

THE PREHISTORIC BURIAL SITES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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Introduction

Background and acknowledgements

This monograph has been designed to be a resource for those who have an interest in the study of prehistoric burial sites in Northern Ireland. It is based on a compilation of research undertaken during the past five years by the authors and augmented by data obtained from the Irish National Strategic Archaeological Research (INSTAR) project entitled *People of Prehistoric Ireland: Health and Demography* (funded by the Heritage Council of Ireland and carried out between 2009 and 2010) and a baseline survey of the megalithic tombs of Northern Ireland (funded by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency: Built Heritage (NIEA) and carried out between 2010 and 2011). Use has also been made of material from a variety of documentary sources and from the archives of the Ulster Archaeological Society.

The survey begins with a review of some of the key information sources from where our information has been obtained and how these have developed over time. It then places the prehistoric archaeology of Northern Ireland in a wider context, with the remainder of Ireland, Britain and north-west Europe. The main part of this document is an inventory of prehistoric burial sites in Northern Ireland and this is preceded by a discussion about the categorisation of such monuments generally and the methodology by which this inventory is compiled. The inventory is followed by a short discussion about monumental architecture, the prehistoric landscapes of Northern Ireland and the artefacts usually associated with prehistoric burials. A comprehensive glossary and bibliography have also been provided.

Much information contained in this inventory has been made available from the NIEA Sites and Monuments Record and the authors would particularly like to thank Paul Logue, Senior Inspector, NIEA, for his valued support throughout the life of this project, the megalithic tomb survey and INSTAR research programme. Also within NIEA, Gail Pollock gave of her time and expertise in accessing illustrations of many of the monuments. At the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queen's University Belfast, Drs Colm Donnelly and Philip Macdonald, and Cormac McSparron freely gave of their time and expertise. Also at Queen's University, Dr Eileen Murphy made available the INSTAR database and research information and Libby Mulqueeny provided illustrations for the text. The Ulster Archaeological Society also provided information on prehistoric burial sites obtained from their programme of monument surveys and Malachy Conway of the National Trust in Northern Ireland gave his enthusiastic



FIGURE 01: THE COUNTIES OF MODERN IRELAND LIBBY MULQUEENY, QUB

support and expertise. We would also like to thank Dr Paul Walsh of the National Monument Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in the Republic of Ireland for sharing his expertise in monument classification and his enthusiasm for all things prehistoric.

A short history of prehistoric archaeology in Northern Ireland

One of the earliest and most comprehensive surveys of the prehistoric monuments of the north of Ireland was carried out as part of the compilation of the memoirs and maps of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland between 1833 and 1847. Many of the monuments recorded during this survey have since been destroyed and the Ordnance Survey records are often the only source of information that is now available to us. Interest in anthropology and archaeology increased during the nineteenth century and many individuals, now usually referred to as antiquarians, committed their own time and resources to the recording and occasional excavation of ancient monuments, including many prehistoric burial sites. Notable among the

antiquarians active in the north of Ireland at this time was William Wakeman (1822-1900), who excavated, surveyed and reported on a wide range of archaeological sites, publishing many of his reports in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*. Other antiquarian reports survive in the journals of local history and archaeological societies. Principal among these is the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, which was founded in 1853 and contains a wealth of detail about prehistoric burial sites and other ancient monuments. Some antiquarians produced surveys of prehistoric burial sites from across Ireland and further afield. For example, in 1802 W.J. Dubordieu published the *Statistical Survey of the County of Antrim* and in 1897, William Borlase published *The Dolmens of Ireland* in three volumes. Surveys such as these continue to be consulted in our search for knowledge about prehistoric burials in Northern Ireland. In addition to surveying and recording sites, many antiquarians collected prehistoric artefacts, mostly flints and pottery and several of these collections were so large that they became the basis for modern museum collections. Among these were the collections of William Knowles of Cullybackey, County Antrim and Canon John Grainger of Broughshane, also in County Antrim. The Knowles Collection has been estimated at between 32,000 and 50,000 objects and was auctioned at Sotheby's in 1924, although a substantial portion has since been acquired by the Ulster Museum. Canon Grainger also had a vast collection of Irish prehistoric artefacts, including a stone cist that had been reconstructed in his front garden. Much of his collection has also been secured by the Ulster Museum.

