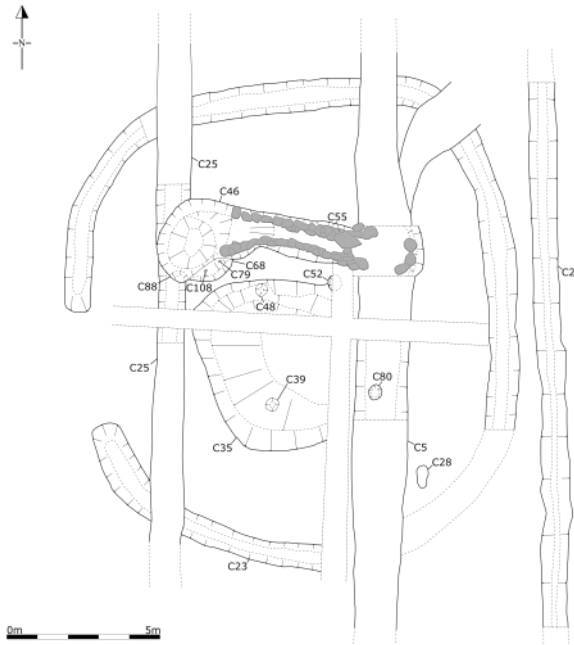
shaped (Monk & Kelleher, 2005). These are based on the shape in plan of the features as they appear in the ground. The Rathbride Road site has two of these forms – a dumbbell-shaped kiln (Kiln 1) in Field 2 and a comma-shaped-kiln (Kiln 2) in Field 1. The figure-of-eight type appears to be the earliest form of kiln with examples from the Bronze and Iron ages, while dumbbell and keyhole types have been dated from the Iron Age into medieval times (Monk & Power, 2014). Monk and Kelleher (2005) have proposed an early medieval date (AD 400-1169) for comma-shaped kilns. All forms of kilns have some examples of being fully or partially stone lined, as encountered at Rathbride Road.

Kiln 1

The dumbbell type kiln (Kiln 1) in Field 2 was constructed within a sub-circular enclosure formed by a gully with an opening to the southwest. Kilns within an enclosure are rare but not unique and several examples were excavated at Corbally, Co. Kildare (Tobin 2003, 36), approximately 11km east of the Rathbride

Post-ex view of Kiln 1





Plan of Kiln 1 and the associated enclosure and structure (top)

Post-ex view of Kiln 1 within the associated enclosure and with the posthole of the structure visible to the right of the kiln, looking east (bottom)

Road site. At Haynestown Site 18, Co. Louth a figure-of-eight shaped kiln was uncovered within a c. 7.5m diameter enclosure that appeared contemporary with the kiln (McLoughlin, Licence No. 06E0475; Excavations Ref. 2006:1374). Other examples of early medieval kilns situated within enclosures were recorded, among others, at Kilgobbin, Co. Dublin (Bolger 2008) and Marlhill, Co. Tipperary, (McQuade et al. 2009, 195). The enclosing gullies recorded at the previously mentioned sites and at Rathbride Road showed no evidence of being structural in nature. They were probably a method of controlling water drainage around the kiln and possibly also to signify ownership of a valuable resource (ibid., 199), though Tobin (2003, 36) suggests the gullies surrounding the kilns at Corbally may have held lightweight woven mats or hurdle panels and acted as more complete windbreaks than those seen elsewhere in the archaeological record.

Both the shallow cut (C35) and the four-poster structure to one side of the kiln are likely to have been associated with the processing



activities being carried out. Monk points out that the early Irish documentary sources imply a close connection between the threshing floor and the kiln (Monk 1981, 228). This suggests that processing would have taken place in the vicinity of the kilns. It is possible that barns or light framed structures may have been used for this work. Evidence for this was identified during the excavations at Alexander Reid, Co. Meath (McGlade 2017, 94) and Seamount, Malahide (Giacometti 2015a) in the form a distinctive broad shallow pits with hard stony bases, which were located beside kilns. The four postholes may represent a raised grain store or granary measuring c. 3.2m by 3.7m. The raised granary may have provided shelter for the threshing within the shallow pit below.

Four-poster structures on British Bronze Age (Moore & Jennings 1992, 27) and Iron Age (Gent 1983, 254) sites have been interpreted as raised granary sites, and similar structures were documented at Stamullin Co. Meath (Ní Lionáin 2008, 28), Donacorney Great, Co. Meath (Giacometti 2010), Haggardtown Co. Louth and Lismullin I, Co. Meath (O'Connell 2009, 34).

At Sallymount, Co. Limerick a four-poster structure dating to AD 671-772 and measuring 2m by 2m was excavated and interpreted as a grain store (Clarke & Long 2009, 44). At Rathbane South, Co. Limerick a kiln was uncovered associated with a windbreak, waste pit and a possible rectangular structure represented by four postholes, which measured 5m by 3m (Birmingham et al. 2013, 110). At Haynestown, Co. Louth a rectangular structure interpreted as a barn or grain store was identified beside a dumbbell-shaped kiln (O'Sullivan & Downey 2005, 32-3). Other examples of possible grain stores represented by circular structures in the immediate vicinity of kilns are also known, such as at Alexander Reid, Co. Meath (McGlade 2017, 90) and Readsland, Co. Meath (McGlade 2020b, 324). The early medieval law tracts indicate that a barn to store grain after it had been threshed, dried and winnowed was owned by wealthy farmers and was generally found near his house (Kerr et al 2010, 89). While the sources suggest these were located near the house of the farmer, Kelly (1997, cited in Kerr et al. 2010) suggests it was most likely located outside the

enclosure in an area known as the *airlise* which translates to the area in front of the *les* or fort. In the case of the kiln at Readsland a settlement enclosure was not identified. It is possible the kilns here relate to the processing of the grain from the extensive lands associated with the ecclesiastic settlement at Kildare.

Gardiner (2013, 32) notes that granaries are relatively rare on English early and high medieval sites, suggesting that on smaller farms grain may have been stored in wooden chests as it was in the early modern period. During the early medieval period the possible raised granary on the Rathbride Road site would have been within the lands controlled by the powerful ecclesiastical foundation of Kildare. It is unusual that it is located at some distance from the main settlement, however this can perhaps be explained by the level of dominance and control the foundation at Kildare had over the surrounding region. Perhaps the granary was considered to be well within the territory controlled by Kildare, and as such remained undefended. That a granary was needed is also suggestive of substantial cereal production, which again would imply its association with Kildare.

Kiln 2

The comma-shaped kiln (Kiln 2) in Field 1 did not have an enclosure but did display features found at other kiln sites. Comma or L-shaped kilns, usually dated to the early medieval period, are an evolved design, where the flue between the firing chamber and the drying chamber bends or turns making it more difficult for sparks to fly to the drying chamber and ignite the seeds. While these are less common in the archaeological record, examples have been uncovered at Brooklodge, Co. Cork (Clinton, Licence No. 99E0438, Excavations Ref. 1999:080), Kilmacredock, Co. Kildare (Conboy 2001), Kildonan, Co. Dublin (O'Donovan, Licence No. 10E0462, Excavations Ref. 2010:280) and Readsland, Co. Meath (McGlade 2020b, 170). Recent analysis of the evolution of kilns carried out by the Early Medieval Archaeology Project (EMAP) suggests that early medieval kilns show a gradual progression in shape from small earth-cut keyhole and oval kilns, followed by figure-of-eight-shaped structures, until these were gradually replaced by



Post-ex view of Kiln 2, looking east (top)

Post-ex view of Kiln 2, looking west (bottom)



larger keyhole- and L-/comma-shaped stone-built kilns (Kerr et al., 2010, 97). This may imply that the kilns at Rathbride Road were in use later in the early medieval period, at a time when the power of the ecclesiastical foundation at Kildare was well-established.

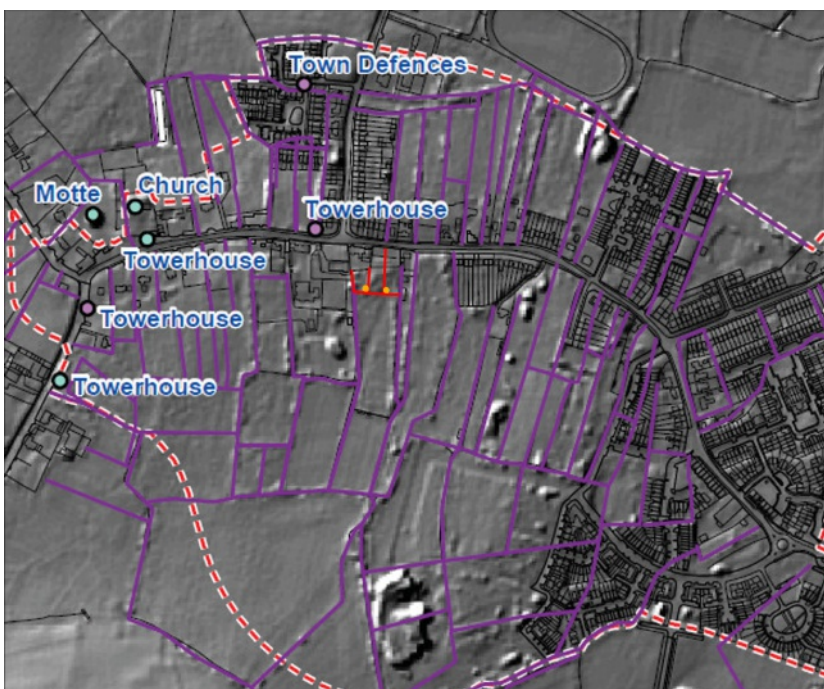
Studies of cereal-drying kilns have noted that many were located within or close to field boundaries, whether they be ditches, banks, or other boundary types (Monk & Kelleher 2005). This certainly seems to be the case with the kiln in Field 1, in which the drying chamber (C1005) is located at the intersection of two later ditches (C1000 and C1006). Indeed the continuation of Ditch C1000 to the south (C25) also truncated Kiln 1. The east-west running ditch (C1006) terminated within the drying chamber of the kiln and it is possible, based on the depth and shape of the earliest phase of the cut, that it was originally related to the kiln, perhaps serving as an additional flue so the kiln could be used in two directions. Additional evidence for this did not survive the truncation caused by the later use of the cut as a field ditch.

