

# Excavations at St. Finian's School, Newcastle, Co. Dublin



GIACOMETTI

13/03/2015

LICENCE 13E438

PLANNING SD14A/0098

## **SITE NAME**

New School Building, St. Finian's National School, Main Street, Newcastle, Co. Dublin

## **CLIENT**

ABM Design + Build, Unit 2B, Feltrim Business Park, Drynam Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

## **LICENCE**

13E438

## **PLANNING**

South Dublin Co. Co. 14A/0098

## **REPORT AUTHORS**

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## **ABBREVIATIONS USED**

DAHG	Department of Arts, 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

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# Section 1 Introduction

## Report summary

This report presents the preliminary findings of archaeological works at St. Finian's School, Newcastle, Co. Dublin. The archaeological work took place in 2014 in advance of groundworks for a new school building in a field to the west of the existing school.

The excavation identified a series of medieval burgage properties that would have fronted onto Newcastle Main Street. Three burgage plots were found, each measuring about 20m wide and 70m long. They appear to have been defined in and around the 13th century AD. Two of the plots contained medieval kilns that were located at the back of the properties, cut into the banks of the burgage plots. One of these was very well preserved and the archaeologists were able to identify a drying chamber and raking and firing surface, and to suggest that the kiln was used for drying grain.

Further analysis of the artefacts and environmental samples from the excavation is ongoing, and will be presented in the Final Excavation Report.

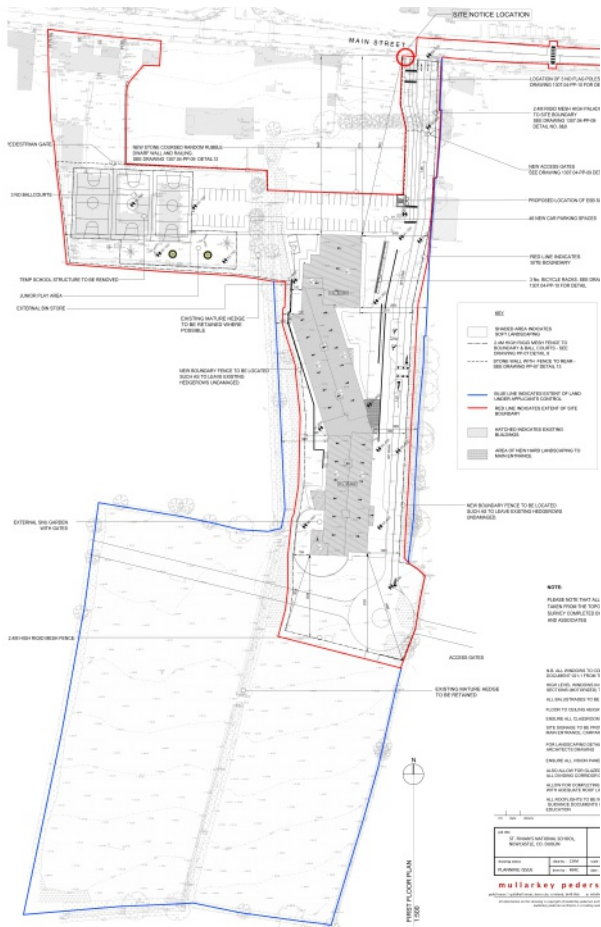


All groundworks for the new school building (Areas B, C and D) have been archaeologically resolved. All archaeological features within the areas have been fully excavated by hand and recorded.

No archaeological work has taken place in the gondola carpark, along Newcastle Main Street, or in the former school grounds (Areas A and E). Minor groundworks are anticipated in these areas in 2015 and will be archaeologically monitored. The results of this work will be incorporated into the Final Report.







## Development proposals

The development proposals comprise the demolition of the modern temporary school buildings (but retention of 1950s and 1820s Protected Structure school building on Main Street) and building a new school on the field to the east along with new playing and other facilities. A new north-south access road will be constructed along the eastern side of the site linking Main Street with the proposed new bypass (not yet built) to the south at a roundabout. A new pedestrian crossing and associated minor road alterations are proposed along Main Street to the east of the site.

Boundaries will be defined with a new fence running just inside the hedgerows, ditch and bank boundaries running along the north and south of the field. These field boundaries will be broken through in two parts: in the southeast for a new roundabout and road, and in the centre to connect the two main school areas, but the proposal notes that existing mature hedges will be retained where possible. The northern extent of the site will be defined by a low wall and railing.

## Site location

The site is located at St. Finian's School and an adjacent field to the east on the south side of Main Street, Newcastle Lyons village, Co. Dublin. It is situated in Newcastle South townland, Newcastle Parish (and formerly Newcastle Barony) on the south edge of the Liffey floodplain, just at the northern base of the Dublin Mountain foothills (Ordnance Survey of Ireland Irish National Grid (ING) Ref. E300450 N228030).

The archaeological excavation covered an L-shaped area that measured 11-16m wide and extended 52m N-S and 69m E-W. This area, located to the north of the green field area, had been identified in the archaeological assessment (Giacometti 2013) as being of particular archaeological interest.

The remainder of the green field area was archaeologically monitored, and no additional features were identified.

## Planning conditions

Condition 4 of the Grant of Planning Permission (SD14A/0098) requires the following archaeological mitigation measures.

a) The excavation of the site shall be undertaken in accordance with the Archaeological Strategy document submitted as part of this planning application.

b) Sub-surface groundwork in area A as identified in the Archaeological Assessment Report shall also be subject to the Archaeological monitoring.

c) The preservation of archaeological remains by record through full archaeological monitoring and excavation shall be carried out in full consultation with the Department of the Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht. Archaeological monitoring shall be undertaken during all phases of the construction work for the development. All exposed features and material shall be fully excavated, recorded, processed, conserved and reported under licence to the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht.

d) A suitably qualified archaeologist licenced under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 shall be engaged to

carry out Archaeological monitoring of all sub-surface works within the development site. This shall include archaeological monitoring of the removal of topsoil, the excavation of trenches for foundations, services, access roadway etc associated with the development. The Archaeologist shall be furnished with a clear programme of works outlining the types, location and chronology of ground works associated with the construction phase of the development. No sub-surface work or site preparation work shall take place except in areas that have been cleared by the Archaeologist.

e) Should Archaeological material be discovered during the course of monitoring, the archaeologist may have the work on site stopped, pending a decision as to how best to deal with the archaeology. The developer shall be prepared to be advised by the Department of the Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht with regard to the appropriate course of action, should archaeological material be discovered and shall facilitate the archaeologist in fully recording the material.

f) The Archaeologist shall prepare and submit a report, describing the result of the Archaeological Monitoring, to the Planning Authority, the Department of the Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht and the Development Application Unit of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government within six weeks following completion of Archaeological monitoring.

One area (Area B - the northern portion of the field including the parking area to the side of the Gondola public house) was identified as being of particularly high archaeological potential and the assessment report concluded that subsurface remains of the medieval, late medieval and/or early post-medieval (i.e. 1200-1800 AD) occupation of Newcastle of significant heritage interest were present at this location.

In advance of site groundworks, an archaeological excavation was proposed over the accessible parts of Area B as defined in the desktop assessment (a relatively small L-shaped area in the north of the field, the grassy verge overlooking the Gondola car-park, and a small section of the car-park). Conducting an archaeological excavation well in advance of groundworks would allow enough time to adequately expose, record and excavate archaeological material and provide for flexibility should significant medieval archaeological remains be uncovered. Area B was situated in the probable construction access route into the site, providing another reason for resolving this area prior to groundworks.

Also in advance of site groundworks a hand-excavated section would be excavated through the bank and ditch of the former medieval burgage plot boundary between Areas A and B, to ascertain the survival of archaeological material there.

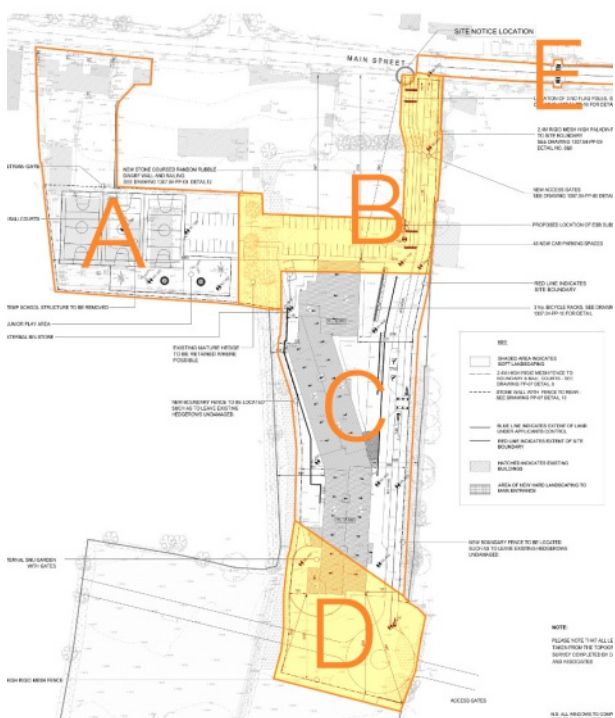
Following this, the remainder of the field (Areas C and D) would be stripped of topsoil down to archaeological levels under archaeological supervision during the groundworks phase of works, and all identified archaeological features would be recorded and excavated.

Sub-surface groundworks in Areas A and E (few envisaged) would also be subject to archaeological monitoring at a future stage as groundworks proceed to these areas. The removal of hedgerows, banks and ditches (only after initial archaeological testing see above) - which should be minimal - would be archaeologically monitored.

The main contractor allowed for the above recommendations to be carried out. We proposed to strip Area B by mechanical excavator down to archaeological levels (c. 600-700mm below grass) and record and excavate all archaeological fea-

## Archaeological strategy

An archaeological strategy for the development was produced on 06/05/2014 by A. Giacometti. This is set out below, and the results of this work are documented in this report.





tures here with a team of one director, one supervisor and three archaeological assistants. We would also excavate a hand-dug section through the field boundary between areas A and B to see if we can identify any evidence of the original medieval burgage plot. This would take a couple of weeks, after which the main contractor would move on to the site and set up cabins etc. and the rest of the site would be subject to archaeological monitoring.

This methodology was sent to the National Monuments Service, Dept of AHG, and the National Museum of Ireland, and they agreed with it, and granted Antoine Giacometti an archaeological license to carry out the works.

The main contractor was advised that financial provision has to be made for the cleaning, recording, cataloguing, specialist reports, illustration, archiving etc. of all finds and samples as per NMI

requirements and this was put in place.

## South Dublin Development Plan & Newcastle Local Area Plan

The South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2010-2016 (latest version at time of writing including Variations 1 & 2) outlines the county council's policies in relation to archaeological and cultural heritage in Section 2 (SDCC 2010, 240+). Policies AA1-4 (ibid, 241) articulate the council's policy to preserve known archaeological and heritage sites in situ where possible. The document notes that such sites are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (ibid, 242).





### Protected Structures

229	The Loft, Newcastle Detached Five Bay Two Storey House
230	Newcastle National School, Newcastle Detached Two Bay Two Storey Former Primary School
232	St. Finian's Roman Catholic Church, Church, Newcastle Graveyard & Gates

Schedule 2 of the Development Plan lists Protected Structures, of which three are located inside or adjacent to the site (these are also listed in Appendix 2 of the 2012 Newcastle LAP):

Although the RPS only lists the small two-bay two-storey former primary school (c. 1825) which is adjacent to the graveyard, the later multiple-bay National School, c.1950 is listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH 11212003). In addition a water pump c. 1860 on the street corner opposite the site is listed in the NIAH (11212001). Neither of these two structures appear in Appendix 2 of the LAP 'Structures Listed under NIAH and Not Included in RPS'. This is presumably just an oversight but the accompanying LAP maps suggest the Council has mixed up the two National School buildings.

The plan also defines an 'Area of Archaeological Potential' in Newcastle (*ibid*, 242) which the council aims to protect and conserve.

Specific Local Objectives of the plan include '46. Newcastle – Burgage Plots. Where possible, preserve and articulate the planimetric layout of surviving burgage plots on lands in the environs of Newcastle-Lyons village' (SDCC 2010, 270) and '12. Libraries - Building Programme. Secure the provision of new public libraries in suitable locations ... [including the] Rathcoole/Newcastle area' (*ibid*).

The Newcastle Local Area Plan adopted in 2012 includes the proposed development site in the plan lands as defined on Fig 2.1 'Boundary of Plan Lands' (SDCC 2012, 5). Section 5.3.4 of the Plan sets out its vision to 'retain and reinstate ... historic field, townland and burgage plot boundaries and associated hedgerows and ditches'. These boundaries are shown on Figure 5.3 (SDCC 2012, 27) and include most of the existing boundaries in and around the site.

Section 5.3.6.1 of the LAP states that (only those of direct relevance to this development listed):

- Protected Structures and upstanding archaeological remains including their environs shall be protected, preserved and enhanced as part of any surrounding or adjoining development and incorporated into a heritage trail/network for the Village and its hinterland. (Objective GI20)

- An Archaeological Assessment Report shall be submitted with all planning applications within the Zone of Archaeological Potential. All such reports shall fully assess the archaeological implications of the proposed development. Where archaeological features are discovered it shall be demonstrated how the design and layout of the development protects, incorporates and enhances these features. (Objective GI21)

- Where significant archaeological features/deposits are discovered during archaeological investigations, it shall be a priority to allow for preservation in-situ especially features/deposits discovered during construction or investigation on lands to be occupied by planned open space(s). Features/deposits preserved in-situ should be accompanied by appropriate and sensitive explanatory signage. Where it is robustly demonstrated that it not possible to preserve features/deposits in-situ, full excavation and recording shall be a required alternative. (Objective GI23)

- In order to protect potential archaeological remains, basement developments including basement parking will generally be avoided within the Village and its environs, especially within the Zone of Archaeological Potential. (Objective GI25)

- Works to Protected Structures and development within the curtilage and attendant grounds of Protected Structures shall comply with the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011). Development, including changes of use, shall be sensitive to the historic setting of the Village as a whole and should contribute to the sustainable use of Protected Structures. The reuse of Protected Structures for the purpose of heritage or tourism in Newcastle Village is especially encouraged. (Objective GI26).

The LAP also provides for a new Primary School on a green site to the east of the current school on the proposed development site (SDCC 2012, 37).

The South Dublin County Heritage Plan 2010-2015 contains no information of direct relevance to the proposed development.

# Section 2 Archaeological Background

## Record of Monuments & Places

The Archaeological Constraint Maps in conjunction with the County Record of Monuments and Places, provide an initial database for Planning Authorities, State Agencies and other bodies involved environmental change. These include the Urban Archaeological Survey, an unpublished report by J. Bradley (with contributions by H.A. King), which was commissioned by the Office of Public Works.

The Record of Monuments and Places comprise the following elements: (i) Letters indicating County (DU= Dublin); (ii) A three digit number indicating the relevant Ordnance Survey Sheet Number (e.g. 021); (iii) A three, four or five digit number indicating the dedicated number of the individual site or monument.

The historic village of Newcastle (RMP DU020-003--/DU021-017--) is a Zone of Archaeological Potential that includes ten individual archaeological monuments within its boundary. Since 2008, the former constraint zones of Newcastle village (DU021-017 and DU020-003) have been consolidated into a new classification called

‘Deserted Settlement’ (DU020-00308). The constraint area covered by the original RMP maps remains the same. None of the listed archaeological elements associated with this zone will be impacted upon by the development. They are however detailed below in order to give an overview of the wider archaeological landscape.

The DAHG files describe Newcastle as a medieval village centred on a medieval churchyard (DU020-00302). The churchyard is located 150m northwest of the proposed development site. There is reference also to a possible green roughly south of the churchyard. The surrounding fields are described as enclosed by hedges with visible cropmarks to the south and west of the village, which may describe the proposed development site.

Recorded Monument DU021-01701 is the site of a possible tower house. It is described as being in the north corner of a field opposite the medieval church and rectory of Newcastle Lyons. As noted above, this designation is listed in the index volume of the Record of Monuments and Places as representing a possible holy well some distance to the east but it was not possible to find any supporting evidence for this identification. Tadhg O’Keefe suggests (in the RMP files) that a rectangular arrangement of grassed-over stony banks at

RMP No.	Classification	Distance from site
DU020-003--	Medieval village, same as DU021-017--	0m
DU020-00308	Deserted settlement	0m
DU021-017--	Medieval village, same as DU020-003--	0m
DU021-01702	Tower house possible site	40m
DU021-01701	Well site	80m
DU020-00311	Field system	100m
DU020-00302	Church and graveyard	150m
DU020-00304	Tower house	160m
DU020-00303	Cross	160m
DU020-00301	Motte	280m
DU020-00306	Tower house possible site	300m
DU020-00307	Tower house	400m
DU021-095	Fulacht fiadh	500m
DU020-00305	Holy well	550m



the north of the field represents the foundations of a small tower house, and this makes a good deal more sense, and would place it 40m west of the development site.

An upstanding tower house is located 160m to the west of the site (DU020-00304). It is described in the Urban Archaeological Survey files as being southeast of the churchyard. It is sometimes referred to as the 'Glebe tower-house'. This may be the castle Ball (1902-20, III, 138). describes as belonging to the canons of St. Patrick in 1547.

There are a number of other sites recorded in Newcastle village in the wider vicinity of the proposed development site: DU020-00301 is a motte; DU020-00303 is a cross cut from granite which is situated in the grounds of the churchyard (DU020-00302); and another possible site for a tower house (DU021-01702) is located on Main Street. A further possible site of a tower house is also located on Main Street (DU020-00306): 'Its site is marked by traces of mortared wall foundations' (O'Keefe 1986, 55).

While not listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, the Urban Archaeological Survey manuscript held in the Archaeological Survey files also notes O'Keefe's identification of a further possible tower house location directly opposite the Glebe Tower house. This possible

tower site is described as being the 'fragments of a building, covered in overgrowth, located directly opposite the Glebe tower-house' (O'Keefe 1986, 55). Archaeological testing at this location by Leo Swan in 1996 did not reveal any evidence for this monument.

A fulacht fiadh (RMP DU020-095) was identified 500m to the east of the site in 2003. These sites, used in the heating of water, perhaps for cooking, are characteristic of the Bronze Age. It was located to the north of the R120 in Newcastle Manor housing development. The site consisted of a narrow trough and flanking spreads of fired material (Tobin 2001:246 & 2003:459, 01E1068 & 03E369).

## Topographical Files

The files held in the National Museum of Ireland have been consulted. Collectively known as the Topographical Files, they provide information on artefacts, their find spots, and any field monuments that have been notified to the National Museum.

A single flint core was recorded from Newcastle (Museum ref. 1999:329). No further details were available. A brass shoe buckle was found in Newcastle, recorded as being found near a castle in the vicinity of Celbridge (Museum ref. 1998:71). It is



likely to date to the eighteenth century. The upper stone of a rotary quern was found in Newcastle, in the vicinity of Celbridge (Museum ref. IA/183/66). It has a six-pointed star decoration radiating from the central hole. It is likely to date to the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries, and may be associated with an estate.

## Archaeological investigations

Summaries of all licensed archaeological excavations in the Republic of Ireland from are published in the Excavations Bulletin edited by Isabel Bennett, available online, which list excavations between 1970 and 2008.

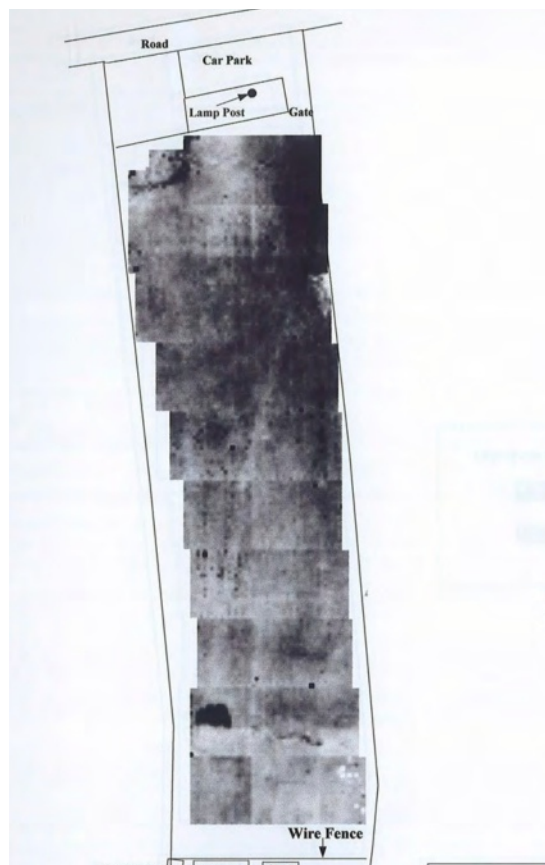
### *Archaeological Investigations on the site*

Two programmes of archaeological investigation have taken place on the site. The first was a geophysical survey by Martina McCarthy of GeoArch Ltd in February 2003 under Detection Device License No. 03R003. The results of the geophysical survey identified a series of potential archaeological features in the form of linear anomalies which were interpreted as possible ditches associated with field divisions and agricultural activity, as well as a number of other anomalies.