Following the partition of Ireland in 1921, governments north and south established departments to oversee ancient monuments in their respective jurisdictions. In Northern Ireland this was initially the remit of the Ministry of Finance. A team of volunteers made up of academics, antiquarians and interested others, carried out a survey of such monument and this was published as *A Preliminary Survey of the Ancient Monuments of Northern Ireland* in 1940. It was edited by David Chart, Assistant Keeper of the Public Records of Northern Ireland and is often referred to as PSAMNI. Due to the concentration on the 1939-1945 war effort and economic difficulties thereafter, it was left to a few individuals to keep archaeology alive and many of those who had worked on PSAMNI published their surveys and excavations in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*. Notable among these were Estyn Evans and Oliver Davies, whose prolific rates of publication remain unmatched and added immensely to our knowledge of Irish prehistory. The Northern Ireland Archaeological Survey was established by the government of Northern Ireland in 1950, with the appointment of Dudley Waterman and Pat Collins. They initially concentrated their efforts on County Down and the *Archaeological Survey of County Down*, edited by Professor Martyn Jope, was published in 1966. It would not be until 2009 that the next county survey, that of County Armagh, was published, although that of County Fermanagh is currently in preparation. Research-based archaeology commenced initially at the Queen's

University of Belfast with the appointment of K.T. Frost in 1909, but following his death in action during the First World War and the partition of Ireland, it was not until the post-war years that the subject was revived by Estyn Evans, Oliver Davies and Martyn Jope. The curator of Armagh County Museum, T.G.F. Paterson, collaborated in several excavations undertaken by Evans and Davies. He also assisted with the first scheduling programme for County Armagh and many of the inventory descriptions contained in *An Archaeological Survey of County Armagh* (2009) relied heavily on Paterson's notebooks, with notes and articles compiled over several decades on the county's heritage. Also active during this period was Andrew McLean May, a resident of Coleraine, who excavated and recorded many sites in the county during the 1930s, often with the assistance of Ivor Herring, a Belfast schoolteacher.

Within the government sector, the work of Dudley Waterman and Pat Collins was continued in the 1970s and 1980s by archaeologists such as Dr Ann Hamlin, Dr Chris Lynn, Dr Brian Williams, Claire Foley and Nick Brannon, until 1996 when the government organisation was renamed Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) and excavation work was devolved under excavation licence to private archaeological companies. In 2008, the EHS was re-branded as the Northern Ireland Environment Agency: Built Heritage (NIEA). Archaeological information from all sites in Northern Ireland have been brought together into the Sites and Monuments Record, which is maintained and continuously updated at the NIEA headquarters at Waterman House, 5-33 Hill Street, Belfast BT1 2LA. Much of this information is also available on the NIEA website, where site details and on-line mapping can also be accessed.

Archaeologists based at Queen's University have continued to be closely associated with research excavation and survey work. For example, Professor Jim Mallory and Barrie Hartwell have drawn attention to the significance of the prehistoric landscapes around Navan Fort in County Armagh, Donegore Hill in County Antrim and Ballynahatty in County Down. Many of their findings have been published in the journal *Emania*. Archaeology continues to be taught at undergraduate and post-graduate levels at Queen's University in the School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology. The university is also home to the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF), which currently undertakes the fieldwork requirements of the NIEA. At the University of Ulster, the Centre for Maritime Archaeology (CMA) carries out similar functions with regard to coastal and marine archaeology. The principal repository for archaeological objects from Northern Ireland continues to be the Ulster Museum, although many items from prehistoric burial sites are held at smaller museums around Northern Ireland. The National Museum in Dublin and several other museums in Great Britain also hold significant collections of prehistoric artefacts from the north of Ireland, principally from pre-Partition times. Until fairly recently, opportunities for members of the public to become involved in archaeological

fieldwork were limited to field trips organised by local archaeological and historical societies. Opportunities do now exist through CAF, the National Trust and the Ulster Archaeological Society for participation in archaeological excavations and monument surveys.