While the field boundaries were later than the kilns and date to the medieval period, it is likely that they replaced earlier boundaries given the linear layout of the kilns. On later Anglo-Norman sites, such as at Newcastle Lyons, kilns

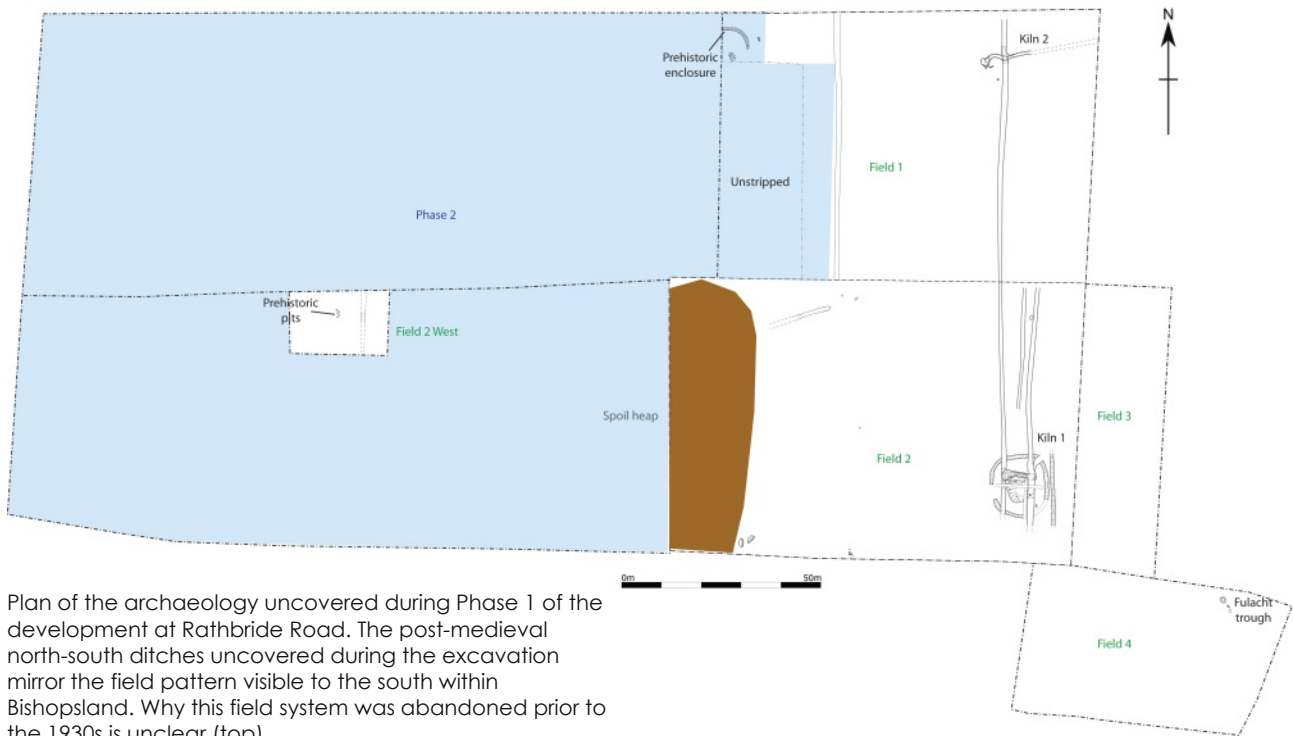
were located at the rear of linear burgage plots and shared between two plots (Giacometti 2015b, 36-7). At Rathbride Road the kilns are not equidistant from the road to the east, which would have been expected if they related to burgage plots. However their location and orientation does appear ordered and implies that they were located in a controlled landscape, presumably under the influence and control of the abbey of Kildare. It will be interesting to see the results of the environmental analysis and radiocarbon dating for the kilns to better understand their significance.

The Field Boundary Ditches

The ditches excavated in Fields 1, 2 and 4 display typical form and function as field boundary ditches in a rural agricultural setting. They appear to relate to a field system laid out in the medieval period, however the comparable orientation and positioning of the kilns uncovered on the site suggest an early medieval field system was present also and has not survived. It is possible that prior to the creation of the shallow field ditches identified during the excavation other forms of field boundary were preferred. Both kilns were truncated by one of the later medieval field ditches, indicating that these kilns were no longer in use by that time,



Plan of the Anglo-Norman town of Newcastle Lyons with two kiln marked in orange that were identified at the rear of burgage plots (after Giacometti 2015b). It also appeared that the Newcastle Lyons kilns were shared between two plots. While the kilns at Rathbride Road are likely to be earlier, they are set back from the road to the east and their location may also have been influenced by linear plots extending from the road



Plan of the archaeology uncovered during Phase 1 of the development at Rathbride Road. The post-medieval north-south ditches uncovered during the excavation mirror the field pattern visible to the south within Bishopsland. Why this field system was abandoned prior to the 1930s is unclear (top)

First Edition Ordnance Survey map showing the site outline in orange and the location of medieval Ditch C25/C1000 in black (centre) with the excavation results shown below (bottom). The ditch appears to follow the line of the townland and parish boundary to the north and the kink in the boundary to the south, which preserve the line of a medieval boundary.



and also suggesting a change in the post- Anglo-Norman period. The medieval ditch that truncated the kilns lines up with the eastern boundary of Clogherret Glebe to the north and with a kink in Bishopsland townland to the south suggesting a more linear division of land was initially created in the Anglo-Norman period, which became more fragmentary in later years, or following the Dissolution. A similar fragmentation of church landholdings can be seen at Swords, Co. Dublin where the large former ecclesiastic manor was broken up and divided amongst smaller religious communities, or ecclesiastic and private individuals in the late medieval and post-medieval period. The linear field system established within this landscape in the medieval period continued to be used throughout the post-medieval period and up until recent times. A number of post-medieval



field ditches (C2, C5 and C96) were used to sub-divide the long linear strips. Two of the ditches, (C94 and C1002) provided no dateable artefacts nor any intersections to establish stratigraphic relationships. The Ordnance Survey map of the c. 1830s shows no sub-division within Fields 1 and 2 of the site and it is possible the shallow ditches uncovered may not have been substantial enough to be mapped by the Ordnance Survey.

In the 17th century this land (along with the lands directly to the west) are referred to as ‘Cloghgarret and Farrincooley. Bounded on the west with Dunmurry Lane, on the east with Rathbride [Lane] and on the north and south with bishop's land’ (No. 33; Emerson, cited in Andrews 1986, 11). The name Cloghgarret is retained in the glebe lands (bishop’s land) directly north of the excavation, and the name Farrincooley survives in a modern development in Bishopsland directly to the south of the excavation. Cloghgarret translates as Gearóid’s Rock (www.logainn.ie). Though there was no record of the townland being glebe lands in the 19th century (*ibid.*), the name presumably preserving the tradition that the lands were once held by the church. The ‘Gearoid’ element may be a reference to one of the Earls of Kildare. Farrincooley is more difficult to translate. The initial component translates as land (Joyce 1910, 586). The ‘cooley’ portion may translate as corner, angle or back (*ibid.*, 530-1), giving us ‘the back land’ or ‘the land of the corner or angle’ as a translation. The site lies within a strip of Kildare townland almost completely cut off from the remainder of the townland by Bishopsland so perhaps ‘the back land’ would be an appropriate translation. Based on the results of the excavation some of the townland boundaries in the immediate vicinity of the site are likely to have been laid out during the Anglo-Norman period, and it is possible that some of these were informed by earlier medieval boundaries.

Penannular enclosure

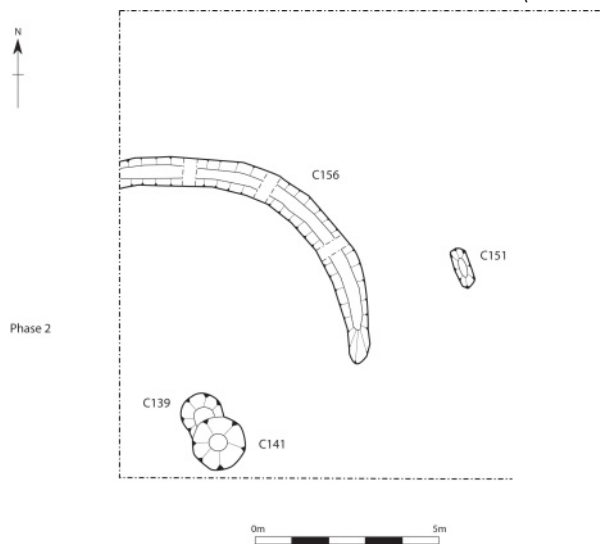
A shallow penannular enclosure, possibly representing the remains of a ring-ditch or structure, was partially uncovered during the monitoring in Field 1. A circular anomaly was

noted in this portion of the site in the initial archaeological assessment (Giacometti 2017). A number of associated pits were also identified, two of which contained burnt bone. This feature may be the remains of a penannular ring-ditch or ring barrow. Numerous examples of these have been identified within the Curragh to the northeast of the site (see Clancy 2005).

Ring barrows are circular monuments consisting of a bank and internal ditch, with a mound of earth occasionally present in the interior. These burial monuments were in use during the Bronze and Iron Ages. Burial, usually in the

Plan of probable penannular ring ditch or barrow partially exposed in Field 1 (top)

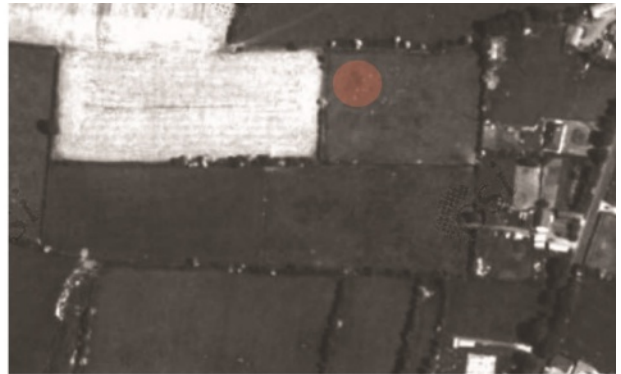
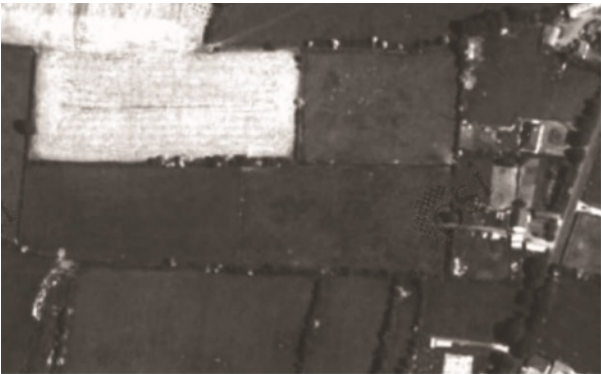
Circular enclosures and mounds depicted in the Curragh on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of the 1830s. These have mostly been identified as ring barrows in the RMP files (bottom)





Northeastern arc of penannular enclosure in Field 1, looking northwest (top)

1995 (centre) and 2005 (bottom aerial ortho photographs from the Ordnance Survey with feint circular anomaly highlighted on right-hand image



form of cremation deposits, were placed in pits dug into the centre of the space enclosed by the ditch, into the enclosing bank, and into the ditch itself.

