



Conservation Study & Management Plan 2018 -2023

Drumanagh Promontory
Fort, Co. Dublin



Fingal Development Plan 2017 - 2023

www.fingal.ie

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Drumanagh Promontory Fort, Co. Dublin

Christine Baker

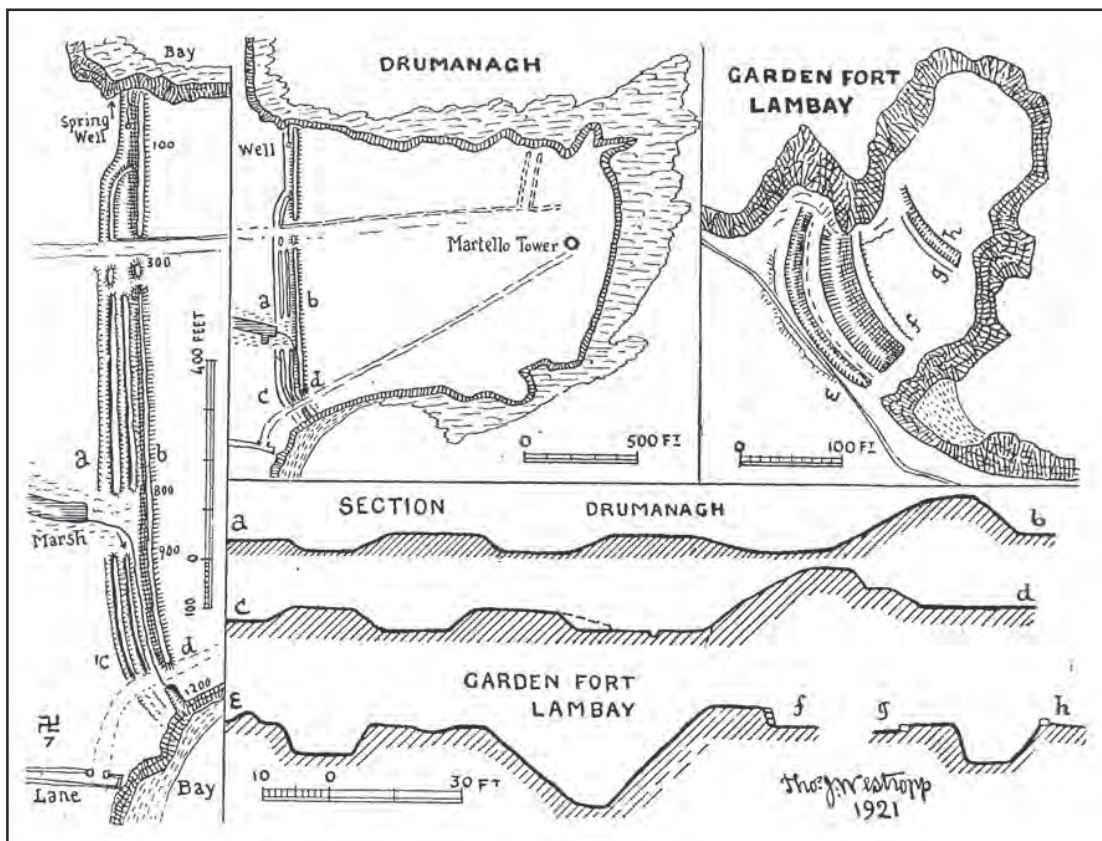


Image Courtesy of the Discovery Programme





View of erosion along the northern perimeter of Drumanagh



Drumanagh and Lambay promontory forts (Westropp, 1921)



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1. Introduction

Recently acquired by Fingal County Council, Drumanagh promontory fort is a highly sensitive multi-layered archaeological landscape. Recorded by 19th century antiquarian T.J. Westropp, as ‘one of the three largest promontory forts with straight works so far recorded in Ireland’ Drumanagh is also one of four coastal promontory forts in Fingal. It has long been the subject of interest due to the recovery of Romano-British material from the site and has been characterised in the press and public imaginations as the place where the Romans may have landed. This study compiles the accessible historical, archaeological, folkloric, and cartographic evidence together in order to provide a comprehensive narrative for the use of the site and inform its future protection and management. The document was prepared by Christine Baker, Community Archaeologist, Fingal County Council.



Image: Nua Photography ©

2 Study Area

2. Study Area

Drumanagh promontory fort is coastally located 0.6 km south of the village of Loughshinny, approximately 1.8 km north of the village of Rush and 0.5 km east of the R128 Rush to Skerries road. It is accessed to the south by a laneway and to the north along a cliff pathway. Approximately 6 km to the south-east is the island of Lambay.

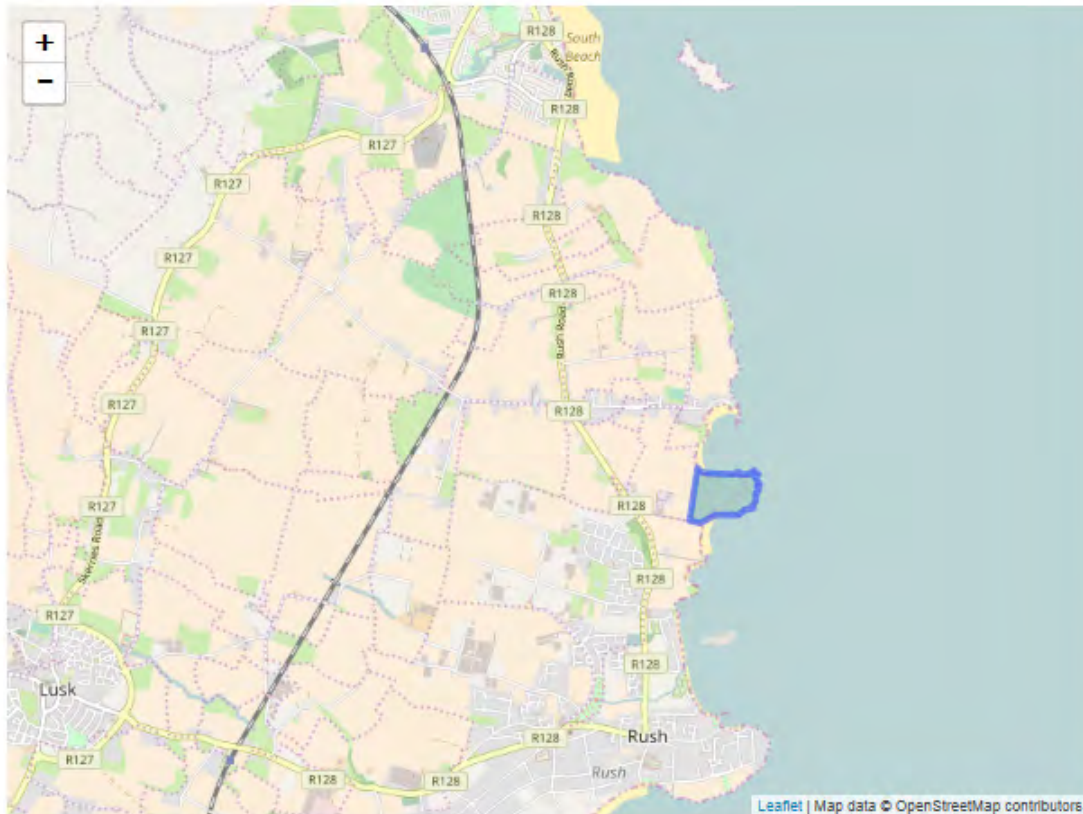


Fig. 1: Location Map

The site consists of a headland of c.46 acres defended by a series of earthworks (L.350m), except where they curve inwards towards the southern limit. The relatively flat promontory is delimited to the west by three closely-spaced earthen banks and ditches. A small stream flows along part of the inner ditch to the southern cliff edge. A number of gaps occur along the ramparts, one or more of which may represent an original entrance. The site is bounded to the west by the townland boundary with Ballustree and to the south by the townland boundary with Rush. The underlying geology consists of glacial till overlying Lower Carboniferous limestone. The soils are Grey-Brown Podzolics, with associated Gleys.

3. Methodology

This Conservation Study involves a process that 'seeks to guide the future development of a place through an understanding of its significance' (Kerr 1999, 9). By defining the setting and context of the monument; analysing its cultural and material significance and assessing its vulnerability, the process outcome will be a policy-based guidance document. The study is conducted with the protection and public enjoyment of the monument as its central point of reference. A three-phased approach was undertaken, comprising desktop research, field-recording and photographic survey, and report compilation.

3.1. Phase 1-Information Gathering

The desktop or information gathering-stage included an examination of available documentary sources, cartographic evidence, folklore, images and illustration of the site.

Archaeological	Sites & Monuments Records (SMR) and Record of Monuments & Places (RMP), Permanent and Temporary Preservation orders and Register of Historic Monuments, DCHG; Topographical Files, National Museum of Ireland; Online database (www.excavations.ie) containing summary accounts of all excavations carried out annually in Ireland
Architectural	Record of Protected Structures file , Fingal County Council
Historic	All publically available documentary and literary sources from the National Archives, National Library of Ireland, Royal Irish Academy, Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, 19 th and 20 th century sources (Calendar of Ormond Deeds, Calendar of State Papers, Calendar of Irish Chancery Letters, Statue Rolls), Palmer Estate Papers & Rental Books, Schools Manuscript Collection, Placenames loganim.ie , Ordnance Survey Name Books, Griffith's Valuation) newspapers and magazines (Current Archaeology, Archaeology Ireland).
Cartographic	Early coastal maps, Down Survey maps, Board of Ordnance & War office maps, John Rocque's Map of County Dublin 1760, Ordnance Survey mapping 1838 onwards
Images	Aerial photography analysis-Ordnance Survey of Ireland map viewer (Geohive), Google Earth, Heritage Maps; National Library image collection, National Gallery Collections; RSAI Lantern Slide Collection, RIA Collection; Paddy Healy Collection, South Dublin Libraries, Leo Swan Aerial Photographic Archive

3.2. Phase 2-Site Inspection

The site was inspected on 4th January 2017, 21st January 2017, and 27th February 2017 and on a subsequent bi-monthly basis throughout 2017. These inspections were undertaken in order to assess the condition of the site both as a whole and following specific incidents. Identification of elements or historic areas noted in the desk study was carried out and their significance assessed.

3 Methodology

Any cultural heritage features (agricultural, military, industrial, and maritime) were identified and recorded. A preliminary overview of the current patterns of use was documented and a comprehensive visual record of the archaeological, architectural and natural features of the site was generated.

3.3. Phase 3-Consultation & Compilation

Consultation was an extremely important element of the information gathering process. Stakeholders with long-term involvement in the site such as Mr Eamonn Kelly formerly of the National Museum of Ireland and Mr Tom Condit of the National Monuments Service were particularly helpful. So too were members of The Discovery Programme who had carried out geophysical investigations on the site and generously supplied their files;

Consultation	Ms Mary Cahill (Keeper Emeritus, National Museum of Ireland), Mr Ned Kelly (Keeper Emeritus, National Museum of Ireland), Dr Geraldine Stout, Tom Condit (National Monuments Service), The Discovery Programme, Dr Lynda Mulvin, U.C.D., Cmdt. Paddy Boyle, Mrs Cepta Butler, Mrs Mala Hughes and Ms Margaret McCann Moore of the Rush & Loughshinny Historical Society, Mr Seamas McGuinness, Ms Deirdre McMenamin of the Rush Community Council, Dr Mairín Ní Cheallaigh, Mr Richard Warner (Keeper Emeritus Ulster Museum), Fingal County Council Stakeholders-Dr Gerry Clabby (Heritage Officer), Ms Helena Bergin (Conservation Officer), Ms Fionnuala May (County Architect), Mr Hans Visser (Biodiversity Officer), Mr Kevin Halpenny (Senior Parks Superintendent) Colm Connell, Mr Shay Barker (Operations Department), Mr Paul Smyth (Economic Development)
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The results of Phases 1-3 including the documentary, cartographic and folklore sources have been compiled and presented in this report to inform the management plan which has been devised to address the following;

- Identification of vulnerabilities and potential issues
- Knowledge Gaps and future research opportunities
- Management proposals for the protection, short/mid and long terms uses of the site
- Actions and Objectives

4. Statutory Protection

There are ten recorded archaeological sites or monuments (RMP/SMR sites) located within Drumanagh townland, protected under the National Monuments Act 1930-2014. The promontory and the Martello Tower are also designated in the Record of Protected structures. The Martello Tower is also listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage in the special interest category of Architectural-Historical-Technical and has a regional rating (NIAH Ref. 11318004). Since 1977 the majority of the site-from the western limit of the banks and ditches, eastwards has been protected under Preservation Order No. 13/177.

Statutory Designation	Classification	Townland	ITM
RMP DU008-006001-/ RPS No.252/Preservation Order No.13/1977	Promontory fort-coastal	Drumanagh	727236/756210
RMP DU008-006002-	Well	Drumanagh	727001/756361
RMP DU008-006003-/ RPS No.253	Martello Tower	Drumanagh	727379/756242
SMR DU008-006004-	Enclosure	Drumanagh	727167/ 756249
SMR DU008-006005-	Structure	Drumanagh	727170/ 756241
SMR DU008-006006-	Enclosure	Drumanagh	727253/ 756222
SMR DU008-006007-	Enclosure	Drumanagh	727248/ 756242
SMR DU008-006008-	Ring-ditch	Drumanagh	727343/756279
SMR DU008-006009-	Ring-ditch	Drumanagh	727319/756251
SMR DU008-094----	Enclosure	Drumanagh	726946/756043

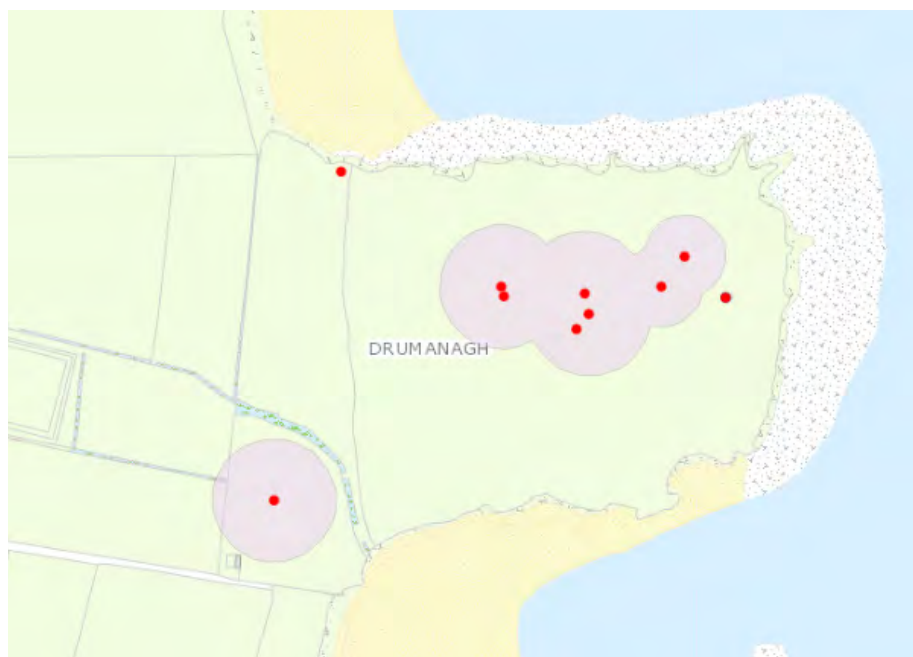


Fig. 2 Archaeological Constraint Map, www.archaeology.ie

5 Understanding The Monument

5. Understanding The Monument

Recorded by John O'Donovan as *Druim meadonac* meaning the 'middle hill' (1838) the place name Drumanagh is generally accepted as an anglicisation of *Droim Meánach* 'the middle ridge' (www.loganim.ie). However Drumanagh has also been interpreted as the 'ridge of Manach' which has been understood as a P-Celtic rendition of the name 'Manapia' and associated with the *dún* or fortress of Fergal Manach, father of Eimear who was to become Cú Chulainn's wife (Boyle, 2001).

The Placenames Committee (formerly Commission) documents a 1311 entry in the Red Book of Ormond of *Dr(u)meathne* as an early reference to Drumanagh, although this is recorded as being within the manor of Turvey (White 1932, 27). Late 16th and 17th century documents refer to *Drommanagh* while deeds of 1765 refer to *Dromanagh*. The site is called *The Drumanagh* by locals.

5.1. Prehistoric Context

The extensive coastline of Fingal with its low-lying interior and naturally occurring flint pebbles was attractive to the earliest settlers who left behind ephemeral remains in the form of flint scatters and shell middens. The latter have been identified at Sutton and Bremore (Mitchell 1965; Deery 2009) while extensive flint scatters have been recorded at Robswall near Malahide, and Barnageeragh near Skerries. The Mesolithic period extended for 3500 years, during which time, there was a radical change in stone technology, from microliths, tiny points of flint or chert to larger struck flakes. Both kinds of technology have been recovered from Lambay Island, suggesting ongoing Mesolithic activity in the area from the earliest times (Cooney 2000, 11). Ms Gwendoline Stackpoole in her study of the north Dublin coastline identified nearby Kenure as 'One of the largest and richest sites on the County Dublin coast, and appears to be almost inexhaustible. Stone axes have been picked up in the fields ... On a lucky day at Kenure one can pick up as many flints as one can conveniently carry in an unbelievably short time, and very good specimens many of them are. The long clean lines of the best Larnian blades fill the mind with wonder at the skill with which the prehistoric men of County Dublin dealt with their somewhat intractable material' (1963, 42). While worked flints have been recovered from Drumanagh, none have been identified as Mesolithic.



Plate 1: Mesolithic flints, Lambay Island. Courtesy of the National Museum of Ireland ©

The arrival of the Neolithic farmers (c.4000-2500 BC) saw a rapid changeover to an agricultural economy involving land clearance, cattle management, crop planting and new burial traditions, all of which left a mark on the landscape. Neolithic settlement has been increasingly recognised along the Fingal coastline with surface finds and houses being unearthed at Flemington Balbriggan (Bolger 2009), Skerries, Lusk, Donabate and Malahide (Dolan & Cooney 2010). On nearby Lambay Island, evidence for the quarrying of the distinctive porphyry was uncovered. Dating to the early fourth millennium the Eagle's Nest is the first quarry in Ireland or Britain where all stages of axe production were represented (Cooney 2009, 15). Links between Lambay, the coastline, Wales and Scotland indicate the emergence of a coastal and island network of communication and exchange. Approximately 600m south of Drumanagh is the site of Giant's Hill or Knocklea Passage tomb (DU008-013001-). In 1838 the farmer who rented the land removed half the mound for manure and half the circle of stones for wall building, thus uncovering a passage and chamber where human bones were found (Newenham 1838, 249). Despite Newenham's assertion that there 'are several remains of entrenchments and smaller mounds in the neighbourhood' (*ibid.*) further Neolithic activity has yet to be uncovered in the immediate vicinity of Drumanagh.

The Bronze Age is synonymous with the exploitation of mineral sources, the emergence of metal-working and the increased development of trade from Spain to the Baltic through the Irish seaways. Drumanagh is not only prominent in terms of being an identifiable landmark along the coastline but is located close to the copper ore deposits of Loughshinny. Mined in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries it is highly likely that this resource was the focus for earlier activity.

There has been a substantial increase in the number of Bronze Age settlements and burials uncovered due to the widespread development of the past two decades. Inland from Drumanagh, at Lusk and its environs, there appears to have been an extensive area of Bronze Age settlement with a possible structure, hearths, pits and Beaker pottery identified on at least three separate sites (Wallace 2001). Cists and barrows were the primary burial monuments of the Bronze Age and continued to be used into the Iron Age. Cists were stone-lined graves that generally contained a

5 Understanding The Monument

single, crouched burial accompanied by a pottery vessel. They were contained within barrows, a slightly raised flat or domed interior, enclosed by a ring-ditch and external bank. Cists were also placed in natural sand and gravel ridges, placed unobtrusively in flat cemeteries or inserted into existing monuments. Excavation of a cist at Beau, near Rush was undertaken in the 1970s. Cremated bone covered the floor of the cist and was accompanied by a flint knife. Analysis indicates that the cist contained the remains of at least four adults and two children (Ryan, 1979).

A number of enclosures, ring ditches and cists of probable Bronze Age date have long been known along the Fingal coastline. Almost 300m north of the headland along the coast south of Loughshinny is an enclosure or possible ring ditch (DU008-051----). Three cists (DU008-013002-) were associated with the earlier passage tomb at Knocklea (Cahill & Sikora 2011, 176-180). In 1934, while reclaiming land a local farmer discovered a cist burial containing a Food Vessel and a small quantity of skeletal remains at the north end of the cairn. It was noted that the farmer's grandfather had found a similar vessel to the east of the monument which was thought to be in the possession of the local landowner, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Fenwick Palmer of Kenure House. In March 1965 the house was used in filming and a crew member discovered this vessel still containing its cremated human remains on the mantelpiece. Miss MacAvin, fearing for the safety of the object during the course of filming, brought it home with her and gave it to the National Museum. Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer could not remember having seen it (Baker 2010, Walsh 2013).



Plate 2: Bronze Age Food Vessel recovered from Kenure House, courtesy of the National Museum of Ireland©

Recent excavations and geophysical surveys have added exponentially to the Bronze Age landscape surrounding Drumanagh. Geophysical survey, undertaken by The Discovery Programme identified four ring-ditches at Popeshall, the high ground overlooking Loughshinny (DU005-174001-4). Two more were identified at Thomastown (DU005-176001/2), also in Loughshinny, again by The Discovery Programme (2014). Further north along the coastline within Holmpatrick townland, a large enclosure identified by geophysical survey (16R0095) was recently confirmed as a Late Bronze Age monument on the basis of pottery retrieved during testing (Bailey & McIlreavy 2016).

Daffy has noted a correlation between the distribution of coastal promontory forts and natural deposits of copper ore along the Waterford coastline, where there is a dense cluster of forts along the 'Copper Coast' (2003, 104). Given the natural copper ore deposits at nearby Loughshinny it is possible that Drumanagh promontory fort was a Bronze Age construction?