Northern Ireland's prehistory in context

Apart from a few Palaeolithic flints, no significant evidence has yet been discovered for human activity in Ireland before the end of the last Ice Age, so the prehistoric period in Ireland is usually taken to mean the period of time from the arrival of the first Mesolithic settlers around 8000 BC until AD 432, when, with the arrival of the early Christian church, Ireland entered the literary world and the historic period. Towards the end of the last Ice Age, rising sea levels resulted in Ireland becoming an island between around 18,000 and 14,000 years ago, much earlier than the remainder of the British Isles, which still formed part of the European mainland until around 8,000 years ago. This had a profound effect on the re-colonisation of Ireland by plants and animals, including humans and many fewer species were present here than in the remainder of the Britain or Europe. The earliest known human settlement in Ireland was at Mount Sandel in County Antrim, which has been dated to between 7,750 and 7,670 BC. This was a small seasonal campsite and from the flint tools and evidence of plant and animal remains found there, it is thought that these people had a semi-nomadic lifestyle. The Mesolithic continued in Ireland until around 4,000 BC, after which evidence of farming has been discovered. Throughout this entire period, only six human burial sites have been recorded in the whole of Ireland, usually in small pits or close to places of human activity and much remains to be discovered about Mesolithic burial rites. Only one Mesolithic burial site has been discovered in Northern Ireland.

Around 4,000BC, there is strong evidence for the introduction of farming to Ireland, perhaps by indigenous people who gave up their nomadic lifestyle, or more likely by a re-colonisation of Ireland by immigrant farming communities, perhaps displacing or even assimilating the native people. Large areas of forest and shrub land were cleared and there is evidence of new plant species such as cereal crops and animal species such as cattle, sheep and red deer. There is also artefact evidence of the first ceramics, new flint tool technology and perhaps most dramatic of all, the construction of megalithic tombs began to take place. This is known as the Neolithic period and lasted in Ireland until about 2,500 BC, when the first evidence of metalworking has been uncovered. As with many areas of Neolithic Europe, much more evidence of Neolithic peoples has been obtained from funerary monuments than domestic settlement, although an increasing number of Neolithic dwellings have been discovered in Ireland in recent years (McSparron 2008). Most categories of northern European Neolithic funerary monuments are present in Northern Ireland, although there are significant regional disparities. Where human

remains are found, archaeologists have discovered that the remains usually represent a small number of individuals, leading to speculation that some sort of selection process must have been used to decide whose remains would be placed inside. However, research undertaken as part of an INSTAR project on prehistoric burials (Murphy *et al.* 2010) has identified that in Ireland, almost 78 per cent of all recorded Neolithic burials took place in megalithic tombs, which seems to challenge this view.

Evidence from the Neolithic suggests that there were extensive trade links between Ireland, Britain and the Continent and there is every reason to expect copper artefacts were traded into Ireland before the commencement of Irish metallurgy. At a copper mining site at Ross Island, County Kerry, mining was carried out between 2500 and 2200 BC. The earliest gold and copper artefacts 'in Britain date from *c.* 2700-2000 BC. Gold had been worked into trinkets in the Near East since 4500 BC and copper axes and tools had been manufactured in the Balkans since 4600 BC' (Parker Pearson 2005, 73).

The Bronze Age in Ireland is notable for the vast increase in burials and funerary monuments, accounting for almost 79 per cent of all burials in Irish prehistory. It is also notable for an increased number of settlement sites and even large villages, such as at Corrstown in County Londonderry (Conway *et al.*, 2004-2005).

The Iron Age became established on the Continent around 600 BC, but Ireland seems to have retained a form of Late Bronze Age industrial economy until around 300 BC, although with 'very limited production in the period immediately after 600 B.C. initiated by outside influences' (Scott 1974, 21). One reason for this may have been a reduction in contacts between Ireland and the rest of an iron-sufficient Europe at this time. Comparatively little is known of how people lived or buried their dead during his period, suggesting some form of collapse in Late Bronze Age society, perhaps linked to a deterioration in climate. The Irish Iron Age burial record accounts for only 79 individuals, with only three of these in Northern Ireland (Murphy *et al.* 2010, 25) and is reflected in the small number of Iron Age burial monuments. However, there must have been a significant Iron Age population in Northern Ireland, as several large-scale monuments such as hillforts and ritual sites were constructed during this period particularly in County Armagh. These sites include Navan Fort (Lynn 2003) and the Dorsey linear earthworks. Perhaps the most notable feature of the end of Irish prehistory was the lack of evidence for Roman colonisation, which allowed pagan Irish society to survive much longer than it did in other parts of Europe. The arrival of Christianity into Ireland in the fifth century AD is generally taken as the point at which the Irish Iron Age and indeed Irish prehistory, finally ended.