The second was a programme of archaeological testing under licence 05E1376 in the field to the east of the school. A number of features of archaeological interest were identified during the course of the testing programme mainly at the northern and the southern ends of the field. These included ditches probably representing plot divisions of medieval burgh plots, and an area of burning and a pit with a large amount of charcoal.

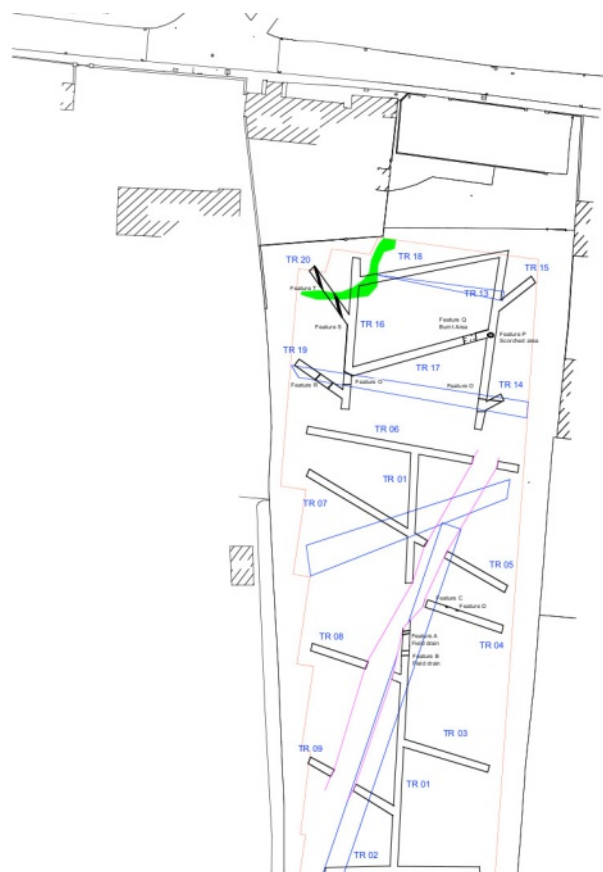
### *Archaeological work in Newcastle Village*

A programme of unlicensed archaeological test trenching was undertaken by Swan in 1996 (Arch-Tech; Planning Reg. Ref S96B/0212) in advance of construction of a private dwelling in the 'L'-shaped property adjacent to the site at the southwest. No features of archaeological significance were identified, but a single sherd of possible medieval pottery was recovered. Topsoil was approximately 0.30m in depth, and bedrock was



above: 2003 geophysical survey results from site

below: 2005 test-trenching results from site



Excav.	License	Location	Findings	Excavator
N/a (1996)	N/a	Ballynakelly/Rathcreedan	Medieval	Swan
2000:331	00E0825	Adj. Newcastle Village	Late medieval	Johnston
2000:339	00E0825	Saggart-Rathcoole-Newcastle Drainage Scheme Pipeline		Elliott
2001:246	01E1068	'Newcastle Manor', Ballynakelly	Fulacht Fiadh (testing)	Tobin
2002:635	02E0859	Main Street Newcastle	Medieval	O'Donovan
2003:459	03E0369	'Newcastle Manor', Ballynakelly	Fulacht Fiadh (excav)	Tobin
2004:469	04E1427	'Ballynakelly Village'	Medieval (testing)	Baker
2004:628	04E1116	Ballynakelly development	Prehistoric (testing)	O'Carroll
2005:512	05E0920	Newcastle Village	N/a	Kavanagh
N/a	05E1376	Gondola, Newcastle Village	Medieval (testing)	Johnston
2006:564	06E0176	'Ballynakelly Village'	Early medieval (testing)	McCarthy
2006:682	06E0878	Ballynakelly Hotel	Prehistoric/EM (testing)	McCarthy
2007:430	06E1137	Ballynakelly/Newcastle	MBA/EM	Tobin
2007:431	07E0245	Ballynakelly Hotel	Prehistoric/EM (excav)	McCarthy
N/a	13E193	Ballynakelly/Newcastle	Early medieval (testing)	Giacometti

identified between only 0.80m and 0.30m below ground level at various locations across the site.

A number of archaeological sites were excavated during the construction of the Saggart-Rathcoole-Newcastle Drainage Scheme Pipeline. Following a programme of archaeological monitoring (Elliott 2000:339; 00E0825) three sites were uncovered. None of the sites were located in the vicinity of the proposed development.

In 2000, a series of engineering test pits were monitored by Arch-Tech across areas of pastoral and arable land adjacent to the village of Newcastle Lyons. The engineering test pits were excavated in two phases (Johnston 2000:331, 00E0298). No archaeological features or deposits were identified, but topsoil finds included modern and post-medieval pottery, iron horseshoes, clay pipe fragments and animal bone. Late medieval pottery was found in Newcastle South near a tower house (DU020-00307) and in Newcastle North near a second possible tower house (DU021-01702) close to the proposed development site.

O'Donovan carried out a test excavation (2002:635, 02E 0859) to the north of Main Street in the northwestern quadrant of the village. Geophysical survey revealed a possible enclosure in the northwestern corner with the field and burgage plots within the field. The testing confirmed the geophysics results. 'Medieval burgage plots' were present and the enclosure was thought to predate or be contemporary with the village. The likely alignment of the borough boundary was also identified and consisted of a ditch filled with compact clays containing butchered animal bone. It was 1.50m wide at the top, c. 0.50m wide

at the base and 1m deep. The domed remains of an internal earthen bank, 2.2m wide and 0.35m deep, were revealed immediately inside (to the south of) the ditch.

A fulacht fiadh (RMP DU020-095) was identified 500m to the east of the site in 2003. These sites, used in the heating of water, perhaps for cooking, are characteristic of the Bronze Age. It was located to the north of the R120 in Newcastle Manor housing development. The site consisted of a narrow trough and flanking spreads of fired material (Tobin 2001:246 & 2003:459, 01E1068 & 03E369).

Archaeological test trenching was undertaken at a green field site in Newcastle within the zone of archaeological potential for the historic village by National Archaeological Services Ltd in 2005 (Kavanagh 2005:512, 05E0920). No features of archaeological significance were identified.

Several post-medieval features and a possible prehistoric pit were identified in 2004 during a test-trenching programme 500m outside Newcastle town in Ballynakelly townland (O'Carroll 2004:628; 04E1116).

#### *'Ballynakelly Village' development findings*

This excavation of an early medieval ringfort took place to the southeast of Newcastle. The ringfort was identified in 2004 through geophysical survey (04R130) then confirmed by archaeological test-trenching (Baker 2004:629, 04E 1427). The site was subsequently excavated by McCarthy in 2006 (06E 0176).

McCarthy's excavations dated the ringfort's main

phase of occupation to 600-800 AD. It measured 40m in diameter with a significant internal ditch (at 2-3m in width and 1.45m in depth) opening with a causeway to the northeast. A 90m diameter outer ditch was also identified as were a number of smaller ditches radiating from the ringfort to the outer ditch and beyond. A large stone-lined comma-shaped kiln tentatively dated to the ninth or tenth century AD, as well as two smaller figure-of-eight shaped kilns were noted. Various gullies, post-holes and pits from structures and other features were excavated revealing an iron plough coulter, two plain iron knives, a plough pebble, a whetstone, animal bone and iron-working remains. An isolated and much earlier burial of a man aged c. 24 years of age was found at the edge of the site, and his left rib was dated to 401-543 AD, predating the main phase of use of the ringfort.

### *Lamberton Hotel Ballynakelly*

This excavation took place to the southeast of Ballynakelly village. Following a programme of geophysical survey by Earthsound a test-trenching programme (06E878) identified numerous areas of archaeological activity throughout the site. Archaeological monitoring of topsoil stripping (07E245) identified further archaeological remains ranging in date from the prehistoric period to the post-medieval period and a programme of archaeological excavation (ibid) was carried out by McCarthy in 2007.

Topsoil covering the archaeological features was found to be relatively shallow (0.20m on top of the ridge and 0.25m elsewhere) and features were cut into a variable subsoil comprising orange-brown silty-clay with occasional stone and decayed stone on the ridge and north-west facing slope, and a mix of orange, white, grey and black soft clay and a dark brown clay with frequent decayed stone at the base of the slope and on the flat ground, consistent with periodical water-logging.

The archaeological programme identified remarkable features and artefacts forming part of a significant multi-period archaeological landscape. In the Bronze Age and the Iron Age the lands of the development seem to have been used primarily for burial and ritual purposes, with no clear evidence of settlement or agricultural activity (with the exception of evidence for crop pro-

cessing in the presence of a saddle quern in a pit). At the end of the prehistoric period the use of the land changed with the introduction of Christianity and widespread agriculture in the early medieval period. There is evidence on the site and in its vicinity for settlement during this period, where the inhabitants would have been living and farming in a structured and organised landscape. Burial would still have been taking place, but its nature and location had changed entirely as part of the shift to Christianity. During the late 9th and 10th centuries AD, prior to the arrival of the Anglo-Normans, the native inhabitants appear to have abandoned their settlement site and the land seems to have been used primarily for crop cultivation. Crops were processed and probably also stored on the site. The agricultural use of the land continued into the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods.

A testing programme in 2013 on the site of Recorded Monument RMP DU021-105 directly to the north of the Ballynakelly Hotel identified a probable ringfort (Giacometti 2013).

### *Excavation southeast of Newcastle Village*

A programme of test-trenching was carried out in 2007 for an extensive residential and mixed-use development at the edge of Newcastle in Ballynakelly townland (Tobin 2007:430; 06E1137). This site was situated directly to the west of the proposed development site. A system of medieval burgage plots had previously been identified on the site and a geophysical survey was also carried out (04R130). The results of the test excavation and excavation confirmed the presence of a number of features of archaeological significance; however, there was no definitive evidence for any boundaries having a medieval date. Monitoring of topsoil stripping for the creation of a new spine road into the development area gave rise to the discovery of several archaeological features, the most well preserved of which was a Middle Bronze Age enclosure and an early medieval corn-drying kiln.

The Middle Bronze Age enclosure was located c. 100m south of the main road (R120). The enclosure was circular in plan and had a maximum diameter of 21m. The entrance was located in the south-east quadrant of the enclosure. There was an opening defined by the terminals of the



ditches that measured 1.75m wide.

A cereal-drying kiln was exposed during topsoil stripping in the eastern section of the site. It was located c. 150m southwest of the eastern entrance from the main Newcastle road, when a wider area around the main haul road was opened to facilitate site drainage. The drying kiln was discovered c. 60m southwest of the early medieval settlement site excavated by McCarthy (1006:564; 06E0176). It is likely that this kiln is contemporary with the enclosure site. The kiln was defined by two pits linked by a curvilinear flue. The eastern pit corresponded to the hearth site of the kiln, while the western pit was the drying floor. The composite structure had a total length of 6.8m.

## Section 3 Cartographic Background

### Down Survey 1656

The Down Survey Map of the Barony of Newcastle and Uppercross dating to 1656 depicts 'the tonne of Newcastle' in 'the tonne land of Newcastle'. Seven castles are shown and named '7 old castle', as well as a church depicted by a spire and a cross. No other structures are depicted and no archaeological features are noted within the study area.

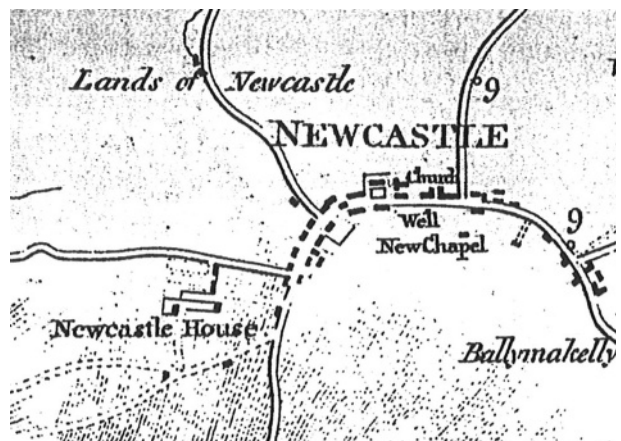


### John Taylor 1816

The Environs of Dublin by John Taylor 1816 is effectively identical to the 1760 map above. Leo Swan has suggested that the curving depiction of Newcastle by Taylor is suggestive of the northern edge of an Early Medieval ecclesiastical enclosure, supported further by the church and holy well of St. Finian. Nothing of interest is shown at the location of the present site.

### John Rocque's Map 1760

Newcastle village is shown on John Rocque's map of County Dublin 1760 as a significant settlement arranged along the main east-west running road through the village. The field system is not comparable with that shown on recent maps, and the church appears to be depicted on the wrong side of the main street. This may suggest changes in land ownership and use over the years, or more probably inaccuracies in Rocque's mapping of this area.



## First Edition O.S. Map 1837-43

The First Edition 6" Ordnance Survey Map surveyed in 1837-43 (Dublin Sheet 21) shows the village of Newcastle as a scattering of houses stretching sporadically along the Main Street with the Church and the National School named. The northern end of the proposed site fronts onto the Main Street in Newcastle, and it is shown a long strip field divided in two horizontally. A cluster of buildings occupies the area of the car park the gondola. St. Finian's church (built 1813) is depicted for the first time.

## Third Edition O.S. Map Sheet 1937

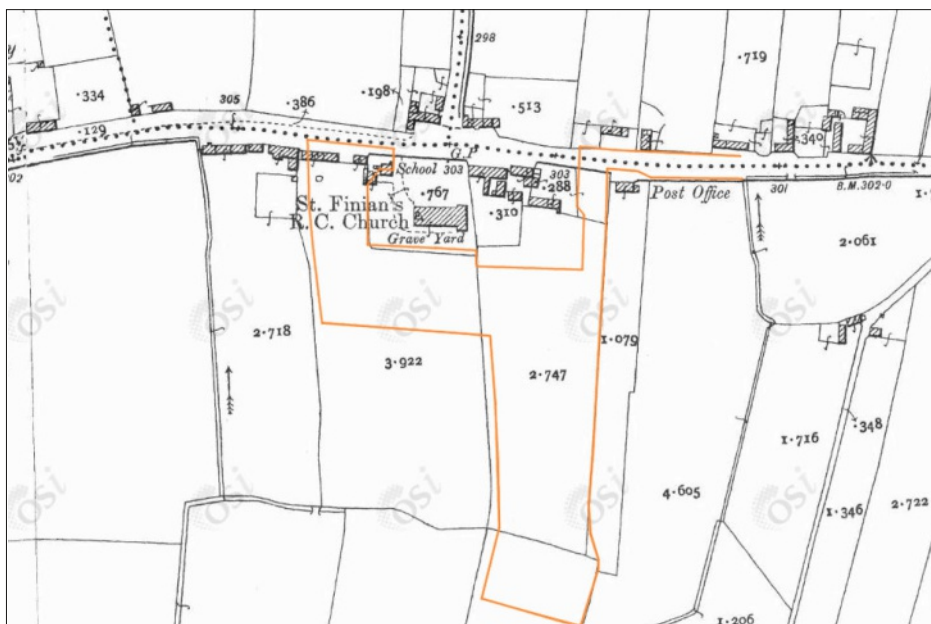
The Third Edition 6" Ordnance Survey Map surveyed in 1937 (Dublin Sheet 21) is more or less identical.

## Vertical aerial photographs

Vertical Aerial Photographs OS Ortho 1995, 2000 and 2005 from the Ordnance Survey of Ireland are taken from a relatively high altitude, and show no features of possible archaeological interest in the development site.



above: 1st Edition OS map 1837-1843. Below: Third Edition OS map 1937





## Section 4 Historical Background

### Introduction

The village of Newcastle and its surrounds exhibit a range of archaeological sites primarily dating to the early medieval and medieval periods.

The western end of Newcastle Lyons village constitutes the well-preserved remains of a medieval manorial village, with extant elements including a motte, a medieval church with residential tower built on the site of an earlier ecclesiastical foundation, a tower house in the grounds of the Glebe house and the ruins of another tower house on the Athgoe Road. Strip fields to the east of the village on either side of the road indicate the pattern of an earlier medieval open field system, while relict boundaries in the bigger block fields at the western end of the village echo the layout of the medieval system even more clearly. Many of these archaeological features are easily identifiable either on the ground or from the air, but there is a very high potential for other unrecognised archaeological elements being present. As a consequence, the village and its immediate surroundings are covered by an Archaeological Planning Constraint area defining a Zone of Archaeological Potential, RMP No. DU020-003 & DU021-017.

Modern collections of Irish folklore consulted (e.g. Ní Mhurchú cited in O'Sullivan 1986; Colum 1992) make no reference to the site.

### Prehistoric period

The most significant prehistoric site in the vicinity of the proposed development is that of Lyons Hill (Recorded Monument No. KD015-006), 2km south-west of the village of Newcastle. This has been confidently identified with Dú2n Liamhna, one of the royal sites of the Kings of Leinster.

Liamhain is referred to in *Labor na Cert* (the Book of Rights), and is included in the *Dindseanachas* as one of the assembly places of Ireland, along with Tara, Emain Macha, Knockaulin and Rath Cruachain. These comparable sites were foci for prehistoric activity dating from the Neolithic through to the Iron Age, with numerous funerary and ceremonial monuments and earthworks set on and around them. In the light of evidence from these more extensively researched sites, the artificially scarped platform at the top of Lyons Hill and its central cairn of stones can be interpreted as elements of an important sacred site. As Swan (1986, 4) points out, the closest morphological comparison for Lyons Hill is Rath Cruachain, the royal inauguration site of the kings of Connacht.

East of Lyons Hill and south of Newcastle village, Athgoe Hill also has prehistoric earthworks on its upper slopes. Two ring barrows, ritual sites dating from the Bronze Age or Iron Age, are set on its summit and northern face (Recorded Monument Nos. DU020-005 and DU020-006). The lower-lying lands around Lyons Hill and Athgoe Hill probably housed the population that built and used these ceremonial and funerary sites, but no prehistoric habitation sites have been identified in this area. However, in 2003 investigation revealed human activity in the form of a *fulacht fiadh* (remains of an ancient cooking site), characteristic of the Bronze Age. It was located to the north of the R120 in Newcastle Manor housing development (Excav. 2003:459).

Prehistoric funerary and possible ritual activity dating from the Bronze Age and Iron Age was identified during investigations by Arch-Tech Ltd. (Excavation Licence No. 07E245) in advance of development in Ballynakelly townland. A large Middle Bronze Age artificial pond or well with associated *fulacht fiadh* activity was identified as well as several Middle and Late Bronze Age cremation pits and an urn burial located on a ridge in close proximity to the pond. An Early

Iron Age ring-ditch and associated cremation pit were identified with the Bronze Age cremation pits.

Within the village itself, there are no definite up-standing indicators of prehistoric activity. Swan (1986) has argued that the crude granite pillar stone in the churchyard (which lies to the west of the proposed development) is probably prehistoric in origin, and this suggests the possibility that a prehistoric place of burial preceded the Christian church site (DU020-00302). The juxtaposition of Early Christian and pagan sacred sites is a common phenomenon.

### 4.3 Early medieval period

From the seventh century the Uí Donnchadha branch of the Dunlainge, Kings of North Leinster, held the royal site of Dun Liamhna (Lyons Hill) as a symbol of their right to rule the plain of the River Liffey. By the end of the tenth century the Uí Donnchadha were known as the MacGiolla Mocholmóg, and had become a subject family of the Norse kings of Dublin, although they retained control of Lyons Hill and the territory of Liamhain. In this way, Liamhain became a stronghold of the Dublin Norse (Bradley and King 1989, 271). It is possible that the area around Newcastle was a settlement focus for the MacGiolla Mocholmóg, with Lyons Hill to the west fulfilling a more symbolic role.