The example uncovered at Rathbride Road is shallow and appears to have been reduced through agricultural activity over the years. Deposits of bone were noted within the fill of the enclosing ditch, however this appeared to be animal bone. Burnt bone was retrieved from pits both inside and outside the enclosure. The bone is being analysed by an osteoarchaeologist to identify whether it is human or animal.

This portion of the site was subsequently transferred into Phase 2 of the development. All investigative works on this part of the site were halted and the area was covered in a layer of Terram for protection. This feature will be dealt with in more detail once the remainder is excavated prior to the Phase 2 works.



View of one of the extant ring barrows in the Curragh

Section 4 Conclusion

Remaining archaeology

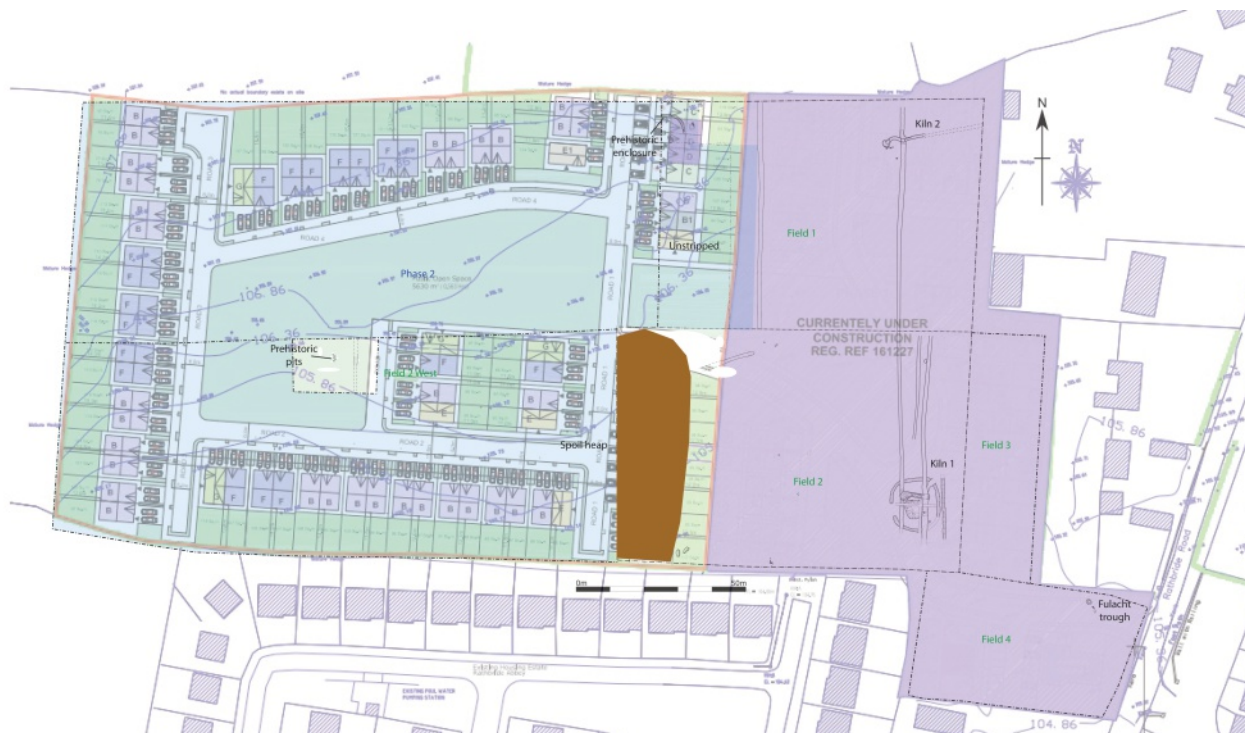
The excavation at Rathbride Road carried out in 2019 and 2020 dealt with the eastern portion of the initially proposed development. This includes all of Fields 3 and 4 and the eastern portions of Fields 1 and 2. The western portion of the site has now been moved to Phase 2, and will be carried out under a new planning application (Kildare Co. Co. Ref. 20/159).

The penannular enclosure identified in Field 1 was only partially exposed and investigated during the current excavation. The remainder of this feature lies within the Phase 2 portion of the site. This will require full excavation and recording at a later date.

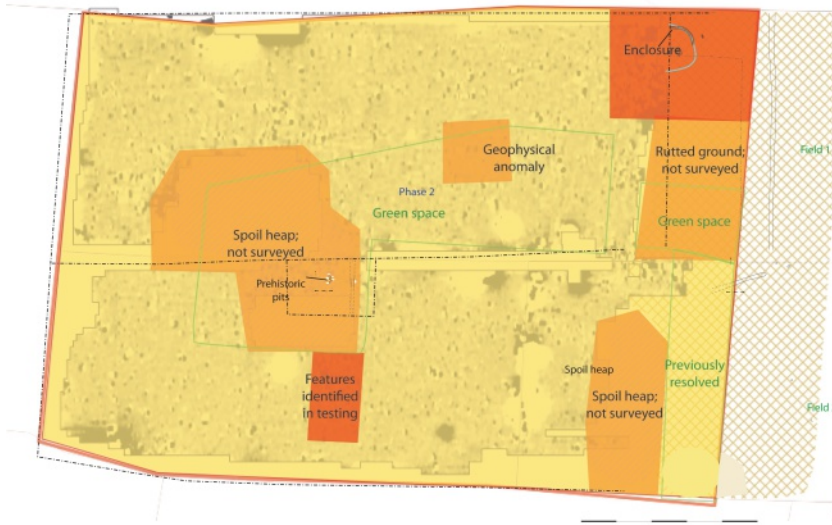
The prehistoric pits uncovered to the west of the spoil heap in Field 2 were excavated in full

as part of the Phase 1 works, however their presence, along with the penannular enclosure to the northeast, suggests further prehistoric activity may be uncovered during the Phase 2 works. An archaeological impact assessment has been carried out for the Phase 2 portion of the site (McGlade 2020a), which has highlighted these features. A geophysical survey was carried out as part of the assessment, which did not reveal any major archaeological features, however it was noted that there was a lot of noise in the results due to the recent disturbance caused by the spoil management for Phase 1. It is probable that additional archaeology will be uncovered in Phase 2.

Proposed development plan for Phase 2 overlaid with the results of the excavation



Archaeological potential of Phase 2 of the development based on the results of the Phase 1 excavation, the 2017 test-trenching and the 2020 geophysical survey (after McGlade 2020)



The archaeology in the vicinity of the penannular enclosure was covered with a layer of Terram to protect it until Phase 2 of the development goes ahead.

Post-excavation analysis

Artefacts

The excavation at Rathbride Road returned a small but important assemblage of artefacts, which will be analysed during the post-excavation works. The analysis of the prehistoric pottery from the site has already taken place (Grogan & Roche 2020), which has identified the material as sherds of Early Neolithic carinated bowl, with at least two, and possibly three, vessels represented.

In addition to this Niamh Kelly will be analysing the saddle quern retrieved from one of the prehistoric pits to the southwest of Field 2. She will also look at a second possible ground stone tool from the site, which was retrieved from one of the post-medieval ditches. The identification of this object is uncertain and it may well be a natural stone.

The medieval pottery will be sent to Clare McCutcheon for identification.

The analysis of the post-medieval artefacts will be carried out in-house.

Bone

The animal bone assemblage will be sent to Ruth Cardon for analysis. The cremated and possibly human bone will be sent to Denise Keating for analysis. A lot of this material comes from the enclosed kiln in Field 2, however some was also retrieved from the initial investigation of the unexcavated enclosure now within the Phase 2 portion of the site. Two samples relate to burnt bone retrieved from pits near the enclosure and it will be interesting to see if these can be identified as human. This would greatly help in the understanding of this feature.

Environmental

The environmental analysis will be carried out by Lorna O'Donnell (charcoal) and David Stone (seeds). It is hoped that the analysis of the samples from the kilns will help us understand the fuel selected for use in the kiln and the seeds that were being dried within them. This will help us understand the landscape in the immediate vicinity of the kilns, and may help us in understanding how they fitted within it.

Analysis of the samples from the fulacht fiadh should also help us understand the fuel selected at the site, and identify what the local woodland

cover was like in its immediate vicinity, presumably in the Bronze Age.

The analysis of the samples from the Early Neolithic pits will also provide a snapshot of the local environment at that time. It may also help us identify if any other materials were being selected for deposition within these possible offering pits.

Samples were also taken from the initial investigations of the unexcavated enclosure in Field 1. Analysis of these samples may help us understand what the features in this portion of the site were and allow us to form research questions prior to the Phase 2 works on the site.