Methodology

The main part of this document is an inventory of all known prehistoric burial sites in Northern Ireland. With 3,332 recorded monuments, Northern Ireland is a significant and relatively untapped source for research into prehistoric society and preliminary analysis points to several issues worthy of more detailed investigation. For example, prehistoric burial sites and settlement sites seem to be mutually exclusive, with this distinction continuing to the present day. Many burial sites incorporate a wide range of burial monuments, some spanning long periods of time and several areas demonstrate significant clustering of burial monuments, such as at Broughderg in County Tyrone, with no less than 59 individual monuments, including 28 burial cairns. A further 60 burial monuments are present nearby, suggesting the presence of an extensive sacred area.

Prehistoric burial sites have attracted a wide variety of classifications, often changing over time and many sites were recorded only by their local name, giving rise to confusion over exact locations. In an attempt to overcome such difficulties, the methodology and classifications employed in this inventory have been explained in detail. The inventory in this document records all prehistoric site types in Northern Ireland that are in some way connected to the disposal of human remains and for the first time this information has been brought together in one document. Details are provided for every known site, even if the monument has been removed from the landscape since it was first recorded and no visible trace remains. In addition to constructing large-scale stone, timber and earthen monuments, prehistoric people also employed relatively discreet methods for burial of the dead. These include urn and pit burials as well as stone cists, often with little or no visible presence above ground level. Often, their existence has only come to our attention as a result of construction work and our knowledge of these sites has been significantly enhanced during periods of economic growth and associated infrastructure schemes.

Monument types are categorised in accordance with the typology in the following section and each site is given its own entry in the inventory. Entries are recorded alphabetically by county and by townland, a small division of land thought to be of Gaelic origin and still in use today. For monuments that are located across multiple townlands, the first townland in alphabetical order is used. Each site is provided with its own unique number, as determined by the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) maintained by the NIEA. Currently, there may be multiple monuments recorded on the same SMR site. The first three letters of the unique number indicate the county in which the monument is located, as for example ANT for County Antrim. Each site is also provided with an Ordnance Survey altitude above sea level, an Irish Grid map number, County Series map number and Irish Grid reference. A brief description is given for each site, including landscape and structural features. References are supplied where a

site has been subject to survey or excavation. Some sites have been scheduled under the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. These are indicated by a single asterisk. Those monuments in State Care are indicated by a double asterisk, with a third asterisk to indicate that the monument has been afforded both levels of protection. Entries in the inventory are provided with plates, plans and illustrations of associated artefacts, where these are available. The classification of prehistoric burial sites is problematic for the researcher, in that no general consensus exists between the statutory authorities in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Both organisations hold classification lists, but these are not entirely consistent. In addition, many field archaeologists do not strictly adhere to these classifications and a wide variety of terms may be used to describe the same monument. Further, the classification and nomenclature of these monuments has changed over time and is reflected accordingly in documentary sources. For example, a monument that antiquarians would have called a dolmen is now referred to as a portal tomb, although on some occasions signs recently erected at such monuments still use the old terminology. Finally, many monuments have never been excavated and some are barely visible at ground level, making positive classification impossible without further investigation. It may be that additional classes of monument await discovery.

Classifications used in the inventory

Classification of monuments is generally in accordance with that of the Northern Ireland SMR and DoEHLG (which has also developed a system of codes suitable for use in electronic databases), but text describing specific monuments occasionally refers to the monument being 'possibly' or 'probably' a particular class. In these instances and in the absence of a secure classification, these terms have been employed to help classify the monument in the inventory. For example, if in the text a monument has been described as being a possible portal tomb, then it has been classified as a portal tomb in the inventory. Also, for consistency, monuments that have been officially classified as burial mounds are referred to as mound barrows in the inventory and similarly, stone alignments are referred to as stone rows. Very often two standing stones are recorded at a site. Where there is sufficient evidence, these are classified as Stone Pairs, otherwise they have been classified as Standing Stones, with their number indicated in brackets, ie. Standing Stones(2).