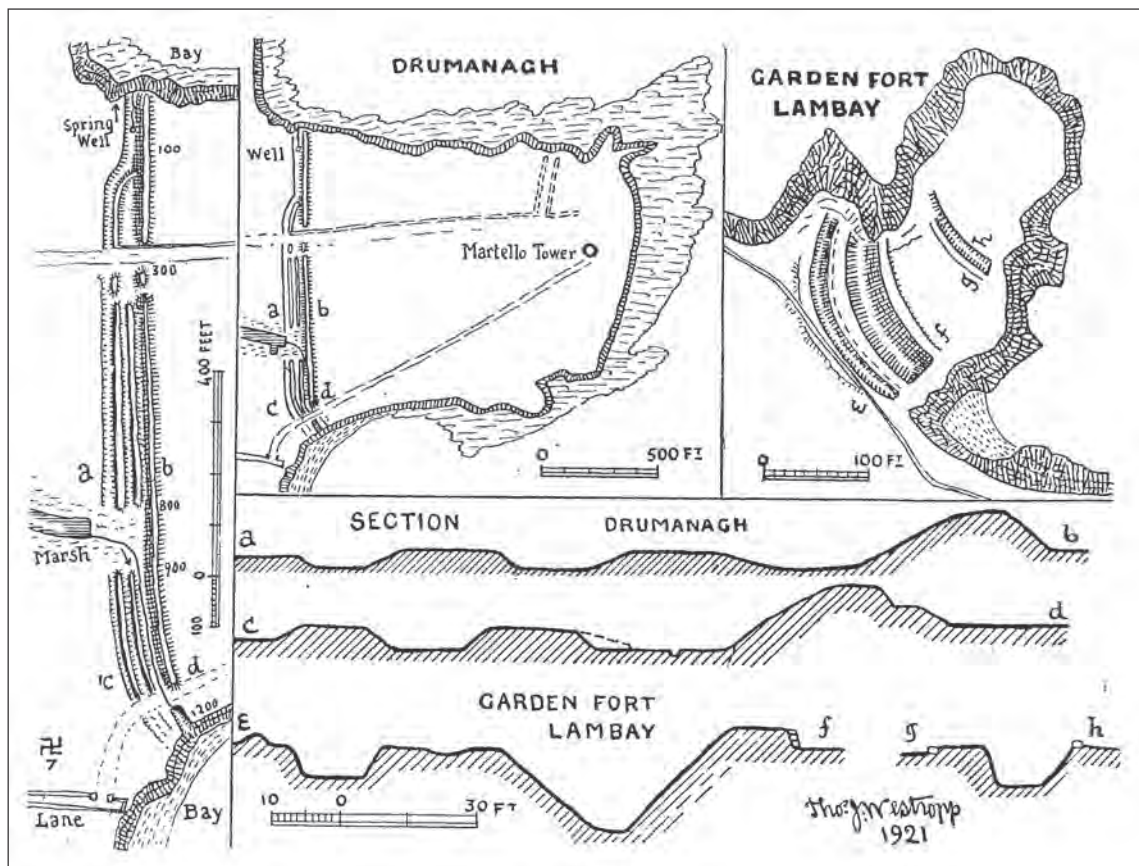


Fig.3 : Drumanagh and Lambay promontory forts (Westropp, 1921)

The promontory fort at Drumanagh is characterised by a series of straight earthworks c.350m in length (north-south) that delimit the neck of a headland. The three closely-spaced earthen banks are fronted with a ditch, with traces of a fourth counterscarp bank beyond the inner ditch (RMP DU008-006001-). Ploughing across the interior in the 1970s revealed a number of hut sites and the 2012 geophysical survey recorded a number of circular structures that may be interpreted

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as roundhouses or potential ring-ditches (2014, 87). The inland promontory fort at Knock Dhu Co. Antrim is morphologically very similar to Drumanagh, comprising three closely-spaced sets of earthen banks and ditches c.360m in length. Radiocarbon evidence indicates that initial construction of the promontory fort took place in the Late Bronze Age with a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date for a secondary phase (MacDonald 2016, 45). However a truncated Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age house within the promontory showed that the upland area had been occupied prior to the construction of the fort's defining earthworks-something that cannot be ruled out in the case of Drumanagh.



Fig. 4: Knock Dhu overall site plan, showing know hut circles (MacDonald 2016, 34)

Geophysical survey of the interior of Knock Dhu revealed at least 18 round houses. The majority of the round houses excavated dated to the Late Bronze Age. The director suggests that the initial phase of occupation of the fort from the early 10th to late 9th centuries BC coincided with the construction of the promontory fort's earthwork defences (*ibid.* 45). A number of coastal promontories are also associated with ring-barrows not least Scotch fort on Lambay island where two ring-barrows were identified immediately outside the ramparts. Numerous circular huts were also identified within the interior (Cooney 2009, 21).



Plate 3: Lambay gold band with distinctive Iron Age decoration. Courtesy of the National Museum of Ireland ©

However it is with the Iron Age that promontory forts are most closely associated. Tree ring evidence suggests that a series of volcanic eruptions from Italy to Iceland disrupted weather patterns, during this period. The cumulative effect of uninterrupted rainfall, waterlogged lands, crop failure, and livestock loss was a resource hungry society. This is the age of conflict captured in the myths and legends of Cú Chulainn, Queen Mebh and stories of warriors and warfare. During the Iron Age, the Irish Sea was in effect a routeway that allowed contact and trade between communities on both sides. Promontory forts are defended headlands and while there is not an overabundance of headlands on the east coast in comparison to the north and west of Ireland, there are four promontory forts within Fingal. Drumanagh, is the largest and visible across the sea on Lambay are two further promontory forts, the Garden Fort which is defined by three large ditches and Scotch Point which was defended by a single ditch and bank. The size of the former indicates that it was for short term use, although its impressive rock-cut ditch indicates that it may have been a statement of power. The other large-scale promontory is Dungriffen fort, Howth which according to the Annals was erected by the Milesians who settled in Ireland at the 'time of Moses'.

5.2. The Roman Connection

In recent years there has been in-depth analysis of the connections between the Romanised world and Ireland, not least of which was The Discovery Programme's *Late Iron Age and 'Roman' Ireland* (LIARI) project (2011-2014). Academic studies such as Daffy's 2013 PhD thesis on Irish and Roman relations, review the evidence for exchange and acculturation. The coast and the islands of Fingal feature prominently in such studies which focus on the portable items that have been recovered from these areas such as coins of Magnentius (AD 350-353) and Constantine the Great (AD 306-337) which were recovered from Ireland's Eye, Dunsink and Malahide. An often quoted sources for contact with the Roman world is that of Tacitus, the Roman historian whose father-in-law, was the Roman general Agricola. According to Tacitus, Agricola had plans to invade Ireland from the west coast of Scotland c.AD 82. The Irish Sea was recognized as important for the movement of goods and people. Agricola saw the strategic advantage as 'Ireland is positioned between Britain and Spain and is easily accessible from the seas around Gaul. It would unite the strongest parts of our

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Empire with great mutual advantage.’ Agricola also believed it would be easily attainable as Tacitus recorded ‘I have often heard him say that Hibernia could be taken and held by a single legion (c.5-6000 men) and a small number of auxiliaries (100-1000 men)’ (McLaughlin, 2012).

The Greek geographer Strabo argued that the islands of Britain were more profitable as trading centres than subject territories; ‘There is no advantage to be gained by taking and garrisoning Britain. More revenue is derived from duty on their commerce than tribute could bring in; especially when we deduct the expense involved in maintaining an army to guard the island and collect taxes. The un-profitability involved in occupying the islands near Britain would be even greater’ (Strabo, Geography, 2.5.8).

That trade was been undertaken is in little doubt. Tacitus recorded that ‘we are better informed, thanks to the trade of merchants, about the approaches to the island and its harbours’ (Doherty 2005, 3). In AD 43 Pomponius Mela had described the following; ‘Ireland is so luxuriant with grass—abundant and sweet—that the livestock fill themselves in a fraction of a day’. (Geography, 3.53). It is thought that Ireland exported similar trade goods to that of Britain—cattle, grain, animal hides, metals, slave and hunting dogs— in exchange for Roman wine, decorated craft goods including bracelets, necklaces, glassware, amber and ivory (MacLaughlin 2012).



Plate 4: Ptolemy's Geographia c. AD 150, Archaeology Ireland 2003

Indeed it is believed that Ptolemy's *Geographia* c. AD 150 is based on knowledge gained from merchants and sailors, collated from the early first century work of Philemon and later Marinus of Tyre (Raftery 1994, 205). Ptolemy's maps consisted of a series of co-ordinates and placenames that when plotted resulted in a relatively accurate map for Ireland with recognizable rivers, promontories and towns (Condit & Moore, 2003). However it has been the listing of sixteen tribes which were positioned relative to each other that has proved most controversial. The Brigantes and Menapii which have been associated with Lambay and Drumanagh are shown to the south-east of Ireland while the Elbani are shown in the vicinity of Fingal. It has also been argued that Ptolemy's *Limnos*, corresponds with Lambay Island.

In the 1920s work on the harbour on Lambay unearthed several burials accompanied by weaponry and jewellery. Analysis of the artefacts including a sword and shield, bronze fibulae and a beaded torc showed them to be from the Romanised world, perhaps northern England. The dating coincides roughly with the revolt of the Celtic tribes in Britain, and it was thought that Lambay may have provided a refuge for the fleeing Brigantes, after their defeat in AD 74. During the LIARI project Dr Linda Fibrieger reviewed the skeletal material recovered from these burials and identified eight individuals, including one juvenile and an infant. This has led to the reinterpretation of the burials by Cahill-Wilson as a 'Late Iron Age community burial ground' that may represent not 'refugee's but an 'internationalized community facilitating trade into Ireland through negotiation with the Roman military and administrators in Britain and the social elites of Ireland' (2014, 98).

In the 1970s ploughing on Drumanagh led to the discovery of Roman material including Gallo-Roman Samian ware and subsequent unauthorised metal-detecting of the fort and surrounding lands produced extensive metalwork from the Roman World. Despite the recovery of native Irish Iron Age material this led to suggestions (Raftery 1994, Warner 1995) that Drumanagh was the town of the Menapii (the same Menapii depicted on Ptolmey's Map).

Tacitus writing about the campaign of Agricola in AD 82, told of a prince expelled from Ireland that Agricola 'had given shelter to..and under the cloak of friendship held him in reserve to be used as an opportunity offered' (Doherty 2005, 4). While the story may have been a standard motif providing an excuse for invasion Richard Warner has hypothesised that the exiled Irish prince was Túathal Teachtmair. He then suggested that Túathal came with his forces 'a combination of Romanised Irishmen and Roman-Gaulish and Romano-British adventurers' to march on Tara. Warner described Tuathal as personifying 'the invasive event....which may well have covered several decades and occurred piecemeal' (1995, 29). Drumanagh was mooted as a point for this invasion. A Sunday Times article in 1996 sensationalised Warner's theories resulting in a series of opinion pieces and rebuttals in various publications including *Archaeology Ireland* (Maas 1996, Raftery 1996) resulting in a popular view of Roman invasion at Drumanagh in public opinion, despite the paucity of evidence.

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Despite Catling's comments that 'there seems to have been a willingness in the past to dismiss any Romano-British, Gaulish, or Continental material found in Ireland as 'stray', 'intrusive' or 'random'. Museum curators in the late 19th and early 20th centuries firmly believed that the Roman-style material in Irish collections was probably brought to Ireland by antiquarian collectors in the modern era rather than arriving by way of trade in the late Iron Age' (2016). Drumanagh was acknowledged as being of great significance in the context of Roman trade along the east coast (Raftery 1994, 207). Parallels have been suggested between Drumanagh and the trading port of Henigistbury Head, Dorset which was also defined by multivallate ramparts, contained evidence for metalworking, was located on the borderland between territories and had a role as a distributional centre. Newman has proposed that there is a significant routeway from Drumanagh-an extremely important entrepôt with the Romano-British world-through Damastown, Garristown, Edox and Skreen to Tara (2005, 379).



Plate 5: Damastown copper ingot. Courtesy of the National Museum of Ireland ©

Another significant interpretation of the material recovered is that it is representative of a manufacturing centre at Drumanagh. Over forty ingots of copper bronze and brass were recovered from the site and its environs all of which are suggestive of metalworking on site (Cahill Wilson 2014, 26). A comparable ingot recovered from Damastown (c.13km from Drumanagh) is also similar to Romano-British specimens from copper-rich areas in Wales. While it has previously been assumed the Damastown ingot was imported from Roman Britain (Raftery 1994, 208) an examination of wider imperial trade patterns suggests that this was unlikely when copper was

being imported to the continent from Roman Britain (Daffy 2013, 98). It is even more unlikely that copper was being imported into Drumanagh given the proximity of deposits of copper along the Loughshinny coastline.

5.3. Early Medieval

The influence of the Romanised world can be seen most patently in the spread of Christianity throughout Ireland. In AD 431 Pope Celestine sent Palladius as the first bishop to the 'Irish believing in Christ' and it has been conjectured by some that he landed on an island off Skerries. Instead it was St Patrick who allegedly arrived a year later as a missionary at 'the island of St Patrick'. InisPatrick (or as it is locally known Church Island) coming from the sea 'to the plain of Brega... with the true light of miraculous doctrine, lighting the thick clouds of ignorance'. By the sixth and seventh centuries many of the largest churches in Fingal had been founded by saints including the ecclesiastical centre of Lusk which was from the beginning a monastic establishment of note and closely connected to the ruling political dynasty of the time. Between the seventh and early ninth century several hereditary bishops of the Ciananchta held the abbacy of Lusk. The monastery at Lusk developed in landholdings, power and influence in tandem with the expansion of the church, its dominance extending into the later medieval period. The development of the ecclesiastical system was closely tied to the complex secular dynastic system and ecclesiastical centres were often dependent on the largesse of particular kin-groups. St Patrick's Island is highly visible from Drumanagh as is the site of St Daman's foundation (now St Catherine's Church) at Kenure to the west and is likely that the Christian influence was felt by the communities occupying Drumanagh.

While there is as yet no direct evidence of the Vikings at Drumanagh the Norse influence in the region is extensive. Fingal owes its name to the 'fair strangers' from Scandinavia. The first place in Ireland to be attacked is often identified as Rechru which has been interpreted both as Lambay Island, and Rathlin Island off the Antrim coast. Three years later in AD 798 the nearby St Patrick's Island, Skerries was raided and the shrine of Do-Chonna was broken. Lusk was targeted on several occasions, plundered in 827 and the church was burned in 856. Raids turned to trade as the potential for economic exploitation was realized and overwintering turned to permanent settlement. The hinterland of Dublin, an important economic centre, was also settled by the Vikings or Ostmen, as they called themselves. Called *Dyflinarskiri*, the hinterland stretched from Skerries to Dublin and equated to the *Crích Gall* and *Fine Gall* of the Irish sources. Fingal supplied agricultural produce, raw materials, fish and shellfish to the expanding Norse Dublin. The prominence of Drumanagh as a landmark for seafarers, the opportunities for landing in proximity to rich ecclesiastical centres such as Lusk, and the surviving placenames of Scandinvaiian origin including that of nearby Lambay infer extensive Norse activity in the vicinity of Drumanagh. This influence survived in the folklore (see section 5.9.) of the area in name of the sea cave along the south of Drumanagh promontory, which is still known locally as the 'Dane's Cave' (Margaret McCann Moore, Paddy Boyle & Seamus McGuinness pers. comm.).

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5.4. Medieval to Modern

The visible evidence for medieval settlement, centres on the remains of a towerhouse (DU008-003---) in the open space of St Catherine's housing estate, formerly part of the Kenure estate, that Dalton described as 'yet more mutilated remains of the arched baronial kitchen of a castle' (1838, 429). When ploughing disturbed the interior of Drumanagh in the 1970s it was noted that some of the internal earthworks may represent a medieval village on the site (NMI Files 1A/27/77). Medieval pottery was also recovered during fieldwalking of the west of the site in 2014.



Plate 6: Remains of Rush tower house, now in the open space of St. Catherine's housing estate

D'Alton describes Rush as an ancient manor 'extending over the lands of Baleony, Heathstown, Whitestown, Balscadden, Kinure, Ardlaw etc, the fee was vested in Ormond from the time of Edward I until 1641' (1838, 431). Given its geographical position and the lack of specific mention in the surviving deeds it appears that Drumanagh was part of the land of *Kinure* of the manor of Rush. The manor of Rush was in turn grouped with the manors of Balscadden and Turvey and frequently granted and leased throughout the medieval period. In 1256 the manor of *Russe* and land of *Baliscaden* 'in the vale of Dublin' was granted to Robert Walerand 'in place of 40 librates of land in the wastes of Ireland' (Sweetman 1887, 85). By 1273 Theobald le Botiller (Butler) had leased his manors of Turvey, Corduff, Rush and Balscadden to farm for two years to Fulc Mesoner, a merchant who was 'to have the crop of corn sown in said manors' (Curtis 1932, 78). Less than a decade later Sir Theobald had granted Philip de Rupella 'his manor at Turvey, his lands at Rush with fishery and *coneygere* there, and his tenetment at Balscadden (*ibid.* 101).

The references to the fourteenth century are scant although the Black Death apparently had a severe effect on the manor of Rush; In 1354 the tenants said they were 'entirely impoverished by the late pestilence and excessive prices of the King's Ministers (Hession 2009, 6). Things perhaps didn't improve much for the people of the area as by 1385 Hugh Bermingham was appointed seneschal of the manors and lordships of Turvey, Rush, Corduff and Balscadden 'with power to demise the same farmers and remove others as he pleases.....' (Dalton 1838, 299).

At the opening of the 15th century the Butlers were reconfirmed to their lands in Ireland when 'in consideration of the faithful service done in our wars in Ireland by James (the White Earl)... we have pardoned the said James all manner of intrusions, misprisons, suits etc. and we hereby grant him;the manors of Turvey, *Baleske*, Corduff, Rush, Balscadden in the county of Dublin' (Curtis 1937, 177). However such pardon did not extend to the 5th Earl of Ormond who was beheaded following his capture at the battle of Towtown in 1461, having fought on the Lancastrian side. According to the patent rolls of the Chancery, the manors were immediately granted to Sir William Welles, Chancellor of Ireland, for service and who was to render to the King 'a red rose annually at the Nativity of St John the Baptist'. Edward IV in 1465 'in consideration of the good and laudable services by our beloved cousin Gerald fitz Gerot (Fitzgerald)...have granted to our cousin, our manors and lordships of Turvey, Rush and Balscadden...for his life' (Curtis 1914, 305). The manors were then granted to John Pykington and his heirs in 1467, but were back in Ormond hands before the close of the century (Curtis 1935, 227). During the period 1476-1484 the rental accounts of the manor show a John Spense renting *Kynnewr* (Kenure) (*ibid.* 222).

Being a landowner also meant being subject to requests of favours. On 20 April 1496 after hearing that Walter Ivers 'Steward of your lordships of Rush and *port Scaden*' was deceased, William and Elice Butler lost no time in writing to the Earl of Ormond to 'humbly beseech you to be so good lorde to our friend Master Botyller maister of the Rolles, that ye would give him that office' (Curtis 1937, 325). Or Walter Champfleur, abbot of St Mary's, who after inquiring into the health of Ormond's wife who 'is with childe...whom I pray god send good and fair deliverance' lunched into a request for a 'Cosyn (cousin) of mine that desireth to have a farme in certain lands of yours in Rush' with the persuasive argument that 'it is ruinous now and will cost much money to repaire it and it is better that your tenant repaire it than you should find timber to repaire it... (*ibid.* 335).

The subject of repair remained much on the minds of the tenants of the manor of Rush who petitioned the Earl of Ormond in 1511: 'Rush is greatly decayed defaulting much reparation to our great annoyance and hindrance. So as only it be rather seen to we cannot be able to dwell in your inhabitations but must remove elsewhere'. This show of people power extended to the steward; 'furthermore where we understand master Golding labourith to be your steward here. We know him of such cruel demeasure that if he have rule upon us we must and will avoide your lands..we be well contented with your said steward maister Eustace whom we think it inconvenient of you to change' (*ibid.* 365). The Earl of Ormond's response does not survive.

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Plate 7: The gravestone of Richard Delahide, Holmpatrick Graveyard, Skerries

An inquisition of 1546/7 describes the manor of Rush as containing ‘appurtenances in Rush, Ballriske and Kinure..They say that John Travers of Curtalgh gent. holds certain lands in *Kynure*.. they further say that William Spencer gent. holds of said manor of Rush certain lands in *Kynure*’ (Curtis 1941, 17). It is only in 1587 that Drumanagh is recorded. In his will of 1587 Richard Delahide of Loughshinny granted his lands in ‘Loughshinney, Lamboterie, Ballynetaghe, *Dromanoghe* and Thomastown...held of Thomas, earl of Ormond’ to Patrick Pheipo of Rowan Co. Meath gent and Christopher Delahide of Drogheda merchant (Griffith 1991, 272). A will of thirty-five years later, that of Anthony Delahide of Loughshinny also lists *Drommanagh* among the 160 acres ‘held of the earl of Ormond as of his manor of Rushe by fealty and suit of court’. It was left to two Christopher Barnewalls, one of Rathasker Co. Louth and the other of Mymordery Co. Meath with the proviso that the deceased’s mother, Mary Blackney alias Delahide should have ‘£20 for life out of Loughshinny, *Drommanagh* and Pierstown’ (*ibid.* 401).

Drumanagh is not recorded separately in the Civil Survey of 1654-56, but is encompassed within the holdings of *Kinure* held by Robert Walsh, which comprised 300 acres of mainly arable land a mansion house, ruined chapel and was bounded to the east by the sea (Simington 1945, 60)¹.

¹ On the digital version of the Down Survey of Ireland (<http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/landowners>) Drumanagh is erroneously ascribed the Down Survey name Carrickhead and the owner is given as James Humphries.

Kenure was occupied subsequent to this by Lord George Hamilton of Strabane who is described on the monument to his passing in 1668, within St Catherine's church as 'affable, obliging, exemplary, wise, devout, most charitable, most virtuous and religious' (Dalton 183, 428). Kenure became the seat of Echlin family until 1765.

There are two deeds in quick succession that date to the year 1765 concerning the ownership of Drumanagh. A lease dated to 14th/15th February 1765 was made between Sir Henry Echlin of Rush and Michael Howard a merchant of the City of Dublin for the demesne lands of Rush its entirety by estimate 240 acres. 'Dromanagh and part of Kinure there in lease for years determinable and held by James Bork (Bourke) and Bartholomew Flin containing by estimate 73 acres' (Registry of Deeds No. 154793).

It was only a matter of months that an indented deed of Lease and Release dating to 8th/9th August 1765 was made between Abraham Howard, Sir Henry Echlin formerly of Rush in the County of Dublin but now of Paris of the Kingdom of France and Roger Palmer formerly of Palmerstown County Mayo. By this deed, Roger Palmer paid Howard £12,500 and another £2000 to Henry Echlin for the Demesne lands of Rush. Drumanagh and part of Kenure were still held by James Bourke and Bartholomew Flinn but it is interesting to note that the 'lands of Dromanagh and Carnhill are now subdenominations of Rush and Kinure aforesaid' (Registry of Deeds No.157020).



Plate 8: View of Drumanagh in the 1970s, Paddy Healy Collection

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During the 18th century Drumanagh was noted by naturalist John Ruddy 'as the richest spot by repute' (1772, (see Section 7). This was reflected in an advertisement in *Saunders Newsletter* on 6 April 1780;

'To be let for such term of year as may be agreed on from the 11th May next the Townlands of Drumanagh and part of the lands of Rush and Kinure, thereto adjoining, now in the possession of Mr Richard Flood containing 154a 3 r 29 p. Part of the estate of Roger Palmer esq on which lands there are a good farmhouse and offices. These lands are remarkably fine fattening meadow and Pasture grounds, well enclosed and in high Order; and as they lie within half a mile of the Town of Rush and but 13 miles from Dublin they would make answer extremely well for a Dairy or Draw farm. Proposals in writing only to be received by Roger Palmer Esq at John Eden Brownes esq Great Winchester-dress London or by Mr Denis at Rush House or his house, Dawson St. Dublin'

An examination of the nineteenth century Palmer rental books for the Kenure estate show that Drumanagh was rented to Thomas Carey who 'paid on time cash in full' every Lady's Day between 1860 and 1870 (National Archives 1174/2/2).