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Appendix A 17E0125 Rathbride Road Context register

Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	L. (m)	W. (m)	D. (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds/ Ecofacts	Cxt. Above	Cxt. Below	Area
C1	Topsoil	N/A	N/A				Topsoil	Orangish brown clayey silt	Metal frags, Clay pipe, glass	Sod		All
C2	Cut	N/A	C3	110m	0.48-0.90	0.37	Post-Med ditch	N-S running linear in Fields 2 & 4. Imperceptible break of slope at top, concave sides and base.		C4	Natural	F2 & F4
C3	Fill	C2	N/A	110m	0.48-0.90	0.37	Ditch fill	Pale yellowy brown silty sand	N/A	Topsoil	C4	F2 & F4
C4	Fill	N/A	N/A	110m	1.20	0.03	Post-med trackway	Metalled surface running along the eastern side of C2, and sloping down to the edge of the cut. This metalled surface only survived in patches.	Post-med material	C3	C2	F2 & F4
C5	Cut	N/A	C6, C7	<65m	0.55	0.38	Ditch	Linear boundary ditch orientated N-S running parallel to and west of C2. Sharp break of slope at the top, almost vertical sides, concave base.	Post-med material	Topsoil	C54	F2
C6	Fill	C5	N/A	<65m	0.55	0.28	Ditch fill	Upper fill of C5 browny grey, silty clay. Moderate compaction and small stone inclusions.	N/A	Topsoil	C7	F2
C7	Fill	C5	N/A	<65m	0.39	0.10	Ditch fill	Basal fill of C5. Dark brown silty clay, moderate to loose compaction, no	N/A	C6	C5	F2
C8	Cut	N/A	C9	0.30	0.30	0.18	Posthole	Posthole located south of C10. Subcircular shape, on the western side seems to be sunken, maybe due to post being collapsed to the west. Concave base	N/A	C9	Natural	F2
C9	Fill	C8	N/A	N/A	0.30	0.18	Fill of posthole	Dark bown silty sand with frequent charcoal. Fill of C8	Charcoal, SS#1	Topsoil	C8	F2

C10	Cut	N/A	C11	0.09	0.09	0.08	Stakehole	Stakehole located south of C22 and 0.30m north of C8. Subcircular shape in plan, tapered rounded base.	N/A	C11	Natural	F2
C11	Fill	C10	N/A	0.09	0.09	0.08	Stakehole fill	Fill of C10, brown silty sand with occasional charcoal	Charcoal	Topsoil	C10	F2
C12	Cut	N/A	C13	0.10	0.10	0.10	Stakehole	Stakehole located 0.05m north of C10. C12 is cut by C22, associated with C22-C12-C10-C15-C17-C19-C16, possible structure.	N/A	C13	Natural	F2
C13	Fill	C12	N/A	0.10	0.10	0.10	Stakehole fill	Dark brown silty sand with charcoal flecks	Charcoal	Topsoil	C12	F2
C14	Cut	N/A		0.08	0.08	0.10	Stakehole	One of a group of 3 isolated stakeholes including C29 and C30, northeast of C21.	N/A		Natural	F2
C15	Cut	N/A	C13	0.05	0.05	0.05	Stakehole	Stakehole with evidence of scorching from top to base. Located 0.42m south east of C8, associated with C22-C12-C10-C15-C17-C19-C16, possible structure.	Charcoal		Natural	F2
C16	Cut	N/A	C13	0.07	0.07	0.08	Stakehole	Stakehole, located 0.50m northeast of C15. tapered base. Associated with C22-C12-C10-C15-C17-C19-C16, possible structure.	N/A		Natural	F2
C17	Cut	N/A	C18	0.20	0.20	0.18	Posthole	Posthole located 0.20m northeast of C16 and 0.05 of C8, tapered rounded base, associated with C22-C12-C10-C15-C17-C19-C16, possible structure.	N/A	C18	Natural	F2
C18	Fill	C17	N/A	0.20	0.20	0.18	Posthole fill	Fill of C17, brown silty sandy clay. Very sterile no charcoal found.	N/A	Topsoil	C17	F2
C19	Cut	N/A	C20	0.17	0.15	0.12	Posthole	Posthole located 0.05m north of C17. Irregular circular shape in plan, probably due to root activity. Tapered and rounded at base. associated with C22-C12-C10-C15-C17-C19-C16, possible structure.	N/A	C20	Natural	F2

C20	Fill	C19	N/A	0.17	0.15	0.12	Posthole fill	Pale yellowy brown silty sand. Evidence of root activity. Small rounded pebbles at	N/A	Topsoil	C19	F2
C21	Spread	N/A	N/A	0.20	0.12	0.03	Spread	Spread of reddish silty clay, associated with group of stakeholes and postholes C22-C12-C10-C15-C17-C19-C16.	N/A	N/A	N/A	F2
C22	Cut	N/A	C13	0.05	0.05	0.06	Stakehole	Stakehole cutting C12 to its west, tapered and rounded at base. Associated with C22-C12-C10-C15-C17-C19-C16,	N/A	C13	Natural	F2
C23	Cut	N/A	C24, C74, C87, C61, C56, C57	14.00	14.00	0.50 - 0.60	Enclosure	Penannular trench, 14m in diameter, located in the southeast corner in Field 2. Opening situated at the southwest. Feature truncated by later kiln and ditches.	N/A	C74, C56	Natural	F2
C24 (same as C60)	Fill	C23	N/A	3.50	0.50	0.30 - 0.50	Trench fill	Charcoal rich silty sand. mainly visible in both north and south of termini of the trench, filled from base to top' with charcoal, some patches of this fill was found in the south and north part of the trench, quadrants A&B.	Charcoal, burnt bone, fragments of clay lining.	C87	C74	F2
C25	Cut	N/A	C26, C27	146m	0.55- 0.70	0.46 - 0.52	Medieval ditch	N-S running ditch with a sharp break of slope at top, almost vertical sides, imperceptible break of slope to a concave base. Recorded in Field 2 as C1000.		C27	C61, C54	F1 & F2
C26	Fill	C25	N/A	>30m	0.55- 0.70	0.35	Ditch fill	Upper fill of C25, pale yellowy silty clay with gravel. Moderate compaction, occasional medium sized stones	Shell	Topsoil	C27	F2
C27	Fill	C25	N/A	>15m	0.36	0.12	Ditch fill	Basal fill of C25 light brown silty sand with gravel. Loose compaction. Occasional flecks of charcoal.	Medieval pottery, charcoal	C26	C25	F2

C28	Spread	N/A	N/A	1.30	0.65 - 0.70	0.11	Spread	Oval shape in plan charcoal spread orientated NNE-SSW. Located at the southern edge in quad D within C2, no evidence of burnt clay on the edges.	Charcoal	Topsoil	Natural	F2
C29	Cut			0.08	0.08	0.08	Stakehole	One of a cluster including C14 and C30		Topsoil	Natural	F2
C30	Cut			0.08	0.08	0.08	Stakehole	One of a cluster including C14 and C29		Topsoil	Natural	F2
C31	VOID											
C32	VOID											
C33	Cut	N/A	C34	0.38	0.31	0.32	Posthole	Isolated posthole located E103.82m, N126.80m. U-shape in profile. Gradual break of slope on the west, sharp on east. Tapered, rounded base. Packing stones in situ on the east side- angular medium sized limestone 0.09-0.10m dimensions.	N/A	C33	Natural	F2
C34	Fill	C33	N/A	0.38	0.31	0.32	Posthole fill	Pale yellowy silty sandy clay, moderate compaction, becoming looser towards the base.	Charcoal	Topsoil	C33	F2
C35	Cut	N/A	C36, C37	5.50	5.00	0.20	Sunken floor	Shallow subsquare cut with rounded corners. Associated with postholes C39, C48, C52 and C80. The base was very well compacted natural clay. Represents the floor plan of a structure within the enclosure C23.	N/A	C36	Natural	F2
C36	Fill	C35	N/A	7.50	6.20	0.07 - 0.10	Deposit	Mid brown silty clay deposit mainly overlaying C35 but also partially covering kiln C62 and flue C58.	Animal bone.	C54	C71, C40, C49, C53,	F2

C37 (same as C54)	Fill	C35	N/A	7.50	6.20	0.05 - 0.06	Deposit	Loose gravelly deposit above C36. Same as C54	N/A	Topsoil	C36	F2
C38 (same as C28)	Spread	C35	N/A	1.30	0.65- 0.70	0.11	Spread		Charcoal, burnt bone.	Topsoil	Natural	F2
C39	Cut	N/A	C40	0.40	0.40	0.50	Posthole	One of 4 postholes identified as part of a structure within the cut C35. C39 is located in quadrant B. Sharp break of slope at the top, almost vertical sides and rounded concave base. 3 subangular limestone packingstones were placed at the east side of C39.	N/A	C41	C35	F2
C40	Fill	C39	N/A	0.38	0.38	0.20	Posthole fill	Basal fill of C39, greyish gravelly sand with flecks of charcoal.	Charcoal	C36	C41	F2
C41	Fill	C39	N/A	0.40	0.40	0.30	Posthole fill	Upper fill of C39, pale yellowy brown silty clay. Moderate compaction with flecks of charcoal. 3 medium-sized subangular limestone packing stones were located on the east side.	Charcoal	C40	C39	F2
C42	Cut	N/A	C43	1.90	0.60	0.34	Pit	Cut of sub-oval pit, located in the southwest corner of Field 2. Long axis NE-SW. Gradual break of slope on east and west sides, sharp on the north and south sides. Gradual break of slope to a concave base. Possibly a post-med rubbish pit.	N/A	C42	Natural	F2

C43	Fill	C42	N/A	1.90	0.60	0.34	Pit fill	Grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal. Moderate compaction. Small (0.08-0.10m) subangular stone inclusions.	Animal bone (well preserved), charcoal, red brick fragment	Topsoil	C42	F2
C44	Cut	N/A	C45	1.90	0.56	0.20	Pit	Sub-oval shaped pit associated with C42 - similar shape and size and fills.	N/A	C45	Natural	F2
C45	Fill	C45	N/A	1.90	0.56	0.20	Pit fill	Fill of C44, greyish brown silty clay, moderate compaction. Occasional charcoal and small stones.	Charcoal	Topsoil	C45	F2
C46 (same as C68)	Cut							See C68.	Charcoal			F2
C47	Fill	C68,C46	N/A	1.00	1.00	0.35	Pit fill	Upper fill of C68, dark grey sandy silt with frequent charcoal.	Charcoal	C70	C69	F2
C48	Cut	N/A	C49	0.45	0.45	0.50	Posthole	Posthole located in quadrant A associated with C39.	N/A	C49	C35	F2
C49	Fill	C48	N/A	0.35	0.35	0.50	Posthole fill	Greyish brown sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal.	Charcoal	C36	C48	F2
C50	Spread	N/A	N/A	0.60	0.40	0.07	Spread	Burnt clay and charcoal spread located to the west of C44. Possibly associated with C44 and C42.	Charcoal	Topsoil	Natural	F2
C51	Spread	C35	N/A	0.46	0.37	0.04	Spread	Charcoal spread under C36 in quadrant A.	Charcoal	C36	C35	F2
C52	Cut	N/A	C53	0.35	0.35	0.40	Posthole	Posthole located 2m west of related posthole C48.	N/A	C53	C35	F2
C53	Fill	C52	N/A	0.35	0.35	0.40	Posthole fill	Gravelly greyish silt.	N/A	C36	C52	F2
C54 (same as C37)	Fill	N/A	N/A	10.00	5.00	0.05	Deposit	Gravelly silty clay deposit (same as C37).	N/A	C5	C36	F2