Within the landscape a number of sites testify to secular occupation of the area in the Early Historic period. There are at least six ringforts situated to the east of the site, for the most part destroyed, which is a large amount for this part of the country. Three of these are recorded monuments: one lies at Newcastle Farm (DU020-002); another at Cornerpark (DU021-018, listed in the Record of Monuments and Places as an enclosure); and the third a probably ringfort in Ballynakelly (DU021-105, also listed as enclosure). Two additional destroyed ringforts have been noted by Swan (1986, 4) near Rathcreedan House identified from descriptions supplied by the landowner Mr. John Gergan, and are visible on recent aerial photographs - one is identified in the Record of Monuments and Places as the site of a destroyed mound (DU021-027), while there is as yet no

entry relating to the other. The sixth was discovered in 2004 through geophysical survey (04R130) then confirmed by archaeological test-trenching (Baker 04E1427) and subsequently excavated by McCarthy in 2006 (06E0176).

Further away, there is a well-preserved example of a ringfort at Ringwood, c. 2km to the NNW of the village of Newcastle (DU020-001). Further to the southeast of the village, a large possible ringfort has been identified in Commons townland (DU021-029). A probable souterrain at Bustyhill c. 2km to the south (DU020-010) is also an indicator of early medieval settlement in the area.

There is evidence pointing to an early medieval origin for the church site at the west end of the main street of Newcastle (DU020-00302), despite the absence of any documentary references to its use in this period. The present church building on the site appears to substantially date to the late fourteenth century (O'Keefe 1986, 50), but Swan (1986, 8) argues that the small sandstone carved head in the south wall could represent a reused sculptural fragment from part of the chancel arch of a Romanesque-style church, dating to the eleventh or twelfth century. This earlier church would pre-date the present building by about 300 years and it is probable that this building was itself preceded by a succession of earlier structures. A plain granite cross in the graveyard has a Latin cross carved in relief on its south face and a worn cross-in-circle on its north face (DU020-00303). The simple style of carving and the cross-and-circle motif have close parallels with pre-Norman crosses at the nearby Early Christian church sites of Saggart and Tallaght. The dedication of the site to St. Finian, and the presence of a holy well (DU020-00305) with the same dedication in Newcastle Farm just south-west of the town are also strong indicators that Newcastle was an Early Christian ecclesiastical site.

The index volume of the Record of Monuments and Places lists 'DU021-01701' as another possible Holy Well, but there is no correspondence between the location indicated by the supplied national grid reference (the field opposite and to the south of the Community Centre building and to the west of the National School) and any possible feature identifiable on the ground, or any monument described in the Record of Monuments and Places files of the Archaeological

Survey of Ireland, the manuscript of the Urban Archaeological Survey or any other available source. As noted below, the files of the Archaeological Survey use the designation 'DU021-01701' to refer to a possible tower house to the immediate northeast of the proposed development, and all research undertaken for this assessment would suggest that this is the correct identification.

Whilst no definite identification has been made of the circular ecclesiastical enclosure that would have encompassed this early church at Newcastle, two potential locations have been put forward. To the northwest of the village, just south of Shiskeen Commons, curving field boundaries may represent the line of this enclosure, extending west from the church (Swan 1986, 8). However, reanalysis of the available aerial photography carried out by D.L. Swan suggested a second possible location for the monastic enclosure, extending north and east of the church site. This alternative location would place much of the land on the northern side of the main street, which includes the southern portion of the proposed site, inside the boundary of the ecclesiastical settlement. It is important to note that any available documentary evidence does not support this suggestion.

#### 4.4 Later medieval period

Newcastle was recognised as part of the territory of Liamhain in the early Anglo-Norman charters and immediately after the conquest, King Henry II granted it to the MacGiolla Mocholmóg, an action that presumably reflects their importance in Dublin. When King John ordered the building of Dublin Castle in 1207, part of the area to be used was held by Diarmuid and Roderick MacGiolla Mocholmóg, and by way of compensation they were granted new lands in Limerick, as well as having their title to lands in Liamhain confirmed. After the Anglo-Norman manner, subsequent generations of the family were to be known as the Fitz Diarmuid.

The earliest evidence for Anglo Norman activity in the Newcastle Lyons area is the construction of the motte in Glebe townland (DU020-00301). This is a 5m-high flat-topped earthen mound that would have formed the initial defensive fortifica-

tion of the Anglo-Norman settlement. O'Keefe (1986, 45) argues that it was built around 1200. The motte is situated approximately 180m northwest of the development site. An extent of the manor dating to 1540 refers to *circulus terre vocatus le mote*, the circle of ground around the motte. Austin Cooper visiting Newcastle in 1780 described a deep and wide fosse surrounding the base of this motte, but this is no longer visible on the ground or from aerial photography (Price 1942, 47). It is probable that this is the 'new castle' that gave the village its name, Newcastle Leuan or Newcastle Lyons, distinguishing it from and equally importantly linking it to Lyons Hill to the southwest. Together with the church, the motte would have formed the core of the settlement.

In 1215, Newcastle is first mentioned as a Royal Manor, when lands of Kilmactalway are taken for improvement of the Royal Manor from John Fitz Diarmuid (Sweetman 1875-76, No. 88). For the rest of the medieval period, Newcastle Lyons can be referred to as a manorial village. This is the settlement from which a lord's manor was administered, divided between the lord's home farm and the land let to his tenants. Anglo-Norman manors in Ireland were generally an adaptation of the English midlands system, where cultivation was carried out in unenclosed strips worked in a common field system (Edwards et al. 1983, 352). Houses were set along the street front at the head of narrow plots, to either side of the market place, which in the case of Newcastle was the shallow triangular space in the front of the church and motte.

While remaining a Royal Manor, the method of control of the lands of Newcastle changed frequently during the 13th century, varying from direct control to management by a range of middlemen. In 1221 John de St. John, Bishop of Ferns was the sole individual in control of the manor. This was renewed in 1225, when: 'the King grants to the bishop of Ferns the manor of Newcastle of Leuan to hold for three years at the farm...' (C.D.R.I. Vol. I, 197). Ball observes that John was probably a strong and attentive lord because in 1228 he was compensated for improving the houses of the manor. In 1232, the manor was taken back into the king's hands, under Peter de Revell, and receipts for this period show that the Crown farmed its own manorial lands. In 1235,

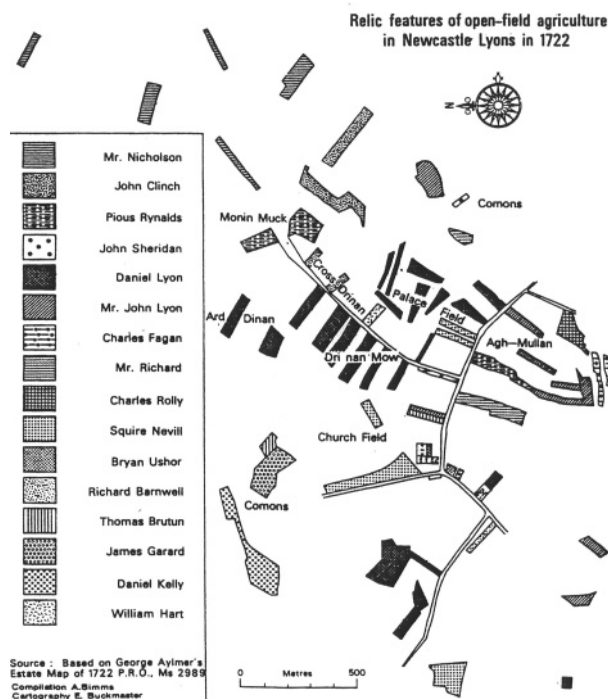


the manor was leased to a managing 'farmer', who paid the crown a fixed rent, as subsequently documented in the Pipe Rolls (*ibid.*).

In the thirteenth century, Newcastle appears to have been relatively peaceful, firmly within 'the Land of Peace', being sufficiently far away from the Wicklow hills to escape the frequent raids, and apparently fortified and guarded by a Castellan (Sweetman's Calendar (1231-37); Ball 1905-20 Vol. III). Defence does seem to have been an increasing concern however, and in 1291 Henry le Marshall was 'enfeoffed in land in a place known as the 'rath' and a building which he intended to erect would tend to the security of the neighbouring country' (*ibid.* 129). From the end of the thirteenth century, and throughout the fourteenth century Newcastle suffered a series of calamities, including attacks by the native Irish and three successive outbreaks of plague. In the late fourteenth century the Irish Parliament granted Newcastle a special subvention provided that its "ditches" were made strong and secure (Simms 1986). This grant does appear to refer to defensive earthworks, but is open to other more mundane interpretations, as no stretch of such an enclosing bank and ditch has been definitely identified on the ground.

O'Keefe and others have suggested that the most likely line for any defensive ditch can be approximately derived from the extent of the open field system, but no obviously defensive features are visible on the ground at these locations. A number of substantial broad low-relief linear features are visible on the ground and from aerial photography to the south of Newcastle and might be a ploughed-out stretch of the defences, but without further investigation it is not possible to establish what these uneven features represent. Similarly, the earthworks to the north and east of the church tentatively identified as the line of the Early Christian ecclesiastical enclosure might equally represent the northwestern corner of the borough defences (Johnston 2000). Further investigation through geophysical analysis and archaeological excavation would be required to test these possibilities.

Whether the borough was ever enclosed by a wall is also unclear. Simms observes that 'the only possible mention of the walls around Newcastle is on John Godley's estate map of Newcastle' [Map of



the lands of Newcastle near Lyons in the county of Dublin, the Estate of John Godley Esq. showing the part leased to Ignatius Moore, surveyed in April 1785 by William Cox. N.A. Mss. No. 3004-3005]. On this map, a plot of land on the western periphery of the village is described as 'Jarrid's Old Walls, 2-1-11 acres'. Simms suggests that if the wall existed, it was probably destroyed in the 1640's (Edwards et al, 1983). O'Keefe (1986) suggests that the high stone wall running to the south of DU020-00307 may represent a surviving length of town wall, and Bradley and King (1989, 276) also raise this possibility in the Urban Archaeological Survey. On inspection in the field the structure seemed to be very slight for a defensive wall, with an average observable thickness of c. 0.50m at its base. However, as Bradley and King (*ibid.*) note, it has no visible diagnostic features and without excavation it is not possible to be certain of its age or function (Johnston 2000). Whatever form the putative defences at Newcastle may have taken, it is possible that they could have extended through the proposed site.

In 1378, Newcastle was granted the status of a borough, gaining the legal status of a town while remaining a village. Simms (1986, 16) suggests that this reflects the need to maintain the population of a border town in the turbulent years of the fourteenth century.

The Down Survey and the Civil Survey of the

mid-seventeenth century record a total of seven castles within the village of Newcastle Lyons. Of this remarkable concentration, only two remain standing, the small tower houses at Glebe (DU020-00304) and Newcastle South (DU020-00307), although a number of potential sites have been identified. The £10 Castle Act of King Henry VI was extended to Dublin in 1430, granting subsidies to English subjects for the construction of defensive towers, and it is tempting to see the two standing tower houses and the five other potential examples as originating at this time. However, O’Keefe (1986) and Murtagh (pers. comm.) have convincingly dated the Newcastle examples on morphological grounds to sometime around 1400.

For the fifteenth century, a number of informative wills have been identified by Ball (1905-1920, Vol. III, 130) providing some information about the owners and occupants of Newcastle’s small tower houses. In 1475 William Carrick left his castle to Richard and Joan Clinch, as well as leaving land to Richard Reynolds ‘to be bounded by the King’s Highway and the Blackgrove’. More interestingly, Nicholas Russell left his family’s castle, together with a hall, orchard and park to his son John, Prior of the Minor Canons of St. Patrick’s Cathedral. This appears to give some idea of the grounds attendant to a typical Newcastle tower house. John’s own will in 1546 bequeathed a charge on the property to St. Patrick’s Cathedral. Two centuries later, the interests of the canons of St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Newcastle Lyons are depicted on Roger Kendrick’s map of 1762 (National Archives M. 3006), and intriguingly include the tower house on the Athgoe road, DU020-00307, shown as belonging to Daniell Lyon on the Aylmer estate map of 1722 (see right). This raises the possibility that it is to this tower house that Russell’s will relates.

## Post-medieval period

The continued importance of Newcastle Lyons in the sixteenth century is illustrated by the military contributions its portreeve was obliged to make. In 1566, he supplied one mounted archer and in 1573 two mounted archers to the King’s army. Following the Rebellion of Silken Thomas in

1534, Newcastle was garrisoned on an ongoing basis. In 1613 Newcastle received a charter from King James I making it a parliamentary borough, and creating a corporation formed of ‘the portreeve, free burgesses and commonality of the town of Newcastle’, essentially the same body established in 1378.

Starting with William Parsons and William Rolles in 1613, Newcastle continued to send two members to parliament up until the Act of Union in 1800, even though its population and status had gone into sharp decline during the 17th and 18th centuries. Whelan (1986) identifies a range of factors contributing to the decline of Newcastle, including the lack of a single strong landowner in the post-medieval period, substantial physical damage received while acting as the Co. Dublin headquarters of the Irish forces during the 1641 Rebellion, and the shifting of the main Naas-Dublin turnpike road to a lower-gradient route running to the east of the village. It is the decline and contraction of the village of Newcastle Lyons in later centuries which has ensured the exceptional preservation of its medieval remains, which have only finally come under pressure from development in recent decades.

Adjacent to the development site, St. Finian’s church is a typical early 19th century barn church, and was erected in 1813 with the financial support of the Locke family and much voluntary labour. It is the first known religious building erected at this location. Prior to 1813, the Catholic chapel of Newcastle was located at Athgoe Hill (Whelan 1986, 76), while the Church of Ireland church is at the west end of the village on the site of the original medieval church. No structures are shown at the location of the R1 geophysical survey anomaly on the First Edition O.S. map (which depicts the chapel at its present location) or on subsequent editions, and it is considered unlikely that any foundations at this location would be associated with the church. As discussed below test trenching in 2005 only identified stone lined-drains at this location (Trenches 16 and 20), and it is not clear what the resistance anomaly relates to.

# Section 5 Archaeological Excavation

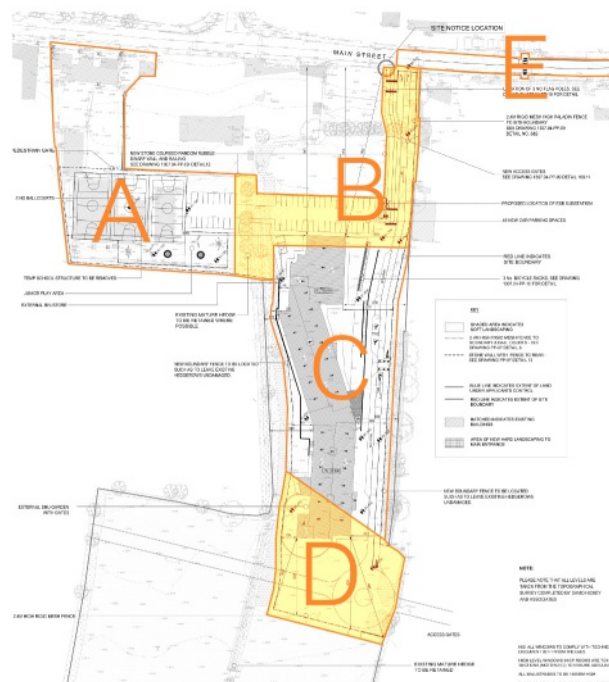
## Introduction

The 2013 archaeological assessment identified a specific area of the site, termed Area B, as having the highest archaeological potential of the site. This area was the focus of the 2014 archaeological works.

Previous archaeological excavations along the street frontage in Newcastle from 2000 to the present day have indicated that the areas directly off the main street is an area of particularly high archaeological potential, and numerous features containing medieval pottery have been identified across several programmes. It may be inferred from this that the area underneath the Gondola car park has a similarly high archaeological potential, as this too fronts onto the main street.

The historical assessment of Newcastle notes that the town was first mentioned as a Royal Manor in 1215. For the rest of the medieval period, Newcastle Lyons was referred to as a manorial village. Houses of Anglo-Norman manors were set along the street front at the head of narrow plots, and this usage continued into the post-medieval period. Cartographic sources suggest a continuous street frontage of buildings in this area by the 18th century. There is also a lesser possibility of the presence of remains relating to one of a number of later medieval tower house castles identified from documentary sources but not located on the ground. While no such buildings remain standing, the car-park of the Gondola Public house is a potential site, despite likely disturbance from the construction of the car-park.

In addition, geophysical survey in the area in the north of the field in 2003 directly behind the Gondola car-park revealed a number of anomalies in the area of the site (Area B). The most interesting of these are R2 and R3/M4 linear anomalies potentially relating to medieval or post-medieval land divisions or burgage plots. Between these a group of curvilinear positive magnetic anomalies



(M5 and M6), possibly represent archaeological features. This cluster of anomalies are concentrated in the north of the field at a location that would have been to the immediate rear of any buildings fronting onto the street.

Test-trenching in 2005 at this location identified archaeological features with evidence for burning and scorching (Features P and Q). A ditch (Feature O) appeared to define the southern extent of the cluster of archaeological features (and thus the south of Area B) and is likely therefore to be a medieval burgage plot boundary. No dating evidence was identified during the testing programme and the features were considered to date to 1730 or earlier.

Overall, these various strands of evidence demonstrated that archaeological features below the ground in Area B relate to the medieval, late medieval and/or early post-medieval (i.e. 1200-1800) occupation of Newcastle, and are of significant heritage interest.

A small part of the hedgerow between Areas A





and B was partly removed as part of the development proposals. This boundary is specifically noted in the Newcastle Local Area Plan as one to be retained (SDCC 2012, 27, Figure 5.3) because it is considered to be a historic field and burgage plot boundary (see also County Development Plan SDCC 2010, 270, Specific Local Objectives No. 46. Newcastle – Burgage Plots). Documentary and cartographic evidence suggests the ditch and bank of this boundary were formed in the 13th century and are therefore of archaeological interest. As a result, the development endeavoured to retain as much of the hedgerow as is practicable within the new school development. The part of the hedgerow that had to be removed was hand-excavated by archaeologists.

## Site prior to excavation

The high-potential part of the site (Area B) comprises two distinct environments: a tarmac carpark directly beside the main street, and a field to the south of this.

The car park of the Gondola Public House, and adjacent Domo's Pizza, and The Roma Takeaway,

is located off the southern side of Main Street and comprises a small tarmac-surfaced parking area. A raised grass area beside it forms a small green area and rear access to the Gondola. This would have formerly been part of the larger field behind it. No archaeological work was conducted in this area.

A long thin flat overgrown field in long grass is located behind the Gondola public house and to the west of the school grounds. The western boundary is formed by a hedgerow, ditch (3m wide, 1m deep) and bank (3m wide, 1.5m high to west of ditch). The eastern boundary is formed by a modern fence and breeze-block wall in the north, and in the south by an overgrown hedgerow, ditch and bank. These hedgerows and ditches are historic plot boundaries of the former burgage plots, and all three are specifically protected in the LAP (SDCC 2012, 27, Fig. 5.3) and in the County Development Plan (SDCC 2010, 270, SLO 46 Newcastle – Burgage Plots). There is a kink at the southern end of the eastern field boundary.

Vehicle tracks (also visible on aerial photographs) run through the field N-S diagonally. The proposed development site ends about two-thirds of the way down the field, marked by a change of vegetation. The remains of a small rectangular ruined breeze-block structure is visible at the southern end of the site.

The northern boundary of the field is formed by a modern fence and hedge at the rear of the Gondola and car-park.

Top right: google earth image showing site area prior to excavation.  
Bottom left: Excavation location prior to groundworks.