Plate 9: Griffith's Valuation map

The Valuation of the Rush estate of Sir Roger Palmer Bt. Also mentions Thomas Carey and describes the land of Drumanagh as 'upland pasture, very good fattening ground for cows and sheep, also shallow pasture over the sea shore and some coarse pasture'. In the *Ordnance Survey Book of Reference* 1872 the uses by acre of Drumanagh are recorded; 0.184 of an acres is taken by ditch, another 0.838 by the Martello Tower and Road, while the remainder was listed as three lots of pasture (11.128/31.657/2.381 respectively) (James, 1872). The exemption to all the valuations was the Martello Tower.

5.5. Drumanagh, Martello Tower No.9

Inspired by the coastal tower of Cape Mortella, Corsica and built to defend the coast against attack from Napoleon in the early 19th century, Martello towers were circular, stone-built three-storey towers, standing about 7.3m high, rising to a parapet (Bolton et al. 2012, 49). One of twelve Martello towers that extend along the coast of Fingal, Drumanagh Martello tower was positioned on the promontory 'for the defence of Rush Strand and River, the pier and cover at Drummanagh Point'. A Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin Fisher was put in charge of construction which included the choosing and marking out of sites for the towers and gun batteries, employing assistants, overseers and legal advice and engaging contractors to build the towers (Bolton et al 2010, 22). Work began on the first nine towers on the north side of Dublin Bay on 1 September 1804 but construction was postponed until the spring of 1805. The towers were built so quickly that negotiations with the owners for the price of the land often took place after the towers had been built. The deed for Drumanagh and Rush Martello towers between Robert Palmer and Benjamin Fisher dates to 22nd October 1806 when the land was purchased for £132.13.9. This was just over the average plot price of £50 per tower in Fingal but substantially less than the £600 the Earl of Howth received for plots at Howth and on Ireland's Eye (Bolton et al 2012, 22).

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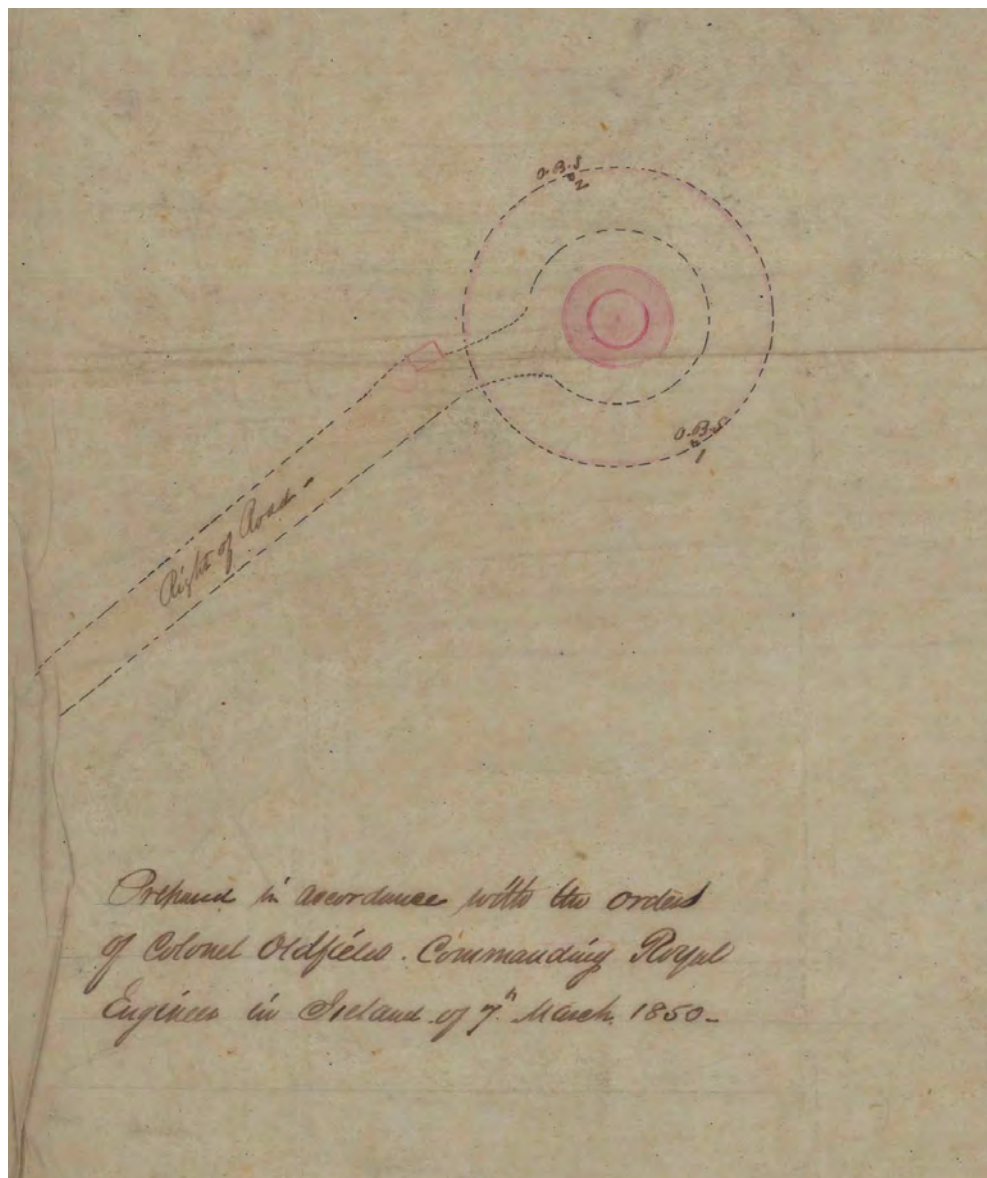


Plate 10: Proposed in accordance with the orders of Colonel Oldfield Commanding Royal Engineer in Ireland of 7th March 1850, Military Archive Map, Reference AD134122

The Martello towers were designed and built by the Board of Ordnance, an independent section of the military who trained its own specialist troops, the Corp of Royal Engineers (many of whom had experience of the Spanish coastal towers) to build the towers, and the Royal Artillery who manned them. Each tower had a detachment of up to fifteen men and held a 18 or 24 pounder iron canon which required at least nine men to fire. The plots for the towers were circular and the tower at Drumanagh was built as a 'No.8 one gun tower', located in the 'middle of Drumanagh Point, about 150 yards from each side and 50 yards from the front' (Bolton 2008, 3.25) An access route extended from the laneway bounding the lands to the south, the boundaries of which were marked with boundary stones.

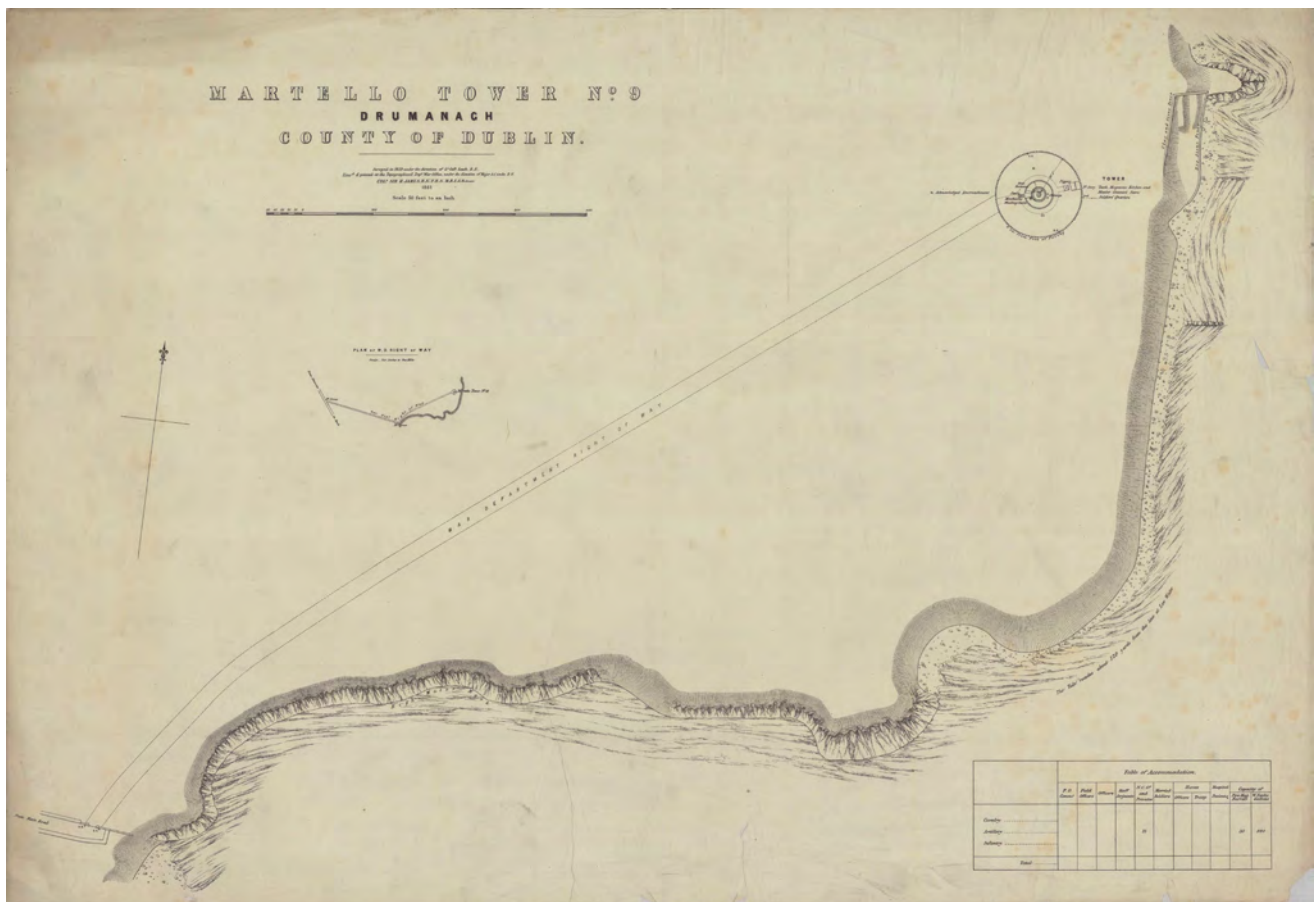


Plate 11: Martello Tower No.9 1862, Military Archive Map, Reference AD134122002

Following the end of the Napoleonic wars (1816) a use had to be found 'to prevent them from sustaining damages' (Bolton et al 2012, 74). By 1826 Drumanagh tower is recorded as being occupied by the Preventative Water Guard who used the towers as part of their anti-smuggling operations. In 1829 it is described as 'a round tower constructed for 16 men, bombproof with a store room and water tank. The Tower is occupied by the Preventative Water Guard and is in a sound condition but kept in a very dirty state. The East side of the roof lets the water in a little...' (WO 54 757, Bolton 2008, 3.25). After the Crimean War the Board of Ordnance was dissolved and all land, functions, forts, ordnance and officers were transferred to the War Office. Drumanagh tower remained in military use with twelve rank-and-file troops occupying the tower in 1857. It was disarmed in 1874, when it was described as being in 'Middling condition' and later let to Sir Roger Palmer for £2 (Bolton et al. 2012, 172).

The tower was subsequently let although apparently not immune to dispute. A letter dated 2nd May 1893 among the Palmer papers was sent by Francis O'Donnell, of Drumanagh Lower to William Smyth describing a query around ownership and access. O'Donnell met with a representative of the Engineer department on Drumanagh with a man called H(F)orde who was 'letting the place'. The Engineer showed out 'what he claimed as belonging to the government and he said they only had

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right of way from the gate to the Tower and 36 perches around the Tower and he told Horde these stones there marking out the quantity'. O'Donnell advised Smyth to 'communicate with the Colonel of Engineers of the Royal Barracks as he told me he would give any assistance he could if Horde gave any annoyance'. It was also noted that 'the gate has been put up by the government and they have always kept it in repair and supplies locks for it'.

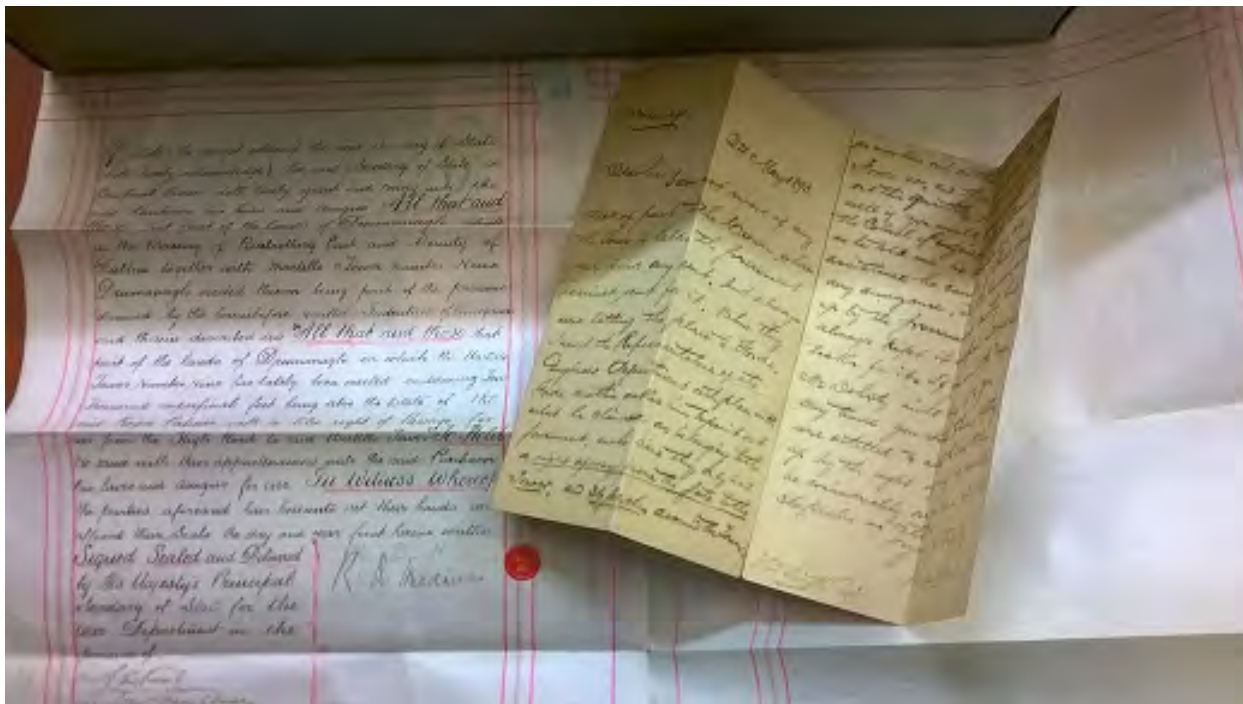


Plate 12: 1908 Deed of sale and 1893 letter, courtesy of the National Archives of Ireland

In 1908 the War Department sold the tower to Sir Roger Palmer of Kenure Park for £50 'And whereas the Secretary of State has agreed with the said Purchase for the sale to him of the said premises in fee simple for the sum of Fifty Pounds...All that and those that that part of the lands of Drumanagh situate in the Barony of Balrothery east and County of Dublin together with the Martello tower number nine Drumanagh erected thereon being part of the premises devised by the heretofore recited indenture of Conveyance and therein described as All that and those that part of the lands of Drumanagh on which the Martello Tower number nine has lately been erected containing Ten Thousand superficial feet being also the Estate of the said Roger Palmer with a like right of Passage for ever from the High Road to said Martello Tower..'

5.6. Piracy and Smuggling

The coastline of Fingal had been used for trade from prehistoric times. In the medieval period the mouth of the Liffey had silted up and merchandise had to be landed elsewhere along the coast, In 1483 the Corporation of Dublin obtained a grant from revenues on all merchandise imported into the harbours of Rogerstown, Howth, Baldoyle, Portrane, Rush and Skerries and it was also the custom for ships going to Drogheda to lie at Howth until the merchants paid for cargo and

provided a pilot to undertake the navigation to Drogheda. Given the level of trade along the coast, it is unsurprising that there was a problem with piracy. Lambay in particular was a refuge for the king's enemies and in 1496 a petition by the Prior of Holmpatrick described Lambay as having on its shores various 'havens and creeks in which pirates accustomed to shelter'.



Plate 13: Captain Luke Ryan (Hibernian magazine 1782); Jack 'the Bachelor' Connors

Smuggling became a major industry around Rush and Loughshinny in the 18th and 19th centuries with the famed Luke Ryan born on the Kenure estate, privateer and smuggler who was tried (and reprimanded) for piracy four times and Jack Connor known as Jack the Bachelor who is buried in nearby Kenure graveyard. North of Loughshinny is the Smuggler's cave, a former copper mine shaft and the Dane's Cave on Drumanagh was also thought to be a repository for hiding smuggler's booty (Seamus McGuinness pers. comm.). Rush had a very narrow harbour that wherries could enter, but the barges of the crown could not. Although there was a customs officer serving in Rush from 1674 the environs were the scene for numerous incidents. In 1724 it was reported that goods were to be seen at Loughshinny brought in by William, Tanner, Paul Tanner, James Donnellan, John Rooney, John Travers and Michael Gough. The investigating customs officers found only a parcel of rotten leaf tobacco at a barn door around midnight, the principal cargo having been carried off. Donnellan was heard to say that if any of the King's Officers would pretend to seize any goods which he had he would shoot them like a dog. The violent nature of the smuggling industry was illustrated in 1734 when the customs men working on a tip off of a run of goods to the Isle of Man intercepted the boat of Edmond Bird off Lambay. Bird called on them to board him and then opened fire with a blunderbuss. His majesty's bargemen fired a swivel gun at Bird who was shot

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through the heart. Six bales of East India handkerchiefs, fifteen anchors of brandy and four casks of tea were found aboard (Ní Mhurchadha 2015, 8).

The Preventative Water Guard including those based at Drumanagh Martello Tower was also subject to violent clashes. An incident in 1821 involving upwards of 300 men armed with muskets pistols, pikes and pitchforks was recorded at Loughshinny where it appears the smugglers had intended to disarm the crews of Rush and Loughshinny (Bolton et al 2012, 78).

5.7. Cartographic Evidence

The early cartographic sources tend to be drawn at a broad level highlighting rivers, churches and significant places names. In Ortelius's map of 1572, Lambay and the surrounding islands are illustrated but the distinctive headland of Drumanagh is not discernible.



Plate 14: Hiberniae, Britannicae Insulae, Nova Descriptio by Abraham Ortelius, 1572

In contrast the Down Survey Parish and Barony maps produced c.1656 depict the promontory, almost to the point of exaggeration. On the both maps Drumanagh while not labelled is very clearly shown as part of Kenure (Figures 5 & 6).

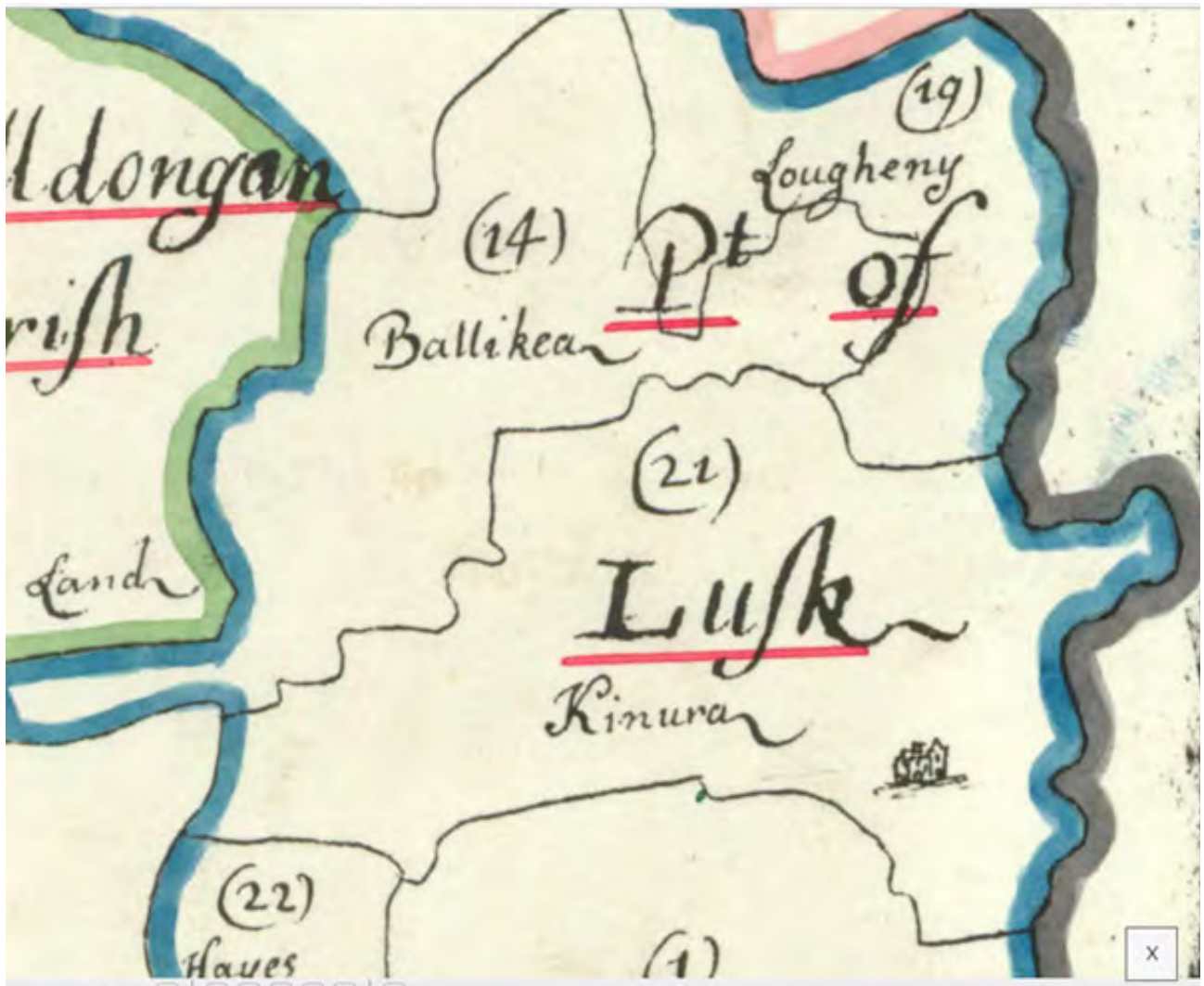


Fig. 5: Down Survey Barony Map c.1656



Fig. 6: Down Survey Parish Map c.1656

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Rocque's Map of 1760 is particularly detailed. It depicts *Drummahaugh* Land surrounded by a wall. The western and southern boundaries are walls in contrast to the hedgerows and laneways that surround it. The nearest walled area is the demesne surrounding Rush House (later known as Kenure House). The Old Castle of Kinure and the Church in ruins date from the medieval period, elements of both survive at St Catherine's today.