C55	Stone lining	C62	N/A	Max extent=5.0 Average stone=0.30	0.25 - 0.50	0.30-0.65	stone lining	Stone lining composed of large limestone blocks within kiln C62.	N/A	C84,	C62, C58	F2
C56	Fill	C23	N/A	>7.0	0.80-0.70	0.04	Trench fill	Lower fill of C23 in northeast only. Grey brown stoney silt.	N/A	C57	C23	F2
C57	Fill	C23	N/A	>7.0	0.70	0.25	Trench fill	Upper fill of C23 in northeast only. Orangey brown stoney silt.	N/A	Topsoil	C56	F2
C58	Cut	N/A	C59, C72, C55, C78	5.00	0.50	0.40	Flue of kiln	Flue located to east of C62.	N/A	C55	Natural	F2
C59	Fill	C58	N/A	5.00	0.20	0.03	Fill of flue	Basal fill of C58, black charcoal and silt.	Animal bone, Charcoal	C72	C85	F2
C60 (same as C24)	Fill							See C24				F2
C61	Fill	C23	N/A	>5.0	0.20	0.07	Trench fill	Upper fill of C23 only visible in quadrant C.	N/A	Topsoil	C87	F2
C62	Cut	N/A	C63, C64, C65, C66, C67	3.00	2.00-2.50	0.45	Kiln	Cut of kiln associated with C58.	N/A	C55	Natural	F2
C63	Fill	C62	N/A	1.60	1.56	0.09	Kiln fill	Basal fill of C62. Black charcoal rich silt layer, with burnt clay flecks.	Charcoal, burnt clay frags.	C64	C55	F2
C64	Fill	C62	N/A	1.10	0.47	0.06	Kiln fill	Secondary fill of C62, grey ash layer with red flecking. Cut by recut C66.	Charcoal	C65	C63	F2

C65	Fill	C62	N/A	0.80	0.33	0.03	Kiln fill	Upper fill, black with charcoal with seeds in silt. Cut by C66	Charcoal, charred seeds/grain	C66	C64	F2
C66	Cut	N/A	C67, C82	1.60	0.40	3.00	Recut	Recut event within C62 cuts through charcoal layers.	N/A	C67	C64, C85	F2
C67	Fill	C66	N/A	2.30	1.60	0.16	Re-cut fill	Fill of C66, mid grey silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Charcoal, animal bone, clay lining fragment	C72	C66	F2
C68 (same as C46)	Cut	N/A	C69	1.58	0.23	0.15 - 0.18	Pit	Shallow pit, gently sloping on northern side, steep on south, base continuously sloping to south, concave.	N/A	C69	C73, C82	F2
C69	Fill	C68	N/A	2.00	0.70	0.20	Pit fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks	Charcoal	C47	C68	F2
C70	Cut	N/A	C71	0.68	0.47	0.05	Pit	Shallow pit with concave sides, cutting south of C68	N/A	C71	C47	F2
C71	Fill	C70	N/A	0.68	0.47	0.05	Pit fill	Mid brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks, well compacted.	Charcoal	C36	C70	F2
C72	Fill	C58	N/A	5.30	0.35	0.20 - 0.40	Kiln fill	Pale yellowy greyish clay. Well compacted with pockets of grey sand. Redeposited natural or roof collapse.	N/A	C78, C82	C59, C67	F2
C73	Fill	C58	N/A	0.30	0.40	0.12	Kiln fill	Gravelly brown silt	N/A	C68	C78	F2
C74	Fill	C23	N/A	1.00 - 1.50	0.60	0.40	Trench fill	Orangey brown stony silt. Lower fill of C23 present in north facing section quadrant C	N/A	C24	C23	F2
C75	Cut	N/A	N/A	>20.0	0.50	0.12	Plough furrow	Furrow cutting E C23	N/A	C76	C61	F2
C76	Fill	C75	N/A	>20.0	0.50	0.12	Plough furrow fill	Mid orangish brown clayey silt with occasional small subangular stone inclusions. Moderate to well compacted.	N/A	Topsoil	C75	F2

C77	VOID											F2
C78 same as C83	Fill	C77	N/A	0.55	0.88	0.10	Upper fill of flue	Mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking	Charcoal	C73	C72	F2
C79	Cut	N/A		0.08	0.08	0.06	Stakehole	Stakehole in base of C68 circular shape in plan. Charcoal filled	Wood	C68	Natural	F2
C80	Cut	N/A	C81	0.30	0.40	0.40	Posthole	Cut of posthole in quad D associated with C39 & C48	N/A	C81	C35	F2
C81	Fill	C80	N/A	0.30	0.30	0.50	Posthole fill	Yellowy sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal	Charcoal	C36	C80	F2
C82	Fill	C62	N/A	0.60	0.40	1.50m	Kiln fill	Fill of kiln	N/A	C68	C72	F2
C83 same as 78	Fill	C68	N/A	0.60	0.55	0.25	Upper fill of kiln	Upper fill of kiln. Contained a large stone.	Burnt clay lining fragments.	C73	C72	F2
C84	Fill	C62	N/A	0.40	0.30	0.05	Kiln fill	Black charcoal layer over scorched natural at base of C62. Soft to moderate compaction. Contained animal bone cooked but not burnt.	Charcoal, animal bone	C85	C55	F2
C85	Fill	C62	N/A	1.10	0.30	0.06	Kiln fill	Mid pale brown slightly sandy silt with occasional small pockets of pale yellow clay.	Ashy deposit.	C59, C66	C84	F2
C86	Fill	C62	N/A	1.50	1.50	0.05	Kiln fill	Ash deposit at base of C62.	N/A	C5	C55	F2
C87	Fill	C23	N/A	min-4.0m max-11.0m	0.33	0.10	Trench fill	Dark brown silty clay fill of C23.	N/A	C61	C24	F2
C88	Cut	N/A	C89	0.56	0.33	0.24	Posthole	Cut of posthole truncated by C62 steep sides concave.	N/A	C89	Natural	F2
C89	Fill	C88	N/A	0.56	0.30	0.24	Posthole fill	Brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions	Charcoal	C63	C88	F2
C90	Cut	N/A	C91	0.30	0.30	0.25		Shallow subcircular cut located to the northwest of F2.	N/A	C91	Natural	F2

C91	Fill	C90	N/A	0.30	0.34	0.25	Posthole fill	Single fill of C90, brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks	Charcoal	Topsoil	C90	F2
C92	Cut	N/A	C93	0.35	0.32	0.26	Posthole	Posthole located to the N-W of F2, associated with C90	N/A	C93	Natural	F2
C93	Fill	C92	N/A	0.35	0.32	0.26	Posthole fill	Dark brown silt with charcoal flecking. Fill of C92	Charcoal	Topsoil	C92	F2
C94	Cut	N/A	C95	8.70	0.78	0.39	Ditch	Linear orientated ENE-WSW located in northwest of Field 2.	N/A	C95	Natural	F2
C95	Fill	C95	N/A	8.70	0.78	0.39	Ditch fill	Single fill of C94. Mid reddish brown silty sand with pebbles, sterile.	N/A	Topsoil	C94	F2
C96	Cut	N/A	C97	10.00	0.85	0.30	Ditch	Post-med ditch located in Field 2. Contained post-med pottery.		C97	Natural	F2
C97	Fill	C96	N/A	10.00	0.85	0.30	Ditch fill	Single fill of C96, yellowy brown sandy clay with frequent inclusions of small angular and subrounded stones (0.06-0.07m dimensions).	Blackware ceramic, shell	topsoil	C97	F2
C98	Cut	N/A	C99	0.46	0.42	0.20	Pit	Pit identified in Field 2. Subcircular shape in plan pit, gradual break of slope at top and concave sides. Contained a large concentration of charcoal located to southeast of C101 associated with C101,C102, C106, C104	N/A	C99	Natural	F2
C99	Fill	C98	N/A	0.46	0.42	0.20	Pit fill	Black silt rich in charcoal fill of C98, small burnt sandstone inclusions	Charcoal	Topsoil	C98	F2
C100	Cut	N/A	C101	0.46	0.38	0.12	Pit	Subcircular shape in plan with steep sides. Located to the northwest of C98 and associated with C102, C106, C104	N/A	C101	Natural	F2
C101	Fill	C100	N/A	0.46	0.38	0.12	Pit fill	Black silt rich in charcoal fill of C100 with small burnt sandstone inclusions.	Prehistoric pottery, charcoal	Topsoil	C100	F2

C102	Cut	N/A	C103	0.50	0.45	0.12	Pit	Shallow subcircular pit located to south of C100. Associated with C98, C106, C104.	N/A	C103	Natural	F2
C103	Fill	C102	N/A	0.50	0.45	0.05	Pit fill	Dark brown silty sand with frequent charcoal.	Prehistoric pottery, charcoal	Topsoil	C102	F2
C104	Cut	N/A	C105	0.44	0.44	0.12	Pit	Subcircular shaped pit rich in charcoal. Associated with C101, C102, C106, C98		C105	Natural	F2
C105	Fill	C104	N/A	0.44	0.44	0.12	Pit fill	Black silty sand rich in charcoal with fragments of burnt sandstone inclusions.	Prehistoric pottery (bronze age?), charcoal	Topsoil	C104	F2
C106	Cut	N/A	C107	0.45	0.45	0.10	Pit	Cut of pit to southeast of C102.		C107	Natural	F2
C107	Fill	C106	N/A	0.50	0.50	0.10	Pit fill	Dark brown silt rich in charcoal and with fragments of burnt sandstone. Saddle quern found in this deposit.	Saddle quern, charcoal.	Topsoil	C106	F2
C108	Cut	N/A	N/A	0.05	0.05	0.05	Stakehole	Stakehole located west of C79 in base of C68		C68	Natural	F2
C109	Cut		C110, C111, C112	1.83	1.50	1.67	Pit or trough	Oval shape in plan orientated NW-SE. Sharp b.o.s. at top and base. Straight steep sides and vertical near the base. Base is oval in shape and flat.		C110	Natural	F4