Anomalous Stone Group

A group of stones, usually standing, which cannot be classified as any other known archaeological monument type on present evidence. They may be all that remains or is visible of a partially-destroyed or obscured archaeological monument, which may date to any period from prehistory onwards.

Barrow - Unclassified

An artificial mound of earth and stone, normally constructed to contain or conceal burials. This term is used where it is not possible to identify the specific type of barrow, such as bowl, ditch, embanked, mound, pond, ring or stepped barrow. These are part of the Bronze/Iron Age burial tradition (c. 2400BC-AD400).

Burial

An interment or deposition of human remains in an isolated context, not associated with a burial ground or graveyard. These can date from any period from prehistory onwards.

Burial Cairn

A mound constructed primarily of stone which covers a burial or burials.

Cave

A natural subterranean feature entered from a hillside, cliff-face etc. It may have been used for occupation, storage, burial, etc. These have been in use from the prehistoric period onwards.

Cist Burial

A rectangular or polygonal structure used for burial purposes, constructed from stone slabs set on edge and covered by one or more horizontal slabs or capstones. Cists may be built on the ground surface or sunk into the ground, or set within a cemetery cairn or cemetery mound.

Court Tomb

A long rectangular or trapezoidal cairn, at the broader end of which is usually an unroofed forecourt area which gave access to the roofed burial gallery, placed axially within the cairn and divided into two or four chambers. The cairn was retained by a kerb of upright stones or drystone walling. Evidence indicates that the galleries were used for repeated burial, mostly cremations, over a long period of time. Court tombs date to c. 4,000 - 3,500 BC.

Cremated Remains

A deposit of burnt bone where there is no evidence of its deposition in a pit or cist. Dating from the Bronze Age or Iron Age.

Cremation Pit

A burial site in which a corpse has been burnt on a pyre above a pit into which the remains of the pyre and the corpse collapse and are buried. Occasionally

accompanied by burnt grave goods that were placed with the corpse on the pyre. These generally date from the Bronze Age.

Embanked Enclosure

A form of henge (see below). A circular or oval, domed or hollowed area enclosed by a flat-topped earthen bank with a single entrance. The can range in diameter from 25m up to over 100m. These ceremonial enclosures can occur singly, in pairs or in a cluster of three and date to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (c. 3200-1550 BC).

Enclosure

An area defined by an enclosing element and occurring in a variety of shapes and sizes, possessing no diagnostic features which would allow classification within another monument category. These may date to any period from prehistory onwards.

Flat Cemetery

Three or more individual burials related to one another by rite, grave goods or simply by their close proximity to one another. These are not covered by a mound and are dated to the Bronze Age.

Henge

A circular or sub-circular enclosure, usually over 70m in diameter, defined by a bank and (usually internal) fosse, with one or two (rarely more) entrances. Of ceremonial or ritual function, they can contain a variety of internal features including timber or stone circles and they date to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (c. 2500-1800 BC). Very large henges are also referred to as Embanked Enclosures (see above).

Megalithic Tomb - Unclassified

This term is used where there is evidence that large stones have been used in the construction of a monument, but the remains do not readily conform to the definitions of Portal, Court, Passage or Wedge Tomb types. This group comprises a large proportion of all known megalithic monuments.

Mound

An elevation of earth or earth and stone of unknown date and function which cannot be classified as any other known archaeological monument type on present evidence.

Mound Barrow

A circular or oval earthen or earth and stone mound with no external features. Mounds found in association

with other barrow types are likely to be mound barrows. They are funerary in nature and contain and/or cover burials. Excavated examples have been dated to the Bronze and Iron Ages.

Passage Tomb

A round mound, usually surrounded by a kerb of large stones, enclosing a burial chamber, usually with a corbelled roof, which is entered by a passage, usually lintelled. Many tombs have side and end recesses opening off a central chamber, resulting in a cruciform plan. Cremation was the predominant burial rite and dates range from 3,300 - 3,500 BC.

Pit Burial

A pit-burial can vary from an oval or sub-rectangular pit large enough to accommodate a crouched inhumation to a small circular pit with only space for a deposit of cremated bone or a cinerary urn. They date to the Bronze (c. 2400-500 BC) and Iron Ages (c. 500 BC - AD 400).