Fig. 7: Rocque's Map of county Dublin, 1760

Also notable is the nomenclature for the area 'Old Danish Forts' which doubtless refers to the ramparts. It was a standard of the time when anything of antiquity was ascribed to the Danes (see Section 5.9) and is reflective of subsequent folklore of the area.

Two structures are depicted to the north-west of the promontory. One structure is aligned east-west along the field boundary, the other north-south at the inlet of the cliff. Remnants of both are still visible in these positions.

Duncan's Map of 1821 is less detailed than Rocque's but depicts the addition of the Tower on 'Drumnough Point'. This is the first map to illustrate -although somewhat stylistically- the ramparts at the neck of the promontory which are labelled 'Danish Lines'



Fig. 8: Duncan's 1821 map



Fig. 9: First Edition Ordnance Survey Map.. Surveyed 1838, Published 1843

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The First Edition six-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) map provides a particularly detailed picture of the ramparts. The northern trivallate banks appear integrated with the east-west field boundary, which in turn intersects with a north-south field boundary, indicating the land division of the time. South of the intersection of ramparts and field boundary are two distinct circular features which may represent the truncation of the ramparts at this point. As the four banks head southwards they become less well defined and more compressed.

The road to the Martello tower extends from the lane-which forms the townland boundary between Drumanagh and Rush- and traverses the ramparts to the south. A stream flows from the western field boundary, that forms the townland boundary between Drumanagh and Ballustree, into the southern ditch and Drumanagh well is depicted to the north. The rocks around the headland are distinctive and extensive.



The structure near the cliff face depicted on Rocque is also shown on the First Edition. The second structure along the field boundary is not visible.

The manuscript of O'Donovan's survey which appears in less detailed form in the Name Books is headed 'Ancient Remains' and is scaled 12 inches to the mile. It contains some additional information. Along the northern limit of the promontory the line of a wall is depicted. It is referenced as 'Wall apparently ancient'. It is not continuous perhaps a result of the condition of being 'ancient'. There is a very definite portion of the wall at the north-east point of the promontory where there is a lunular-shaped inlet. There is a continuous although 'lighter' line that extends around the eastern and southern perimeter. It is unclear if this is a continuation of the apparently ancient wall. The stream pools within the outer banks of the ramparts before flowing within the ditch where it is traversed by the road to the Martello tower. Significantly there are two short parallel banks on the eastern side of the ramparts. These aren't depicted on previous or subsequent maps.



Fig. 10: Drawing 14 C 15(28) (1) Courtesy of the Royal Irish Academy ©

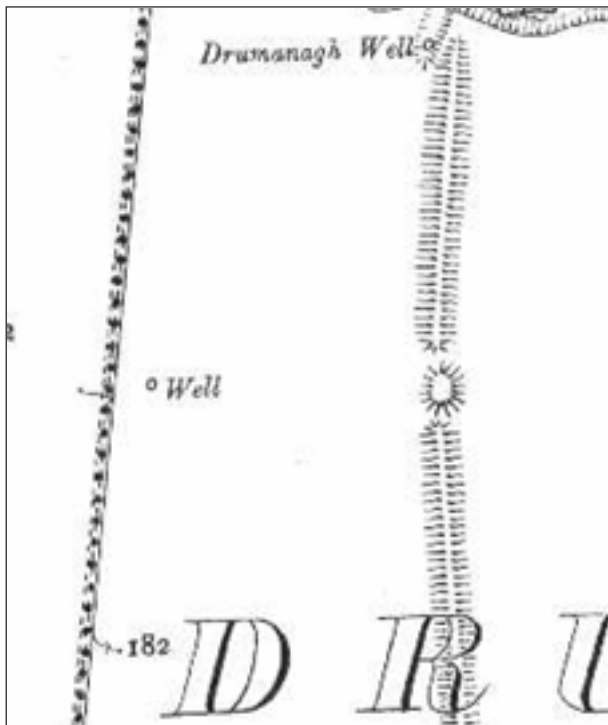
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The 25 inch map no longer depicts the road to the Martello tower or the field boundaries to the north of the promontory. The stream no longer pools at the ramparts which are depicted as a single line.



Fig. 11: 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map. Surveyed 1906; Published 1908

A previously unillustrated feature is a well, located east of the western townland boundary. The structure at the cliff edge appears to have been modified and perhaps divided into two structures east of the footpath. A structure has been constructed at the field boundary perhaps on the footprint of the building previously shown on Rocque's 1760 map.



5.8. Aerial Photographs

The following is a series of aerial photographs from the Leo Swan Collection, an Aer Corp aerial photograph and satellite imagery from 1995 to 2016. The dates for the Swan collection are unavailable but possibly date from the 1970s and 1980s. There are a number of features that show clearly on all the images; the road to the Martello tower; the 18th/19th century field divisions in the northern quadrant of the site and the southern rectilinear boundary to the south; and the stream from the west. Notably there is a possible site visible on the infra-red (Plate 19) in the fields to the west of the headland, traversed by the laneway.

There are two more images (AID005/6) in the Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs (CUCAP) Collection but they are unavailable due to a staff shortage (Professor T. Spencer pers. comm.) A copy of one (AID006) is in the 1977 Drummanagh Topographical file in the National Museum of Ireland labelled simply as 'afternoon 21 August 1963'.

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Plate 15: Oblique <http://lswanaerial.locloudhosting.net/items/show/39959>



Plate 16: Oblique <http://lswanaerial.locloudhosting.net/items/show/39958>



Plate 17: Oblique <http://lswanaerial.locloudhosting.net/items/show/39957>



Plate 18: Oblique <http://lswanaerial.locloudhosting.net/items/show/40273>

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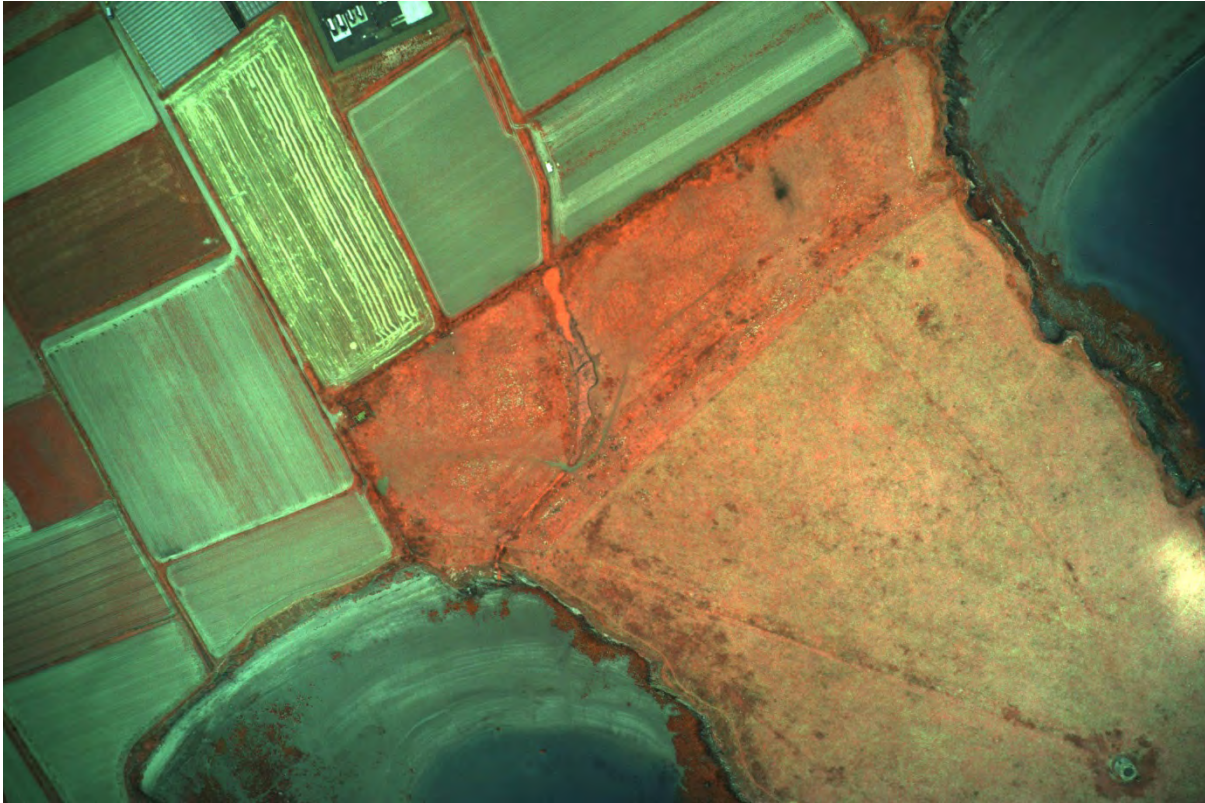


Plate 19: Infra Red image courtesy of Gearoid O'Riain c.1998



Plate 20: Infra Red image courtesy of Gearoid O'Riain c.1998

5 Understanding The Monument

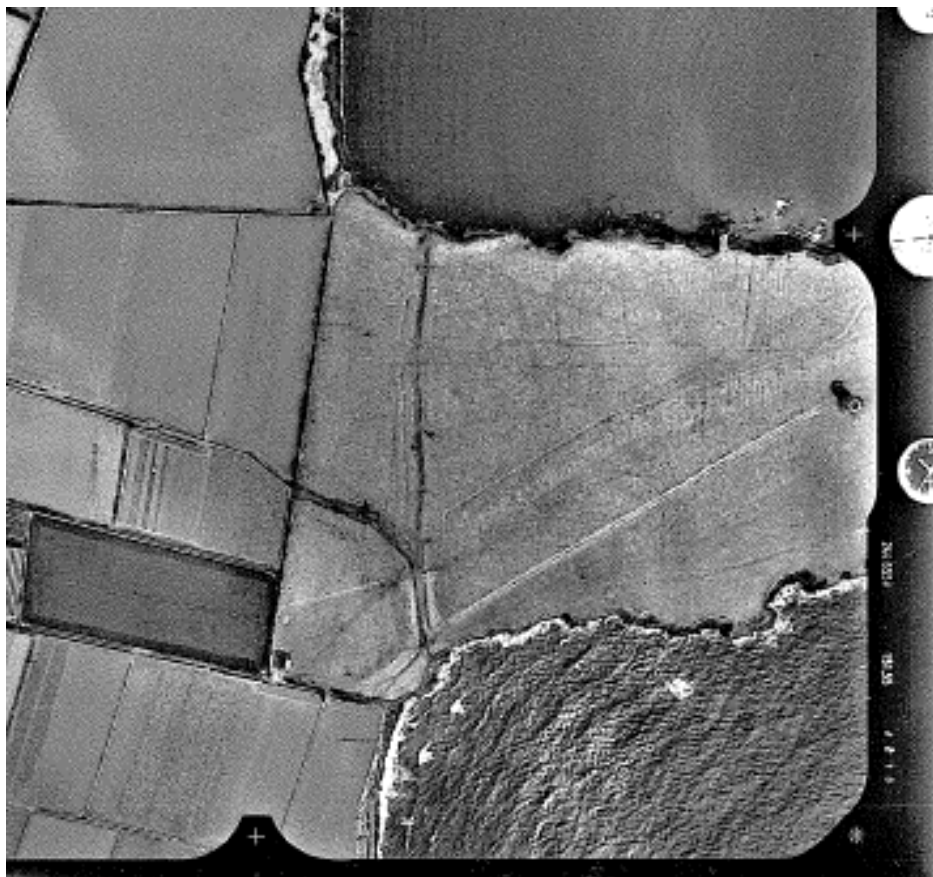


Plate 21: Aer Corp image sourced by Jason Bolton (date unavailable)



Plate 22: Ordnance Survey of Ireland orthostat image 1995



Plate 23: Ordnance Survey of Ireland orthostat image 2000



Plate 24: Ordnance Survey of Ireland orthostat image 2005

5 Understanding The Monument



Plate 25: Google Earth Image 2014

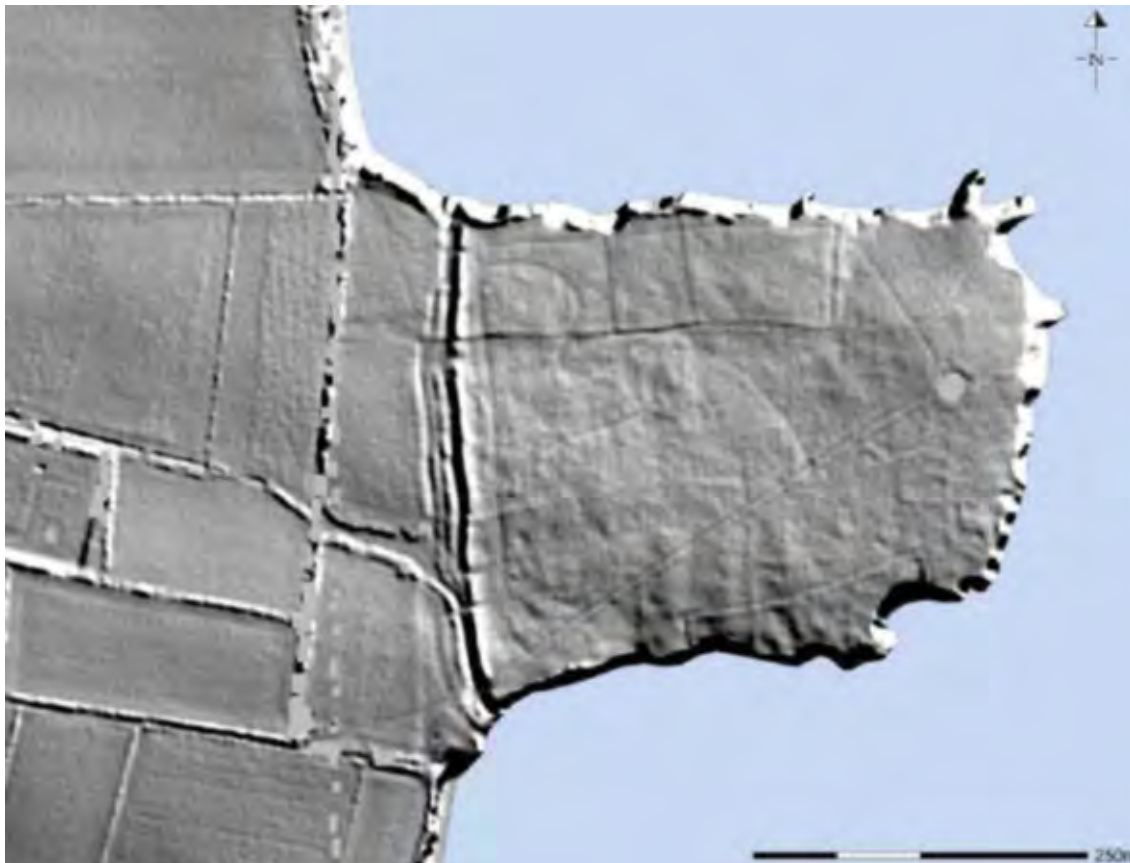


Plate 26: LiDAR image, Fingal County Council and The Discovery Programme 2014

5.9. Folklore & Memories

Folklore tales can often contain kernels of truth and information from long past generations. An examination of the *Schools Manuscript Collection 1937-38* led to a tale of 'Hidden Treasure' by Kathleen Clarke of Main Street Rush, who obtained her account from her mother.

'The Drumanagh is a headland about a mile along the coastline north of the town of Rush. It was the scene of a pitched battle between the Irish and the Danes. At present there is a dyke lying across the headland which was probably part of the Irish defence. Some years ago an old head-gear like a helmet and also some bones were dug up. A Martello Tower also stands on the Drumanagh '(Roll Number 16125, p.176).....'Another underground passage lies from Baldongan to the Dane's hole, the mouth of which is some yards from the Drumanagh. Here a priest is said to have been murdered. There still remains an oblong piece of stone on which his corpse was burnt' (Roll Number 16125, p.178).



Plate 27: 'Drumanagh Fort Co. Dublin 1921'

Lantern Slide from the collection of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland

5 Understanding The Monument

Loughshinny local woman and member of the Rush & Loughshinny Historical society, Mrs Cepta Butler shared her memories of Drumanagh;

'I don't know a lot about Drumanagh except that Larry McGuinness of Carn Hill acquired the land when the Kenure estate was broken up. Before that the people of the area used to pay a small rent to the Palmers to be allowed graze cattle on the site and I remember, as a child of about nine or ten in the 1940s, walking over the cliffs with a local girl, Mary Kavanagh, to milk their two cows on Drumanagh. Also it was a great place to pick mushrooms! As far back as I can remember, people of the area always walked around Drumanagh.

As far as I know the ruin at Loughshinny cliffs is the remains of the house of a caretaker of Drumanagh but it looks very old with the earth built up behind it. In about the early 1930s some man fell over the cliffs there and was killed. There used to be a white cross painted on the rocks jutting out underneath when I was young but this is long gone. The Palmers built another house further back for the caretaker and there is not much of this left either. Up to the 1960s the caretaker was one of the Nicell family and the last one to live there was Pat Nicell who, in 1964, unfortunately also fell over the cliff (at the opposite corner) and was not discovered until the following morning, the tide having come in over the body. He used to come by the cliff path every evening to buy some items in the local shop and would always stay for a cup of tea with the Ferguson family before returning home using a lamp. His mother was the local 'handywoman' (or midwife) and her name appears on most of the birth certificates of Loughshinny locals from the second half of the nineteenth century' (Cepta Butler, 2017).

It is interesting to note that the nomenclature 'Old Danish forts' on Rocque's 1760 map of Drumanagh is mirrored in Kathleen Clarke's description of Drumanagh as having been the 'scene of a pitched battle between the Irish and the Danes'. The idea of Danish fort origins had been inherited from seventeenth and eighteenth century antiquarianism which relied on a quasi-historical vision of the 'Danes' as the pre-eminent monument builders of ancient Ireland. The idea of the Danes as ancient invaders, from Scandinavia, who had won the land of Ireland by force of arms remained constant and proved extremely difficult to dislodge. As William Wilde rather testily put it in 1864

'Owing to some stupid ignorant opinions published about 170 years ago, the literate lower order of Irish Shannaghees now assign a Danish origin to these raths; but when pressed for some further information as to the date of their erection, they say "They were made by them ould Danes that came over with Julius Caesar."'



5.10. Archaeological Investigations

Despite the potential, significance and interest in the monument there has been limited archaeological investigation undertaken at Drumanagh or its environs to date.

5.10.1. Geophysical Surveys:

A geophysical survey of the promontory was undertaken by Martina McCarthy (GeoArc Ltd.) for the National Museum of Ireland in 1999. This consisted of a magnetic gradiometry survey (resolution 1m x 0.5m) of the seaward side of the ramparts, essentially the entire promontory. As with the aerial photography the 18th/19th century field boundaries to the north and south, and the road to the Martello are highly visible. A topographical study was also undertaken and analysed in conjunction with the geophysical survey results (Eamonn Kelly, pers. comm).

As part of the *Late Iron Age and 'Roman Ireland' Project 2011-14* undertaken by the Discovery Programme, six separate areas, comprising 4.7 ha in total were targeted for geophysical survey at Drumanagh and environs (Licence No.: 12R127). Three areas (1A, 1B, 1C) were to the east of the promontory and another (1D) was to the west of the ramparts in the south-west of the site. Gradiometry was conducted using 0.25m sample and 0.5m traverse intervals (Dowling 2014, 65).

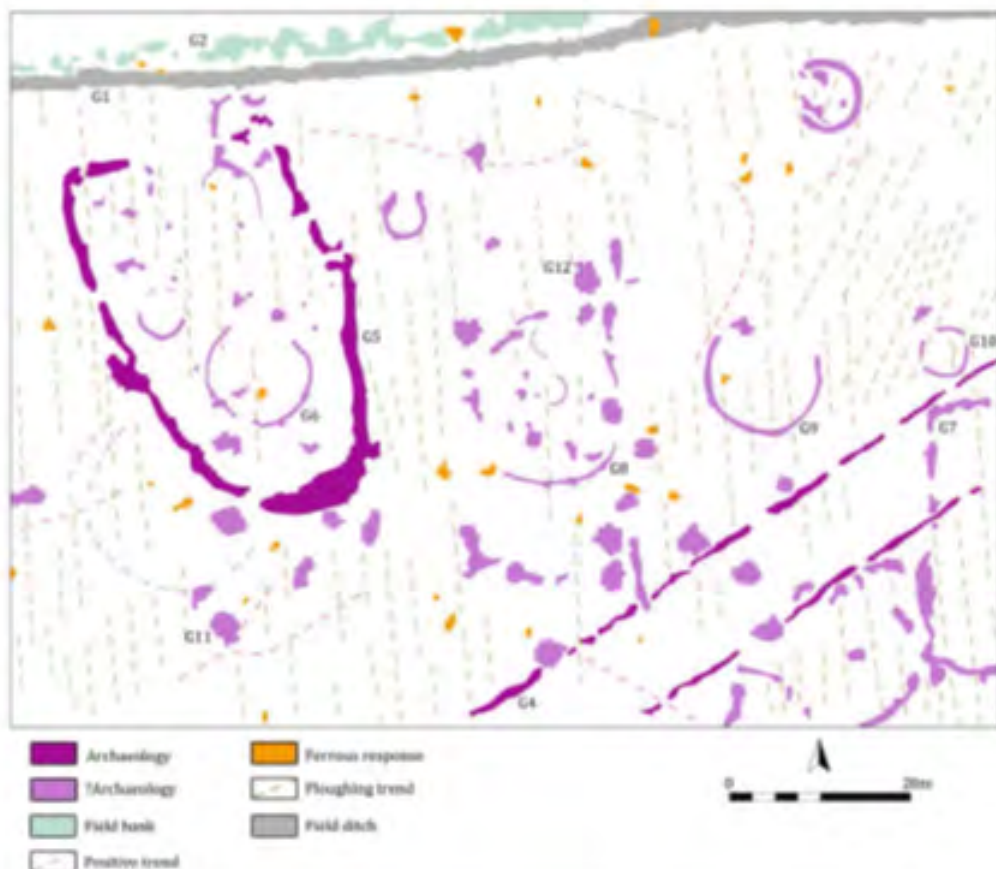


Fig. 12: Area 1A Interpretative Plan. Courtesy of the Discovery Programme

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Within the promontory a large D-shaped enclosure (G5/SMR: DU008-006004) 43m NW/SE by 26m NE/SW enclosing a possible structure (G6/ SMR: DU008-006005) was identified. An enclosure with an array of large pit-type anomalies (G8/ SMR: DU008-006007); a rectangular enclosure c.30m in diameter (G7/ SMR: DU008-006006); possible ring-ditch truncated by a field ditch (G13/ SMR: DU008-006008) and another possible ring-ditch with a well-defined pit anomaly at its centre (G14/ SMR DU008-006009) were also identified. These were interspersed with discrete pit-type anomalies, fragmentary circular anomalies and positive ditch-type anomalies (Dowling 2014, 59-74).