C117	VOID												
C118	VOID												
C119	VOID												
C120	VOID												
C121	VOID												
C122	VOID												
C123	VOID												
C124	VOID												
C125 (same as C1037)								See C1037					F1
C126 (same as C1013)								See C1013					F1
C127	Cut		C128	0.40	0.40	0.12	Pit	Circular pit to W of Kiln 2. Concave profile, sharp break of slope at the top, gentle at base, base concave.		C128	Natural		F1
C128	Fill	C127		0.40	0.40	0.12	Fill of pit	Brown silt with small stone inclusions		Topsoil	C127		F1
C129 (same as C1029)								See C1029					F1
C130 (same as C1008)								See C1008					F1
C131	VOID												
C132	Fill	C1006		23m	0.90m	0.40	Fill of ditch	Upper fill of ditch C1006. Greyish brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions.		C1000	C1007		F1
C133	Cut		C134	0.40	0.40	0.16	Pit	Circular pit to W of Pit C127. Concave profile, sharp break of slope at the top, gentle at base, base concave.		C134	Natural		F1
C134	Fill	C133		0.40	0.40	0.16	Fill of pit	Brown silt with small stone inclusions		Topsoil	C133		F1

C135	Cut		C131	0.40	0.40	0.12	Pit	Circular pit to W of Pit C133. Concave profile, sharp break of slope at the top, gentle at base, base concave.		C144	Natural	F1
C136 (same as C1000)								See C1000				F1
C137 (same as C1015)								See C1015				F1
C138 (same as C1001)								See C1001				F1
C139	Cut		C140	1.10	1.10	0.28	Pit	Large sub-circular pit located in the northwest of Field 1 within ring-ditch C156. Concave sides with a gradual break of slope at top and base		C139	natural	F1
C140	Fill	C139		1.10	1.10	0.28	Fill of pit	Greyish brown silt and gravel with bone inclusions	Bone	C141	C139	F1
C141	Cut		C142, C143	1.40	1.30	0.30	Pit	Large sub-circular pit cutting pit C139 and located within ring-ditch C156. Concave sides with a gradual break of slope at top and base		C142	C140	F1
C142	Fill	C141		1.40	1.30	0.30	Fill of pit	Greyish brown loose silt and gravel	Animal bone	C143	C141	F1
C143	Fill						Fill of pit	Secondary fill of pit C141. Deposit of charcoal-rich silt with burnt and unburnt bone inclusions	Burnt bone, charcoal, animal bone.	Topsoil	C142	F1
C144	Fill	C135		0.40	0.40	0.12	Fill of pit	Brown silt with small stone inclusions		Topsoil	C135	F1
C145	VOID											
C146	Cut		C147	1.10	0.80	0.20	Pit	Sub-oval shape in plan. Located north of pit C133		C147	Natural	F1

C147	Fill	C146		1.00	0.55	0.20	Fill of pit	Basal fill of pit C146. Dark brown silty gravel.		C148	C146	F1
C148	Fill	C146		1.10	0.70	0.20	Upper fill of pit	Orangish grey-brown		Topsoil	C147	F1
C149 (same as C1006)								See C1006				F1
C150 (same as C1007)								See C1007				F1
C151	Cut		C152	1.10	0.40	0.28	Pit	Sub-oval pit 2.57m to E of ring-ditch C156. Orientated NW-SE. Sharp break of slope at the top, gentle at the base, concave base. Base deeper to S. Concentration of burnt bone in upper fill to N. Possible cremation pit?		C155	natural	F1
C152	Fill	C151		1.10	0.40	0.14	Fill of pit	Dark greyish brown silt with frequent inclusions of gravel, burnt bone and charcoal. Burnt bone more prevalent to N.	Charcoal, burnt bone.	topsoil	C155	F1
C153 (same as C1016)								See C1016				F1
C154 (same as C1018)								See C1018	Charcoal, animal bone.			F1
C155	Fill	C151		0.80	0.35	0.14	Fill of pit	Greyish brown basal fill of pit		C152	C151	F1

C156	Cut		C157		0.70	0.28	Shallow curvilinear	Possible remains of ring-ditch. Terminus identified to the E. Arcs from terminus to N and on to the W, continues beyond the limit of excavation for Phase 1. Concave sides and base. May for the northeast section of the arc of a penannular enclosure or ring-ditch c. 10m in diameter		C157	natural	F1
C157	Fill	C156			0.70	0.28	Fill of shallow curvilinear	Fill of possible ring-ditch. Greyish brown silty clay with gravel and stone inclusions, stones measuring 50-60mm diameter.	Animal bone			F1
C158 (same as C1022)								See C1022	Seeds			F1
C159 (same as C1019)								See C1019	Seeds			F1
C160 (same as C1040)								See C1040				F1
C161 (same as C1018)								See C1018				F1
C162	Fill	C153/ C1016		0.90m	~0.70m	0.10m	Fill of firing chamber	Orangish grey-brown silty clay with occasional gravel and sand inclusions. Moderate compaction. This appears to be a pocket of material within the backfilling deposit C1020 as it was not encountered closer to the centre of the chamber.				F1

C163	Fill	C153/ C1016		0.40m	0.27m	0.11m	Small deposit of charcoal at the northern edge of the firing chamber	Grey/black silty charcoal loosely compacted. Contained occasional small gravel pebbles. Felt soft, like ash. Was located on the northern edge of the cut rather than within it.				F1
C164 (same as C1020)							See C1020	C164 and C165 are the same deposit but appeared to be separate due to the pocket of silty clay C162 in the initial phase of investigation. On full excavation it became clear that these were in fact the same deposit recorded as C1020, which was a deliberate backfilling event following disuse of the kiln.				F1
C165 (same as C1020)								See above and C1020.				F1
Feabh-20												
1000 (same as C25 & C136)	Cut		C1001	146m	0.95m	0.31m	Field boundary ditch	Linear running roughly N-S. Identified in Field 2 as C25. Wide U-shape in profile. Sharp b.o.s. at top, gently sloping sides. Imperceptible b.o.s. to concave base.	Medieval pottery sherds (field 2)	C1015	C132	F1 & F2
1001	Fill	C1000		>20m	0.95m	0.31m	Fill of field boundary ditch	Dark brown silty clay with frequent small angular stones. Moderate compaction.		Topsoil	C1015	F1
1002	Cut		C1003, C1004	70m	1.04m	0.30m	Field boundary ditch	Linear running N-S. Wide U-shape in profile. Sharp b.o.s. at top, steeply sloping side at W and more gently sloping side at E. Imperceptible b.o.s. to a concave base. Uncovered in test trench.	Animal bone	C1003	natural	F1 (test trench)

1003	Fill	C1002		>20m	0.97m	0.12m	Basal fill of field boundary ditch	Pale orange brown clay with frequent small stones. Very well compacted. Sterile.		C1004	C1002	F1
1004	Fill	C1002		>20m	0.85m	0.23m	Fill of field boundary ditch	Orangish brown silty clay with frequent small angular stones. Moderate to well compacted.	Animal tooth	topsoil	C1003	F1
1005	Cut		C1010, C1011, C1012, C1013	1.32m	1.15m	0.60m	Cut of drying chamber of kiln	Oval shape in plan, long axis E-W. Sharp b.o.s at top and base. Straight vertical sides and flat base. Flue, C1037, extends from the W side of the cut towards the firing chamber.		C1010	Natural	F1
1006	Cut		C1007, C132	23m	0.90m	0.55m	Field boundary ditch	E-W running linear. U-shaped in profile with break of slope at top varying between gradual and sharp. Sides vary from vertical to near vertical, while the break of slope at base also varies from gradual to sharp. Base goes from concave to near flat.		C1007	C1014	F1
1007	Fill	C1006		>20m	0.78m	0.26m	Fill of field boundary ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay. Frequent small stones. Moderate compaction.		C132	C1006	F1
1008	VOID		C1009	28m	0.78m	0.42m	Recut of C1006	Recut of E-W linear. V-shaped in profile with a gentle break of slope at top and bottom. Gradually sloped sides and a tapered base.		C1009	C1001	F1
1009	Fill	C1016 & C1037		3.5m	0.78m	0.42m	Fill of kiln	Light brown loosely compacted silty clay with inclusions of sub angular to rounded stones. Final backfill of kiln.		C1000, C1006	C1022	F1
1010	Fill	C1005		1.32m	1.15m	0.14m	Basal fill of drying chamber	Blue grey gravel of small rounded stones. Loose compaction. Sterile. Deliberate backfill.		C1011	C1005	F1

1011	Fill	C1005		1.32m	1.15m	0.14m	Fill of drying chamber	Reddish brown gravel, well compacted. Sterile.		C1012	C1010	F1
1012	Fill	C1005		1.32m	1.15m	0.08m	Fill of drying chamber	Layer of white/yellow silty clay re-deposited natural.		C1029	C1011	F1
1013 (same as C1017)	Fill	C1005, C1037		3.00m	1.15m	0.10m	Fill of drying chamber and flue	Charcoal layer loosely compacted.	Charcoal, seeds	C1030	C1040	F1
1014	Fill	C1005		1.32m	1.15m	0.19m	Fill of drying chamber	Dark grey charcoal rich clay		C1000, C1006	C1041	F1
1015	Fill	C1000		>7.00m	0.97m	0.12m	Basal fill of field boundary ditch	Brown-grey gravel, loosely compacted.		C1001	C1000	F1
1016	Cut		C1017, C1018, C1019, C1020, C1021, C1029	2.60m	1.5m	0.89m	Firing chamber of kiln	Oval shape in plan, long axis SE-NW. Open to the NE where it meets the cut of the flue C1037. Sharp b.o.s. at top and bottom. Steep sides with a slight step at the SE. An oval shaped depression orientated NE-SW, in line with the flue, formed the firing bowl. This was located in the base of the firing chamber at the NE where it met the flue. The base of this was fire reddened and the natural clay baked solid in the centre.		C1029	Natural	F1
1017 (same as C1013)	Fill	C1016		1.45m	1.15m	0.14m	Basal fill of firing chamber	Black silty charcoal with lenses of red and grey ash. Loose compaction.	Charcoal, seeds	C1018	C1040	F1

