



Monitoring Report No. 20

**BEAGHMORE STONE CIRCLES
BEAGHMORE
COUNTY TYRONE**

AE/04/188

Nicholas Beer

Site Specific Information

Site Name: Beaghmore Stone Circles

Townland: Beaghmore

SMR No (if applicable): TYR 020:004

State Care Scheduled (although work was not within the Scheduled area)

Grid Ref: H 6846 8424

County: Tyrone

Excavation License No: AE/04/188

Dates of Monitoring: 13th – 15th December

Archaeologists Present: Nicholas Beer and Ronan McHugh

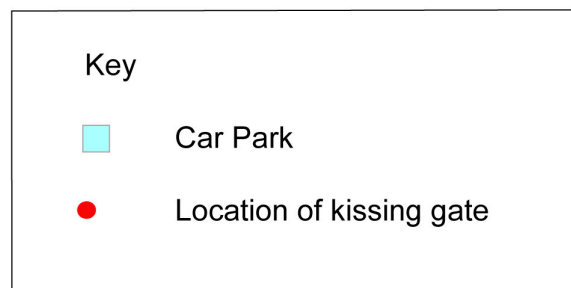
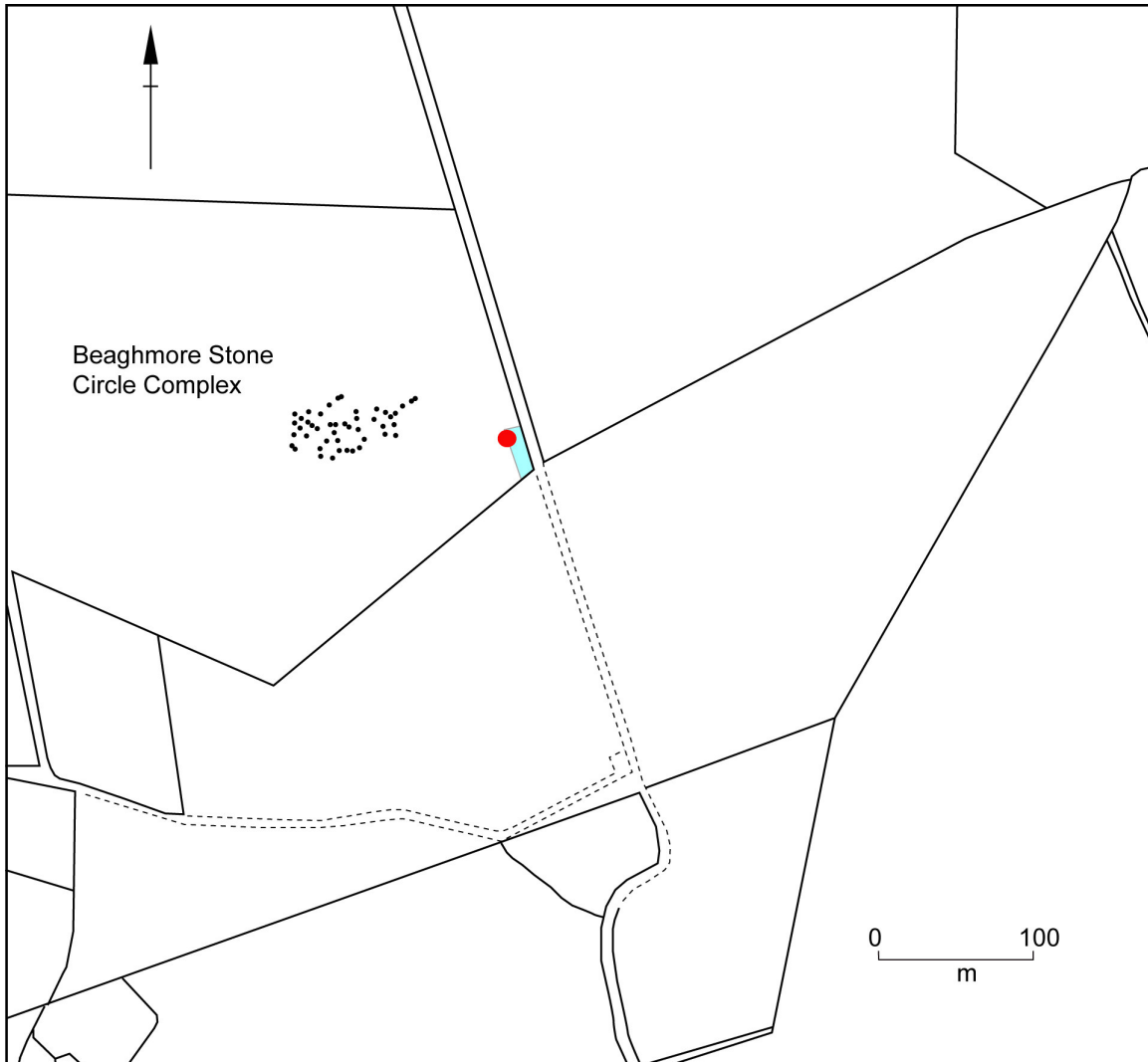
Brief Summary: Monitoring carried out in advance of the installation of a disabled access kissing gate, nothing of archaeological interest noted.