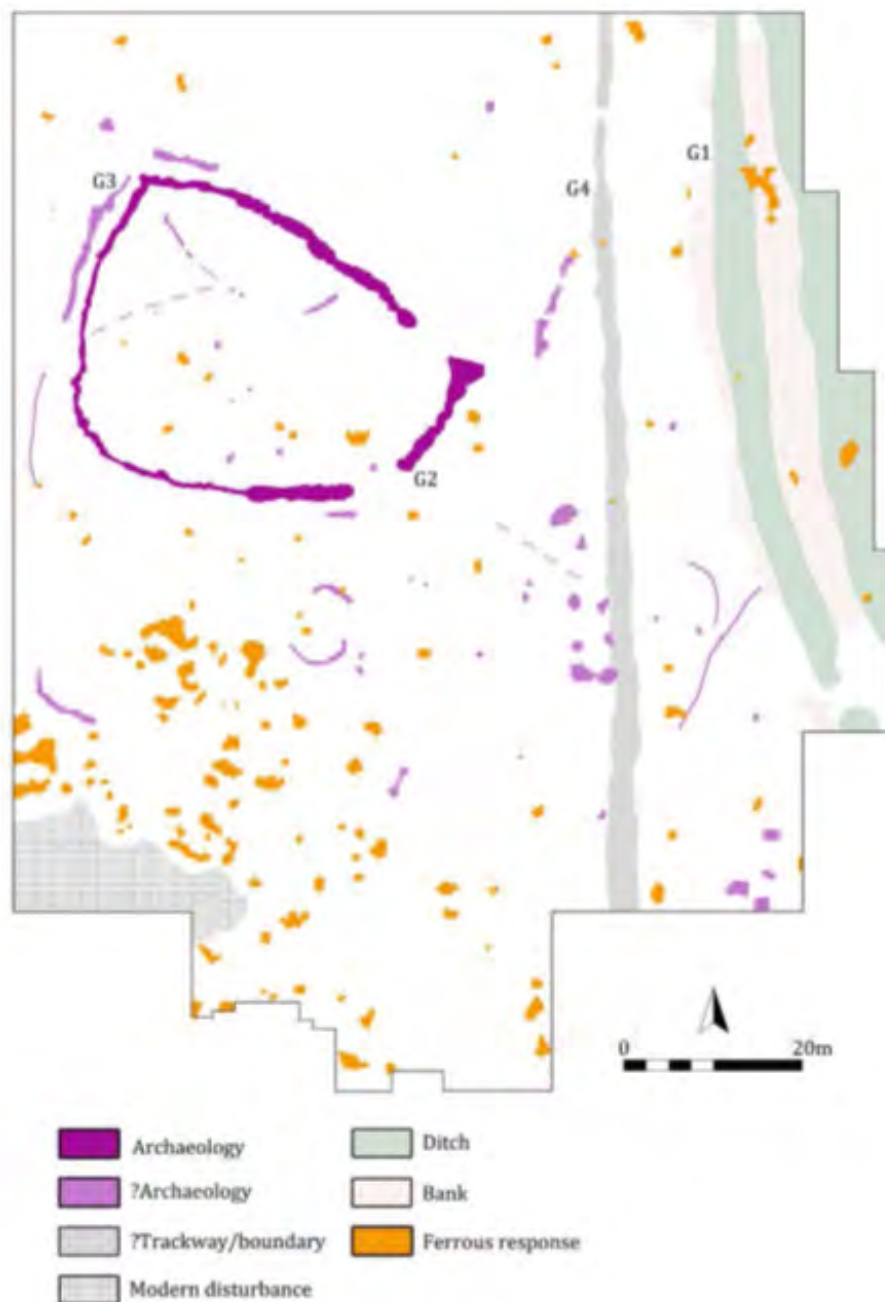


Fig. 13: Area 1D Interpretative Plan. Courtesy of the Discovery Programme

An area (1D) of c.1ha was investigated to the west of the ramparts extending southwards to the southern boundary of the site. Magnetic disturbance and a scatter of ferrous litter defines the area to the south near the derelict building, but further north is a large oval enclosure measuring approximately 42mEW x 30mNS (G2/ SMR: DU008-094----) (Dowling 2014, 74).

5.10.2. Auger Surveys:

Two auger surveys were undertaken in advance of proposed fencing at Drumanagh promontory in 2014 and 2018.

Augur Survey 2014: Ministerial Consent No. **C601/E4501**

In advance of proposed fencing of the headland by the previous owners, a programme of auguring was undertaken by Mr Tom Condit, of the National Monument Service in conjunction with members of the Discovery Programme. A total of 122 test pits, arranged in a series of 'runs' comprising six or less bore holes, were excavated as close to the cliff-edge defining the promontory as feasible using an 'auto auger mechanical post hole borer' with a 20cm diameter auger over two days in June 2014. Although no artefacts or, indeed, soil horizons of clear archaeological significance were encountered during the course of auguring, this work has yielded valuable information on the depth and character of the soils along the cliff-edge and raises interesting questions concerning the nature of soils elsewhere on the promontory (Dowling 2014).



Plate 28: Aerial image of Drumanagh promontory fort showing the location of 2014 auger test pits. The western extent of the Preservation Order is marked by a red line.

5 Understanding The Monument

Five additional bore holes were excavated outside the ramparts on the north in order to gauge the stratigraphy of the soils across the neck of the promontory. The soils in this area are deeper than those recorded elsewhere at the site, reaching up to 40cm in maximum thickness, and overlie what appears to be a stony clay layer. The latter material was too compact to penetrate with the auger.

In addition lands outside the fort ramparts on the west were inspected to identify any material of archaeological interest that may have been exposed by ploughing across this area.

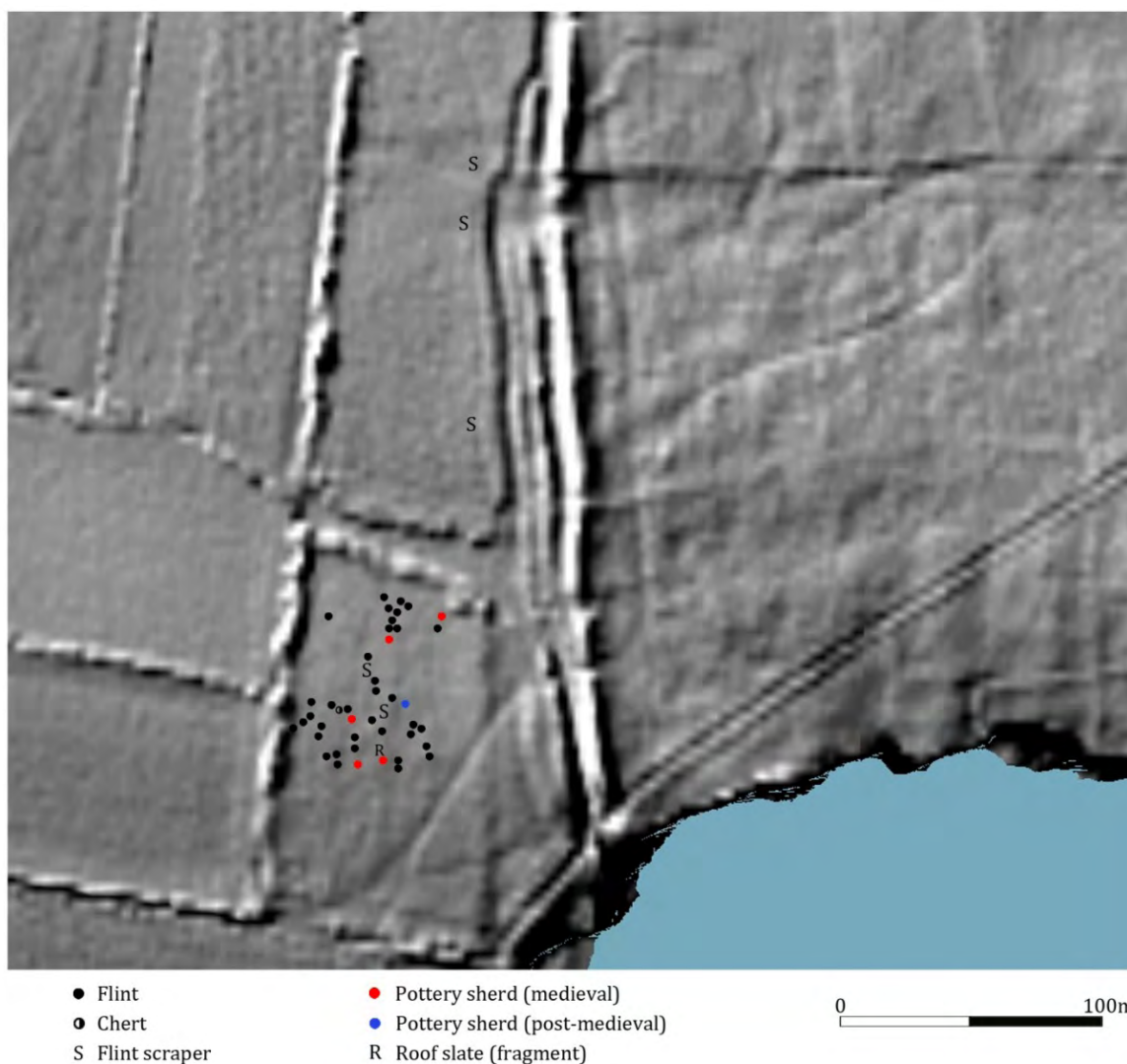


Plate 29: Fieldwalking finds distribution courtesy of the Discovery Programme

A total of 49 surface finds of archaeological and potential archaeological interest were identified including flint (both worked and unworked) and pottery, together with a single fragment of roof slate.

Augur Survey 2017: Ministerial Consent No. **C786/E4805**

The auger survey was undertaken by Christine Baker, Fingal County Council and members of the Discovery Programme to inform the fencing of the site along the southern boundary (c.140m), along a short section of the north-west boundary (c.22m) and the installation of two kissing gates. A total of 56 auger holes were excavated using an 'auto auger mechanical post-hole borer' with a 20cm diameter auger over two days in January 2017. A high level of modern disturbance was evident, particularly along the north-western and southern boundaries with the recovery of plastic and twine. No artefacts or soil horizons of archaeological significance were encountered and unlike the previous 2014 auger survey, bedrock was not identified.



Plate 30: Auger holes locations 2014 survey (blue) and 2017 survey (red), courtesy of The Discovery Programme

Clearance & Fencing Installation 2017: Ministerial Consent No. **C786/E4805**

The demolition of the derelict building, removal of detritus in the south-west quadrant of the site and installation of fencing was archaeologically monitored over four days between the 9th-14th March 2017. One of the boundary stones related to the Martello tower was discovered along the northern limit of the cow shed, having been re-used as a step. A total of forty-five posts were driven along the southern boundary at the base of the bank, which had previously been augered. No artefacts or soil horizons of archaeological significance were identified but a high level of modern disturbance was evident, particularly along the north-western and southern boundaries.

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5.10.3. Excavations:

Two invasive archaeological investigations were undertaken in the townlands adjoining Drumanagh. Approximately 150m-200m west of the promontory fort in the townland of Ballustree a test-excavation (NMS Licence Ref.: 92E0205) was undertaken in advance of the Loughshinny shore station, associated with a gas interconnector. An area measuring 85mNS x 135mEW was tested. A series of 19th/20th field drains were cut into natural subsoil. No feature or finds of archaeological significance were identified (Scallan 1993).

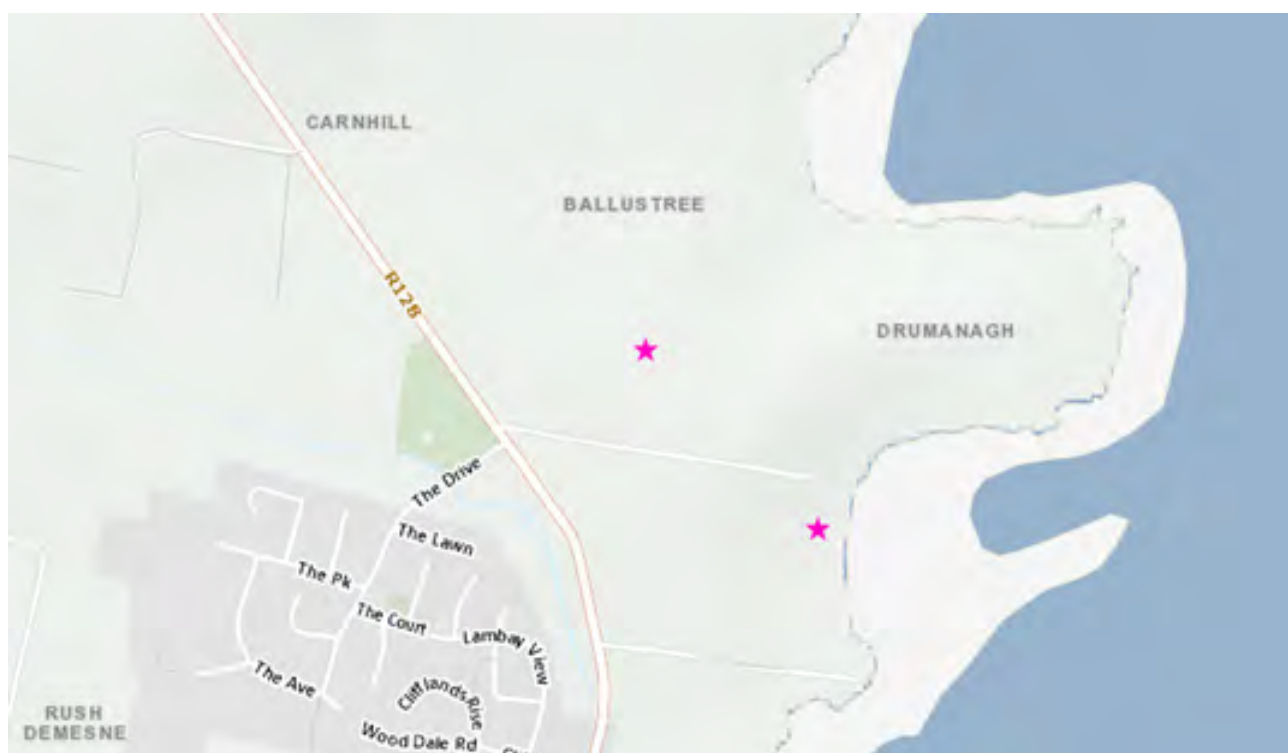


Plate 31: Location of archaeological investigations sourced from www.heritagemaps.ie

In 1992 archaeological monitoring of the initial phases of groundworks-two test pits- in preparation for receiving the gas pipeline, was carried out by Margaret Gowen (NMS files). Nothing of archaeological interest was noted during these groundworks.

Monitoring of the regrading of the cliff (NMS Licence Ref: 10E0391) was undertaken by Jane Whitaker in September 2011. It appears that the gas pipeline had been inserted previously and the ground reinstated prior to this regrading. There is no reference to the original works being undertaken under archaeological supervision (Whitaker, 2011).

5.10.4 Surface Collection Survey

Dr Conor Brady carried out a surface collection survey (NMI 2016C1) on behalf of the National Monuments Service in October 2016, following damage to the site by motorbike scrambling. A total of 197 artefacts were recovered. The majority were of flint and indicative of activity here in the Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Three sherds of medieval pottery were also recovered (Brady, 2016).

6. Material Culture

The promontory fort at Drumanagh, Co. Dublin, has proven to be a rich source of Roman material since the 1950's when ploughing revealed sherds of Roman pottery (now lost: Bateson 1973, 70). Artefacts have been recovered as stray finds, as the result of ploughing, unauthorised metal-detecting and following motorbike scrambling. While the emphasis has been placed on the imported finds it is important to note that a range of artefacts recovered indicate a site in use from earliest times to the medieval period.

6.1. Topographical Files

There are 72 items listed in the National Museum of Ireland's topographical files as items recovered from the townland of Drumanagh. A further nine items were listed originally as Drumanagh but are in fact from the fields immediately to the south of the promontory that are within the townland of Rush (refer Appendix 2). The finds from Drumanagh were submitted to the Museum as the result of singular incidents of stray finds or groups of objects recovered after specific incidents of ploughing. The latter includes fourteen objects recovered in 1977 when a broad band of tillage (10-15m in width) diagonally across the promontory and a single furrow c.10m from the defences and the cliff edge around the site was ploughed. Traces of habitation sites and concentration of winkle shells and animal bones were identified. Flint flakes, pottery, and an early medieval copper alloy pin indicate multi-period settlement.

Among the mix of pottery in the Museum's assemblage which includes coarse and medieval wares are sherds of imported pottery. A large (0.4m x 0.23m) potsherd (1977:1222) has been tentatively identified as Dressel 20 amphorae which are Spanish pottery of 1st-early 3rd century date. A tiny sherd of Samian ware (1980:031) appears to derive from the plain shoulder of a decorated beaker Dechelette 67. This form was manufactured in both south and central Gaul in the latter half of the first century and into the first two decades of the second century AD.

The only metal artefact discovered as a stray find (as opposed to metal-detected) is that of a seal box (2004:174) recovered from the eastern side of the ramparts in the upcast of motorbike scrambling in 2004 by local historian Cmdt. Paddy Boyle. The seal box is lozenge-shaped and made of enamelled copper alloy is of 1st-3rd century AD date. Seal boxes were interpreted as devices for securing personal communications and private letters (Bateson 1981) and therefore associated with the spread of Latin literacy across the Empire. However recent research has found the design features of seal boxes are unsuitable for attaching to documents and it is much more likely that they were used for sealing bags of coinage (Daffy 2013, 99)

6



Plate 32: Seal box lid from Drumanagh. Photo by Sean Daffy

6.2. Metal Detected Finds

Drumanagh promontory fort was subject to illegal metal-detecting for many years and significant objects were removed from a sale in 1995 at Sothebys by Mr Eamonn Kelly, National Museum of Ireland. The corpus of metal-detected material of c.150 objects was subsequently subject to legal proceedings. Members of the LIARI project viewed a portion of the collection in 2012 'it appears to comprise a wide range of objects including personal items such as finger rings, dolphin fibulae, trumpet fibulae and several umbonate enamelled plate brooches. ..There are several whole and unfinished Raftery Type D and decorated horse-bits and Y-shaped pendants,, several bronze cinerary vessels and a wide range of metalwork including mounts and rings..there are also around 40 whole and partial copper, bronze and brass ingots...there is a piece of tile or brick that appears of Roman type but may be later...there are approximately sixteen coins' (Cahill Wilson 2014, 26).

A catalogue of this collection, compiled by Mr Eamonn Kelly and Dr Lynda Mulvin is due to be completely shortly (Eamonn Kelly pers. comm).

Roger Bland published a report on eighteen bronze coins of Domitian, Trajan, Hadrian and Antoninus Pius (AD 81-160) believed to have been scattered across Drumanagh promontory fort, recovered from unauthorised metal-detecting and now in the National Museum of Ireland. The coins are corroded and two show signs of having been cleaned. Bland concludes that on the basis of the coin evidence contact between Drumanagh and the Romanised world started in the reign of Domitian (AD 81-96), and ended around AD 150, and that trading activities would be the most likely explanation for their presence at Drumanagh (Bland, 2014).

7. Biodiversity

The site was first described in terms of its natural assets by John Ruty in 1772;

‘The soil of the county in general is poor. The richest spot by repute is at Dromanagh near Kenure by the seaside on the estate of Sir Robert Echlin; it is said that 23 acres of it will fatten a great number of cattle in half a year than I dare to mention and sheep afterwards. The soil is like garden-mould and from 9 to 12 inches deep.....It is said to purge Cattle new put into it which is imputed to the Spray of the Sea which is near it. The Herbage is purple and white clover, plenty of thistles and nettles, Ray-grafs, *Bents* or *Gramen criftatum*² and *Gramen vernum spica laxa*³’.



Plate 33: Evidence for nesting birds at Drumanagh. Courtesy of Derek Redmond

Today the site consists mainly of rank unmanaged grassland which makes it a locally valuable site for wildlife, given the intensive agricultural management of the surrounding countryside. Drumanagh is not currently designated as a protected site by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, however the extensive headland provides numerous habitats. During summer 2017, a suite of surveys were carried out by Roughan Environmental, commissioned by Fingal County Council to characterise the site. The site is primarily composed of grassland, but also includes hedgerows, scrub, embankment, a drainage ditch, sea cliffs and rocky sea-shore. The grassland provides nesting habitat for ground-nesting birds, including Skylark and Meadow Pipit. The embankment

² Likely to be *Cynosurus cristatus* or ‘Crested dog’s-tail’, Dr Gerry Clabby, pers. comm.

³ Modern day *Anthoxanthum odoratum* or ‘Sweet-Vernal Grass’ Dr Gerry Clabby pers.comm.

7 Biodiversity

and cliff edges, where dense, tussocky grasses cannot develop, incorporates a relatively species-rich grassland, which supports Common Lizard. The surveys, including botanical, mammal, bird and non-native species, identified 32 bird species, two bat species, two mammal species and 46 species of vascular plant, including one non-native species.

A key element of the project was to identify enhancement measures that could be employed to further improve the ecological value of the site. In order to prevent the natural succession of the grasslands at Drumanagh Headland to scrub, and to promote a more species-rich grassland, it was recommended that a mowing regime should be put in place. It is anticipated that herbaceous species such as Lady's Bed-straw, Yarrow and clovers will colonise the grassland once a mowing regime is employed. Operating a different mowing regime in different sections of the headland and not mowing some areas in a given year would also promote greater habitat and species diversity. The mowing regime should seek to provide grazing for wintering geese and waders, and nesting habitat for ground-nesting birds in spring and summer.

One small patch of Spanish Bluebell, an invasive species was identified during the surveys. This stand should be dug out in spring when the leaves are visible. The scrub on the northern side of the headland should be retained as cover for wildlife.

It was also found that wildlife on Drumanagh Headland is subject to significant disturbance from recreational activities including walkers, dogs and motorbikes. Kestrel, which were in the recent past recorded nesting on the cliffs, have apparently abandoned the site, which may be as a result of disturbance from motorbikes. People using the area should be encouraged to keep dogs on a short leash to avoid disturbance to ground nesting birds.

8. Results Of Field Survey

The site was inspected on 4th January 2017, 21st January 2017, 27th February 2017 and 2nd March 2017 and on a subsequent bi-monthly basis throughout 2017. These inspections were the combination of field survey and inspection of scrambling incidents.