1018	Fill	C1016		1.50m	0.95m	0.10m	Fill of firing chamber	Black and dark grey silty charcoal with lenses of red and grey ash. Loose compaction. Localised to the western side of the firing chamber of the kiln. Becomes less charcoal rich towards the south and much more shallow. Probably a result of raking out the firing bowl.	Charcoal, seeds, animal bone	C1017	C1019	F1
1019 (same as C1041)	Fill	C1016		3.00m	2.50m	0.40m	Fill of firing chamber	Mid greyish brown clayey silt. Occasional charcoal, occasional small stone inclusions. Moderate compaction. A result of sedimentation within the chamber.	Charcoal, seeds.	C1020	C1018	F1
1020	Fill	C1016		2.50m	1.20m	0.30m	Fill of firing chamber	Mid orangish brown clayey silt. Frequent small stone inclusions. Occasional charcoal. Moderate compaction. Deliberate backfilling event.	Charcoal	C1021	C1019	F1
1021	Fill	C1016		2.50m	1.60m	0.35m	Fill of firing chamber	Mid greyish brown gravelly silt. Frequent charcoal inclusions. Loose compaction.	Charcoal	C1022	C1020	F1
1022	Fill	C1016		3.00m	2.50m	0.26m	Upper fill of firing chamber	Mid orangish brown clayey silt. Frequent small stone inclusions. Rare animal bone fragments poorly preserved. Moderate compaction. Very similar to topsoil.	Animal bone fragments, seeds	C1009	C1000	F1
1023	Cut		C1024, C1025	0.30m	0.26m	0.40m	Posthole	Oval shape in plan, long axis E-W. Sharp b.o.s. at top and base. Vertical sides with a slight funnel shape at the top. Concave base. Very slight inclination from west to east. Stone at base may be a packing stone.		C1024	natural	F1

1024	Fill	C1023		0.20m	0.15m	0.30m	Fill of posthole	Mid brown silt with occasional small to medium sub rounded stones. Sticky.		C1025	C1023	F1
1025	Cut	C1023		0.30m	0.26m	0.10m	Upper fill of posthole	Dark grey clayey silt. Frequent charcoal. Moderate compaction	Charcoal	C1028	C1024	F1
1026	VOID							Duplicate number - see C1038.				F1
1027	Deposit			1.50m	1.10m	0.05m	Deposit	Grey brown charcoal rich silt of moderate compaction with occasional small sub-rounded stones. Spread to the south of firing chamber of kiln. Probable remains of raked out material.	Charcoal	topsoil	natural	F1
1028	Deposit			3.00m	1.80m	0.05m	Deposit	Mid brown silt of loose compaction with small sub angular stone inclusions. Irregular shape in plan. Abuts the spread C1027 to the west. As the spreads were so shallow it was impossible to ascertain a relationship between them. It may be that they are simply the same deposit with a concentration of charcoal to the west or that the less charcoal rich area is a result of the charcoal deposit being trampled over.		topsoil	C1025	F1

1029	Structure	C1016 & C1037	3.90m (overall extent) 0.62 (average length)	0.90 -0.40 0.60 - 0.30	Stone lining of kiln	This context is the remains of the stone lining of the flue C1037 and the structure within the firing chamber C1016. Unhewn stones were used to line the sides of the flue but the majority had been removed before the kiln was backfilled. This was evident by the stone sockets that were continuous along the edges of the base. This lining was continued into the east side of the firing chamber where a single large boulder formed the capstone over the firing bowl. The stones surrounding the firing bowl (north and south) and the capstone had all been heat affected and scorched. There was no evidence, i.e. stone sockets, at the back (west) of the firing chamber to suggest that the lining had continued to the very back. Stone sockets either side of the firing bowl to the west indicated that it had at least extended a little further into the chamber. There were very little remains of the material that had sealed the lining, however, beneath the capstone small pockets of yellow clay survived between the stones and behind the upright stones was a mix of sandy silt with pockets of clay.		C1040	C1016 C1037	F1
1030	Fill	C1016 & C1037	3.90m (overall extent) 0.62 (average length)	Between 0.10m and 0.40	0.10m	Grey-white gravel deposits found within empty stone sockets and around in-situ stones of C1029. Proably a result of the stones being removed prior to the backfilling of the kiln.		C1041	C1013 C1017	F1

1031	Cut		C1032	0.60m	0.45m	0.40m	Double posthole	Cut of double/conjoined posthole, one to the east and one to the west. Sharp break of slope at top and base with a semi flat bottom. Straight vertical sides. No packing stones present and both contained the same fill C1032.		C1032	natural	F1
1032	Fill	C1031		0.60m	0.45m	0.40m	Fill of Posthole	Mid brown silt with occasional small to medium sub rounded stones.	Charcoal	topsoil	C1031	F1
1033	Cut		C1034	0.50m	0.30m	0.42m	Posthole	Oval shaped posthole E of C1031. Inclination of approx. 45° to S. Sharp break of slope at top and base. Semi-concave base/near flat. Straight sides.		C1034	natural	F1
1034	Fill	C1033		0.50m	0.30m	0.42m	Fill of posthole	Mid brown silt with occasional small to medium sub rounded stones.	Charcoal	topsoil	C1033	F1
1035	Cut		C1036	0.50m	0.50m	0.07m	Small shallow pit	Circular shape in plan. Gradual break of slope at top and imperceptible at base. Imperceptible sides.		C1036	natural	F1
1036	Fill	C1035		0.50m	0.50m	0.07m	Charcoal fill of C1035	Black to dark grey charcoal rich silt of loose compaction with rare inclusions of small stones.	Charcoal	topsoil	C1035	F1
1037	Cut		C1013, C1029	3.50m	0.90m	0.55m	Flue between firing chamber, C1016, and drying chamber, C1005, of kiln.	Curvilinear shape in plan curving from the SE (drying chamber) to the N to the SW (firing chamber). U-shaped in profile. Break of slope at top and bottom is sharp along length. Sides vary from vertical to steeply sloping, with one section showing a slight overhang. Base varies from concave to flat.		C1029	Natural	F1
1038	VOID							VOID				

Appendix B 17E0125 Rathbride Road Finds register

Find no.	Licence	Context	Find ref.	Simple	Full	Material	Description	NoOfFinds	ContextDescription
17E0125:01:1	17E0125	1	1	Clay pipe	Clay pipe stem	Ceramic	Clay pipe stem fragment	1	Topsoil
17E0125:01:2	17E0125	1	2	Glass vessel	Glass jar	Glass	Brown glass rim fragment from jar with screw-top, 1900+	1	Topsoil
17E0125:01:3	17E0125	1	3	Metal object	Iron object	Iron	Decayed metal fragments	1	Topsoil
17E0125:02:1	17E0125	2	1	Whetstone	???	Stone	Possible whetstone	1	Topsoil
17E0125:27:1	17E0125	27	1	Pottery	Medieval pottery	Ceramic	Medieval pottery fragment	1	Field boundary ditch
17E0125:27:2	17E0125	27	2	Pottery	Medieval pottery	Ceramic	Medieval pottery fragment	1	Field boundary ditch
17E0125:101:1	17E0125	101	1	Pottery	Prehistoric pottery	Ceramic	Early Neolithic pot sherd	1	Pit 100 in F2
17E0125:103:1	17E0125	103	1	Pottery	Prehistoric pottery	Ceramic	Early Neolithic pot sherd	1	Pit 102 in F2
17E0125:105:1	17E0125	105	1	Pottery	Prehistoric pottery	Ceramic	Early Neolithic pot sherd	1	Pit 104 in F2
17E0125:107:1	17E0125	107	1	Quernstone	Saddle quern	Granite	Partial saddle quern of pink granite	1	Pit 106 in F2
17E0125:152:1	17E0125	152	1	Metal object	Decayed metal fragments	Iron	Decayed metal fragments	1	Pit near 'barrow'

Appendix C 17E0125 Rathbride Road Sample register

Sample No.	Description & Type	Context	Volume	Area	Initials	Date	
1	Soil sample with charcoal from C8	C9	1 bag	F2	JS	30.5.19	environmental
2	Soil sample with charcoal from C23	C24	1 bag	F2	JS	30.5.19	environmental
3	Soil sample with charcoal	C28	1 bag	F2	JS	30.5.19	environmental
4	Soil sample from posthole C23 in slot 3	C24	1 bag	F2	SS	12.6.19	environmental
5	Soil sample from C23 in slot 4	C24	1 bag	F2	CG	12.6.19	environmental
6	Soil sample from C23 in slot 3	C24	1 bag	F2	SS	13.6.19	N/a
7	Posthole fill with charcoal	C34	1 bag	F2	CH	14.6.19	environmental
8	Charcoal sample	C38	1 bag	F2	JS	16.6.19	environmental
9	Soil sample with charcoal	C40	1 bag	F2	JS	16.6.19	environmental
10	Soil sample from C42	C43	1 bag	F2	JMC	17.6.19	environmental
11	Soil sample from C44	C45	1 bag	F2	JMC	17.6.19	environmental
12	Soil sample with charcoal	C46	2 bags	F2	CG	18.6.19	environmental
13	Shell sample	C36	1 bag	F2	CG	19.6.19	shell
14	Soil sample of C50	C50	1 bag	F2	JMC	19.6.19	N/a
15	Soil sample of spread with charcoal	C51	1 bag	F2	CG	19.6.19	environmental
16	Soil sample basal fill of C23 in area A	C56	1 bag	F2	ROM	19.6.19	environmental
17	Soil sample of C23 in quadrant A	C60	1 bag	F2	ROM	19.6.19	environmental
18	Charcoal sample from C58	C59	1 bag	F2	JS	19.6.19	N/a
19	Soil sample from C23	C74	1 bag	F2	ROM	19.6.19	N/a
20	Charcoal and seed sample from kiln C62	C65	1 bag	F2	SMG	19.6.19	environmental
21	Charcoal and seed sample from kiln C62	C63	1 bag	F2	SMG	19.6.19	environmental
22	Fill of posthole C80	C81	2 bags	F2	CG	20.6.19	environmental
23	Charcoal layer at western base of C62	C84	1 bag	F2	SR	20.6.19	environmental
24	Charcoal layer at base of flue C58	C59	1 bag	F2	SR	20.6.19	environmental
25	Ashy deposit at base of E end of C62	C85	1 bag	F2	SR	20.6.19	environmental
26	Charcoal sample of C23 at SW baulk	C24	1 bag	F2	JS	20.6.19	environmental
27	Charcoal sample of C23 at SW baulk	C24	1 bag	F2	JS	20.6.19	environmental
28	Fill of posthole C88, cut by kiln C62	C89	1 bag	F2	SMG	20.6.19	N/a
29	Soil sample with charcoal	C91	1 bag	F2	CG	21.6.19	Missing
30	Soil sample with charcoal C93	C93	1 bag	F2	SS	21.6.19	N/a
31	Wood in stakehole C79	C79	1 bag	F2	SMG	19.6.19	environmental