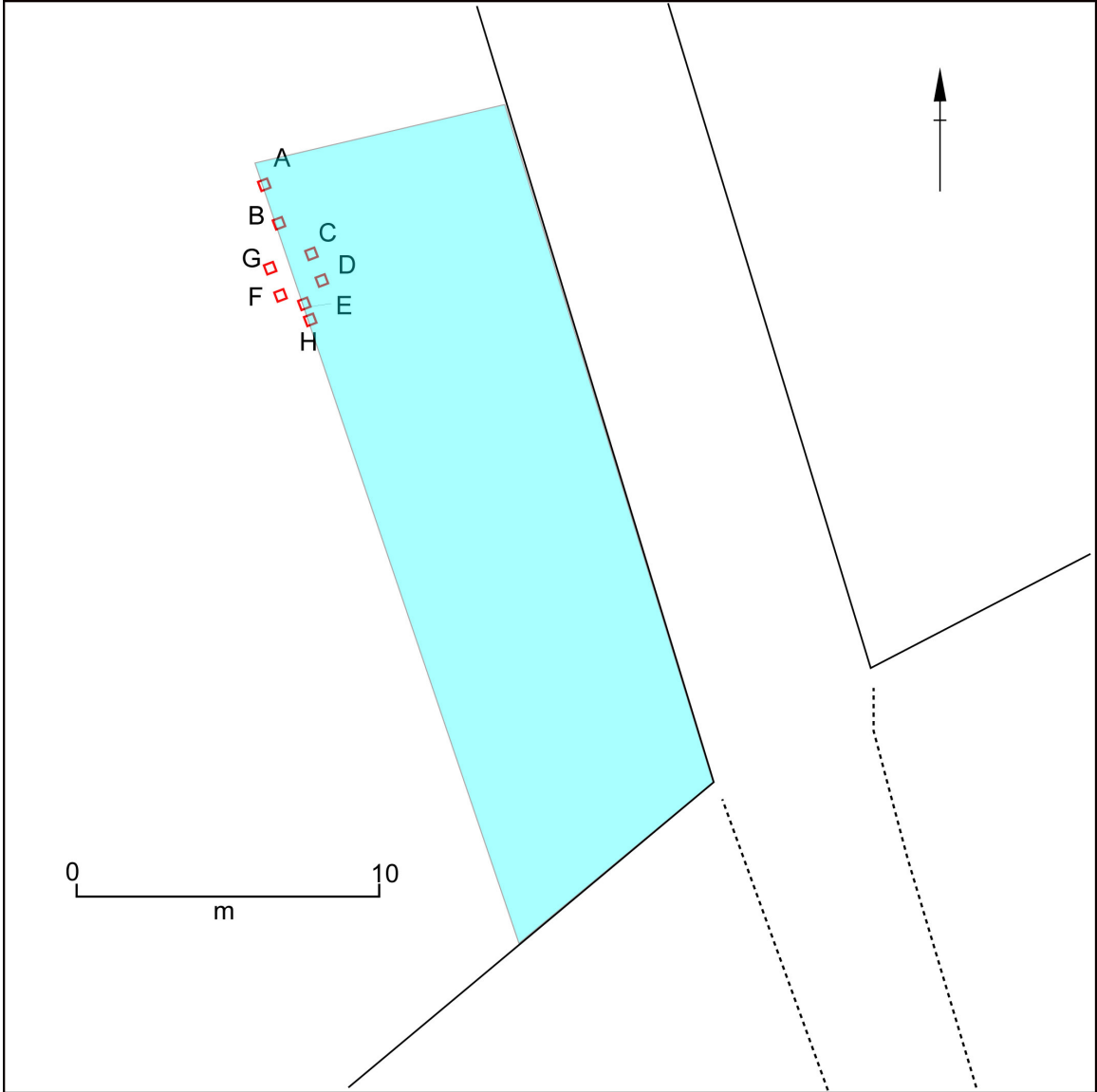
Type of monitoring: Excavated by hand by EHS Regional Operations employees.

Size of area opened: 8 holes approximately 0.3m x 0.3m, to a depth of 0.6m.