Plate 34: View north to St Patrick's Island, Skerries and the Mourne Mountains beyond

The site has extensive 360 degree views of the surrounding land and sea. To the north the view is of Loughshinny harbour overlooked by the highly visible Pope's Hill and the seaward side is dominated by the view to Skerries Islands, including Shenick Island where the Martello tower is visible and St Patrick's Island with the Mourne Mountains as a backdrop on a clear day. There are unimpaired views of the sea lanes of the Irish Sea punctuated by Rock-a-bill island. Towards the south-east the view is dominated by Lambay Island, while there are clear sightlines over Roaring Water Bay and the coastline to Rush with the backdrop of the Dublin and Wicklow mountains. On the landward side the relatively flat field slopes fall away gently to the south-west and the view is unimpeded westwards to the relict hedgeline of the Kenure Estate and the Skerries-Rush road.

8.1. Access & Perimeter

The promontory fort is most easily entered via the laneway that extends eastwards from the main Skerries-Rush road almost opposite to St Catherine's housing estate. Traversing a tarmacadamed area, the lane is bounded by earthen banks and entrances to the neighbouring fields. Until recent clearance the laneway was overgrown along the southern boundary of the site. The laneway of compacted earth, grass, and in places, gravel tends towards pooling of water especially around the entrance to the site at its south-western corner. Here was the site of a 1960s cow shed, a burnt out car and dumped detritus, concrete piers and a blocked gateway, which were removed under

8 Results Of Field Survey

Ministerial Consent (C786/E4805) in March 2017 (Baker 2017).

Access from the north is via the cliff path from Loughshinny which has undergone maintenance (insertion of gabions and steps) works at the Loughshinny end. The cliff path dips down as it curves towards the site. The entrance here is a path through a 1.2m break in the perimeter wall. Access from the south is via a cliff side walk through farmer's fields from the north beach in Rush. This pathway used to extend around the terminal of the southern boundary extremely close to the cliff face. Due to the inherent danger this was fenced off and the original gateway that had been blocked up was reopened and a 'kissing gate' installed.

The perimeter of the site is defined by the townland boundary between Drumanagh and Ballustree to the west. This boundary consists of a well-established hedgeline and a wall externally faced by a ditch. It runs mainly north-south curving gently at the north-western corner of the site before creating a sharp corner at the cliff face. The wall is rubble built and stands between 0.6m and 1.2m in height with at least six courses of roughly shaped stone (0.25m-0.45m diam.) visible. The wall averages 0.5m in width and is loosely mortared with a whitish mortar with large pebble aggregate. The wall is mostly overgrown with brambles. A wall in this position appears on the 1760 map. The remnant of the wall visible at the cliff-face appears to be that marked on the 1830s Name Book map as 'Wall, apparently ancient'.



Plate 35: View of erosion along the northern perimeter of Drumanagh

The northern perimeter of the site comprises a cliff-face that is generally sheer. The visible sections of soil are interspersed with the folding rocks, characteristic of the area. Attempts have been made to fence this area and it has been subject to erosion. The well (DU008-003-) marked on the First Edition map is situated along this perimeter but is completely overgrown and inaccessible.



Plate 36: Views of the eastern cliff face of Drumanagh headland. Courtesy of Nua Photography

The north-eastern corner of the promontory is characterised by a distinctive bay defined by grass-covered slopes forming a lunular-shaped inlet with a sandy beach. Although surrounded by rock there is a passage-like element at low-tide that suggests low-hulled boats could land here. The slopes along the entire eastern perimeter are relatively gentle and provide access to the shoreline below. This is at odds with the supposedly defensive nature of the site.

8 Results Of Field Survey



Plate 37: View of Drumanagh southern perimeter wall from Roaring Water Bay

The southern perimeter of the promontory consists of grassy relatively steep slopes over the characteristic rock of the area above Roaring Water Bay, although there is a distinct change as the promontory meets the land. Here the cliff face consists of soil and the drop is sheer. The southern perimeter of the site is defined by the laneway and is the townland boundary between Drumanagh and Rush. It consists of a wall-faced earthen bank that extends from c.2m west of the wall associated with the southern gate. This boundary averages 0.9m in height and the wall is rubble built and unmortared with stones 0.2m-0.3m in diameter. A wall in this position appears on the 1760 map.

8.2. Outside the Ramparts

The land between the ramparts and the western boundary is relatively flat and is traversed by footpaths trodden towards breaks in the ramparts. This area contains the sub-surface enclosure (DU008-094----) and was ploughed in 2014 which impacted on the outer counterscarp of the ramparts to the north. Currently it is a mixture of grass and vegetation which has been rutted by recent motorbike scrambling activity.



Plate 38: The pond, facing east-south-east

There are two water features in this area. The pond and stream, known locally as Roaring Water stream (Seamus McGuinness pers. comm.) is characterised as a wide expanse of shallow water overgrown with vegetation which narrows towards the ramparts where it flows through the outer ditch and over the cliff face. Approximately 130m north of this is a well. The circular well measures approximately 0.9m in diameter and is truncated to the south where large concrete blocks have been dumped. The well is lined with large (0.2m x 0.4m diam.) roughly shaped stones. At least two courses of stone are visible before the water which is 0.45m below edge. The well site is overgrown with brambles and long grass.



Plate 40: The main entrance to the site through the inner rampart, facing south, March 2017

8.3. The Ramparts

The inner rampart is the most substantially surviving to a height of c.2m above the interior of the site. The ditch external to it is most pronounced towards the southern end of the site where the stream runs through it. The ramparts are traversed towards the south where the road to the Martello tower was inserted. This is now a low point with flowing water. Large timber and concrete blocks have been laid to facilitate crossing.



Plate 41: Southern crossing point of the stream and ramparts

The stream is also crossed by a stone bridge where it narrows towards the ramparts. It is grassed over and c. 2.5m-3m in width. This crossing is contiguous with a break in the ramparts and constitutes the main entrance to the interior of the site. Aerial photography of the 1960s-1980s shows activity at this point which may indicate the construction or modification of this entrance way. Approximately 25m north is another break in the inner rampart, c.4m in width. Towards the north of the site the ramparts have been modified (pre. 1810) to incorporate interior field boundaries which form a high bank at the junction with the inner rampart. Modification has also resulted in a distinctive circular mound visible on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map and subsequent maps. There is another gap in the ramparts towards the northern limit where the defences narrow and the inner bank and ditch and the counterscarp bank converge close to the overgrown well.

8 Results Of Field Survey



Plate 42: Relict field boundaries, facing east

The area of the ramparts and the entranceways have been used as a circuit for motorbike scrambling. An older circuit active in the mid-2000s formed a distinct ribbon shape concentrated along the interior of the ramparts and the field interior field boundaries. The current active circuit is more comprehensive circling the length of the ramparts and entranceways along its north-south axis, as well as traversing the ramparts east-west in several places. This has proved highly detrimental to the ramparts stripping them of their grass covering, exposing stone and creating rutting.

The circuit of disturbance was walked on a number of occasions. A struck flint was recovered from the disturbance of the most westerly of the banks of the ramparts. Fragments of clinker associated with glass making and a struck flint was recovered from the upcast within the main entrance way through the ramparts.



Plate 43: 2007 motor and quad biking circuit damage



Plate 44: Current motorbike scrambling circuit, 2017

8 Results Of Field Survey

8.4. Interior of the Promontory

Although generally characterised as flat (50m OD), the ground level of the interior is varied across the site. Relatively high around the Martello tower, the ground slopes steeply down to the north-west and gently down to west where there is a distinctive low-point about mid-way east-west towards the northern half of the site rising up to the relict field boundaries. There is also a distinct rise visible from the southern limit of the promontory looking north-east towards the Martello. Despite the thatch-like grass which covers the interior of the promontory the relict field boundaries comprised of banks and ditches are highly visible, as is the road to the Martello tower. There is an area of uneven ground south of the Martello tower which is contiguous with what were thought to be sub-surface structures on aerial photographs and which geophysical survey identified a well-defined cultivation pattern (Dowling 2014, Area 1C).

8.5. Martello Tower



Plate 45: Drone view of the Martello Tower 2014. Image Nua Photography

Located at the east end of the promontory, there is a squat cylindrical tower built of masonry, which has been rendered. The entrance is on the west side and is positioned above ground level and it is defended by a machicolation carried on corbels. A rope has been attached to allow access by climbing in and toe-holds have been worn in the masonry below the entrance. Stones from the collapse of the nearby privy have been piled at the base to aid entry. The exterior has long been subject to graffiti –at person height around its circumference. In recent times the bars and grates blocking the opes have been removed. A limited number of coping stones on the parapet are missing.



Plate 46: Interior of the Martello tower entranceway

The interior is not easily accessed but it is in relatively good condition. The entrance is square-headed with limestone rubble reveals and soffit. The remnants of the door are visible as rusted iron works and holes in the opposing stones. The entrance opens onto the first floor. The wooden floor was previously burnt and removed with the beam sockets evident at first-floor entrance level. The interior of the tower had been lime-washed but is now dotted with graffiti. The basement is divided east-west by the remains of red-brick walls and lit by opes to the east and west. There is some modern detritus, concentrated mounds of guano and scatters of brick and stone across the floor. Towards the south-west at basement level is a small fireplace and another inserted into the wall at first-floor level to the south. The entrances to the stairway are one above the other facing west immediately inside the main entrance. There is some stone collapse at the basal entrance but generally the stairway is in good condition.



Plate 47: Interior of the Martello tower, first floor

The stone surrounding the opening to the roof and parapet is detailed both internally and externally indicating a covering, gate or door. Central to the roof is the mount for the canon with iron detailing. The internal wall of the parapet has been covered in graffiti but is in good condition. The interior of the machicolation has also been subject to graffiti but likewise is in good condition. The iron fittings of the oven have rusted and partially been removed. As is visible from the exterior there are some coping stones missing from the parapet and the joints have become grass filled but the general condition is very good with exceptional views over the coastline and the promontory itself.



Plate 48: Roof of Martello Tower

8.6. The Privy:

An examination of the accessible maps of the Martello Towers of Fingal on the Military Archives website, indicate that additional structures were constructed around Martello towers between the early 1850s and 1862. These include a piggery or pig sty, and a privy typically denoted as square structures.

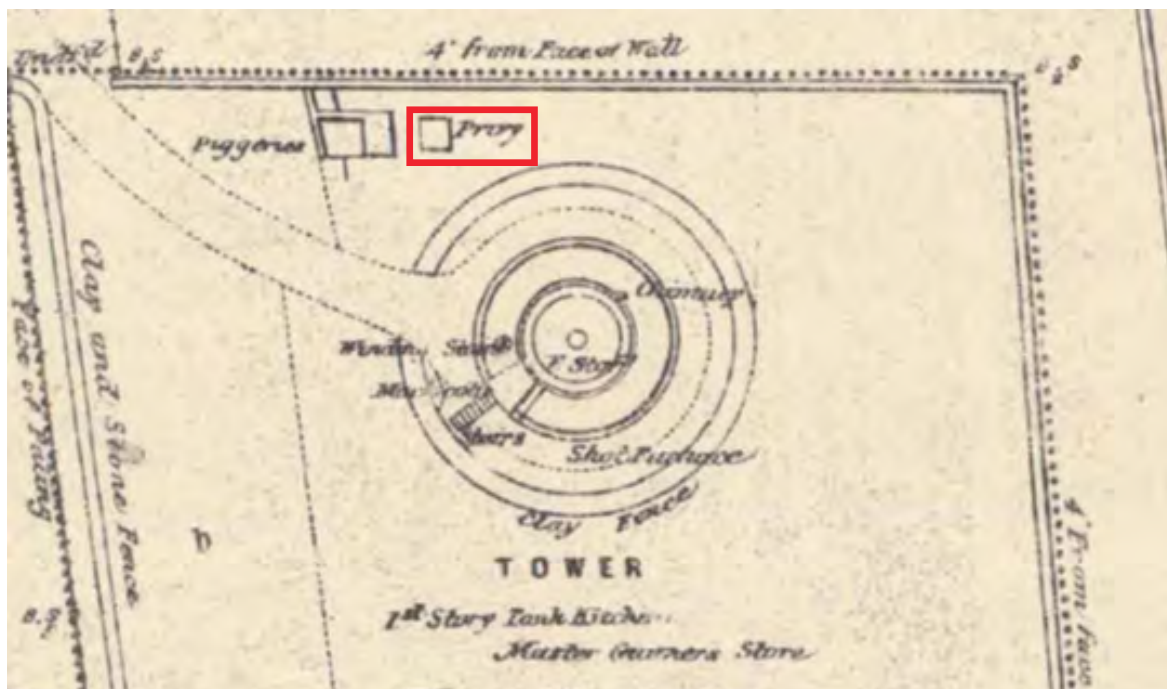


Fig. 14: Skerries Royal Engineer Corps Drawing (surveyed 1859, published 1862)
Military Archives: Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad119458004 1862

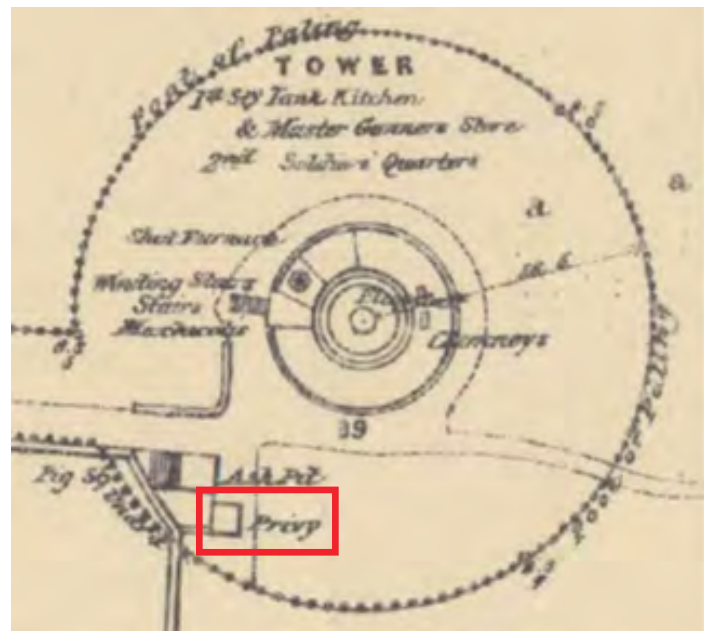


Fig. 15: Portrane and Rush Martellos and privies, 1862

8 Results Of Field Survey

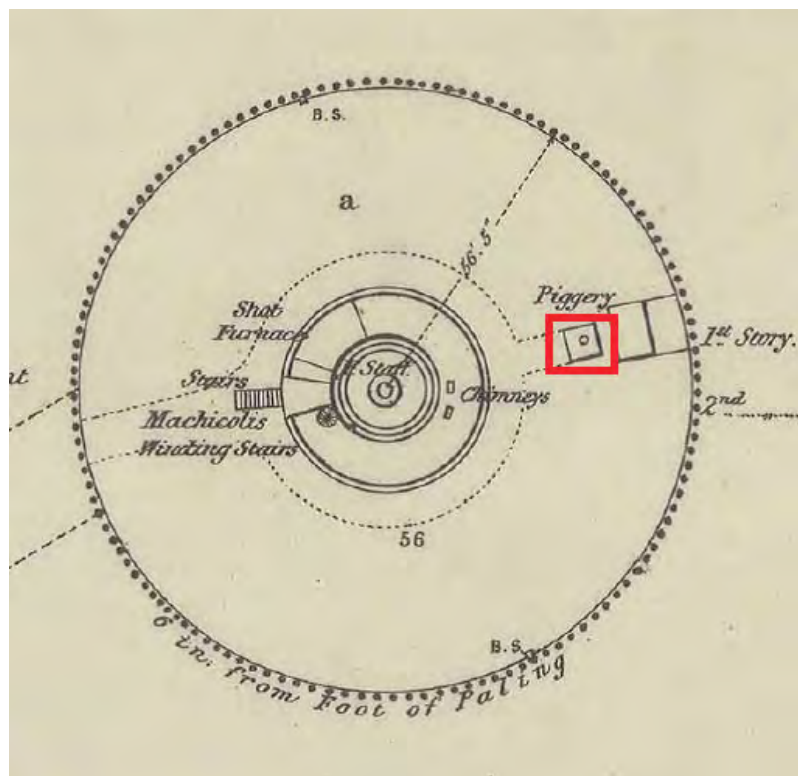


Fig. 16: Drumanagh, Royal Engineer Corps Drawing (surveyed 1859, published 1862)
Military Archives: Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad134122-003

The best surviving remains of a privy are on Shenick Island, due to its relative inaccessibility. The privies have been removed from the other Martello towers in Fingal, excepting the remaining fragment at Drumanagh.



Plate 49: Privy, Shenick Island

Results Of Field Survey 8

The surviving privy fragment at Drumanagh measures 2.75m in maximum height and 1.5m in width north-south. The southern wall measures 0.72m east-west at the base. The width of both wall fragments is a consistent 0.42m and the two course rubble foundation visible to the west is 0.3m in height. The remains of the privy have been subject to graffiti, fires and vandalism, resulting in cracking and significant collapse.



Plate 50: Drumanagh privy, facing east-north-east, December 2017



Plate 51: Drumanagh Privy, facing north, March 2017

8 Results Of Field Survey

8.7. Gates

There are two gates that have been inserted into the perimeter boundaries of the site. They both comprise limestone built gate piers. The southern gate is marked by two indented piers of limestone blocks c. 2.93m apart, and forms the access way from the laneway adjacent to the southern boundary of the site onto the road to the Martello Tower. It is abutted by several metres of wall to either side which appear to have been inserted into an earlier boundary wall. Immediately (0.7m) to the west of the western pier is a stile consisting of two graduated steps (lower 0.6m from ground level/upper 0.4m from top of wall), 0.27m apart incorporated in to the wall (0.48m in width). A 'kissing gate' was installed in March 2017 to provide pedestrian access.



Plate 52: The exterior of the southern gate flanked by boundary stones

The western gate is marked by two piers of very overgrown limestone blocks c.2.8m apart this gateway faces west onto a field boundary and would have formed the entranceway into the site from the Loughshinny side. The square piers measure 0.95m in average diameter and are at least 2m in height. The overgrown remnants of an iron gate are barely visible between the piers. The form and fabric is the same as the gate on the southern boundary associated directly with the Martello Tower indicating a nineteenth century date.

8.8. Boundary Stones

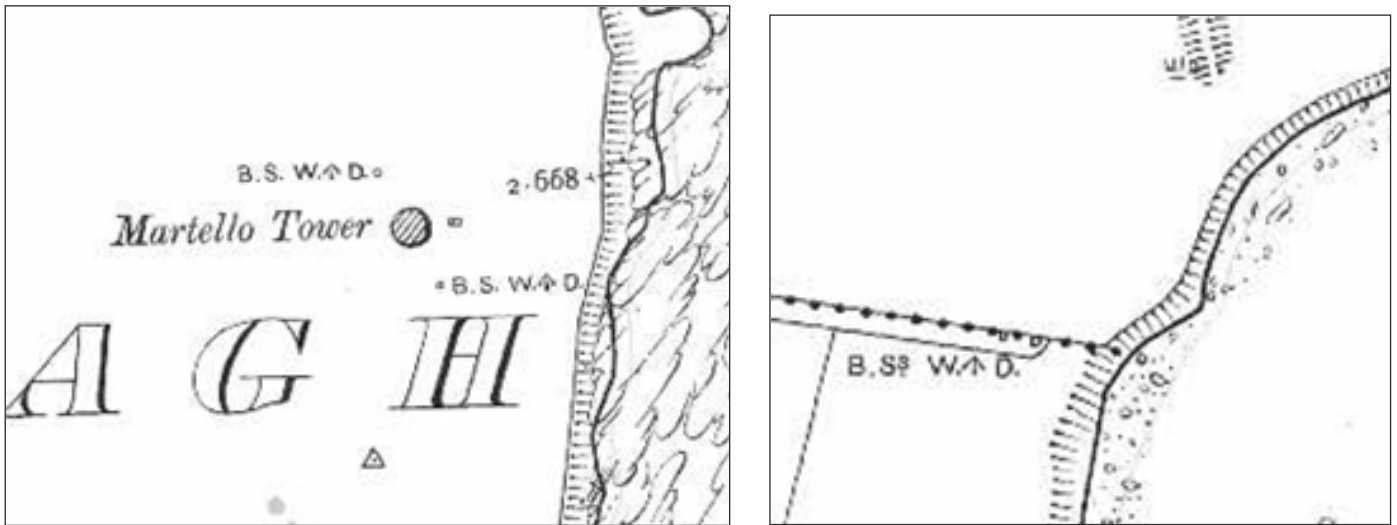


Fig. 17: Boundary stone at the Martello tower and Laneway, OS 25 inch map 1906-1908

There are four boundary stones marked on the military maps; two either side of the Martello tower indicating the extent of the plot surrounding the tower and two at the entrance way to the road to the Martello. The former have been removed from their original setting and their current positions identified within the locality. The boundary stones at the entranceway are located exterior to the southern gate, approximately 5m apart. Both are of cut granite with a pyramidal top and a visible height of 0.75m with each face measuring 0.3m in width. Arrows are visible on all faces.

8.9. Trackways

The original approach to the Martello tower survives as a sunken trackway extending from the south-east corner of the fort approximately 6m in width. It is defined by low banks and ditches but overgrown and obscured along its southern limit by a pathway made by walkers and motorcycle scramblers.

8 Results Of Field Survey



Plate 53: Original approach to the Martello tower (right) and modern trackway

Highly visible on the 1999 geophysical survey is a trackway that extends from the current main entrance through the ramparts. It runs parallel to the possible landing bay at the north-east corner of the promontory. This trackway presents as a pair of shallow linear depression on the LiDAR survey, approximately 70m north of, and running parallel to, the approach to the Martello tower. This trackway has also been recorded within Areas 1a and 1b of the 2014 geophysical survey as ditches containing stones/soil infill 2m in average width and spaced 10m apart. (Dowling 2014, 66). While not particularly visible on site due the height of the grass thatch within the interior the extant 18th/19th century field boundaries appear to post-date the trackway.

External to the ramparts and extending north-south from the pond to a derelict gate in the southern field boundary is a presumed trackway. It is only visible on the 2014 geophysical survey where it appears as a 'broad magnetic lineation' (Dowling 2014, 74).

Extending around the perimeter of the site and crossing to the Martello tower are a series of modern trackways trampled by the frequent visitors to the site. They are visible on the satellite imagery of the site and represent the use of the site by walkers. However in recent months these paths are being used and expanded by motorbike use around the site and there is also evidence of horse-riding along these paths.