Portal Tomb

A single, short chamber formed by two tall portal stones, two side stones and a back stone. Sometimes a stone between the portals closes the entrance. The chamber is covered by a roof stone, or capstone, often of enormous size, which slopes down from the front to the rear. Cremation was the predominant burial rite and dates range from c. 3,800 - 3,200 BC.

Ring Barrow

A circular or oval raised area (generally up to 1m above the external ground level or level with it) enclosed by a fosse(s) and external bank(s), with or without an entrance. These are part of the Bronze/Iron Age burial tradition.

Ring Cairn

A low, wide ring or bank of stones surrounding an open, roughly circular area which is (or was initially) free of cairn material. The inner and outer faces of the bank may be kerbed. Usually about 13m in external diameter, though this can range from 3m up to 28m. These are part of the Early Bronze Age burial tradition (c. 2400-1200 BC).

Ring Ditch

A circular or near circular fosse, usually less than 10m in diameter and visible as crop marks/soil marks on aerial photographs. The function of these monuments is unknown as ring ditches may be ploughed out ring barrows, round houses or other modern features and in

consequence may date to any period from prehistory onwards.

Ritual Site - Pond

A body of still water artificially formed for ritual depositions. These are associated with the Bronze and Iron Ages.

Settlement Cluster

A group of houses and associated land plots arranged in close proximity to form a nucleated settlement.

Standing Stone

A stone which has been deliberately set upright in the ground, usually orientated on a north-east-south-west axis, although other orientations do occur, and varying in height from 0.5m up to 6m. They functioned as prehistoric burial markers, commemorative monuments, indicators of routeways or boundaries and date from the Bronze and Iron Ages (c. 2400 BC - AD 500).

Standing Stones – Pair

A pair of standing stones is a small sub-group of stone rows. They are typically about 2m in height, generally set with their long axes in line. They are considered to have been aligned on various solar and lunar events and date to the Bronze and Iron Ages.

Stepped Barrow

An oval or circular platform with a raised, flat-topped or rounded central area, giving the monument its characteristic 'stepped' profile, sometimes with a bank on the outer edge of the platform. These are part of the Bronze/Iron Age burial tradition (c. 2400 BC – AD 400).

Stone Circle

An approximately circular or oval setting of spaced upright stones with their broad sides facing inwards, towards the centre. In Northern Ireland, these often occur in groups and are associated with long stone rows and burial cairns.

Stone Row

A row of three or more stones erected in a line. Two main types have been recognised – a Cork and Kerry Group in the Republic of Ireland, in which the row comprises up to six stones, typically about 2m in height, with their long axes set in line and a mid-Ulster group, mainly in County Tyrone in Northern Ireland, where the row comprises numerous stones, usually not exceeding 1m in height, often found in association

with cairns and stone circles. They are considered to have been aligned on various solar and lunar events and date to the Bronze Age.

Timber Circle

An approximately circular or oval setting of spaced post holes indicating the former presence of a free-standing arrangement of upright timber posts. These are often considered to be the timber equivalent of a stone circle.

Urn Burial

A burial accompanied by an urn where there is no indication of the context for the urn. These date to the Early Bronze Age (*c.* 2400-1550 BC). Urns are also found in cists and other monument types and in such occasions are not given a separate classification.

Wedge Tomb

A long burial gallery, sometimes with an antechamber or small closed end-chamber. They are generally broader and higher at the front, which invariably faces in a westerly direction. They are roofed by slabs laid directly on the side walls, which often have one or more rows of outer walling. Evidence suggests they were built between 2,500 and 2,000 BC.

Abbreviations used in the text

ADS: Archaeological Development Services

CAF: Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queens University, Belfast

CM: Centimetre

CS: Ordnance Survey County Series (6 inches to 1 mile) map number

DARD: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

FT: Foot or Feet

G & L: Gahan and Long Limited

IG: Ordnance Survey Irish Grid (1:10,000) map number

INS: Inches

JRSAI: Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland

KM: Kilometre

M: Metre

NIHE: Northern Ireland Housing Executive

NPL: Not precisely located

OD: Height in metres above Ordnance Datum

OS: Ordnance Survey

PSAMNI: Preliminary Survey of the Ancient Monuments of Northern Ireland

QUB: Queen's University, Belfast

SMR: Sites and Monuments Record (NIEA)

YDS: Yards