Current Land Use: State Care and Scheduled Monuments open to the public, although the work carried out was not within the Scheduled area.

Plan of the site showing the extent of the area monitored:





Key

-  Car Park
-  Excavated areas

Brief account of the monitoring

A disabled access kissing gate was installed at the Beaghmore stone circles site (SMR: TYR 020:004) in County Tyrone. The gate was located in the northwest corner of the existing car park (Fig. 1.) and a total of eight trenches (Fig. 2.) were excavated. Four of the trenches (Fig. 2. A, B, C and D) were excavated with machinery through a tarmac (bituminous macadam) car park surface (c. 101), the remaining four trenches (E, F, G and H) were excavated by hand.

Trench A was 0.5m x 0.3m and was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. Two deposits were discovered; a concrete car park deposit which was covered with a thin layer of tarmac at the surface (c. 101). This modern concrete deposit overlay an orange sandy deposit (c. 102) at a depth of 0.5m.

Trench B was 0.3m x 0.4m and was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. The only layer disturbed during the excavation of this trench was the tarmac/concrete car park deposit (c. 101).

Trench C was 0.3m x 0.2m and was excavated to a depth of 0.3m. The only layer disturbed during the excavation of this trench was the tarmac/concrete car park deposit (c. 101).

Trench D was 0.3m x 0.2m and was excavated to a depth of 0.3m. The only layer disturbed during the excavation of this trench was the tarmac/concrete car park deposit (c. 101).

Trench E was 0.3m x 0.3m and was excavated to a depth of 0.2m. Only a single deposit was encountered whilst excavating this trench, which was a dark brown peat deposit (c. 103). The peat deposit (c. 103) extended to the base of the trench at 0.2m.

Trench F was 0.2m x 0.2m and was excavated to a depth of 0.1m. Only a single deposit was encountered whilst excavating this trench, which was a dark brown peat deposit (c. 103). The peat deposit (c. 103) extended to the base of the trench at 0.1m.

Trench G was 0.3m x 0.3m and was excavated to a depth of 0.2m. Only a single deposit was encountered whilst excavating this trench, which was a dark brown peat deposit (c. 103). The peat deposit (c. 103) extended to the base of the trench at 0.2m.

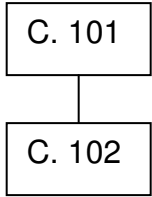
Trench H was 0.4m x 0.3m and was excavated to a depth of 0.3m. Two deposits were discovered; a dark brown peat deposit (c. 103)(depth 0.2m), which overlay an orange sandy deposit (c. 102). The sandy deposit extended beyond the base of the trench.

The excavations did not disturb any deposits of archaeological significance. Evidence recovered from trenches a, B, C and D indicates that the tarmac/ concrete surface of the car park (c. 101) was laid upon a leveling deposit of sand (c. 102). The date when the car park was built is unknown, however, it is reasonable to assume it dates to the second half of the twentieth century. Excavations to the west of the fence line

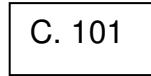
(Trenches E, F and G), which demarcates the western edge of the car park, uncovered a single peat deposit (c. 103), whereas the sequence uncovered in Trench H suggests that the same peat deposits had spread over the edge of the car park levelling deposit of sand (c. 102). It is possible that the peat disturbed in Trench H (c.103) was redeposited following the construction of the car park and that the peat disturbed in Trenches E, F and G (c. 103) might also have been redeposited during the construction of the car park.

Harris Matrix for individual trenches:

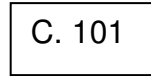
Trench A



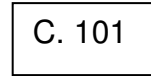
Trench B



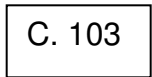
Trench C



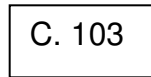
Trench D



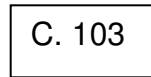
Trench E



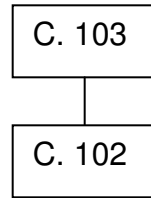
Trench F



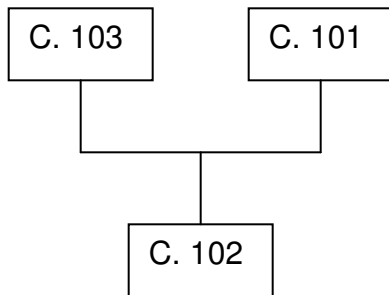
Trench G



Trench H



Master Harris Matrix:



Archive:

(List any records from the monitoring e.g. finds, photos and plans and state where they are currently available for inspection.)

Finds: N/A

Photographs: N/A

Plans / Drawings: N/A

Signed: _____

Date: _____