9. Assessment Of Significance

Drumanagh promontory fort has different elements of significance and value that derive from its multi-layered past and its present use. As Westropp wrote;

‘The subject of the fortified headlands, large and complex as it has proved to be, is of itself rich in matters of interest touching tradition, history, and folk-lore’

9.1. Archaeological Significance:

One of four coastal promontories in Fingal, Drumanagh is one of the largest and most impressive monuments of its type in Ireland. The headland has been designated a National Monument since 1977 when it was subject to a Preservation Order. The site is a palimpsest of human activity from the earliest times, but is recognised as a key region in the investigations of the late Iron Age. The largest assemblage of Roman, Romano-British and Iron Age artefacts ever found in Ireland have been recovered from Drumanagh which may have acted as a manufacturing, trading and distribution point between the west coast of Wales and England and the tribes of Spain and Gaul. The promontory holds strategic significance on the maritime trade routes and may have been an entry point, to an inland route across Fingal to the seat of Irish kingship at Tara, Co. Meath. It is a nationally important site and is internationally important in terms of Ireland’s relations with the Roman world.

9.2. Architectural Significance

Apart from the fort’s ramparts, the Martello tower is perhaps the most visible element of the Drumanagh landscape. The protected structure is one of twelve Martello towers built north of Dublin and is one of four in Fingal, in public ownership. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage rates the tower as regionally important and of historical, architectural and technical interest. The gates, two boundary stones and the road to the Martello survive forming an almost complete architectural assemblage for the 19th century Martello landscape.

9.3. Historic Significance

‘It lay near the dun of Forgall, near Lusk, and was a garden sanctuary (of the God Lug), where his son Cuchullain wooed Emer Forgall’s daughter’ (Boyle, 2001). The folklore of Drumanagh hints at its Iron Age past but much like nearby Lambay there appears to have been activity here throughout the span of human history. Drumanagh formed part of the medieval manors of Rush and Kenure Demesne and finds from the site including an early medieval pin and medieval coins and pottery suggest a vibrant historic landscape here.

9.4. Ecological Significance

Throughout the early modern period Drumanagh was known for its grasslands and their ability to fatten cattle. The site is of considerable importance for birds, as it is known to have supported Kestrel, Short-eared Owl and Buzzard (D. Redmond pers. comm.) and provides suitable feeding

habitat for geese, waders, Skylark, Sand Martin, thrushes, sparrows and chats (Visser et al., 2004). Otters, Viviparous Lizard, Irish Stoat and rodent species have also been observed at the site. The headland also provides foraging habitat for Leisler's Bat, Soprano Pipistrelle and potentially others bat species (Keeley, 2004). Multidisciplinary ecological surveys were conducted within the site in 2017 which identified 32 bird species, two bat species, two mammal species and 46 species of vascular plant, including one non-native species (Roughan & O'Donovan 2017).

9.5. Amenity Significance

As far back as locals can remember, people of the area have always walked around Drumanagh. This tradition continues today and the promontory is a busy place for families and dog walkers alike. Given its location the site is a key element of the proposed coastal walking route, the Fingal Coastal Way, mirroring its past when people from Loughshinny would walk along the cliffs to Rush for mass.

9.6. Community Significance

The site of Drumanagh forms an integral part of the cultural identity of the people of Loughshinny and Rush. Drumanagh has a particular significance in the wider cultural heritage of the area and the land use and farming traditions of its surroundings.

10. Issues

In order to develop recommendations for the management of Drumanagh it is necessary to identify the current and potential threats that could adversely affect the significance of the site. The greatest threat to the integrity of the promontory fort is the existing unauthorised use of the site for motorbike scrambling. The rutting and scarping of the banks and ditches and consequent upcast of material is having a cumulative detrimental effect on the monument itself and possibly disturbing artefactual material. It is hoped the recent delineation of the site with protective fencing and signage will obviate this threat.



Plate 54: Assessment of motorbike damage courtesy of local resident, Derek Redmond

10.1. Archaeological Research

The primary characteristic of Drumanagh is its international, national and regional significance as an Iron Age promontory fort with connections to the Roman world. However the unauthorised nature of the retrieval of the material culture of the site; the multi-phase nature of the available evidence and the gaps in knowledge surrounding the apex of its use presumed to be the Iron Age mean that we actually know relatively little about the site, and its uses.

The investigations thus far involving non-invasive techniques, although limited by area, have identified several previously unknown archaeological sites within Drumanagh and in the wider coastal landscape. Given the development of technology and techniques it is imperative that the full extent of Drumanagh is subject to micro-topographical analysis and geophysical survey. This is a baseline step in informing future research. An essential next step is the ground-truthing of the geophysical survey, that is, the test-excavation of anomalies to determine their nature and extent. This would allow for the retrieval of samples for dating and artefacts for analysis. This is important in establishing the date of use of the site. While much emphasis has been placed on the Roman finds from the site and it is an extremely important element, the multi-phase nature of the site must not be overlooked.

The timing, funding and extent of archaeological investigation are also issues. Geophysical survey will be enabled by the removal of the high vegetation that is presently covering the site, which is in itself subject to seasonal constraints. The sheer size of the site means that any survey would be an expensive undertaking and there is a lack of facilities should excavation be undertaken. Given the nature of ownership there also needs to be a facility for community involvement and interaction with any archaeological investigations.

10.2. Vandalism

Vandalism and graffiti of the Martello tower and extant remains of ancillary elements are a concern. The iron bars of the gates have been removed. A rope is continually replaced to provide unauthorised access to the interior. Fires have been lit against the remains of the privy and the number of cans indicate the immediate vicinity of the tower is being used for anti-social activities.

10.3. Unauthorised Metal Detecting

Metal detecting without a licence issued by the Minister of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is illegal. To be in possession of a detection device at a monument protected under the National Monuments Acts is illegal without prior written consent of the Minister. To use a detection device to search for archaeological objects without prior consent from the Minister is illegal. There have been numerous reports of unauthorised metal detecting at and in the environs of Drumanagh in recent years.

10.4. Health & Safety

The privy to the east of the Martello tower has been in a ruinous condition for a number of years with no roof and only one partial wall of the structure is now still standing, the east gable wall. It is in a precarious condition. There is a stepped diagonal crack clearly visible on the inner face running from the top corner on the southern side to halfway down the wall on the northern side. The lower half of the wall is missing stones from the northern corner leaving the upper section top heavy. This combined with the diagonal crack and the fact that the mortar around some stones at the base and top has eroded raises serious concerns about the structural stability of the surviving

section of this building. Fingal County Council is working with the National Monuments Service, to source an engineering solution.

10.5. Threat to fabric

The full extent of the threat to the fabric of the Martello tower is unknown as it has not been subject to a structural survey. It is currently evident that some of the stone coping to the parapet of the Martello is damaged or missing and requires repair. The external render around the base of the tower and around the door opening has come away and the joints of the roof of the tower are grass-filled and may require remortaring.

The south and west gate piers and immediately adjacent walls are contemporary fabric that requires attention including vegetation removal, cleaning and mortaring of joints, and stone replacement in order to arrest further deterioration.

10.6. Grass Management

The height of grass and other vegetation across the monument is obscuring the topographical features of the site, constraining access and impeding necessary archaeological research. There are currently three options proposed for the grass management, each with potential issues.

1. Frequent cuts using a tractor and forage harvester until the grass has been brought to a manageable level.

This option will require ongoing maintenance and the number of cuts required will be costly. The frequent traversing of the site with machinery may have an adverse effect on the underlying topography of the site. It should be noted that grass cutting cannot be undertaken between the 1st March-31st August, of any given year, as per the Wildlife Acts.

2. Use of a specialised machine to remove dead grass, thatch and restore growth to normal grass growth in a minimal number of cutting events. It is proposed that the machinery be tested on the site in limited areas which will also provide information on vegetation regrowth.

3. Use of cattle grazing for a specified period of time.

Cattle have been used successfully for grass management at St Catherine's Park, Lucan. The size of the site should obviate any danger of poaching by the animals. However the presence of cattle and walkers would not be compatible and access to the site would need to be restricted over several months of grazing.

A recommendation of the 2017 ecological study (refer Appendix 3) is for the implementation of a mowing regime, in order to promote a more species rich grassland. Aiming for a summer sward height of 20-50cm it is noted that operating a different mowing regime in different sections of the headland, twice a year, would promote greater habitat and species diversity (Roughan & O'Donovan 2017, 16).

10.7. Biodiversity

While the site is currently not subject to statutory nature protection, it is locally known to be an area of value for wildlife. Multidisciplinary ecological surveys were commissioned during summer 2017. The surveys identified 32 bird species, two bat species, two mammal species and 46 species of vascular plant, including one non-native species. The grassland provides nesting habitat for ground-nesting birds, including Skylark and Meadow Pipit. The embankment and cliff edges, where dense, tussocky grasses cannot develop, incorporates a relatively species-rich grassland, which supports Common Lizard (Roughan & O'Donovan, 2017).

10.8. Access

The insertion of fencing in 2017 around the site is specifically to prevent inappropriate access to motorbikes and horses while directing pedestrian approaches. The desire lines of users are evident from the aerial photographs and have resulted in the establishment of narrow pathways around the perimeter of the site and to and from the Martello tower. The current entry points to the site also present difficulties; the north-western entrance is over a sloping bank which is often waterlogged and slippery underfoot. The western entrance from the laneway requires crossing the stream. This is possible where a bridging point has been provided, however many use the southern approach through the ditch. Ease of crossing here is dependent on rainfall, the level of which can result in flowing stream or a waterlogged ditch.

In order to improve the safety of the existing pathways and as grass paths are not sufficient in the long-term, it is proposed to insert 'no-dig' pathways to reflect the current usage patterns on the site. This may involve the removal of sod (c.2.5m in width) and the insertion of drainage which will have an impact on the underlying archaeology.

10.9. Wider Context of Access

The purchase of Drumanagh was an essential step towards the facilitation of the Fingal Coastal Way. This is a long-term aim of the Council to provide a coastal and walking amenity from Sutton to Balbriggan. The character and route of the Coastal Way has yet to be decided but it will cross Drumanagh to link to the cliff walk to Loughshinny and will impact on the underlying archaeology.

Those who currently visit the site walk from Rush, Loughshinny or from the nearby housing estates off the Skerries-Rush road. These routeways need improvement in terms of health and safety as;

- The cliff between Drumanagh and Loughshinny can be dangerous. There have been fall fatalities in the past.
- There is an issue with unauthorised access-many people access the site across privately-owned land
- The laneway to the site is often waterlogged and muddy in winter and overgrown with nettles and vegetation in summer making direct access difficult.
- Increased awareness and access to the site will also increase visitor numbers which may in

turn lead to an increased demand for parking facilities in the vicinity. At present there is a small car park at the harbour in Loughshinny, another at the end of North beach in Rush and a carpark at the lodge in St Catherine's estate. However provision of car parking and facilities for Drumanagh may need to be addressed.

10.10. Interpretation

Most site users have little knowledge of the international archaeological significance of the site although interest may be centred on the upstanding Martello tower. The site is lacking guides, interpretative signage or easily accessible reference material. This is further compounded by the gaps in definitive knowledge about the site that currently exist.

10.11. Potential Areas of Conflict

Fingal County Council as the owner of the site has a duty of care not only to the site as an archaeological monument and protected structure but to those that use the site. It needs to protect the integrity of the site while ensuring the health and safety of its users and also providing access to the site.

11 Opportunities

11. Opportunities

11.1. Archaeological Research

A collaborative research programme should be developed for the site. Drawing on existing research, using a multi-disciplinary approach this would be necessary for the long-term protection and interpretation of the site. There is enormous archaeological potential to match the scale of the site itself. Building on the work of the National Museum of Ireland and the Discovery Programme's Late Iron Age and 'Roman' Ireland project, an extensive geophysical survey of the site is required. This is an opportunity for collaboration and the use of innovative techniques and equipment. The nature and extent of any archaeological excavation will be driven by research objectives once the baseline information (e.g. the geophysical survey) has been completed. Funding is also a factor. Should the presence of Roman material be established is there a case for a large scale excavation? Given the multi-period nature of the site where should the academic emphasis be? Do we need to look at models like Vindolanda, Northern England which combines a volunteer excavation programme, with an education and tourism experience?

11.2. Community Participation

The local community must play a full and central part in the site. Fingal County Council's experience has been that it is helpful to engage local communities engendering a sense of ownership and thus ensuring protection for the site. There is an opportunity to develop a programme of events and experiences including field-walking, family days and community excavation. How best to incorporate the community archaeology element of any proposal for the site?

11.3. Education & Dissemination

Encapsulating human activity through the ages, geological and natural resources, Drumanagh provides multiple educational opportunities. Smaller and discrete elements of work can also augment the knowledge of the site. Having the flint material that has been recovered from the site analysed as an assemblage will add to the chronological knowledge of the site; likewise the pottery and other finds. The imminent publication of a catalogue of the metal detected metal finds will also add greatly to the knowledge of the Iron Age and 1st-3rd century occupation of the site. Subject to the permission of landowners a programme of community-based fieldwalking project in adjacent fields may add to the corpus of information about the context of the site. Local school children can be involved in fieldtrips to the site and citizen science programmes that can be developed.

11.4. Collaboration

Given the cultural heritage significance of the headland, the characteristic geology of the area, and the biodiversity, there are multiple opportunities for cross-discipline collaboration. The results of archaeological investigations and the research programme will inform the interpretation of the site. An advisory group of relevant experts, will be necessary to develop an archaeological research strategy and realise opportunities for funding and outreach. Collaboration opportunities

with archaeological institutions and research programmes such as the European CHERISH project should be developed.

11.5. Architectural Heritage

The Martello tower is a highly visible landmark on the Fingal coastline. Unlike the majority of the surviving Fingal Martello towers, Drumanagh Martello tower has not been modified and appears in relatively good condition. Subject to a structural survey; the provision of safe access, the glazing of the windows to prevent birds accessing the interior and the replacement of the floor and door would provide a unique visitor experience. This is an opportunity to see a largely unmodified Martello tower in its original landscape setting, with the extensive views it provides.

11.6. Recreation

The context for Drumanagh is the coastline of Fingal, already popular with walkers and seaside visitors. The development of the Coastal Way will formally connect Drumanagh to Loughshinny and Rush. Drumanagh facilitates the completion of the Rush to Loughshinny section of the route.

11.7. Tourism

Given the number of archaeological and historical sites in the vicinity there is an opportunity to develop an integrated heritage trail, with smaller heritage loops linking to the Kenure demesne and the church and castle remains in St Catherine's. This could be combined with the geological and natural assets of the area to attract specialised and educational groups. The visitor experience to the region would be enhanced by information panels and digital tours to highlight the rich and varied heritage of the area.

12. Policies

The policies are formulated in the knowledge that the identity, historical and archaeological significance and cultural significance of Drumanagh as an internationally important site, is indisputable. This forms the foundation for all actions advocated. The policies also focus on improving public awareness of the monument and access to the site.

12.1. Policy 1: Protection of the monument

Policy 1.1

Acknowledge the status of Drumanagh as a National Monument and that Ministerial Consent is required for any works carried out at the site.

Policy 1.2

Ensure the protection and conservation of the site, while making every effort to protect its setting and ambiance.

Policy 1.3

Promote the identity, status and integrity of the wider, below-ground site and its relationship with the visible element of the site.

12.2. Policy 2: Conservation, Maintenance and Repair

Policy 2.1

Undertake appropriate technical and scientific condition surveys in advance of any conservation works and interventions to extant remains, and ensure that any works undertaken are carried out by suitably qualified and experienced personnel.

Policy 2.2

Ensure that all works undertaken are informed by a clear understanding of the monuments and the site with reference to the relevant ICOMOS charters

Policy 2.3

Develop a programme for the effective on-going survey, monitoring and maintenance of the site.

12.3. Policy 3: Information, Recording and Research

Policy 3.1

Undertake further historical and archaeological research and analysis of the site by developing a research framework for future archaeological, architectural and historical research and investigation.

Policy 3.2

Implement the recommendations of the 2017 ecological survey (see Appendix 3) as appropriate.

Policy 3.3

Use the results of research and survey to inform ongoing management and objectives for the site.

12.4. Policy 4: Legibility, Access and Presentation

Policy 4.1

Develop a grass management strategy and access plan for the site that takes cognisance of the results of the geophysical and topographical surveys to develop appropriate routes that will improve access

Policy 4.2.

Develop signage strategies that will not impact on sub-surface remains, or detract visually from the site. Include links to the web, educational and outreach events.

Policy 4.3

Develop and promote Drumanagh as a cultural asset for the region and strengthen links to other historical sites in Loughshinny and Rush.

13 Actions & Objectives

13. Actions & Objectives

The management strategy for Drumanagh is premised upon its protection. The promontory is a National Monument, and Protected Structure. It encompasses ten known archaeological monuments, and a protected structure and is protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2014) and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Any proposed works will require Ministerial Consent and consultation with the National Monuments Service and the Architectural Heritage Advisory Unit of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG) and the National Museum of Ireland.

Short-term Objectives: Timeframe: 2018/2019

- 13.1 Ensure the work of the Council's internal stakeholders steering group in managing and protecting the site is maintained.
- 13.2 Establish an Archaeological Advisory Group that is representative of statutory authorities and research bodies who will advise on the management of the site and the development of an archaeological research programme.
- 13.3 Undertake a small-scale community archaeology programme in the environs of the Martello Tower
- 13.4 Secure the Martello Tower to prevent unauthorised access.
- 13.5 Undertake a structural survey of the Martello tower and associated elements such as the gate piers which will produce appropriate recommendations.
- 13.6 Develop and implement a grass-management strategy. This will be cognisant of the restrictions on the destruction of vegetation between 1st March and 31st August, in any year.
- 13.7 Undertake a comprehensive geophysical survey and micro-topographical survey of the site. This is essential to for the interpretation, protection and management of the site.
- 13.8 Develop and implement an access plan for the site that takes cognisance of the results of the geophysical and topographical surveys to develop appropriate routes. The re-establishment of the original approach road to the Martello tower as an access route should be investigated.



- 13.9 Develop a signage plan for the interpretation of the site, informed by available information.

Long-Term Objectives:

Long term objectives need to be informed by research and survey work as set out above.

Timeframe: 2019 onwards

- 13.10 Develop and implement an integrated heritage amenity incorporating looped heritage trails and the Fingal Coastal Way.
- 13.11 Conserve the Martello tower, informed by the results of the structural survey and make safely accessible for visitor access.
- 13.12 Secure funding for research, management and protection of the site.
- 13.13 Explore collaborative and community projects with research, academic and community bodies in order to develop the understanding and public engagement with the monument.
- 13.14 Review implementation and efficacy of objectives in 2020.

14 Implementation

14. Implementation

Despite its significance there is much yet to learn about Drumanagh promontory fort. The Conservation & Management Plan is based on the current available information but it is also the start of a process. Longer term objectives may be subject to revision in order to take account of the archaeological research and survey work. Implementation of the plan will require:

- Support for the implementation of the Drumanagh Conservation & Management Plan within relevant Fingal plans and policies such as in Fingal Heritage Plan, the Creative Fingal Plan and the Community Archaeology Strategy
- Appropriate budgets should be allocated to fund the recommended actions and objectives, as required, and to develop the understanding of the site
- A review of the implementation of the actions and objectives of this plan in 2020, in order to ensure adherence to timelines and planning of further works, assessments or outreach.



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Appendix 1


Cultural Heritage Sites, Drumanagh, Co. Dublin

A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Promontory fort-coastal
Statutory Protection	RMP DU008-006001-/ RPS No.252/ Preservation order No.13/1977
Location	Extensive coastal promontory, north of Rush and south of Loughshinny:727236/756210
Description	<p>The neck of the headland c.46 acres is defended by a straight series of earthworks L.350m except where they curve inwards near the S cliff. The elevated, relatively flat promontory at Drumanagh is delimited on its landward (western) side by three closely-spaced earthen banks, each fronted by a ditch, with traces of a fourth, counterscarp, bank beyond the outer ditch. The inner bank is the best preserved rampart (w30m, h2m) The remaining banks have been greatly denuded (w17m, h.5m). Fosses are silted up. (W.4-6m, D.1m). A small stream emanates from a pond outside the ramparts to flow along the inner ditch and over the cliff edge at the south-west corner of the promontory. A number of gaps occur along the length of the ramparts, one or more of which may represent an original entrance. A system of 18th/19th century relict field boundaries defined by low earthen banks and ditches, extend across the northern and southern sides of the promontory. The LIARI project has examined the available LiDAR data in conjunction with previous geophysical survey, carried out on behalf of the NMI, and undertaken geophysical survey (Cahill Wilson et al 2014). Within the promontory a D-shaped enclosure and several structures suggestive of buildings and/or small enclosures, the presence of burnt material and pits (Dowling 2014, 13). The results reflect ploughing on the fort in the 1970s that revealed hut sites suggesting extensive settlement. Gallo-Roman pottery, second century AD Roman coins, Romano-British fibulae (brooches), copper ingots and an iron horsebit have been found at the site. Ploughing took place external to the outer rampart in the summer of 2014 impinging on the counterscarp fourth bank in the northern half of the site and the newly discovered oval enclosure (DU008-094----). Pathways carved by walkers, horse-riding and scrambler bikes have impacted on the entire site.</p>
Image	

Cultural Heritage Feature	Well
Statutory Protection	RMP DU008-006002-
Location	In an overgrown crevasse immediately west of the ramparts along the north of the promontory 727001/756361
Description	This is a natural spring which lies within the defences of the promontory fort at Drumanagh. Marked on the 1837 OS map its site is completely overgrown.
Image	

A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Martello Tower
Statutory Protection	RMP DU008-006003-/ RPS No.253
Location	Located to the east of the promontory: 727379/756242
Description	<p>Located in a field of pasture at the E end of a promontory fort (DU008-006001-). This is a squat cylindrical tower built of masonry, which has been rendered. Traces of a sunken roadway lead from the S end of the defences of the promontory fort to the entrance of the Martello tower. The entrance is on the west side and is positioned above ground level. It is defended by machicolation carried on corbels. The interior is lit by small square opes. A latrine stands east of the tower (Kerrigan 1996, 175). In 1821 Drumanagh tower was in use by the Preventive Water Guard to combat smuggling. It was transferred to the War Department in 1855 when it had 12 rank and file troops occupying the tower in 1857. It was disarmed by 1874. In 1908, the War Department sold the tower to General Palmer of Kenure Park, Rush for £50 (Bolton et al. 2012, 152). Very ugly graffiti at person height on circumference of the exterior with occasional example at parapet height. NIAH (Regional rating) 11318004 Martello tower, c.1805, on a circular plan with tapered profile, having machicolation supported by brackets over former entrance door. Roof: Corbelled stone with stone coping to parapet. Walls: Lime render over limestone rubble. Openings: Square headed former entrance door opening with limestone rubble reveals and soffit; door no longer remains.</p>
Image	

Cultural Heritage Feature	Enclosure
Statutory Protection	SMR DU008-006004-
Location	Middle of the promontory: 727167/ 756249
Description	Geophysical survey (Licence no. 12R127) undertaken by the Discovery Programme as part of the 'Late Iron Age and "Roman" Ireland' project identified a D-shaped enclosure (43m NW-SE x 26m NE-SW) which is defined by a ditch (1m - 3m in width) located south of an 18 th century field system. A number of possible pit-like features were interpreted along its circuit (Dowling 2014, 12). Not discernible at ground level.