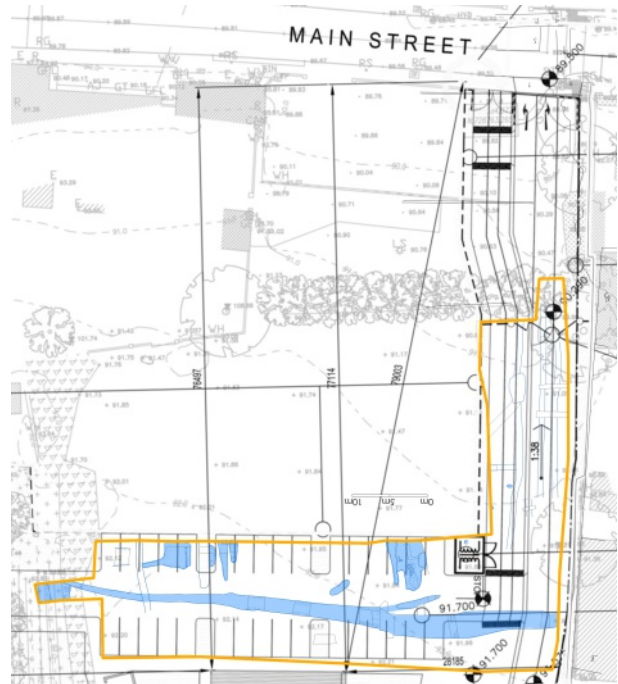
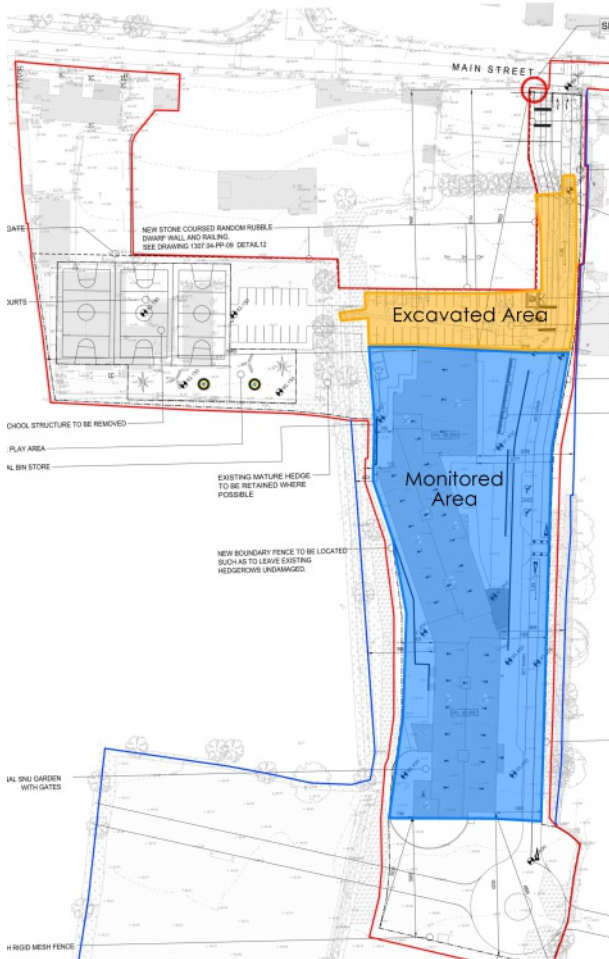
## Excavation methodology

The archaeological excavation of Area B was undertaken in two phases, from 5th to 7th August and 15th to 25th September 2014.

The archaeological excavation covered an L-shaped area that measured 11-16m wide and extended 52m N-S and 69m E-W. This area, located to the north of the green field, had been identified in the archaeological assessment (Giacometti 2013) as being of particular archaeological interest (Area B).

A mechanical excavator was used to strip topsoil down to the natural subsoil or the top of archaeological deposits. Topsoil measured between 480mm and 590mm in thickness and comprised organic dark brown silty-clay with frequent inclusions of post-medieval and modern artefacts. 24 shards of medieval pottery (13E438:1:1-24) and a

Below: proposed development plan showing areas fully excavated (orange) and fully monitored (blue)  
Top Right: development plan showing excavation findings



single sherd of black-glazed earthenware (13E438:1:25) were found in the topsoil and retained. Large amounts of disturbance, large stones and modern demolition rubble were noted within the topsoil in the north of the site near the entrance.

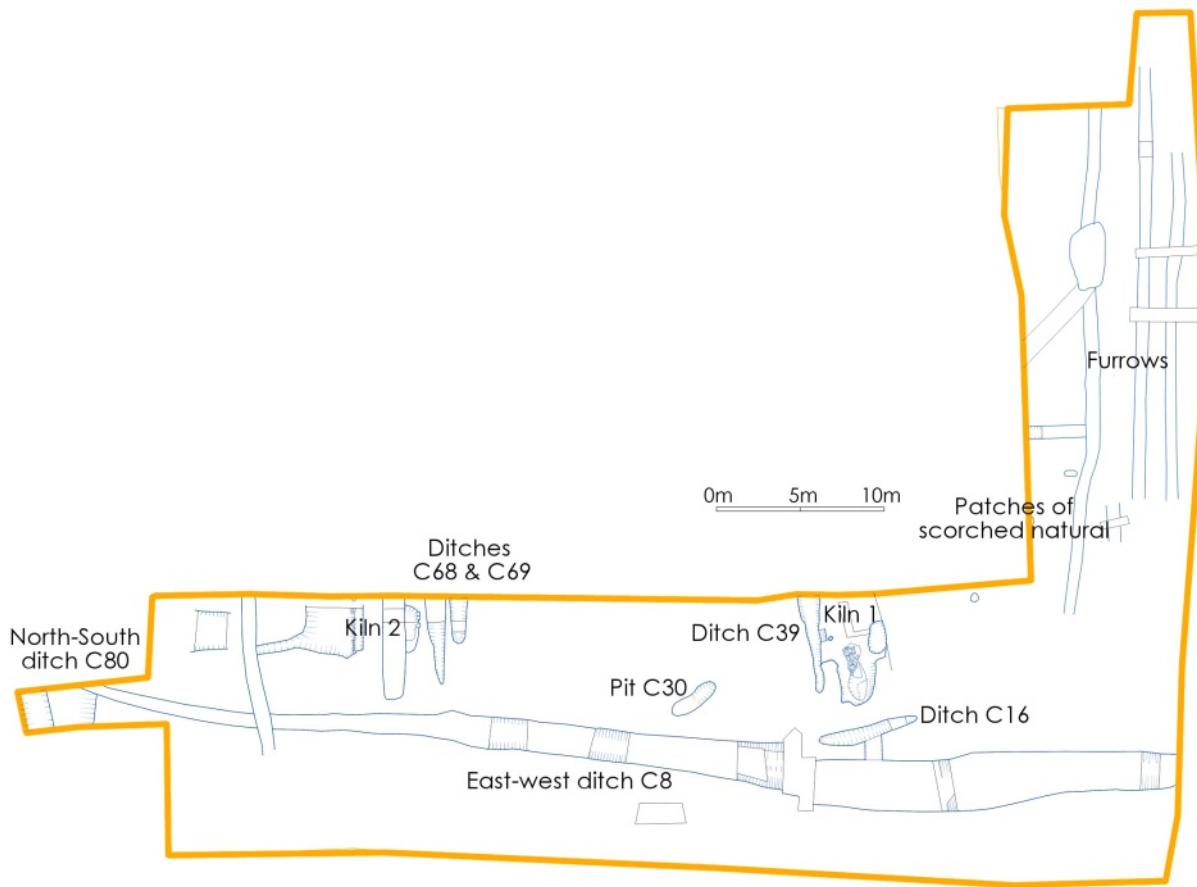
Natural subsoil comprised compact sterile yellowish-brown silty-clay, which contained pinky-red clay lenses and very stony lenses.

## Excavation stratigraphic report

### *Rear of burgage plots*

An east-west running ditch (C8) 75m in length defined the southern extent of the archaeological material found on the site. To the east it continued beyond the eastern edge of excavation, towards a modern barn building in the adjacent property to the west the ditch curved towards the north just before it would have merged with the north-south existing field boundary. This was disappointing, as one of the goals of the excavation was to establish the relationship between the east-west running ditch and the existing north-south field boundary to the west. It may have joined up with ditch C80 beyond the limits of the excavation.





tion, however this area was outside the development site footprint.

The ditch measured an average of 2.3m in width and 0.3m to 0.88m in depth. Its profile was generally consistent throughout consisting of concave to steeply cut sides and a flattish base. A distinctive ledge was occasionally visible on both the northern and southern sides. The fill of the ditch comprised compact clay that varied in colour from a pale grey to a pale brown (C9, C32, C44, C45, C46, C49, C89, C90, C91 and C94). Medieval pottery was recovered from C9 (13E438:9:1-24) and C44 (13E438:44:1-2).

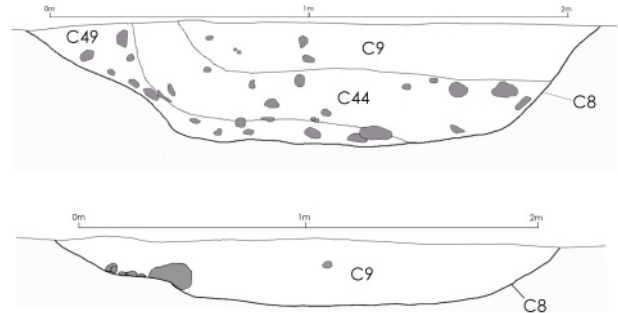
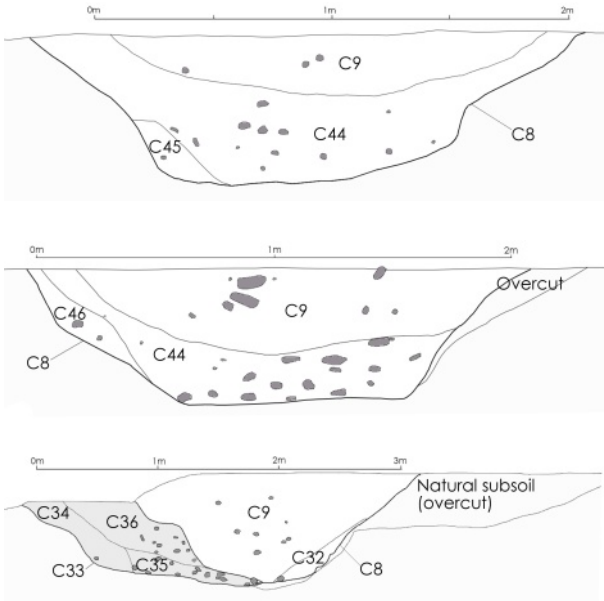
The ditch kinked slightly to the south about two-thirds of the way along, as if it were avoiding the kiln (C26) that was located here. In this bulging part of the ditch, evidence for an earlier phase of the ditch was identified (C33 & associated fills C34, C35, C36). This took a similar form to the main later ditch C8, except that it appeared to run a little straighter to the west at least, and didn't bulge around the kiln. It appeared likely therefore that the early phase of the east-west ditch predated the kiln (which had been con-



Top: overview plan of excavated features (N to top)  
 Above: ditch C8 overview looking northwest  
 Below: ditch C8 central portion looking northeast







Sections of ditch C8. To left three west-facing sections of ditch C8. Lowest section also shows early phase of ditch C33. Above two east-facing sections of ditch C8

Plates below (clockwise from top left): section of ditch C8 at east of site looking west; section of ditch C8 in centre of site looking east; view of early phase ditch C16 looking southwest; section of ditch C8 at east of site looking west

structed into the ditch's bank), and that successive later phases of cleaning out, recutting and deepening the ditch avoided damaging the kiln, producing the bulge. A single sherd of medieval pottery (13E438:36:1) was recovered from its basal fill of the earlier phase.

A possible continuation of the early phase was noted, surviving as a shallow linear ditch (C16) just south of the kiln. Two sherds of medieval pottery (13E438:17:1-2) were recovered from

this shallow ditch's basal fill (C17). An animal burial (C18) and a scorched lens (C19) were recorded within the southern end of the shallow feature.

This east-west ditch is of medieval origin, with both phases containing sherds of medieval pottery dating from the late-12th to 14th centuries. The ditch represents the rear of a series of burgage plots that fronted onto Newcastle Main Street. The ditch organised the medieval activity on the



site: all of the archaeological features identified were situated to the north of the ditch, and not a single medieval feature was identified to the south. The area to the south of the ditches was still within the probable line of the defenses of Newcastle medieval village, however. It is probable that this area to the south of the east-west ditch was in open fields, perhaps farmed commonly by the villagers.

Another important feature regarding this east-west running ditch was the consistent absence of archaeological features directly to the north of the ditch. All of the archaeological features to the north were located a few metres away from the edge of the ditch. This is characteristic of the presence of a bank along the northern side of the ditch, created using the upcast from digging the ditch, and maintained as the ditch was dug and redug. Two north-south running burgage plot boundaries run only up to the bank, however two kilns come closer to the ditch, and were almost certainly cut into the bank. Kilns were commonly cut into the banks of field boundaries as the sloping ground made their construction a lot easier.

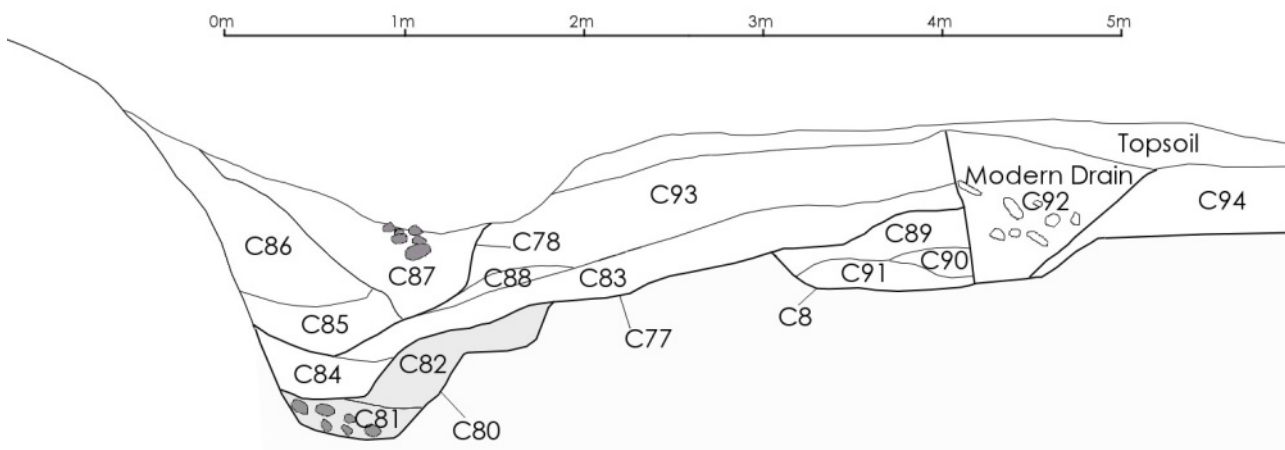
**Internal Burgage divisions**

Five north-south running ditches running inside the site appeared to define three burgage plots approximately 20m in width. The most easterly of these boundaries was not excavated, as it had been badly damaged in the modern period and was formed by a modern fence and breeze-block wall in the north (no C-number assigned). The most westerly of these boundaries comprised a substantial hedgerow, ditch (3m wide, 1m deep) and bank (3m wide, 1.5m high to west of ditch)



Plates (top to bottom): Removal of vegetation at ditch C80 looking west; ditch C80 section looking north; ditch C80 & ditch C8 section looking northwest

Below: south-facing section through ditches C80 and C8







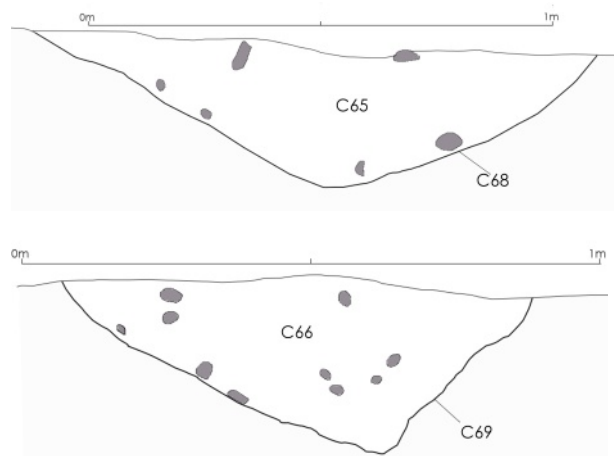
Plates above (from top to bottom): ditch C68 looking northeast; ditch C69 looking west; ditches C68 & C69 looking northeast; ditch C39 looking north

Sections to right: ditch C68 south-facing (top) and ditch C69 north-facing (bottom). A section of ditch C39 appears in the description of Kiln 1.

(C80). Both of these boundaries were visible prior to the excavation, and are historic plot boundaries of the former burgage plots. Both are protected in the LAP (SDCC 2012, 27, Fig. 5.3) and in the County Development Plan (SDCC 2010, 270, SLO 46 Newcastle – Burgage Plots).

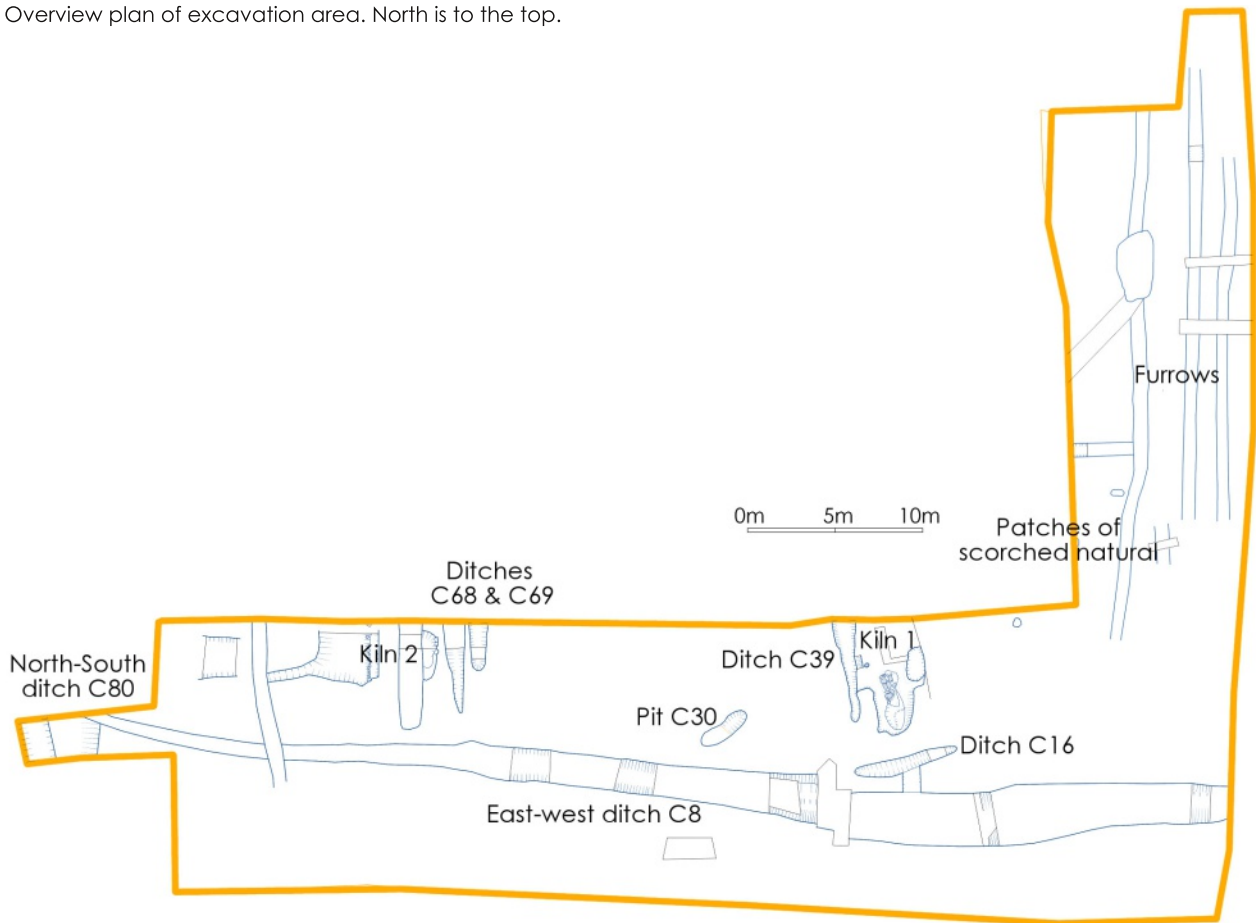
Three additional north-south ditches were identified during the excavation: an easterly one (C39) about a third of the way between the two boundaries noted above, and two westerly ones located close together about two thirds of the way between the two boundaries (C68 & C69). Unlike the two boundaries that were visible prior to excavation, these three north-south ditches all terminated just before reaching the east-west ditch (C8), so all three probably stopped at its bank. Assuming they extended northwards all the way to the road they would have measured 70m in length.