32 Bunt clay C62	C63	1 bag	F2	SMG	19.6.19	ceramic
33 Shells in C96	C96	1 bag	F2	CG	25.6.19	Missing
34 Fill of posthole C98	C99	1 bag	F2	CG	25.6.19	environmental
35 Soil sample from linear ditch C96	C97	1 Bag	F2	JMC	25.6.19	environmental
36 Soil sample with charcoal C100	C101	1 Bag	F2	JS	26.6.19	environmental
37 Soil sample of fire pit C102	C103	1 Bag	F2	JS	26.6.19	environmental
38 Soil sample with charcoal from C106	C107	1 Bag	F2	JS	26.6.19	environmental
39 Soil sample from fire pit C104	C105	2 bags	F2	JS	26.6.19	environmental
40 Charcoal fill from base of kiln C125	C126	1 Bag	F1	ROM	1.7.19	environmental
41 Soil sample from C141	C142	1 Bag	F1	JMC	2.7.19	environmental
42 Soil sample from C139	C140	1 Bag	F1	JMC	2.7.19	environmental
43 Soil, charcoal and burnt bone from C143	C143	1 Bag	F1	JMC	5.7.19	environmental
44 Soil, charcoal and burnt bone	C152	1 Bag	F1	JMC	5.7.19	environmental
45 Soil sample from C155 basal fill	C155	1 Bag	F1	JMC	5.7.19	N/a
46 Soil sample with large pieces of charcoal C154/C1018	C154/1018	1 Bag	F1	ROM	5.7.19	environmental
47 Charcoal rich soil from C154/C1018	C154/1018	1 Bag	F1	ROM	5.7.19	environmental
48 Burnt grain (seed)	C158/1022	1 Bag	F1	ROM	5.7.19	environmental
49 Burnt grain (seed)	C159/1019	1 Bag	F1	ROM	5.7.19	environmental
50 Soil sample with charcoal	C25	1 Bag	F1	JS	5.7.19	environmental
51 Charred seed C63 from quadrant A	C63	1 Bag	F1	SR	5.7.19	environmental
52 Soil sample from C62	C63	1 Bag	F1	SMG	5.7.19	environmental
53 Soil sample from C23	C24	1 Bag	F2	CG	5.7.19	environmental
54 Snail shell from C25	C26	1 Bag	F2	CG	5.7.19	shell
55 Fill of feature C98	C99	1 bag	F2	JS	26.6.19	environmental
56 Fill of feature C66	C67	1 bag	F2	JS	26.6.19	environmental
57 Clay lining from C67		67 1 Bag	F2			ceramic
58 Clay lining from C83		83 1 Bag	F2	SMG	19.6.19	ceramic
59 Charcoal + Seeds (Change number on bag)	C1018	2 Buckets	F1	SR	12.2.20	environmental
60 Charcoal + Seeds (Change number on bag)	C1013	2 Bags	F1	MW	13.2.20	environmental
61 Charcoal + Seeds (Change number on bag)	C1017	2 Bags	F1	SR	12.2.20	environmental
62 Charcoal (Change number on bag)	C1025	1 Bag	F1	SR	12.2.20	environmental

NOTE: Highlighted samples are within Phase portion of the site

Appendix D 17E0125 Rathbride Road Bone register

Context	Description	Area		
24	Burnt bone from C23	F2	burnt	Enclosed kiln
36	Animal bone, quadrant D	F2	animal	Enclosed kiln
38	Burnt bone	F2	burnt	Enclosed kiln
59	Animal bone basal fill of flue C58	F2	animal	Enclosed kiln
63	Animal bone	F2	animal	Enclosed kiln
67	Animal bone from C66	F1	missing	Enclosed kiln
83	Animal bone	F2	animal	Enclosed kiln
84	Animal bone from C62 kiln	F2	animal	Enclosed kiln
132	Animal bone from C130	F1	animal	Ditch associated with kiln in F1
140	Animal bone from C140	F1	animal	Pit 139 in nw of F1
142	Human or animal bone from C141	F1	animal	Pit 141 in nw of F1
143	Animal bone	F1	animal	Pit 141 in nw of F1
143	Burnt bone from C143 (cremated?)	F1	burnt	Pit 141 in nw of F1
		F1		
155	Animal bone (previously numbered 156)		animal	Pit 151 in nw of F1
152	Burnt bone	F1	burnt	Fill of pit 151 (barrow?)
154	Animal bone	F1	animal	Ditch of 'barrow'
157	Animal bone from C156	F1	animal	Ditch of 'barrow'
1004	Animal bone from C1002	F1	animal	siobhain Field boundary ditch

NOTE: Highlighted samples are within Phase portion of the site

Appendix E 17E0125 Rathbride Road Drawing register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Plan/Section	Description	Scale	Area
1	1	Section	East facing section of C8, C10, C12	01:10	Field 2
2	1	Section	North east facing section of C5	01:10	Field 2
3	1	Section	West facing section of posthole C33	01:10	Field 2
4	1	Plan	Circular pit in Southwest corner along extent of excavation	01:10	Field 2
5	1	Section	Section of posthole C39	01:10	Field 2
6	1	Section	East facing section of C48	01:10	Field 2
7	2	Plan	Mid-ex plan of burnt spread C50	01:10	Field 2
8	1	Section	Southwest facing section of C23, quadrant A	01:10	Field 2
9	2	Section	West facing section of quadrant A baulk	01:10	Field 2
10	1	Section	West facing section of C23 quadrant A	01:10	Field 2
11	1	Section	North facing section of C23 quadrant C	01:10	Field 2
12	1	Section	North facing section of C23 quadrant D	01:10	Field 2
13	8	Section	East facing section of C58	01:10	Field 2
14	8	Section	North facing section of C2 kiln	01:10	Field 2
15	1	Section	West facing section of C23 quadrant B	01:10	Field 2
16	1	Section	South west facing section of C23 quadrant B	01:10	Field 2
17	8	Section	North facing section of C36 C54	01:10	Field 2
18	8	Section	South facing section of C36 C54	01:10	Field 2
19	8	Section	East facing section of C36 C54	01:10	Field 2
20	4	Section	North facing section of C96 C97	01:10	Field 2
21	4	Section	North facing section of possible fire pit C100	01:10	Field 2
22	8	Section	West facing section of possible fire pit C98	01:10	Field 2
23	4	Section	South facing section of possible fire pit C102	01:10	Field 2
24	4	Section	West facing section of possible fire pit C106	01:10	Field 2
25	4	Section	South facing section of possible fire pit C104	01:10	Field 2
26	5	Plan	Post-ex plan of fire pits C100 C98 C102 C106 C104 F2 P2	01:50	Field 1
27	6	Section	East facing section of C125 C130	01:10	Field 1
28	6	Section	South west facing section of C127	01:10	Field 1
29	6	Section	Northeast facing section of C139 C141	01:10	Field 1
30	6	Section	Southwest facing section of C133	01:10	Field 1
31	6	Section	South facing section of C135	01:10	Field 1
32	6	Plan	Post-ex plan of pits C139 C141	01:10	Field 1
33	6	Section	South east facing section of C146	01:10	Field 1
34	6	Section	East facing section of C130, C149	01:10	Field 1
35	6	Section	North and east facing sections of C130, C136 intersection	01:10	Field 1

36	6	Section	Southwest facing section of C151, cremation pit	01:10	Field 1
37	7	Section	West facing section of kiln C153	01:10	Field 1
38	2	Section	West facing section of kiln C62, C60, C68, C70	01:10	Field 1
39	3	Plan	Post-ex plan of Field 2	01:50	Field 1
40	9	Section	Northwest facing section of medieval ditch C1000	01:10	Field 1
41	9	Section	South facing section of field drain C1002	01:10	Field 1
42	9	Section	East facing section of drying chamber C1005 and medieval ditch C1000	01:10	Field 1
43	9	Section	Southwest facing section of firing chamber C1016	01:10	Field 1
44	10	Section	ESE-WSW running profile of postholes C1023, C1031 & C1033	01:10	Field 1
45	10	Section	East facing section of firing chamber C1016	01:10	Field 1
46	11	Plan	Post-ex plan of kiln, post-holes and ditches	01:50	Field 1
47	12	Plan	Mid-ex of stone structure of firing chamber C1016	01:50	Field 1
48	10	Section	East facing section of flue C1037	01:10	Field 1
49	10	Elevation	C1029 Stone structure in firing chamber C1016	sketch	Field 1
50	10	Elevation	C1029 Stone structure in firing chamber C1016	sketch	Field 1
51	13		TBR		
52	14		TBR		
53	15	Plan	Pre-ex West end of Field 1	01:50	Field 1
54	16	Plan	Pre-ex centre of Field 1	01:50	Field 1
55	17	Plan	Pre-ex East end of Field 1	01:50	Field 1

Appendix F 17E0125 Rathbride Road Archive register

Site Name: **Rathbride Road, Kildare - Field 1**

Archaeological Licence No. **17E0125**

Site director: **Antoine Giacometti**

Date: **February 2020**

Field Records	Items (quantity)	Comments
Site drawings (plans)	2	2 sheets
Site sections, profiles, elevations	7	2 sheets
Other plans, sketches, etc.	2	elevation sketches
Timber drawings		
Stone structural drawings		
Site diary/ notebooks	2	
Site registers (folders)	4	digital
Survey/levels data (origin information)	Digital	Site survey
Context sheets (paper)	16	
Context sheets (digital)	207	
Wood sheets		
Skeleton sheets		
Worked stone sheets		
Digital photographs	273	
Photographs (print)		
Photographs (slide)		
Finds and environmental archive		
Flint/chert		
Stone artefacts	1	Quern stone
Pottery - prehistoric	3	Early Neolithic
Medieval	2	
Post-medieval	1	
Ceramic building materials (specify types eg daub, tile)		
Metal artefacts (specify types - bronze, iron) - iron	2	
Glass	1	
Other find types or special finds		
Human bone (specify type eg cremated, skeleton, disarticulated) - cremated bone	2	burnt bone samples
Animal bone	16	
Metallurgical waste		
Environmental bulk soil (specify number of samples)	4	
Environmental monolith (specify number of samples and number of tins per sample)	62	
Timbers/ stakes		
Security of archive	Good	Digital and paper archive