Cultural Heritage Feature	Structure
Statutory Protection	SMR DU008-006005-
Location	Middle of the promontory: 727170/ 756241
Description	Geophysical survey (Licence no. 12R127) undertaken by the Discovery Programme as part of the 'Late Iron Age and "Roman" Ireland' project identified a structure located in the S half of the enclosure (DU008-006004-). The structure measures c. 12m in diameter and a number of possible pit-type features were recorded in its vicinity (Dowling 2014, 12). Not discernible at ground level.

Cultural Heritage Feature	Enclosure
Statutory Protection	SMR DU008-006006-
Location	Middle of the promontory: 727253/ 756222
Description	Geophysical survey (Licence no. 12R127) undertaken by the Discovery Programme as part of the 'Late Iron Age and "Roman" Ireland' project identified a rectangular enclosure (30m N-S)(Dowling 2014, 12). Not discernible at ground level.


A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Enclosure
Statutory Protection	SMR DU008-006007-
Location	Middle of the promontory: 727248/ 756242
Description	Geophysical survey (Licence no. 12R127) undertaken by the Discovery Programme as part of the 'Late Iron Age and "Roman" Ireland' project identified a circular enclosure (c.17m diam.) surrounded by an array of large, pit-type features, many of which form regularly-spaced, arcuate or linear patterns (Dowling 2014, 13). Not discernible at ground level.


Cultural Heritage Feature	Ring-ditch
Statutory Protection	SMR DU008-006008-
Location	Middle of the promontory: 727343/756279
Description	Geophysical survey (Licence no. 12R127) undertaken by the Discovery Programme as part of the 'Late Iron Age and "Roman" Ireland' project identified a circular ditch (c. 15m diam.) truncated by a field ditch (Dowling 2014, 13). Not discernible at ground level.


Cultural Heritage Feature	Ring-ditch
Statutory Protection	SMR DU008-006009-
Location	Middle of the promontory: 727319/756251
Description	Geophysical survey (Licence no. 12R127) undertaken by the Discovery Programme as part of the 'Late Iron Age and "Roman" Ireland' project identified the fragmentary remains of a possible circular ditch with a well-defined pit-type feature at its centre (Dowling 2014, 13). Not discernible at ground level.

Cultural Heritage Feature	Enclosure
Statutory Protection	SMR DU008-094----
Location	West of the ramparts: 726946/756043
Description	Geophysical survey (Licence no. 12R127) undertaken by the Discovery Programme as part of the 'Late Iron Age and "Roman" Ireland' project identified an oval enclosure (42mEW x 30mNS) with what has been interpreted as having a narrow ditch or palisade trench. The survey results in the eastern half of the enclosure suggest the likely presence of burnt material. Two well defined breaks, each measuring c. 5m in width, occur on the NE and SE sides of the enclosure and may reflect original entrances; that on the NE appears to be flanked by pit-type features, possibly post-pits (Dowling 2014, 16). Not discernible at ground level.


Cultural Heritage Feature	Road to Martello Tower
Statutory Protection	Within the promontory under Preservation Order No.13/1977
Location	Extends from southern boundary to Martello Tower
Description	The original approach to the tower survives as a sunken trackway extending from the south-east corner of the fort. approximately 6m in width, it is defined by low banks and ditches but overgrown and obscured along its southern limit by pathway made by walkers and scramblers
Image	


A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Martello Privy
Statutory Protection	Within the promontory under Preservation Order No.13/1977
Location	Located to the east of the Martello Tower
Description	The structure is a single storey masonry structure that had a pitched roof. The walls are squared rubble limestone built to courses with narrow joints. The surviving fragment measures 2.75m in maximum height and 1.5m in width north-south. The southern wall measures 0.72m east-west at the base. The width of both wall fragments is a consistent 0.42m and the two course rubble foundation visible to the west is 0.3m in height. The remains of the privy have been subject to graffiti, fires and vandalism, resulting in cracking and significant collapse.
Image	


Cultural Heritage Feature	Well
Statutory Protection	None
Location	c.10m east of the western townland boundary
Description	The circular well measures approximately 0.9m in diameter and is truncated to the south where large concrete blocks have been dumped. The well is lined with large (0.2m x 0.4m diam.) roughly shaped stones. At least two courses of stone are visible before the water which is 0.45m below edge. The well site is overgrown with brambles and long grass
Image	


A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Western Gate
Statutory Protection	None
Location	Towards north of western townland boundary
Description	Marked by two a piers of very overgrown limestone blocks c.2.8m apart this gateway faces west onto a field boundary and would have formed the accesway into the site from Loughshinny. The square piers measure 0.95m in average diameter and are at least 2m in height. The overgrown remnants of an iron gate are barely visible between the piers and there is a possible stile to the south of the south pier. This stile measures 0.56m in width and 0.46m in height although could be a makeshift entrance from the adjoining fields. This gate has been inserted into a previously existing wall. The form is and fabric is the same as the gate on the southern boundary associated directly with the Martello Tower indicating a 19 th century date.
Image	


Cultural Heritage Feature	Western Boundary Wall
Statutory Protection	None
Location	Western townland boundary between Drumanagh and Ballustree
Description	This wall faced by a ditch externally forms the western boundary of Drumanagh. It runs mainly north-south curving gently at the north-western corner of the site before creating a sharp corner at the cliff face. The wall is rubble built and stands between 0.6m and 1.2m in height with at least six courses of roughly shaped stone (0.25m-0.45m diam.) visible. The wall averages 0.5m in width and is loosely mortared with a whitish mortar with large pebble aggregate. The wall is mostly overgrown with brambles. A wall in this position appears on the 1760 map.
Image	


A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Southern Gate
Statutory Protection	None
Location	Southern Gate
Description	<p>Marked by two indented piers of limestone blocks c. 2.93m apart, this gateway forms the accessway from the laneway adjacent to the southern boundary of the site onto the road to the Martello Tower. It is abutted by several metres of wall to either side which appear to have been inserted into an earlier boundary wall. The piers measure 0.93m NS and 0.93m along their southern facade but are indented to accommodate gate fittings and measure 0.8m in maximum width internally. Both piers stand to a height of 1.9m and are capped with a horizontal layer of granite blocks 0.15m in thickness. Some of the granite, especially on the western pier has fallen and is on the ground externally. Immediately (0.7m) to the west of the western pier is a stile consisting of two graduated steps (lower 0.6m from ground level/upper 0.4m from top of wall), 0.27m apart incorporated in to the wall (0.48m in width). Three large posts and a metalled fence have been inserted in modern times between the gate piers to prevent entry.</p>
Image	

Cultural Heritage Feature	Southern boundary wall
Statutory Protection	None
Location	Southern townland boundary between Drumanagh and Rush
Description	<p>This wall is perhaps more of a faced earthen bank that forms the southern boundary of the site and the townland boundary between Drumanagh and Rush. It extends from c.2m west of the wall associated with the gate along the southern boundary where it has been truncated by the insertion of a cattle shed and entranceway at the south-east corner of the site. This boundary averages 0.9m in height and the wall is rubble built and unmortared with stones 0.2m-0.3m in diameter. A wall in this position appears on the 1760 map.</p>
Image	


A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Boundary Stone 1
Statutory Protection	None
Location	South of eastern gate pier, South gate
Description	Cut granite with a pyramidal top. Located 0.4m east of the eastern gate pier and 0.2m south of adjacent wall. Visible height is 0.75m with each face measuring 0.3m in width. Arrows visible on all faces. One of a pair of stones c.5m apart marking entrance way to Martello Tower illustrated on the 1862 War Office map. Boundary stones also depicted on the OS 25 inch map (1906-09).
Image	


Cultural Heritage Feature	Boundary Stone 2
Statutory Protection	None
Location	South of western gate pier, South gate
Description	Cut granite with a pyramidal top. Located 0.9m west of the western gate pier and 0.38m south of adjacent wall. Visible height is 0.75m with each face measuring 0.3m in width. Arrows visible on all faces. One of a pair of stones c.5m apart marking entrance way to Martello Tower illustrated on the 1862 War Office map. Boundary stones also depicted on the OS 25 inch map (1906-09).
Image	


A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Boundary Stone 3
Statutory Protection	None
Location	Demolished cowshed, south-west of site
Description	Cut granite with a pyramidal top. Reused as a step in a cow shed. Total height is 1.96m with each face measuring 0.3m in width. Arrows on the two visible faces. One of a pair of stones marking extent of lands for Martello Tower illustrated on the 1862 War Office map. Boundary stones also depicted on the OS 25 inch map (1906-09).
Image	

Cultural Heritage Feature	Structure 1
Statutory Protection	None
Location	External to the site along cliff face
Description	Approximately 4.6m of the northern wall of this structure remains standing to a height of 2.2m. There are visible areas of collapse down the cliff face and top the south of the upstanding wall which is partially overgrown. It is 0.7m in width and consists of rubble stones (0.2-0.4m diam.) roughly mortared with a whitish mortar with large pebble aggregate. This structure appears first on the 1760 map.
Image	

A1 Appendix 1

Cultural Heritage Feature	Structure 2
Statutory Protection	None
Location	External to the site along field boundary
Description	A single wall aligned north-south adjacent to the east-west field boundary west of the western gate and a mound of rough cut limestone is all that remains of this structure. There is a concrete slab and red brick in the vicinity indicating several periods of use. A structure first appears here on the 1760 map.
Image	

Cultural Heritage Feature	The Dane's Cave
Statutory Protection	None
Location	Southern cliff face towards eastern end of the promontory
Description	Sea cave that sits above the low tide mark of Roaring Water Bay. It is apparently entered by climbing down the cliffs. Local memories of it being red inside and containing a rock with a hole, known as the Cradle Rock (Paddy Boyle, pers. comm.).
Image	

A2 Appendix 2

Appendix 2

National Museum Topographical Files:

Drumanagh Townland

NMI Register No.	Object	Description
1969:707	Pot Sherd	Approx. square featureless potsherd representing portion of the wall of a thick-walled vessel. The sherd is slightly abraded and light brown in colour externally; the greater part of the sherd in fracture is the same colour but becoming grey to black near inner surface. Fabric is thick, relatively hard with some quartz grits. Dimensions: 4.7 c 4.5cm; T. 1.9cm. Found on edge of cliff in material of north end of destroyed main inner bank of promontory fort. the flint was found a few feet away from the potsherd.
1969:708	Flint flake	Unevenly shaped flint flake of yellowish flint. Some slight secondary working along portion of one edge. L. 3cm; w. 2cm; t. 1.2cm. Found in surface soil of bank of promontory fort
1977: 1205	Copper alloy pin	Heavily patinated stick pin. The shank is short; round sectioned and swells towards the middle. The head is expanded to form two flat broad faces of inverted stepped pyramid from each of which bears a panel of vertical grooves. Similar ornament occurs on the flat rectangular top of head. l.8.9cm w. of head 6cm t of head 3.5cm max t of shank 3.5mm Found in plough soil inside promontory fort
1977:1206	Pot Sherd	Glazed rim sherd irregular in outline. Made of dull reddish brown fine hard wheel thrown ware with grey core. The rim is rounded and upright. The inner surface bears a translucent glaze In sufficient survives to estimate original rim diameter. T. rim 6mm
1977:1207	Glass object	Amorphous fragments of green glass l. 2.35cm w. 1.25cm t. 9.8mm. Found in plough soil inside promontory fort
1977:1208	Animal remains	Split and burnt fragments of unidentified limb bone. Found in plough soil inside promontory
1977:1209	Clay	Two amorphous fragments of baked clay. From ploughsoil inside promontory fort
1977:1221	Stone object	Irregular fragment of flat-bottomed stone vessel. The edge is convex and portion of the internal concavity survives. The side is decorated by two horizontal grooves. Max. t. of edge 7.2cm; min. t. 3.1cm; estimated original rim c.20cm. Found in ploughed soil of habitation areas inside promontory fort.
1977:1222	Pottery	Large potsherd-amphora B ware? Irregular bodysherd of thick walled wheel thrown micaceous ware. Numerous grits of pounded quartz are evident in the fabric. It is pinkish internally and dull buff externally, the core is grey streaked. The inner surface bears characteristic marked horizontal ridges t.2.5cm. From ploughed soil of habitation area inside promontory fort. Ian Doyle-sherd is curved so as to suggest body diameter of c.40cm sherd thickness 23cm-ID from photo by Paul Tyers-Possible Dressel 20 amphorae (Spanish 1 st -early 3 rd century Ad in Britain) http://www.potsherd.uklinux.net/atlas/ware/DR20

A2 Appendix 2

1977:1223	Clay bead	Spherical bead of baked clay with acentric perforation. Patinated white all over. Diam. 1cm. From ploughsoil in habitation area of promontory fort
1977:1224	Flint flake	Irregular flint chip with convex broad face and unifacial secondary working along one side. Heavily patinated all over. L. 3.5cm; max. w. 2.3cm max t. 1.6cm
1977:1225	Flint flake	Fragment of heavily patinated keeled flint blade. Secondary working occurs on one long side. Max present l. 2.5cm w. 2.1cm t. 4mm.
1977:1226	Flint Blade	Small keeled flint flake light to medium patination all over l.3.8cm w. 1.6cm t. 5.6mm
1977:1227	Flint flake	Small keeled flint flake with heavy patination all over. L. 2.8cm; w. 1.56cm; t. 8mm
1977:1228	Chert core	Approximately lozenge shaped chip of chert with crude retouch along two sides l.2.75cm max 1.45cm t. 8mm
1977:1229	Chert flake	Irregular polyhedral chert core l. 4.4cm w. 1.7cm t. 2cm
1979:011	Flint worked	Irregular shaped flint of pale green. Part of the cortex remains at the bulbar end. One side has been worked to a shallow concave cutting edge 6.2cm x 4.5cm x 2.6cm. Found in ploughed soil at south end of the two outer banks
1980:031	Samian Ware	Well preserved sherd. Fabric is orange pink with occasional tiny flecks of cream coloured clay. Slip is orange red with a silky finish. Interior shows fine horizontal grooves formed by the potter's fingers. A tiny portion of a small external groove also survives. The sherd appears to derive from the plain shoulder of a decorated beaker Dechelette 67. made in south or central Gaul l. 1.8cm t. 2mm. Found in occupation debris which had been deeply ploughed. Report IA/24/80 Form: Dechelette 67, late 1 st century. The sherd is thin a triangle little more than 1cm each side but in an excellent state of preservation. It is thin 2.5mm fine and orange pink. No mica is visible under the microscope- the fabric is undoubtedly good quality South Gaulish ware...this form was manufactured in both South and Central Gaul in the latter half of the first century and the first two decades of the second. It is closely related to the non-Samian beakers of the period (Hofheim 125a).
1987:025	Iron horse bit	Bridle trapping Type D. Overall l. 15.9cm. Ring 8.95cm diam; Ring B 7.96cm Fragment of cremated bone adhering to both faces of the rings-between ring and link. Metal detected
1987:026	Iron horse bit	Conservation report 26 AB 1A/115/85-under magnification traces of wood were found adhering to the upper surface above the 'eye'; 26 C -8.28cm x 2.96cm
1987:027	Iron horse bit	Short curved side link of a small iron horse bit. One end which is broken appears to have splayed to a wide loop. The other end has a narrow loop showing signs of wear. L.6.65cm max w. of splayed end 1.7cm; ext diam of loop 2cm; int. diam. originally c. 6.5cm but due to wear it is elliptical and has a max dimension of 8.5cm.

1988:102	Copper cake fragment	Wedge shaped fragment of large round copper or copper alloy cake which was probably at least 20cm in diam and 3.7cm in height with flat top and base sloped sides. Fragment cut at roughly 45 degree angle. Outer edge is curved. The base and top are flat except for tapering sides. The surfaces are very pitted. Probably metal-detected.
2004:174	Seal Box	Complete copper alloy lozenge shaped seal box. The upper face of the lid has a raised grid pattern. Traces of red and blue enamel are present in some of the cells. The box has a hinge mechanism at one end and small projecting knobs at each of the other three corners but these are damaged and incomplete. the underside has four small circular perforations. Found in upcast from biking activities, interior of site. Correspondence between Paddy Boyle and British museum-..I would characterise the seal box as 1 st -3 rd century Ad date. Seal boxes are not uncommon Roman finds and are fascinating because of their role in sealing important documents often of an official or military nature. Dr Ralph Jackson. Conservation report- 42mm x 25mm x 7mm
2014C6:1	Flint Core	
2014C6:2	Flint Flake	
2014C6:3	Flint Flake	
2014C6:4	Flint Flake	
2014C6:5	Flint Flake	
2014C6:6	Flint Flake	
2014C6:7	Chert Flake	
2014C6:8	Flint Object	
2014C6:9	Flint Flake	
2014C6:10	Flint Flake	
2014C6:11	Pottery	
2014C6:12	Flint Object	
2014C6:13	Flint flake	
2014C6:14	Flint Object	
2014C6:15	Pottery	

A2 Appendix 2

2014C6:16	Flint flake	
2014C6:17	Flint Object	
2014C6:18	Flint flake	
2014C6:19	Flint flake	
2014C6:20	Flint flake	
2014C6:21	Flint flake	
2014C6:22	Flint flake	
2014C6:23	Flint Object	
2014C6:24	Slate	
2014C6:25	Pottery	
2014C6:26	Flint Scraper	
2014C6:27	Pottery	
2014C6:28	Quartz Object	
2014C6:29	Flint flake	
2014C6:30	Flint flake	
2014C6:31	Flint Object	
2014C6:32	Flint Object	
2014C6:33	Flint Object	
2014C6:34	Flint Object	
2014C6:35	Flint flake	
2014C6:36	Flint Core	
2014C6:37	Pottery	
2014C6:38	Stone object	
2014C6:39	Flint flake	

2014C6:40	Flint Flake	
2014C6:41	Flint flake	
2014C6:42	Flint flake	
2014C6:43	Flint Flake	
2014C6:44	Flint flake	
2014C6:45	Flint Object	
2014C6:46	Pottery	
2014C6:47	Flint Scraper	
2014C6:48	Flint Scraper	
2014C6:49	Flint Scraper	

Rush Townland: Field south of southern boundary of Drumanagh site

NMI Register No.	Object	Description
2004:191	Iron ingot	A rectangular shaped iron ingot l.11.20; w. 2.30; t. 1.1. Field walking adjacent to Drumanagh Fort
2004:192	Iron ingot	A fragment of iron ingot approximately rectangular in shape l.6.10; w. 1.50; t. 1.1
2004:193	Stone	large egg shaped stone with smooth surface; oval in section, granite l.7.53 w. 5.22 x 5.37
2004:194	Samian	Small five sided sherd of east Gaulish Samian ware; possible fragment of a base as there is a slight curve on one edge l. 3.22 w. 2.57 t.0.72
2004:195	Pottery	Small sherd of wheel thrown fine bodied red ware l. 2.44 w. 2.49 t. 076
2004:196	Animal bone	two small fragments of animal bone unidentified
2004: 208	Flint pebble	Unretouched split pebble 2.45m diam
2004:209	Flint flake	Abruptly retouched flint flake l.3.87 w. 1.8 t 1cm
2004:201	Flint flake	Fragment with slight retouch l.3.4 w. 2.2 t 0.9
2004:211	Flint pebble	Plit pebble slight retouch l.2.58 w.2.23 t.0.8

A3 Appendix 3

Appendix 3

Ecological Study of Drumanagh headland 2017, Roughan O'Donovan

5. Management Recommendations

In the first instance, a set of conservation aims should be produced for the site. A strict management regime for one species may be detrimental for another, e.g. management of the grassland for Brent Geese would make the area less suitable for Skylark. The site has been recognised as supporting variety of passerines, including the ground nesting Skylark and Red-listed Meadow Pipit as well as calcicole plant species, common lizard and invertebrates such as St. Mark's Flies, Solitary Bees and Oil Beetles. The conservation aims should include the following:

- Increase the plant species richness on Drumanagh Head; Increase the carrying capacity of the site for birds;
- Protect the nesting habitat of Skylark and Meadow Pipit; and,
- Reduce disturbance on the site.

The following subsections provide an overview of the management recommendations for the site which should be implemented to achieve the conservation aims. The management recommendations are illustrated in Appendix D of this report. .

5.1 Implementing a Mowing Regime

In order to prevent the natural succession of the grasslands at Drumanagh Headland to scrub, and to promote a more species-rich grassland, a mowing regime should be put in place, aiming for a summer sward height of 20-50cm. Mowing should take place twice per year, once in early March and again in late September. It is anticipated that herbaceous species such as Lady's Bed-straw, Yarrow and clovers will colonise the grassland once a mowing regime is employed. Operating a different mowing regime in different sections of the headland and not mowing some areas in a given year would also promote greater habitat and species diversity. The mowing regime should seek to provide grazing for wintering geese and waders, and nesting habitat for ground-nesting birds in spring and summer.

5.2 Enhancing Habitat for Passerines

Ground-nesting birds nest in open fields for safety. For Skylarks, conservation measures within 10m of a field boundary will not be of any benefit. This gives the opportunity to manage a 10m strip along the western edge of the headland along the hedgerow as a source of food for other birds. Management of the hedgerow on the western side of the headland should seek to retain its structural integrity, following best practice guidelines in Maudsley et al. (2002).

The establishment of wild bird cover is recommended to create seed-rich habitats and valuable winter food supplies for granivorous birds. It is proposed to create a 12m wide margin along the hedgerow on the western side of the headland. The value of this margin will depend on the management to achieve maximum benefit both for winter passerines, but also nesting opportunities for other birds and habitats for a range of invertebrates.

A3 Appendix 3

It is proposed to plant the field margin with species such as Triticale, Kale, Lucerne, Perennial Chicory and Fodder Radish. A half-length strip of the wild bird cover margin should be re-established on a 2-year cycle. Drilling is the preferred sowing method to establish the crop, and size of drill (e.g. 3m or 4m) will determine proportion of strip to be re-established every 2-year cycle.

5.3 Reducing Disturbance

Wildlife on Drumanagh Headland is subject to significant disturbance from recreational activities including walkers, dogs and motorbikes. It was noted that gates to prevent motorbikes and horses entering the site had been removed. Kestrel, which were in the recent past recorded nesting on the cliffs, have apparently abandoned the site, which may be as a result of disturbance from motorbikes. Entrances should be fitted with suitable gates to prevent motorbikes entering the site. Signage should also be erected at the entrances to encourage people using the area to keep dogs on a short leash to avoid disturbance to ground nesting birds.

5.4 Management of Scrub

Scrub forms important nesting and foraging habitat for birds and sheltering habitat for mammals, including Irish Hare and Irish Stoat. Some areas of Bramble are growing on the promontory fort embankment and this will reduce the relatively species-rich grasslands on the embankment and could potentially damage this archeologically significant feature. However, the scrub on the northern side of the headland should be retained as cover for wildlife.

5.5 Removal of Non-native Plants

One small patch of Spanish Bluebell was identified during the surveys. This stand should be dug out in spring when the leaves are visible. The material, including bulbs, leaves and flowers, should be removed from the area and disposed of appropriately. Checks should be carried out yearly to remove any new growth.



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