A hand-excavated section was dug through the existing north-south running ditch C80. This ditch measured 3m in width, and was found to measure 2.8m in depth. Its profile consisted of steeply cut sides and a flattish base. A step measuring 0.45m in width was cut into the eastern side approximately 0.5m above the base. Only two of its original fills survived (C81 & C82) as it was truncated by activity in the modern era (C77 & C78). This modern disturbance contained some sherds of medieval pottery (13E438:87:1 & 13E438:83:1), but no dateable material was recovered from the earliest fills, so it is unclear if these date to the medieval period or later. It had been hoped to relate this ditch stratigraphically with the east-west one (C8) of known medieval date, however this was not possible. The east-west ditch began to curve to the north as it ap-





Overview plan of excavation area. North is to the top.



proached this ditch (C80), and their junction was obscured by modern disturbance. The fact that the east-west ditch changed just as it was about to reach this ditch (C80) would suggest that some sort of north-south boundary along the line of the C80 ditch was present in the medieval period.

Two shallow ditches (C68 & C69) were situated approximately 23m to the east of ditch C80. They lay side by side with the distance between them ranging from 0.2m to 0.5m, decreasing as they extended to the north beyond the limit of excavation where the evidence suggests that they intersected. It is possible that they represent a plot boundary that has been redefined at some point. The western ditch (C68) had concave sides and a base that concave to flat base. It had a width of 1.25m that tapered to 0.35m at its southern extent where it faded out. It contained a single fill (C65) within which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered (13E438:65:1). The eastern ditch (C69), located to the east of C68, had a profile consisting of concave sides and a concave to flat base. Its width measured 0.9m to the north which tapered to 0.5m to the south where it faded out. It was filled with a greyish brown silty clay

(C66) which contained three sherds of medieval pottery (13E438:66:1-3).

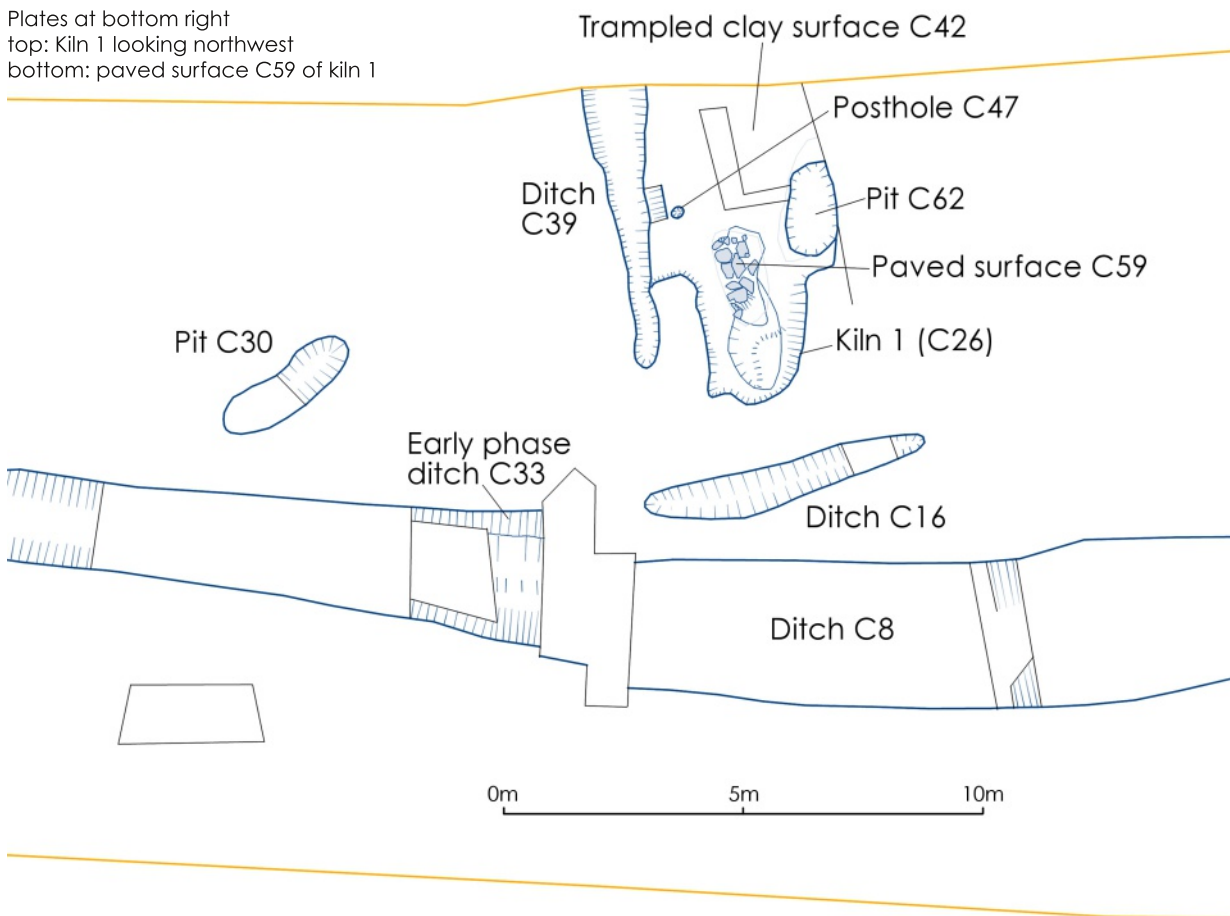
Ditch C39 was situated 22m east of the ditch C68 and 26m west of the damaged boundary defining the east of the site. A large kiln (C26) was located immediately to the east, a fill of which (C37) was truncated by the ditch. Initially, it was considered that the ditch acted as a drain which bounded the west side of the kiln but a more likely scenario is that C39 represents a re-cutting of a plot boundary which the kiln (C26) was constructed against or into. The ditch measured 1.3m in width and 0.2m in depth with an orientation of north northwest-south southeast. Its sides were steeply cut on the west side and concave to the west with a flat base that faded out to the south. It was filled with a grey silty clay within which contained numerous sherds of medieval pottery (13E4389:38:1-15).

### *Kiln 1*

A large kiln was situated to the north of the east-west ditch (C8), in the east of the site. It consisted of large sub-rectangular pit (C26) with a

Below: post-excavation plan of Kiln 1

Plates at bottom right  
 top: Kiln 1 looking northwest  
 bottom: paved surface C59 of kiln 1



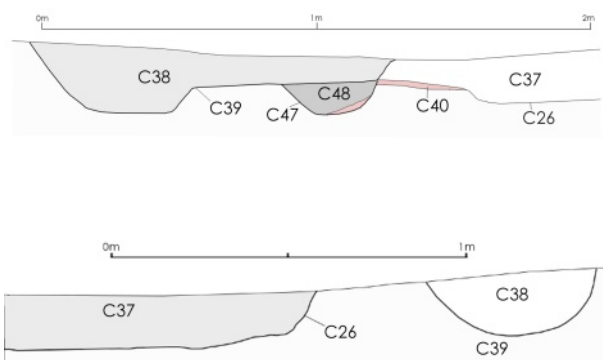
sub-circular southern end. It was probably cut into a bank that existed to the north of the burgage ditch (C8). Its northern extent continued beyond the limit of excavation while its northeast end was cut away by an archaeological test trench. The profile of the kiln comprised mainly of steeply cut sides, although the southwest side had a concave profile. Its base was irregular in the centre, with the northern extent noticeably straight while the southern end was dished to accommodate a drying chamber and access. The cut measured 7m in total length, 1.8m to 3.2m in width and 0.2m to 0.35m in depth.



The kiln consisted of a firing surface (C59) which was located in the centre, a drying chamber to the south, a pit for water or ash to the east (C62), and a posthole (C47) and rakeout area (C42) located the north. No flue or baffle stones were identified, however these may have been placed to the south of the firing surface where the cut constricted at the entry to the drying chamber, but been removed to clean out the kiln. Over time a build up of the rake-out material (C37) which contained medieval pottery (3E438:37:1-30),



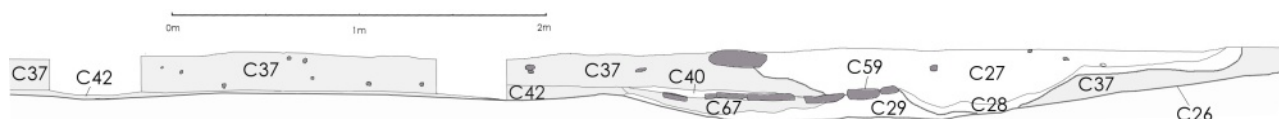




Sections at top (top to bottom): south facing section of Kiln 1 (C26) and ditch C39; north facing section of Kiln 1 (C26) and ditch C39

Plates above (top to bottom): trampled clay surface C42 of kiln 1 looking south; pit C62 of kiln 1 looking east

Section at bottom: Kiln 1 (C26) west-facing section



gradually infilling the space and sealed the above features until its final use as defined by the charcoal rich material C28 that lined the drying chamber. This was subsequently backfilled with a brown clay C27.

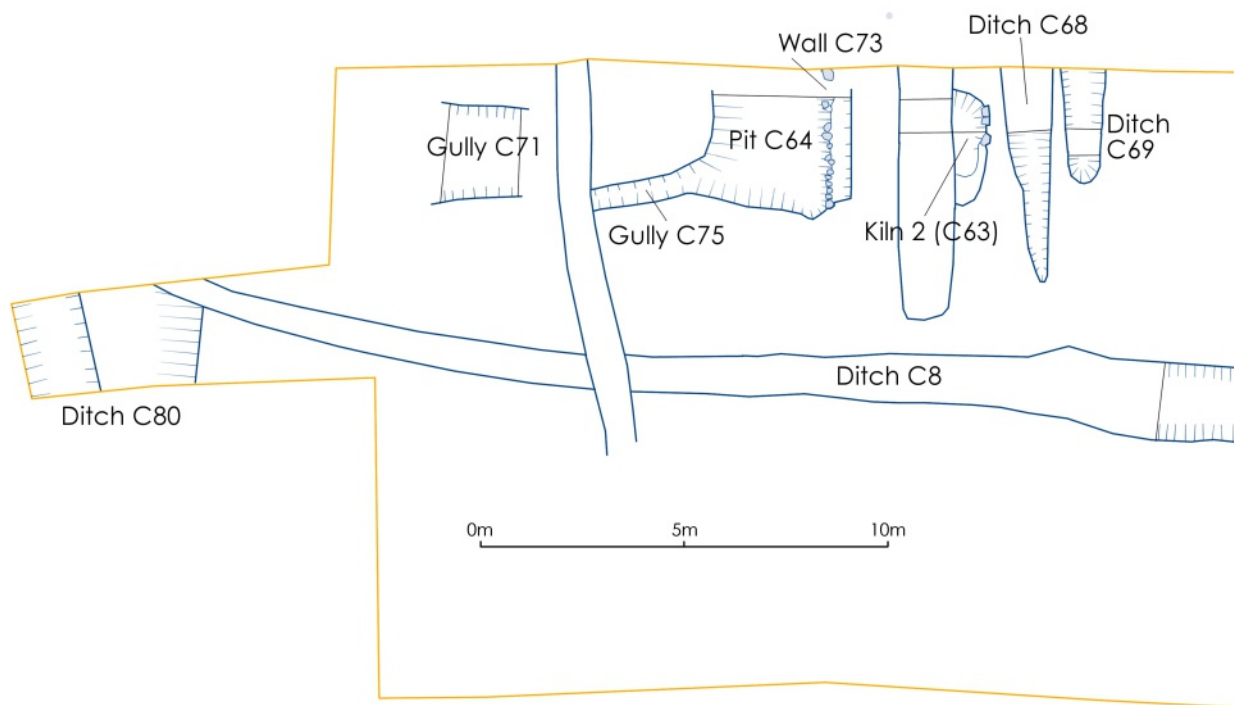
The southern end of the kiln contained a drying chamber which was sub-oval in plan and was likely to have been cut into the bank of the ditch C8. A ledge with the potential function of providing access was identified at southern end of the chamber. The drying chamber measured approximately 1.4m in diameter and 0.2m in depth. It was filled with C37 which was scorched and was overlain by a charcoal-rich clay (C28). This was in turn overlain by a clay fill (C27) which was the latest event, thus representing the backfilling on the kiln.

A fire platform (C59) was located to the north of the fire pit. The purpose of the platform was to hold the lit fire, from which warm air would be drawn into the drying chamber. It consisted of large sub-angular haphazardly set stones (up to 150mm by 200mm by 500mm in size) that formed a level surface measuring 0.8m by 1.8m. It was overlain by a burnt clay (C40) and lay above a bedding material of sticky clay (C67) which in turn overlay a fire-reddened natural subsoil (C29). These stones would also have created a easy to clean level surface for working at the kiln. The shape of the firing platform constricted at the entry into the drying chamber. This restriction was reflected both in the shape of the cut of the kiln (C26) and in the shape of the visible scorching lines around the kiln. This suggests that the firing platform would have been shaped a bit like a funnel in plan, tapering inwards to the drying chamber and funnelling the heat into the kiln structure.

A posthole (C47) cut into the natural subsoil was situated 0.9m northwest of the platform. This may be the remains of part of the kiln's super-structure. The posthole was abutted by the layer of burnt clay (C40) which overlay the platform.

A shallow pit (C62) was situated 0.5m to the east





of the platform. Its function may have been as an ash-pit or a sump filled with water in case of a fire. It was sub-oval in plan and 'U'-shaped in profile and measured 0.55m deep. It was filled with a stony charcoal-rich clay (C58) containing four sherds of medieval pottery (13E438:58:1-4) which was overlain by a fill containing ash, charcoal and burnt clay (C57).

The northern end of the kiln was used as a rake-out area and comprised of a trampled clay surface (C42) that contained burnt clay inclusions. An extension to this surface was identified to the south outside the excavation area in a test-trench (Feature Q). The extent of this feature seems to support the continuation of ditch C39 to the south.

### ***Kiln 2***

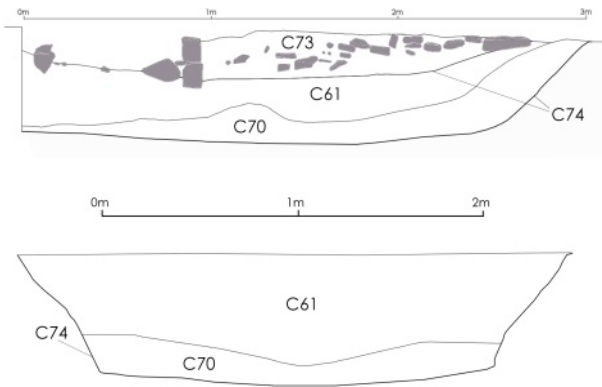
A second possible kiln (C63) was identified in the west of the site. Just like Kiln 1, it was located in the rear corner of a burgage plot.

This possible kiln was truncated by a modern service trench, and comprised a fire-pit to the east (C63) and the partial remains of a larger square pit (C74) and associated gully (C75) to the west. Overall the preservation of this feature was very poor and it is not clear if the features represent a single kiln as suggested here, or if they represent

Above: close-up plan of area around Kiln 2

Below (from top to bottom) gullies C71 (foreground) and C75 (background) looking east; section of Kiln 2 (C63) looking east





Top left: profiles of pit C74 of Kiln 2  
 Above: pit C74 and wall C73 looking north  
 Below: pit C30 looking southeast

instead a complex of contemporary or non-contemporary features close together.

The fire-pit (C63) measured 2.55m in length, 0.55m in width and 0.35m in depth. It was sub-rectangular in plan with concave sides and a flat base that was reddened from the heat of the associated activity. Its eastern side was defined by the remains of what appeared to be a formal stone-lining, with the stones exhibiting signs of in-situ burning. It was filled with a charcoal-stained clay (C64) that contained a single sherd of medieval pottery (13E438:64:1). It is likely that this was constructed against the possible plot boundary C68 in the same manner as the large kiln was associated with the ditch C39.

The large pit (C74) was only partially within the excavation area. It appeared to be sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 3.2m in length, 2.75m in width and 0.65m in depth with steeply cut sides and a flat base. The remains of a wall (C73) was built on a ledge on the east side of the pit. The wall was poorly preserved, constructed from roughly hewn sub-rectangular blocks of limestone, sub-rounded stone and bonded with a yellowish grey clay. It measured 0.25m in width, a maximum height of 0.3m and approximately 2m in length appearing to continue into the baulk to the north. The pit contained two fills (C61 & C70). The lower fill (C70) was a clay silt which was iron-panned with contained occasional charcoal and stone inclusions. Numerous sherds of medieval pottery (13E438:70:1-14) were recovered from this fill. The overlying fill (C61) contained a hone stone (13E438:61:1), very frequent medieval pottery (13E438:61:2-69), fuel ash slag (13E438:61:70) and a copper alloy buckle (13E438:61:71). This fill had a thickness of 0.58m and overlay the stone wall (C73). A

gully (C75/C71) was located at its southeast corner and also contained medieval pottery (13E438:72:1-3, 13E438:76:1-5).

The square shape, lack of in situ burning and very high quantity of medieval period in the large pit might suggest it was not directly associated with a kiln function. However, the stone wall footing does match that of the adjacent fire-pit (C63) and the position of the features mirror that of the better-preserved Kiln 1. If the complex does represent a kiln, the flat base of the large pit may have held a firing or raking platform, and the stone footings may be the base of a masonry kiln superstructure. There was no indication from the pottery that ceramic manufacture was taking place in or around this feature, however no seeds were identified that might have supported the idea that the feature was a corn-drying kiln. The large pit contained the densest assemblage of medieval pottery from the site, but this appears to be due to rubbish disposal rather than ceramic manufacture.





### *Kidney-shaped pit*

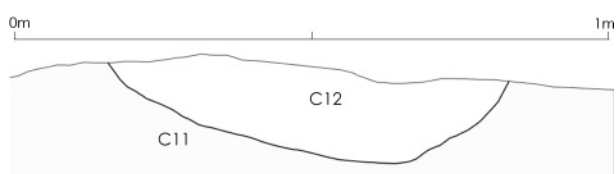
A small kidney-shaped pit (C30) of uncertain function was located approximately 5.5m east of ditch C39. It consisted of steeply cut sides gradually meeting a flat base and filled with a sterile mid-brown clay (C31). This feature is not dated.

### *Furrows*

A series of undated furrows (C2, C4, C14, C20 & C24) ran parallel to each other in a north-south direction across the site. They did not extend beyond the east-west burgage ditch (C8/C33), appearing to respect it, suggesting they may be of some antiquity since that ditch was backfilled at the end of the medieval period. They measured on average 0.8m in width and 0.2m in depth.

### *Drain*

A possible east-west orientated drain (C11) was identified to the east of the furrow C14. It was linear in plan with gently sloped sides and a concave to irregular base. It contained single fill which consisted of a pale brown silty clay (C12). Its eastern end was truncated by the furrow C14 and did not extend beyond this point. This feature is not dated.



Above: east-facing section of drain C11

Right: development plan showing areas monitored

### *Patches of scorched natural*

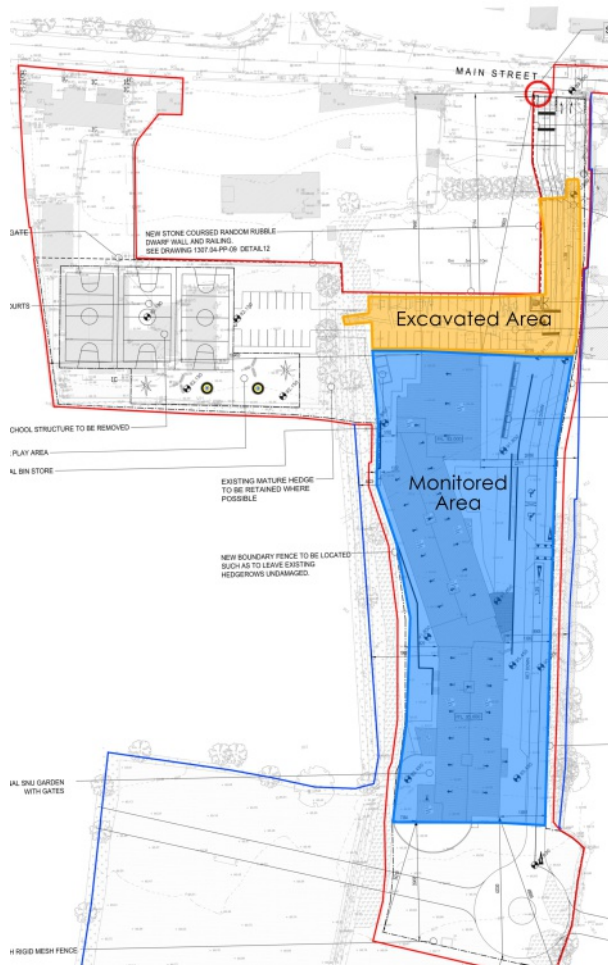
Three small patches of scorched natural subsoil (C10, C13 & C23) were found in the vicinity of the furrows. These ranged in size from 0.5m by 0.4m to 0.7m by 0.4m. At first it was thought that these may be the base of a line of fire-pits oriented with regard to Kiln 1. On further investigation, these patches contained no dateable material and were not associated with any certain archaeology. They may represent moderns disturbance, or activity associated with Kiln 1

(C26). A fourth similar feature was identified in the testing programme nearby outside the limit of excavation (Feature P).

## Archaeological monitoring

No specific archaeological features were identified in the central part of the field during the geophysical survey or test-trenching programme, despite the presence of archaeology directly to the north and south (Areas B and D). It may be that this area behind the Newcastle house plots was historically used for cultivation or holding animals.

Geophysical survey identified a number of anomalies in the southern part of the field (M3, R6 & R7). Subsequent test-trenching revealed that some of these resulted from modern disturbance, but also found archaeological features. Ditches, pits and a burnt feature (Features E, H & N) were





identified over quite a large area suggesting spaced-out archaeological features (as opposed to the more concentrated archaeological cluster in Area B).

The hedgerow to the east of Area D was removed as part of the development proposals. Based on the archaeological hand excavation of the field boundary in Area B, where no medieval material was found within the better-preserved western hedgerow, it was decided not to hand-excavate the eastern hedgerow in Area D. Groundworks at the hedgerow were archaeologically monitored and no archaeological material was identified.

Monitoring of Areas C and D took place from 1st October to 18th November 2014. Post-medieval agricultural features were identified, but no additional archaeological features were recorded.

## Unexcavated areas

The existing school grounds comprise an L-shaped site on the south side of Main Street. The southern and western site boundaries are formed by hedgerows and the eastern boundary is formed by a historic hedgerow, ditch and bank. The school is separated from the graveyard of St. Finian's RC church and graveyard, which is located directly to the northeast, by a high (2m) stone wall displaying two phases of construction.

The large main school building fronting onto Main Street dates to the mid-twentieth century and does not appear to be a protected structure, however the SDCC Development Plan and LAP maps indicate it may lie within the curtilage of the adjacent Protected Structure. In any case this school building is attractive and has integrity, is listed on the NIAH (Ref. 11212003), and will be retained within the proposed development.

The smaller building adjacent and east of the school, and built right up against the graveyard wall, is one of two structures comprising the original Primary School (the other is demolished) and dates to the c. 1825 and appears on the First Edition 1847 OS Map. This is a Protected Structure (Ref. 232) and is listed on the NIAH and will be retained and protected within the new

scheme.

The remaining school buildings, set back from the road frontage, are modern and of no heritage interest. Tarmacadam surfaces cover the school grounds and no archaeological features were identified here during the site inspection. No sub-surface archaeological work or survey has been undertaken in this area.

Although this area has a high potential for sub-surface archaeological material (notably from medieval buildings along the northern Main Street frontage), the development proposals envisage very little underground disturbance in this area. Both existing structures on the street-front: the original two-story school building and the larger later school building are to be retained within the new scheme. The existing school buildings to be demolished are temporary and have no foundations, so this will not cause underground disturbance.

The construction of play areas and ball-courts and parking facilities in the south of Area A need not involve any subsurface excavation as the existing ground has a hard surface and is roughly levelled.

Fences are proposed along the hedges to the south and west of Area A. To the west these are on the inside of the hedge, which will preserve the historic and protected hedge entirely. To the south the fence cuts into the boundary however the southern hedge is not protected under the Newcastle LAP (SDCC 2012, 27, Figure 5.3) and this will cause no archaeological impact.

The site extends along Main Street for a short section. The street is fully modernised with tarmacadam surface and concrete pavements on either side. No heritage features or historic street furniture were noted. Groundworks for new traffic signals, pedestrian crossing, pavement alterations and road realignment will either cause no underground impact or impact areas previously disturbed in the modern period. As such no archaeological impact is envisaged.

No archaeological excavation took place in the areas discussed above (existing school and main street). Any groundworks taking place here in 2015 will be archaeologically monitored.

## Section 6 Discussion

The excavation identified activity at the rear of a series of medieval burgage properties that fronted onto Newcastle Main Street, and which contained material dating from the 12th to 14th centuries AD.

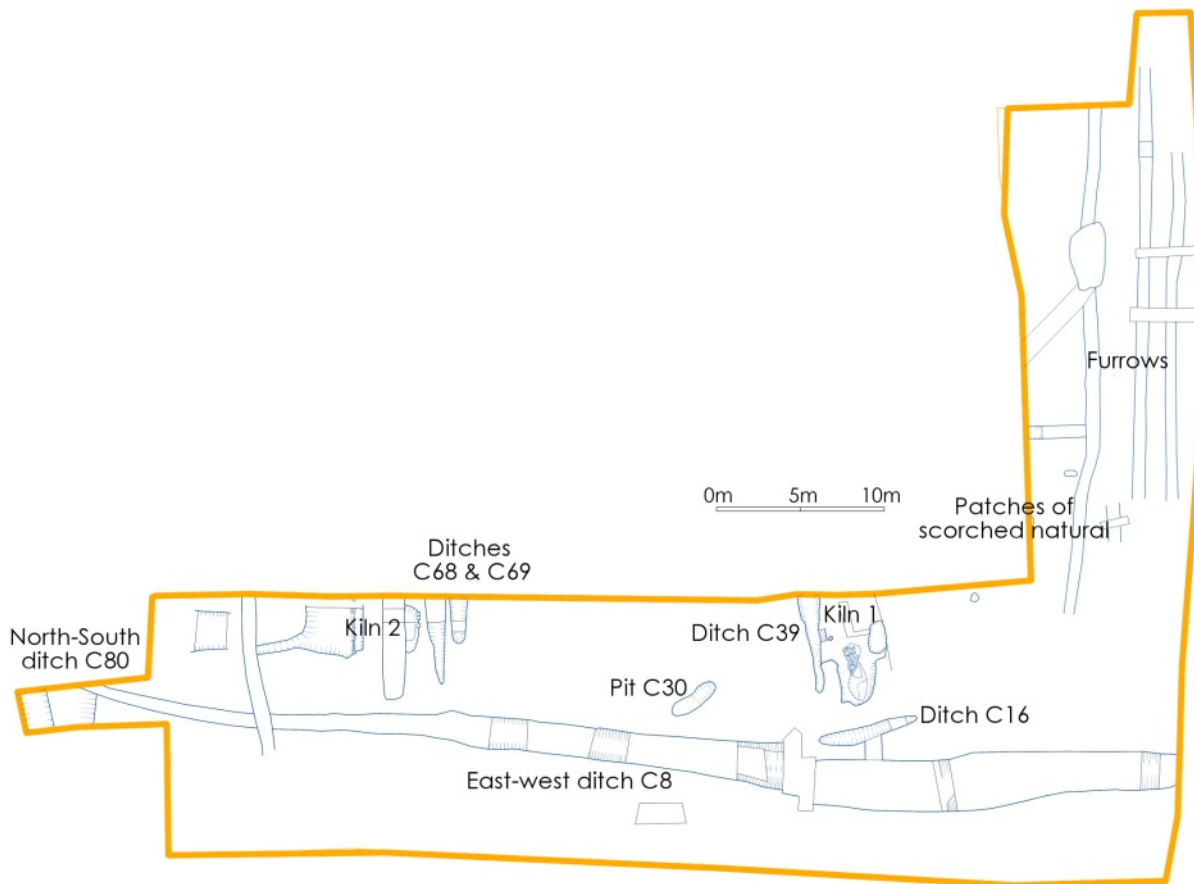
The medieval burgage properties were defined by ditches and banks, much like the existing ditch-bank-hedgerow property divisions seen in Newcastle today. The archaeological evidence suggested that the earliest property boundary on the site was the north-south running field boundary to the west of the site. The date of the easternmost property boundary could not be ascertained as it was badly damaged.

The original medieval plot, most likely laid out soon after the establishment of the manorial village of Newcastle in or around 1215, appears to have measured 60m in width (at least). It was located near the centre of the medieval village, which suggests that it was probably occupied from the early 13th century. No archaeological evidence for any activity within the site during this earliest phase of division was found, so it is possible that this early wide plot was never intended to be an individual property at all, but rather represents an initial phase of subdividing land within the town.

Sometime between 1215 and the end of the 14th century an east-west ditch was dug through the centre of the property, and three or perhaps four



Overview plan of excavation results, North to top



burgage plot boundaries were laid out fronting onto the main road. The east-west ditch defined the back of the plots, perhaps separating them from fields that would have been commonly owned and farmed. Three or four houses would have been set along the main street at the front of the plot, with the land behind used for outbuildings, storing animals and small-scale garden farming.

Anglo-Norman manors in Ireland followed a British system of land organisation known as burgage. All of the land in and around the town would have been owned by the local lord, or the king. Individual plots along the main streets (usually long and narrow plots set at right angle to the road) would be laid out and rented to a tenant, or 'burgess'. Being a tenant of a plot in town was an important position: a burgess had to be a freeman with a trade in the town, and rental of the burgage property came with civic rights such as electing the town council, and up until the 19th century, voting.

The three burgage plots excavated within the site were roughly similar in size, measuring approxi-

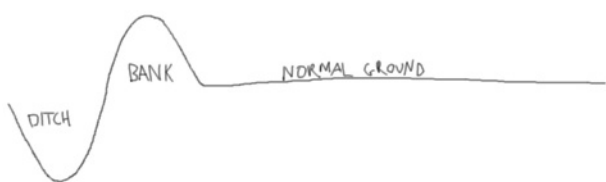
ately 20m in width and 70m in length. The exact widths of the plots are difficult to gauge because the space taken up by the ditch and banks is not certain, but it is possible that the westernmost plot was slightly wider than the others, perhaps up to 25m in width. The standard measurement at the time would have been the perch (5.03m). Converted into perches, the burgage plots measured 14 perches long and 4 perches (or up to 5 perches in the case of a wider western plot) wide, giving a typical burgage plot size of just over an acre (1.15 acres). A fourth possible burgage plot may have existed to the east of these, in lands outside the site, and is shown on South Dublin County Council's figure of historic field, townland and burgage plot boundaries in Newcastle (SDCC 2012, 27, Fig. 5.3). This fourth plot also measures approximately 4 perches wide.

These measurements compares well with examples in England. For example, at Charmouth in Dorset, a charter of the year 1320 provided plots 4 perches wide and 20 perches long (Wlitschire 2014), a little longer than the Newcastle burgage plots, but the same width.

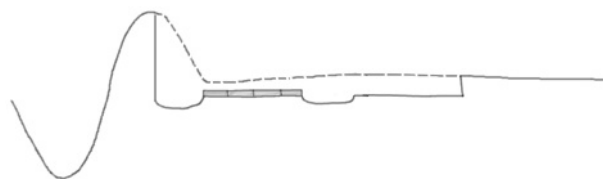


Two kilns were identified in the back of the burgage plots, one badly preserved in the western plot, and a much better preserved kiln in the eastern plot. Both kilns were constructed into the banks of the burgage plot boundaries. The westernmost kiln (Kiln 2) (it was so badly preserved that its function is unclear, so the interpretation as a kiln is a working hypothesis) contained masonry footings that might have supported either a stone or perishable superstructure. One part of it was backfilled with a large amount of medieval pottery. The other kiln (Kiln 1) was much better preserved, and a very small amount of seeds were identified within it, suggesting that it functioned as a corn-drying kiln: to dry out the wheat, barley or oats that were farmed, perhaps in the field directly to the south. In Ireland, grain needs to be dried before it is ground up into flour due to the damp climate.

The well-preserved kiln (Kiln 1) was constructed in the back corner of the burgage plot, sometime between 1200 and 1400 judging by the pottery. The southern part of the kiln formed the bowl of the drying chamber. This had been cut deeply into the bank of the east-west ditch, and probably also into the bank of the north-south ditch; indeed it appears the builders selected the part of their plot that had the highest bank, at the junction of the two ditches, to build their kiln. The base of the drying chamber was oval in form, and though only the bottom survived it would have had steep sides through the bank.

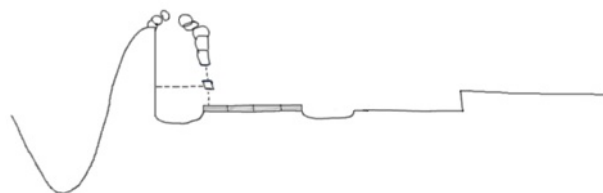


The following series of (very basic) sketches demonstrates how the kiln was constructed and could have worked. The first sketch shows the ditch and bank before the kiln was constructed. The second sketch shows the area that was cut away to form the kiln: the base of the drying chamber is cut into the bank. Behind it, a flat surface was lined with paving stones to form a sturdy firing and raking surface. A little pit behind it may have stored ash waste or more grain. An unlined flat area further behind held all



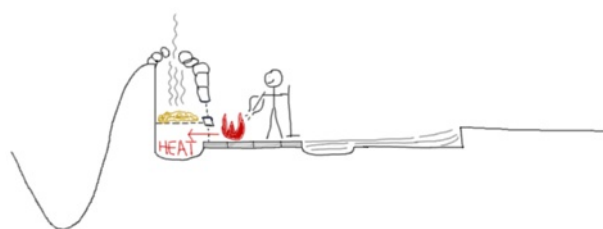
the waste from when the kiln was cleaned out.

The third sketch shows the construction of the kiln drying chamber. The reason for constructing the kiln in the bank becomes apparent now: the bank forms a very well insulated wall for the kiln. In the case of the two kilns at Newcastle, each was dug into a bank corner, so most of the kiln chamber walls would have been formed from earth, which would have been sturdy and insulating. The chamber would have had a raised drying surface - perhaps made of wood, that would have held the grain to be dried. This might have rested on, and been accessed from, a ledge at normal ground level. One posthole was excavated near the kiln, but it was not clear if this posthole held a wooden post for the kiln superstructure, or



for something else relating to the kiln.

The fourth sketch shows the kiln in use. A fire could have been lit near the lower entrance to the kiln, with the intention that the heat from the fire is pushed into the chamber and rose through it, drying the grain. Perhaps the fire heated stone and charcoal, which could be pushed into the drying bowl when it is hot but not aflame. Alternatively, perhaps a flow of air pushed the heat from the fire into the chamber. Either way, the kiln operator would be very careful not to allow the fire to spread into the chamber and risk



setting fire to the grain. Often stones called baffle stones are located between the fire and the drying chamber, to stop an unintended spark. In this case we found none, but in a kiln like this the baffle stones would have been removed to clean out the base of the drying chamber so their absence may reflect the final cleanout of the kiln.



This illustration by Alan Braby for the National Museum of Scotland shows a reconstruction of a kiln very similar to the one excavated at Newcastle (illustration in Moriarty 2011).

Both kilns contained medieval pottery dating from the late 12th to 14th centuries. Kiln 1 had been cleaned out and fired on multiple occasions, and the burgage plot ditches near the kiln had been cleaned out and re-cut while the kiln was still in use, so the two kilns could have had relatively long lives. Since each is situated within a burgage plot, they were probably constructed, maintained and owned by the medieval burgesses.

## Future work

All groundworks for the new school building (Areas B, C and D) have been archaeologically resolved. All archaeological features within the areas have been fully excavated by hand and recorded. This report presents the initial archaeological findings. A second report will present the final findings once the post-excavation analysis of artefacts and environmental samples is complete.

No archaeological work has taken place in the gondola carpark, along Newcastle Main Street, or in the former school grounds (Areas A and E). Minor groundworks are anticipated in these areas in 2015 and will be archaeologically monitored. The results of this work will be incorporated into the Final Report.

Eight environmental samples were taken from the site. These have been processed and charcoal and seeds were identified. These will be sent to environmental archaeobotanist Susan Lyons for analysis.

209 sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the site. These have been examined by Siobhan Scully, and her findings are included in this report.

One possible hone stone (13E438:61:1) and a chert flake (13E438:28:1) were recovered from the site. These will be examined by lithicist Sean Sharpe.

The animal bone from the excavation will be analysed by osteo-archaeologist Jonny Geber.

Three sherds of post-medieval pottery (13E438:1:25, 60:12 & 84:1), one fragment of modern glass utility bottle (13E438:60:1), one fragment of fuel-ash slag (13E438:61:70) and one copper-alloy artefact (13E438:61:71) were recovered from the site. These will be examined by our in-house post-excavation team.

# Section 7 Medieval Pottery

REPORT BY SIOBHAN SCULLY

## Introduction

A total of 209 sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the excavations at Newcastle, Co. Dublin (13E0438). These were examined by Siobhán Scully. After refitting, this number was reduced to 205 sherds. The pottery ranges in date from the late twelfth to the fourteenth century and it consists entirely of locally produced wares.

## Methodology

The pottery was identified visually with reference to published material on pottery produced in Ireland, Britain and Continental Europe. A brief overview of the pottery is given with a table presenting information on the pottery by type, quantification, form and date. The medieval pottery is divided up and discussed by type. The pottery is then presented by context. A full descriptive catalogue is presented in Appendix 1.

The pottery is quantified by each pottery type by sherd count, by Minimum Number of Vessels (MNV) and Minimum Vessels Represented (MVR). Where a number of sherds refitted these were counted as a single sherd. The Minimum Number of Vessels is an absolute minimum number of each type of pottery represented within the assemblage. It is based on the frequency of the oc-

currence of the most diagnostic feature per pottery type. For medieval vessels this is taken to be fragments of rim/handle which tended to break in one piece. The Minimum Vessels Represented is a more subjective figure which takes into account a number of different diagnostic features, such as handles or bases and, where they are not present, the differentiation between body sherds (McCutcheon et al. 2004, 368).

## Irish medieval pottery

The medieval pottery assemblage from Newcastle consists entirely of locally produced wares. As can be seen from the table below the assemblage is dominated by Dublin-type wares, comprising 67% of the total assemblage with the remaining 33% consisting of Leinster Cooking Ware. Hand-built wares, such as Leinster Cooking Ware, Dublin-type Coarseware and Dublin-type Cooking Ware, comprise 60% of the medieval pottery assemblage with the remaining 40% consisting of wheel-thrown wares represented by Dublin-type Ware and Dublin-type Fine Ware. Leinster Cooking Ware (33% of the assemblage) is more commonly occurring than Dublin-type Cooking Ware (12% of the assemblage), which is usual for sites outside of the medieval city (McCutcheon 2006, 85). The pottery dates between the late twelfth century and the fourteenth century.

Local medieval pottery

Type	Sherds	MNV	MNR	% by sherd count	Form	Date Range
Leinster Cooking Ware	67	0	24	33	Cooking pots	L12thC – 14thC
Dublin-type Coarseware	31	0	25	15	Jugs	L12thC – c.mid-13thC
Dublin-type Ware	57	0	28	28	Jugs; Dish	13thC – 14thC
Dublin-type Cooking Ware	25	0	16	12	Cooking pots	L12thC – 14thC
Dublin-type Fine Ware	25	1	12	12	Jugs	L13thC – 14thC



Type	MNV	MNR	Vessel part	No.	Description of features present
Leinster Cooking Ware	0	24	Rims	7	Cooking Pots: everted flat (5); thumbled on internal edge of rim (2); with channel on interior (1); fold of clay on internal edge of rim (1). Everted plain (1)
			Bases	3	Cooking Pots; kick at base angle (1); gritted on underside (2)
			Body sherds	57	sooted (25); accretion on interior (1)
Dublin-type Coarseware	0	25	Handle sherds	2	Strap handles (2); slash mark (1)
			Rim sherds	4	Jugs: upright square rims (4)
			Body sherds	25	Applied pad (2); applied thumbled strip (1)
Dublin-type Ware	0	28	Rim/Spout	1	Jug; pulled spout (1); upright plain rim (1)
			Rim/Base	1	Dish; frilled base angle (1)
			Rim sherd	1	Jug: upright square (1)
			Base sherd	1	Thumbled at intervals (1)
			Body sherds	53	Applied boss (1); applied strip (1); horizontal grooving (1); white slip (1)
Dublin-type Cooking Ware	0	16	Rim sherds	2	Cooking Pots: everted flat (1); everted square (1)
			Base sherds	2	Plain base angle (1); from middle of base (1)
			Body sherds	21	sooted (2)
Dublin-type Fine Ware	1	12	Spout	1	Pulled spout (1)
			Rim/Handle	1	Jug: upright plain rim (1); strap handle D1 (1)
			Handle sherds	5	Strap handles (5); D1 (1)
			Base sherd	1	Plain base angle (1)
			Body sherds	17	Applied thumbled strip (1)
TOTALS	1	105		205	

Newcastle medieval pottery table

## Local medieval pottery

The table above summarises the various vessel parts found for each type of pottery, as well as their MNV and MNR and what features were present. These are discussed in more detail below. There is only one rim/handle sherd (1:20) in the entire medieval pottery assemblage, giving the Newcastle medieval pottery assemblage a MNV of 1 although the MNR may be as high as 105.

### *Leinster Cooking Ware*

Sixty-seven sherds of Leinster Cooking Ware were recovered from the excavations at Newcastle, comprising 33% of the medieval pottery assemblage. Leinster Cooking Ware is the most widespread type of medieval pottery found in Leinster and it is commonly recovered from ex-

cavations of medieval sites in Leinster (Ó Floinn 1988, 327, 340). The fabric is hand-built and coarse, containing large plates of mica, quartz grits and sometimes decomposed feldspar. It has an orange, oxidised fabric, often with a grey reduced internal surface or core (ibid., 327–8). The most commonly occurring form is the cooking pot but other vessels, such as jugs, platters, shallow dishes and occasionally curfews, were produced (ibid., 328). This type of pottery was produced from the late twelfth century to the fourteenth century.

The Leinster Cooking Ware in the Newcastle assemblage appears to represent cooking pots, although there are a large number of undiagnostic body sherds and less than half of these are sooted. There are seven rim sherds all of which are from cooking pots. Five are everted flat rims, one (9:3) is an everted plain rim and there is one additional

small fragment of an everted rim (61:3). Two rim sherds (9:1-2, 61:2) are decorated on the internal edge of the rim where the clay was pinched between the thumb and the index finger of the potter. One rim sherd (37:3) has a channel on the interior below the rim. One rim (37:1-2) has a fold of clay on the internal edge of the rim; this fold is the result of the rim having been made separately from the body of the vessel and then attached (Ó Floinn 1988, 327). There are three base sherds; one base sherd (76:1) has a kick at the base angle and two (61:4, 70:2) are gritted on the underside. There are 57 body sherds. Twenty-five sherds are sooted, some heavily so, and one body sherd (66:1) has a black accretion on the interior.

#### *Dublin-type Coarseware*

This type of pottery was produced from c.1185 and may be as early as 1175 (McCutcheon 2006, 61). It has a coarse fabric and is hand-built and was very much influenced by Ham Green B pottery (ibid., 61, 68). The fabric has an oxidised orange colour with a grey reduced core and is glazed with a lead glaze which appears either green or brown. Thirty-one sherds of this fabric were retrieved from the excavations at Newcastle comprising 15% of the medieval pottery assemblage. All the sherds are probably from jugs. There are two small fragments of strap handles (9:5, 61:24), the former of which possibly has a slash mark. There are four rim sherds (1:1, 37:27, 38:15, 60:4), all upright square rims from jugs. One rim sherd (1:1) has a slight channel in the top of the rim and has stab marks below the rim, possibly where a handle would have been attached. There are 25 body sherds, three of which are decorated. One body sherd (61:27) has an applied stamped pad which is quartered and has a pellet in each quarter. One body sherd (1:4) has an applied pad which is plain and one body sherd (1:2) has an applied thumbed strip. One body sherd (17:1) appears to be from a small jug with a globular body.

#### *Dublin-type Ware*

This locally produced ware was wheel-thrown, with a less coarse fabric than the earlier Dublin-type coarseware, but it still has visible inclusions of mica. It began to be produced from the mid-thirteenth century onwards (McCutcheon 2006,

61). There are 57 sherds of this ware from Newcastle, which comprises 28% of the medieval pottery assemblage. There is one rim and spout sherd (9:10) from a jug. It has an upright plain rim with a pulled spout. There is one other rim sherd (61:31) which is also from a jug; it has an upright square rim. A rim and base fragment (9:24) which is probably from a dish, has a frilled base angle with a short, slightly incurving vessel wall and was possibly thumbed on the rim, although it is now damaged. There is one base sherd (9:11), probably from a jug, which is thumbed at intervals. There are 53 body sherds of Dublin-type Ware. Three body sherds are decorated; one (9:12) has an applied boss, one body sherd (76:4) has an applied strip and one body sherd (76:3) has horizontal grooving. One body sherd (61:51) possibly had a white slip below its green lead glaze.

#### *Dublin-type Cooking Ware*

This is a micaceous, unglazed ware which can be either hand-built or wheel-thrown. It dates from the late twelfth century to the thirteenth century and is contemporary with Dublin-type coarsewares and Dublin-type wares (McCutcheon 2000, 122–3). Cooking pots are the most common vessel type represented in this ware but large jars and pans and incurved dishes also occur (McCutcheon 2006, 81). Twenty-five sherds of Dublin-type Cooking Ware were found at Newcastle, comprising 12% of the medieval pottery assemblage. There are two rim sherds from cooking pots; one everted flat rim (61:53) and one everted wide square rim (9:18). There are two base sherds; one plain base angle sherd (1:10) and one sherd (9:19) from the middle section of a base. There are 21 body sherds. Only two body sherds are sooted.

#### *Dublin-type Fine Ware*

This is a wheel-thrown ware from which all the impurities have been removed from the clay giving a smooth, clean fabric. Small jugs were the most common vessel type produced in this ware. This type of ware dates to the late thirteenth and fourteenth centuries (McCutcheon 2000, 122). Twenty-five sherds of this ware were retrieved from the excavations at Newcastle, comprising 12% of the medieval pottery assemblage. There is one rim/handle sherd (1:20) of this ware giving

the Dublin-type Fine Ware assemblage, and the overall medieval pottery assemblage, a MNV of 1. It has an upright rim with the strap handle attached below the rim. The strap handle has a single incised line down the centre of the handle which corresponds with McCutcheon's Type D1 of decorated handles (2006, 49; fig.18). There are stab marks at the junction of the rim and handle. There is one fragment of a pulled spout (70:13). There are five handle sherds, all from strap handles. One handle sherd (76:5) has a single lightly incised line down the centre of the handle (D1: McCutcheon *ibid.*) and a lightly incised diagonal line each side of the central line near the base of the handle. The other four handle fragments are all small fragments of strap handles. There is one base sherd (61:59) which is a small fragment of a plain base angle. There are 17 body sherds. One body sherd (70:14) possibly has a fragment of an applied thumbed strip.

## The pottery by context

The following table presents the medieval pottery from Newcastle by Context. A ceramic date range for each context is given. This date range is a guide only and does not take into account any other material that may have been retrieved from these contexts. Medieval pottery was retrieved from 18 different contexts and 14 of these contexts had pottery types which date between the late twelfth century and the fourteenth century. One context (C44) had pottery which dated between the late twelfth century to around the mid-thirteenth century and three contexts (C64, C83, C87) had pottery which dates between the thirteenth century and the fourteenth century.

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### Newcastle medieval pottery by context

Context No.	Pottery Type	No. of Sherds	Date
1	Dublin-type Coarseware	6	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	3	13thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	10	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Fine Ware	5	L13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
9	Leinster Cooking Ware	3	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	5	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	9	13thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	4	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Fine Ware	2	L13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
17	Dublin-type Coarseware	1	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	1	13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
36	Leinster Cooking Ware	1	L12thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
37	Leinster Cooking Ware	19	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	3	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	4	13thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	2	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Fine Ware	1	L13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
38	Leinster Cooking Ware	7	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	1	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	7	13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
44	Dublin-type Coarseware	2	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - mid-13th Century</b>			
58	Leinster Cooking Ware	2	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Ware	1	13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
60	Leinster Cooking Ware	2	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	1	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	3	13thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	4	L12thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
61	Leinster Cooking Ware	22	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	7	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	22	13thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	4	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Fine Ware	13	L13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
64	Dublin-type Ware	1	13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: 13th Century - 14th Century</b>			
66	Leinster Cooking Ware	1	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	1	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Fine Ware	1	L13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
65	Leinster Cooking Ware	1	L12thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
70	Leinster Cooking Ware	6	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	2	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
	Dublin-type Ware	2	13thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	1	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Fine Ware	2	L13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
72	Leinster Cooking Ware	1	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Coarseware	2	L12thC - c.mid-13thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
76	Leinster Cooking Ware	2	L12thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Ware	2	13thC - 14thC
	Dublin-type Fine Ware	1	L13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: Late 12th Century - 14th Century</b>			
83	Dublin-type Ware	1	13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: 13th Century - 14th Century</b>			
87	Dublin-type Ware	1	13thC - 14thC
<b>Date Range: 13th Century - 14th Century</b>			



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## Appendix 1 Context Register 13E438

Site Name: Newcastle School  
 Archaeological Licence No. 13E438  
 Site director: Antoine Giacometti  
 Date: February 2015

Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds Ecofacts	Context Above	Context Below	Area
C1	Deposit					0.48-0.59	Topsoil		Medieval pottery, Black-glazed earthenware	Topsoil	n/a	
C2	Cut	n/a	C3	20	0.7	0.11	Furrow	Curvilinear in plan. Orientated north-south. Gently sloped sides. Rounded to flat base.		Natural	C3	1
C3	Fill	C21	n/a	20	0.7	0.11	Furrow	Dark brown clay. Loose compaction. Occasional small stones.		C2	C1	1
C4	Cut	n/a	C5	24	0.7-0.9	0.15	Furrow	Gently sloped sides. Gradual break of slope at base. Rounded to flat base.		Natural	C5	1
C5	Fill	C4	n/a	24	0.7-0.9	0.15	Furrow	Pale brown silty clay. Occasional medium sized stones.		C4	C1	1
C6	Cut	n/a	C7	0.6	0.6	0.5	Pit	Modern pit. Frequent dis-articulated animal bones.		Natural	C7	1
C7	Fill	C6	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.5	Pit	Disturbed animal burial. Frequent disarticulated animal bones within dark brown clay. 20 <sup>th</sup> century date.		C6	C1	1
C8	n/a	n/a	C9,C32, C44,C45, C46,C49, C89,C90, C91	75	2.2 – 3.0	0.3-0.88	Medieval Ditch	Linear in plan, at western end it curved slightly towards northwest. Sharp break of slope at top, concave sides occasionally steeply cut with a flattish base. A step was generally cut on one side, both north and south. Noticeably widest to south of kiln. Only 0.5m wide at western extent but this was due to modern ground disturbance.		C36	C32, C49, C91	2
C9	C8	C8	n/a	61	1.6-2.3	0.3-0.88	Medieval Ditch	Greyish brown silty clay. Occasional orange mottling. Firm to friable compaction. Occasional very small stones.	Medieval pottery	C32, C44	C1	2
C10	Scorching	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.3-0.4	n/a	Scorched natural	Scorched natural. Reddish orange in colour. Sub-rectangular in plan. Undated event		Natural	C1	1



Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds Ecofacts	Context Above	Context Below	Area
C11	Cut	n/a	C12	4	0.65	0.22	Drain	Linear in plan. Orientated east-west. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Concave to irregular base.		Natural	C12	1
C12	Fill	C11	n/a	4	0.65	0.22	Drain	Pale brown silty clay. Firm compaction. Truncated to east by furrow C14.		C11	C14	1
C13	Scorching	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.35	n/a	Scorched earth	Scorched natural. Reddish colour. Sub-circular in plan. Undated event.		Natural	C1	2
C14	Cut	n/a	C15	27.5	0.6-0.8	0.1-0.15	Furrow	Curvilinear in plan. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Concave sides. Rounded to flat base. Northern end extended beyond site limit.		C12	C15	1
C15	Fill	C14	n/a	27.5	0.6-0.8	0.1-0.15	Furrow	Pale brown silty clay. Very compact. No inclusions. Oblong in plan. Orientated east northeast-west southwest. Shallow. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Concave sides and base.		C15	C1	1
C16	Cut	n/a	C17, C18, C19	6	0.53-0.9	0.2-0.24	Ditch	Brownish grey silty clay. Plastic compaction.	Medieval pottery	Natural	C17	2
C17	Fill	C16	n/a	6	0.53-0.9	0.2-0.24	Ditch	Brownish grey silty clay. Plastic compaction.		C16	C18, C19	2
C18	Fill	C16	n/a	0.3	0.2	0.1	Ditch	Remains of animal burial. .		C17	C1	2
C19	Fill	C16	n/a	0.2	0.2	0.02-0.15	Ditch	Lens of burnt clay.		C17	C1	2
C20	Cut	n/a	C21	1.5	1.2	0.11	Furrow	Linear in plan. Orientated north-south. Shallow, 'U'-shaped.		Natural	C21	2
C21	Fill	C20	n/a	1.5	1.2	0.11	Furrow	Brownish grey clay. Firm compaction.		C20	C16	2
C22	n/a	n/a	C27, C28	2.65	1.5	0.05-0.35	Kiln	Keyhole-shaped in plan. Orientated north-south. Chamber was located in southern end (approx 1.4m d.) Gradually cut with concave sides and base.		C37	C28	2
C23	Scorching	n/a	n/a	0.5	0.4	n/a	In-situ burning	Scorched natural. Reddish orange colour. Sub-rounded in plan. Remains of an undated heating event.		Natural	C1	2
C24	Cut	n/a	C25	2.5	0.75	0.15	Furrow	Linear in plan. Orientated north-south. Only identified over short distance but parallel to other furrows. Gradual break of slope at top and base with concave sides. Concave base.		Natural	C25	2
C25	Fill	C24	n/a	2.5	0.75	0.15	Furrow	Pale brown silty clay. Firm compaction.		C24	C1	2

Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds Ecofacts	Context Above	Context Below	Area
C26	Cut	n/a	C29,C37, C40,C47, C48,C57, C58,C59, C62,C67	7	1.8-3.2	0.2-0.35	Kiln	Sub-rectangular in plan, quite irregular. Orientated north northwest-south southeast. Wider at northern end (3.2m), southern end measured 1.2m in width. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Sides were quite steep, northwest side was more concave. Base was quite straight in northern half, more of a pronounced deepening in southern half for fire pit. Southern end was flat and trampled.		Natural	C67	2
C27	Fill	C22	n/a	2.65	1.5	0.05-0.3	Kiln	Mid brown clay. Very compact.		C28	C1	2
C28	Fill	C22	n/a	1.85	1.3	0.05-0.1	Kiln	Dark grey silty clay. Plastic compaction. Frequent charcoal.	Chert flake	C22	C27	2
C29	Fill	C26	n/a	2	0.6-1	0.05-0.15	Kiln	Scorched natural. Orangey red in colour. Sub-rectangular in plan.		C26	C67	2
C30	Cut	n/a	C31	2.9	0.9	0.1	Pit	Kidney-shaped in plan. Sharp break of slope at top with steep sides. Gradual break of slope at base. Base was flat.		Natural	C31	2
C31	Fill	C30	n/a	2.9	0.9	0.1	Pit	Mid-brown clay.		C30	C1	2
C32	Fill	C8	n/a	At least 2.75	0.6	0.15	Medieval Ditch	Orangey brown compact clay. Moderate stones.		C8	C9	2
C33	Cut	n/a	C34, C35, C36	2.7	1.95	0.5-0.6	Medieval Ditch	Gradual break of slope at top. Concave side with a step. Sharp break of slope at base. Base straight. Earlier phase of burgage boundary ditch.		Natural	C34	2
C34	Fill	C33	n/a	2.7	0.35	0.5-0.6	Medieval Ditch	Light greyish brown clay. Firm to friable compaction.		C33	C35	2
C35	Fill	C33	n/a	2.7	1.05	0.1-0.15	Medieval Ditch	Brownish grey silty clay. Firm to friable compaction Occasional charcoal. Frequent small medium to medium sized stones.		C33	C36	2
C36	Fill	C33	n/a	2.7	0.65	0.4	Medieval Ditch	Orangey brown firm to friable silty clay. Moderate small to medium sized stones.	Medieval pottery	C35	C8	2
C37	Fill	C26	n/a	7	1.8-3.2	0.3-0.4	Kiln	Dark grey clay. Very compact. Moderate charcoal. Backfill of kiln C26.	Medieval pottery	C40, C42, C57	C27, C39	2
C38	Fill	C39	n/a	5.7	1.3	0.22	Ditch	Pale grey silty clay. Plastic compaction. Occasional small stones.	Medieval pottery	C39	C1	2





Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds Ecofacts	Context Above	Context Below	Area
C57	Fill	C62	n/a	1.85	1.15	0.15	Pit	Pale yellow grey silty clay with blackish charcoal mottling. Plastic compaction. Moderate burnt clay inclusions. Pockets of ash.		C58	C37	2
C58	Fill	C62	n/a	1.7	1.15	0.4	Pit	Charcoal rich blackish grey clay. Moderate charcoal. Moderate stones 35-120mm d.	Medieval pottery	C62	C57	2
C59	Fill	C26	n/a	1.8	0.8	0.03-0.15	Stone platform within kiln	Sub-rectangular in plan. Created a level platform. Limestone 100x100x100-150x220x500mm d.		C67	C40	2
C60	Fill	n/a	n/a					Modern drainage trench. Truncated C64.	19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> century glass bottle, Medieval pottery, Post-Medieval pottery	C64	C1	2
C61	Fill	C74	n/a	3.45	3	0.45-0.58	Sub-rectangular pit	Pale greenish grey clay silt. Plastic compaction. Occasional stone 20-90mm d.	Copper alloy buckle, Medieval pottery, fuel ash slag, possible hone stone	C74	C70	2
C62	Cut	n/a	C57,C58	1.85	1.05	0.55	Pit	Sub-oval in plan. Sharp break of slope at top with steep sides. Gradual break of slope at base. Straight base.		Natural	C58	2
C63	Cut	n/a	C64	2.55	0.55	0.35	Possible kiln	Sub-rectangular in plan. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Sides were concave. Base was quite straight.		Natural	C64	2
C64	Fill	C63	n/a	2.55	0.55	0.35	Possible hearth	Purple black silty clay with pink mottling. Firm compaction. Occasional charcoal. Reddened clay at base. Stone-lining: fire reddened sub-rectangular stones 60x8x300-60x0x200mm d on east side. Cut by modern service trench.	Medieval pottery	C63	Modern service	2
C65	Fill	C68	n/a	3.75	0.36-1.25	0.3-0.35	Possible drain	Pale yellow clayish silt. Firm compaction. Moderate small to medium sized stone. Occasional snail shell.	Medieval pottery	C65	C1	2

Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds Ecofacts	Context Above	Context Below	Area
C66	Fill	C69	n/a	3	0.9	0.25	Possible drain	Greyish brown silty clay. Plastic compaction. Occasional charcoal and snail shell. Concentration thin lens blackish clay in middle of fill.	Medieval pottery	C69	C1	2
C67	Fill	C26	n/a	1.1	0.9	0.1	Kiln	Pale grey clay. Plastic compaction. Quite sticky. Reddened by heat.		C27	C59	2
C68	Cut	C65	n/a	3.75	0.36-1.25	0.3-0.35	Possible drain	Linear in plan. Wide at northern bank, tapering to a shallow point to the south. Break of slope at top and base was gradual with concave sides. Base was both straight and concave..		Natural	C65	2
C69	Cut	n/a	C66	3	0.9	0.25	Possible drain	Linear in plan. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Concave sides. Base flat to concave.		Natural	C66	2
C70	Fill	C74	n/a	3	2.5	0.2	Sub-rectangular pit	Dark grey clay silt. Occasional mottling due to iron panning. Plastic compaction. Occasional charcoal. Occasional to moderate stone 25-230mm d.	Medieval pottery	C74	C61	2
C71	Cut	n/a	C72	3.2	2.1	0.1	Linear feature	Shallow east-west orientated feature. Sharp break of slope at top and base. Concave sides. Straight base that sloped down gently from north-south.		Natural	C72	2
C72	Fill	C71	n/a	3.2	2.1	0.1	Linear feature	Pale grey silt with yellow mottling from iron panning. Plastic compaction. Moderate stone 20-90mm d. Occasional snail shell. Cut by modern ditch to east..	Medieval pottery	C71	Modern ditch	2
C73	Wall	C74	n/a	2.1	0.2-0.25	0.28	Sub-rectangular pit	Poorly preserved north-south orientated wall on east side of pit C74. Sub-rectangular roughly hewn stone and sub-rounded stone 40x100x160mm-120x160x200mm d. Maximum 3 courses in height. Yellow grey silty clay between stones. On brownish grey clay silt bedding material (20-30mm in thickness).		C74	C61	2
C74	Cut	n/a	C61,C70,C73	3.5	2.75	0.65	Sub-rectangular pit	Sub-rectangular in plan. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Sides were moderately steep but more concave on west side. Base was quite straight. A shallow ledge (0.25m in depth) was cut into the eastern side of pit for the wall (C73).		C76	C70	2
C75	Cut	n/a	C76	3	0.9	0.15-0.2	Linear feature	Linear in plan. Orientated east-west. Gradual break of slope at top and base. Concave sides and base.		Natural	C76	2

Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds Ecofacts	Context Above	Context Below	Area
C76	Fill	C75	n/a	3	0.9	0.15-0.2	Linear feature	Pale brownish grey clayish silt. Firm compaction. Frequent charcoal. Moderate small stone. Occasional mussel and snail shell.	Medieval pottery	C75	C74	2
C77	Cut	n/a	C83,C84, C88,C93	n/a	2	1.2	Possible rN-S boundary ditch.	Possible re-cut with 20 <sup>th</sup> century fills.		C93	C85	2
C78	Cut	n/a	C85,C86, C87	n/a	4.8	0.6	N-S Boundary ditch	Re-cut of ditch.		C82, C89	C84	2
C79	n/a											
C80	Cut	n/a	C81,C82	n/a	1.7	2.8	N-S Boundary ditch	Cut of possible Medieval boundary ditch.		Natural	C81	2
C81	Fill	C80	n/a	n/a	0.8	0.2-0.24	N-S Boundary ditch	Pale grey clayish silt. Plastic compaction. Frequent angular stone avg. 90mm d.		C80	C82	2
C82	Fill	C80	n/a	n/a	1.1	0.4	N-S Boundary ditch	Mid-grey clay silt with frequent iron panning. Plastic compaction. Occasional small stones.		C81	C84	2
C83	Fill	C77	n/a	n/a	3.55	0.1-0.2	N-S Boundary ditch	Pale grey clayish silt. Plastic compaction. Occasional angular stones 25mm-70mm d.	Medieval pottery	C84, C89	C85	2
C84	Fill	C77	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.3	N-S Boundary ditch	Mid-grey clayish silt. Frequent iron panning. Plastic compaction. Occasional snail shell. Moderate small stones.	Modern whiteware	C82	C83	2
C85	Fill	C78	n/a	n/a	0.8	0.3	N-S Boundary ditch	Brownish grey silty clay. Friable compaction. Moderate snail shell. Frequent roots. Occasional small to medium sized stone.		C83	C86	2
C86	Fill	C78	n/a	n/a	0.7	1.05	N-S Boundary ditch	Yellowish brown friable clay. Frequent angular stones. Occasional concrete. Moderate tree roots. Modern slump.		C85	C87	2
C87	Fill	C78	n/a	n/a	1.4	0.3-0.6	N-S Boundary ditch	Mid grey loose soil. Frequent tree roots, modern rubbish. Modern fill. Latest event.	Medieval pottery	C93, C86		2
C88	Fill	C77	n/a	n/a	0.85	0.1-0.15	N-S Boundary ditch	Greyish yellow silty clay . Friable compaction. Occasional small stones.		C83	C93	2



Context	Type	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	Description	Finds Ecofacts	Context Above	Context Below	Area
C89	Fill	C8	n/a	n/a	1.1	0.1-0.22	Medieval Ditch	Greyish yellow silty clay. Firm compaction. Occasional charcoal flecks. Occasional small stones.		C90	C83	2
C90	Fill	C8	n/a	n/a	0.45	0.22	Medieval Ditch	Frequent sub-rounded and angular stones within mid-brown clay matrix. Very compact. Similar to C49.		C91	C89	2
C91	Fill	C8	n/a	n/a	1	0.18	Medieval Ditch	Brownish yellow silty clay with orangey brown mottling. Firm to plastic compaction. Occasional small stones. Occasional roots.		C8	C90	2
C92	Fill	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.1	0.8	N-S Boundary ditch	Modern stone drain. Filled with a greyish brown clayish silt.		C93, C94	Topsoil	2
C93	Fill	C77	n/a	n/a	2.7	0.4-0.45	N-S Boundary ditch	Greyish yellow silty clay. Friable compaction. Moderate small to medium sized angular and sub-angular stones.		C88	C78, C92	2
C94	Fill	C8	n/a	n/a	1.6	0.35	N-S Boundary ditch	Yellowish grey silty clay. Friable compaction. Moderate small stones.		Natural	C92	2

## Appendix 2 Finds Register 13E438

Site Name: Newcastle School  
 Archaeological Licence No. 13E438  
 Site director: Antoine Giacometti  
 Date: February 2015

NMI Ref.	Site No.	Context	Item No.	Count	Full name	Material	Description
13E438:1:1-24	13E438	1	1-24	24	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:1:25	13E438	1	25	1	Post-medieval	Ceramic	Black-glazed earthenware, English, pale fabric, chamber pot rim
13E438:9:1-24	13E438	9	1-24	24	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:9:1-9	13E438	9	1-9	9	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:17:1-2	13E438	17	1-2	2	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:28:1	13E438	28	1	1	Chert flake	Stone	Black chert debitage, possibly worked.
13E438:36:1	13E438	36	1	1	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:37:1-30	13E438	37	1-30	30	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:38:1-15	13E438	38	1-15	15	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:44:1-2	13E438	44	1-2	2	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:58:1-4	13E438	58	1-4	4	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:60:1	13E438	60	1	1	Utility Bottle	Glass	19 <sup>th</sup> or 20 <sup>th</sup> century utility bottle glass, small sherd
13E438:60:2-11	13E438	60	2-11	10	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:60:12	13E438	60	12	1	Post-medieval	Ceramic	Black-glazed earthenware, English, pale fabric
13E438:61:1	13E438	61	1	1	Hone Stone	Stone	Grey sandstone with one polished face, possible hone stone
13E438:61:2-69	13E438	61	2-69	68	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:61:70	13E438	61	70	1	Fuel Ash Slag	Slag	Fuel Ash Slag
13E438:61:71	13E438	61	71	1	Buckle	Copper alloy	Copper Alloy buckle
13E438:61:72	13E438	61	72	1	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery; not analysed by Siobhan Scully
13E438:64:1	13E438	64	1	1	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:65:1	13E438	65	1	1	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:66:1-3	13E438	66	1-3	3	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:70:1-14	13E438	70	1-14	14	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:72:1-3	13E438	72	1-3	3	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:76:1-5	13E438	76	1-5	5	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:83:1	13E438	83	1	1	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery
13E438:84:1	13E438	84	1	1	Modern pottery	Ceramic	Modern whiteware, 1880-1950
13E438:87:1	13E438	87	1	1	Medieval Pottery	Ceramic	Medieval Pottery

## Appendix 3 Catalogue of Medieval Pottery 13E438

Site Name: Newcastle School

Archaeological Licence No. 13E438

Specialist: Siobhan Scully

Date: February 2015

Find No.	Context	Type	Description
13E438:1:1	1	Dublin-type Coarseware	Rim sherd; jug; upright square rim with slight channel in top of rim; stab marks below rim possibly where handle was attached; patches of mottled green glaze
13E438:1:2	1	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; remains of applied thumbed strip; mottled green glaze
13E438:1:3	1	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; spots of white slip and green glaze
13E438:1:4	1	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; remains of applied pad; mottled green glaze which appears darker over applied pad
13E438:1:5	1	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:1:6	1	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:1:7	1	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze; some sooting
13E438:1:8	1	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:1:9	1	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:1:10	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Base sherd; small fragment of base angle; plain
13E438:1:11	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:12	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:13	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:14	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:15	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:16	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd; sooted
13E438:1:17	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:18	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:19	1	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:1:20	1	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Rim/handle sherd; upright plain rim with strap handle attached below the rim; single incised line down centre of handle (D1: McCutcheon 2006, 49; fig. 18); stab marks at junction of rim and



			handle; splash of mottled green glaze
13E438:1:21	1	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; patch of brown/green mottled glaze
13E438:1:22	1	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; spots of brown glaze
13E438:1:23	1	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; patches of mottled green glaze
13E438:1:24	1	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd
13E438:9:1-2	9	Leinster Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; cooking pot; everted flat rim with thumbing on internal edge of rim
13E438:9:3	9	Leinster Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; everted plain rim
13E438:9:4	9	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:9:5	9	Dublin-type Coarseware	Handle sherd; possible small fragment of strap handle with possible slash mark; mottled green glaze
13E438:9:6	9	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze; some sooting
13E438:9:7	9	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:9:8	9	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:9:9	9	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:9:10	9	Dublin-type Ware	Rim/spout sherd; jug; upright plain rim with fragment of pulled spout; patch of brown/green mottled glaze
13E438:9:11	9	Dublin-type Ware	Base sherd; base angle thumbbed at intervals; spots of brown glaze; heavily sooted on underside of base
13E438:9:12	9	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; applied boss; mottled green glaze which appears darker over the boss
13E438:9:13	9	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:9:14	9	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of brown glaze
13E438:9:15	9	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of glaze
13E438:9:16	9	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of brown glaze
13E438:9:17	9	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:9:18	9	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; cooking pot; everted square rim
13E438:9:19	9	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Base sherd; from middle of base
13E438:9:20	9	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:9:21	9	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:9:22	9	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Handle sherd; possible small fragment of strap handle; patches of brown mottled glaze
13E438:9:23	9	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:9:24	9	Dublin-type Ware	Rim/Base sherd; dish; frilled base angle, damaged on edge of angle; slightly incurving vessel wall; possibly thumbbed on vessel rim but the rim is also damaged; mottled green glaze on exterior with band of mottled green glaze at internal base angle
13E438:17:1	17	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; from globular-bodied jug; spots of mottled green glaze
13E438:17:2	17	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; patches of mottled green glaze; sooted

13E438:36:1	36	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:1-2	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; cooking pot; everted flat rim with fold of clay on internal edge of rim; sooted on exterior
13E438:37:3	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; cooking pot; everted flat rim with channel on interior below rim; some sooting on exterior
13E438:37:4	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; patch of sooting on exterior
13E438:37:5	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:37:6	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:7	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; patch of sooting on exterior
13E438:37:8	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:9	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; sooted on exterior
13E438:37:10	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; sooted on exterior
13E438:37:11	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:37:12	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:37:13	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:37:14	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; patch of sooting on exterior
13E438:37:15	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:16	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:37:17	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:18	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:19	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:37:20	37	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:21	37	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; spots of brown glaze
13E438:37:22	37	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; remains of glaze
13E438:37:23	37	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:37:24	37	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:37:25	37	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:37:26	37	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:37:27	37	Dublin-type Coarseware	Rim sherd; jug; upright square rim; spots of glaze
13E438:37:28	37	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:29	37	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:37:30	37	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Handle sherd; possible small fragment of strap handle; remains of glaze
13E438:38:1	38	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:38:2	38	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:38:3	38	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:38:4	38	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:38:5	38	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:38:6	38	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:38:7	38	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; sooted on exterior
13E438:38:8	38	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of brown glaze
13E438:38:9	38	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze
13E438:38:10	38	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze
13E438:38:11	38	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of glaze
13E438:38:12	38	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of glaze; sooted
13E438:38:13	38	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd
13E438:38:14	38	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd

13E438:38:15	38	Dublin-type Coarseware	Rim sherd; jug; upright square rim
13E438:44:1	44	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; remains of mottled green glaze
13E438:44:2	44	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; remains of mottled green glaze
13E438:58:1	58	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:58:2	58	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:58:3-4	58	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:60:2	60	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:60:3	60	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:60:4	60	Dublin-type Coarseware	Rim sherd; jug; upright square rim; spots of glaze
13E438:60:5	60	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:60:6	60	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:60:7	60	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:60:8	60	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:60:9	60	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:60:10	60	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:60:11	60	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:2	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; cooking pot; everted flat rim; possibly thumbled on inner edge of rim
13E438:61:3	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; small fragment of everted rim
13E438:61:4	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Base sherd; from middle of base; gritted on underside
13E438:61:5	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:61:6	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:7	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:61:8	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:61:9	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:61:10	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:61:11	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:61:12	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:13	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:14	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:61:15	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:16	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:17	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:18	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:61:19	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; sooted on exterior
13E438:61:20	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:21	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:22	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:23	61	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; heavily sooted on exterior
13E438:61:24	61	Dublin-type Coarseware	Handle sherd; small fragment of strap handle; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:25	61	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; remains of glaze; sooted on exterior
13E438:61:26	61	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze
13E438:61:27	61	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; applied stamped pad,



			quartered with pellet in each quarter; mottled green glaze which appears darker over the pad
13E438:61:28	61	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd
13E438:61:29	61	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:30	61	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; remains of brown mottled glaze
13E438:61:31	61	Dublin-type Ware	Rim sherd; jug; small fragment of upright square rim; patch of light brown glaze
13E438:61:32	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; remains of glaze
13E438:61:33	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze; some sooting
13E438:61:34	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:35	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; remains of glaze
13E438:61:36	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:37	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:38	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze
13E438:61:39	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:40	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; green glaze
13E438:61:41	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze
13E438:61:42	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of brown glaze
13E438:61:43	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:44	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:45	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze
13E438:61:46	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:47	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:48	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:49	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:50	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:51	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; spots of green glaze over white slip
13E438:61:52	61	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:61:53	61	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; cooking pot; everted flat rim
13E438:61:54	61	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:55	61	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:56	61	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:57	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Handle sherd; possible small fragment of strap handle
13E438:61:58	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Handle sherd; possible small fragment of strap handle
13E438:61:59	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Base sherd; small fragment of base angle; plain; spots of green glaze; some sooting
13E438:61:60	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; thick glossy dark green/brown mottled glaze
13E438:61:61	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; thick glossy dark green/brown mottled glaze
13E438:61:62	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; thick glossy dark green/brown mottled glaze
13E438:61:63	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; thick glossy dark green/brown mottled glaze

13E438:61:64	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; spots of brown glaze
13E438:61:65	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:66	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; small patch of brown glaze
13E438:61:67	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; brown mottled glaze
13E438:61:68	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd
13E438:61:69	61	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd
13E438:64:1	64	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; brown/green mottled glaze
13E438:66:1	66	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; thick black accretion on interior
13E438:66:2	66	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; patch of mottled green glaze
13E438:66:3	66	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd; patches of mottled green glaze
13E438:65:1	65	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:70:1	70	Leinster Cooking Ware	Rim sherd; cooking pot; everted flat rim
13E438:70:2	70	Leinster Cooking Ware	Base sherd; gritted on underside
13E438:70:3-4	70	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:70:5	70	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:70:6	70	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:70:7	70	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:70:8	70	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; patches of mottled green glaze
13E438:70:9	70	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; thick mottled green glaze
13E438:70:10	70	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; patches of mottled green glaze
13E438:70:11	70	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:70:12	70	Dublin-type Cooking Ware	Body sherd; sooted
13E438:70:13	70	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Spout sherd; pulled spout; patch of brown glaze
13E438:70:14	70	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Body sherd with possible fragment of applied thumbed strip
13E438:72:1	72	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd; some sooting on exterior
13E438:72:2	72	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:72:3	72	Dublin-type Coarseware	Body sherd; brown mottled glaze
13E438:76:1	76	Leinster Cooking Ware	Base sherd; kick at base angle; sooted on exterior
13E438:76:2	76	Leinster Cooking Ware	Body sherd
13E438:76:3	76	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; horizontal grooving; mottled green glaze
13E438:76:4	76	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; applied strip; mottled green glaze which appears dark over applied strip
13E438:76:5	76	Dublin-type Fine Ware	Handle sherd; strap handle with single lightly incised line down centre of handle (D1: McCutcheon 2006 p.49, fig.18); diagonal lightly incised line to each side of the central line near the base of the handle; mottled green glaze
13E438:83:1	83	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze
13E438:87:1	87	Dublin-type Ware	Body sherd; mottled green glaze

## Appendix 4 Environmental Sample Register 13E438

Site Name: Newcastle School  
 Archaeological Licence No. 13E438  
 Site director: Antoine Giacometti  
 Date: February 2015

Sample #	Context	Vol (l)	Seeds (g)	Charcoal (g)	Comments
1	28	4	0	0	No environmental material identified (unusual considering it was the fill of a kiln). Nothing retained
2	37	5	0	0	No environmental material identified. Nothing retained
3	57	6	4	1	Heavy clay floated and sieved through 1.4mm mesh. Lots of seeds and small amount of charcoal from float.
4	70	12	2	6	Seeds and large fragments of charcoal retained
5	58	1	0	14	Large fragments of charcoal retained
6	61	0.5	0	34	Charcoal sample cleaned
7	76	0.5	0	4	Charcoal sample cleaned



## Appendix 5 Archive Register 13E438

Site Name: Newcastle School  
 Archaeological Licence No. 13E438  
 Site director: Antoine Giacometti  
 Date: February 2015

Field Records	Items (quantity)	Comments
Site drawings (plans)	7	7 A2 sheets
Site sections, profiles, elevations	16	3 A2 sheets & 2 in notebook
Other plans, sketches, etc.	0	
Timber drawings	0	
Stone structural drawings	0	
Site diary/ notebooks	1	
Site registers (folders)	0	
Survey/levels data (origin information)	Digital	Site survey
Context sheets (paper)	0	
Context sheets (digital)	94	Following rationalising of information
Wood sheets	0	
Skeleton sheets	0	
Worked stone sheets	0	
Digital photographs	429	
Photographs (print)	0	
Photographs (slide)	0	

Finds and environmental archive		
Flint/chert	1	Flake
Stone artefacts	1	Possible hone stone
Pottery - prehistoric	0	
- medieval	210	
- post-medieval	3	
Ceramic building materials (specify types eg daub, tile)	0	
Metal artefacts (specify types - bronze, iron) - iron	1	Copper alloy buckle
Glass	1	19th-20 <sup>th</sup> century utility jar sherd
Other find types or special finds		
Human bone (specify type e.g. cremated, skeleton, disarticulated) - cremated bone		
Animal bone		
Metallurgical waste	1	
Environmental bulk soil (specify number of samples)	7	All processed
Environmental monolith (specify number of samples and number of tins per sample)	0	
Timbers/ stakes	0	
Security of archive	Archaeology Plan	Digital and paper archive

## Appendix 6 Digital Photograph Register 13E438

Site Name: Newcastle School  
 Archaeological Licence No. 13E438  
 Site director: Antoine Giacometti  
 Date: February 2015

Area	Sub folder	Sub folder(s)	Count
	1 C10	n/a	3
	1 C11	n/a	6
	1 C13	n/a	2
	1 C23	n/a	1
	1 Working shots	n/a	32
	2 C8	C8 Box section 1, C8 Box section 4, C8 Box section 5, C8 post-ex, C8 section 3 west facing, C8 section 4, C8 section 5 east facing, C8 section 7, C8 section 7 west facing, C33, C8 section 3 west facing	98
	2 C16	n/a	15
	2 C26	C26 section 8 west facing, C26 with C59 exposed, C26 & C29 section 9, C27 & C57, C40, C59	114
	2 C30	n/a	7
	2 C37	n/a	9
	2 C39	C39 post-ex	12
	2 C57	n/a	9
	2 C63	n/a	7
	2 C63&C68&C69	n/a	2
	2 C65	n/a	2
	2 C68	n/a	5
	2 C69	n/a	9
	2 C71	n/a	14
	2 C73	n/a	2
	2 C74	C61	28
	2 C75	n/a	4
	2 C80	Boundary ditch	44
	2 Northeast of area 2 pre-ex	n/a	4
Total			429

