

**Archaeological Excavation  
Preliminary Report**

**Season 3: August-September 2017  
Swords Castle  
Swords  
Co. Dublin**

**Consent no.: C450  
Excavation ref: E004619**



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## **Abstract**

This report describes the preliminary results of Season 3 of an archaeological excavation, which was carried out under Ministerial Consent C450/E004619 at Swords Castle, Co. Dublin as part of the *Swords Castle: Digging History-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2015/16*. Excavation of Trenches (4-6) took place over 17 days between 18<sup>th</sup> August and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

Swords Castle which is a National Monument (No.340), a recorded monument (DU011-034001-) and protected structure (No.351), is located at the northern end of the Main street (ITM 718195/747010) at its junction of North Street and Bridge Street within the historic town of Swords (DU011-035----).

The focus of the 2017 season of excavation at Swords Castle was on answering research questions relating to the internal layout of the eastern perimeter of the precinct, while engaging the community in archaeology. The presence of stratified medieval activity was established and the nature and extent of post-medieval and modern disturbance was recorded.

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## 1 Introduction

This report describes the preliminary results of the third season of archaeological excavation, which was carried out under Ministerial Consent C450/E004619 at Swords Castle, Co. Dublin as part of the *Swords Castle: Digging History-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2015-2017*. Excavation of Trenches (7-10) took place over 17 days between 18<sup>th</sup> August and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017.



*Plate 1: Aerial Photograph c.2001*

The *Swords Castle: Digging History-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2015-2017* was designed to address the research and knowledge gaps identified in the *Swords Castle Conservation Plan* (2014) and to inform the urban identity of the developing *Swords Castle Cultural Quarter Masterplan* (2015). It aimed to;

- Assess the veracity of geophysical survey results undertaken by Target Surveys in 2011
- Enable a conservation and stabilization programme by informing the structural engineering works
- Engage the community with the castle through archaeological excavation and a series of related events.

## 2 Location, topography & geology

Swords Castle which is a National Monument (No.340), a recorded monument (DU011-034001-) and protected structure (No.351), is located at the northern end of the Main street (ITM 718195/ 747010) at its junction of North Street and Bridge Street within the historic town of Swords (DU011-035----). It is set on high ground above the Ward River which lies to the west and is situated within Swords Town Park. The site consists of curtain walls that form an irregular polygon enclosing over an acre of land that slopes down from east (18m OD) to west (15mOD). This complex of buildings has many phases of reuse and redesign and latterly reconstruction.

A programme of consolidation and enabling works commenced in April 2016. This involved the removal of a set of portakabins that had been in place since the mid-1990s, insertion of paths into the precinct space and consolidation of the gatehouse, east tower and eastern curtain walls.



Fig. 1: Site Location Map 1:1000

There are well established apple trees on the higher ground to the east. The area to the south-west was previously used as an equipment compound and is currently under gravel. The access way and carpark is under compacted asphalt. The remaining open spaces within the site are under grass.



*Plate 2: Swords Castle-internal view facing north-east*

The solid geology of the area that forms the parent material is Carboniferous limestone and the soil in the general area is part of the grey/brown podzolic group. Sands and gravels derived from Carboniferous material are mapped along the path of the Ward River and Made Ground is present in Swords town (Fay et al. 2007, 1–12). Local knowledge has it that the Main Street of Swords is stone and the beyond it is gravel (Des Gallagher pers. comm.).



### 3 Historical and Archaeological Background

The historical background for Swords Castle has been dealt with extensively in Part 2 of the *Swords Castle Conservation Plan-History and Chronology* (2014, 22-41). To summarise;

#### *Pre-Norman:*

The focus of settlement in pre-Norman Swords was to the west of the river Ward. The present day street layout reflects the large enclosures centred on the church and round tower of St Colmcilles (the present-day St Columba's Church). One of only two ecclesiastical capitals in Fingal, this site was subject to repeated raiding by Vikings and neighbouring Irish and was famed as one of the churches where Brian Boru and his son were waked after the battle of Clontarf in 1014.

On the high ground to the east of the River Ward was a burial place at Mount Gamble. In use from c.550-1150 AD it appears to represent the burial place of a small local population (O'Donovan 2009, 23). Recent excavations (2014) at the gatehouse, have established the presence of mid-10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> century burial on the site of Swords Castle, preceding its construction. Dalton makes references to three churches at Swords. St Finians was purportedly to the southside of Swords while St Brigids was described as being on north side of the town, not far from the gates of old palace (1838, 140). It is possible that these chapels appropriated earlier burial places.



Fig. 2: View of the North Tower (Constable's Tower), Swords Castle by Daniel Grose, 1792

### *Anglo-Norman:*

Swords Castle was founded by the first Anglo-Norman archbishop of Dublin, John Comyn c.1200 AD. One of nine manorial centres that encircled Dublin, Swords castle was also one of the wealthiest. An administrative centre it had a constable, court of justice it was granted an eight-day market in 1192. John Comyn not only founded the manor house at Swords but keen to expand the income of his estate, he also established a new town. The main street, with its burgage plots are aligned to the castle. In order to attract settlers the same trading and tax privileges as those of the citizens of Dublin were offered. In return the burgesses paid an annual rent of 12 pence and undertook certain labour services such as harvesting the archbishop's hay and repairing the mill pond. Swords grew to become one of Dublin's largest boroughs and became known as the Golden Prebend, such was its wealth.

### *Medieval:*

A description in Archbishops Alen's register depicts Swords Castle in 1326 (MacNeill 1950, 175)

'a hall, a chamber for the archbishop annexed to it, of which the walls are stone and crenellated like a castle and roof with shingles; and there was a kitchen there with a larder whose walls are stone and roof of shingle, a chapel with stone walls and a shingle roof; there was a chamber for friars with a cloister now thrown down; near the gate is a chamber for the constable and four chambers for knights and squires roofed with shingles; under these a stable and bakehouse; there was a house for a deieria and carpenteria, now thrown down. In the haggard a grange of poles (furcae) thatched, a timber granary roofed with 'bords', a byre for housing nags and kine; these easements they extend at no value, for nothing is to be got from them by either letting or otherwise, since they need great repair as they are badly roofed'.

This description was part of a formal Inquisition into the dealings of the archbishop of the time Alexander de Bicknor who was accused of misappropriating finances to his own gain. There is a possibility that the dilapidated state of the castle was a deliberate attempt to downplay de Bicknor's assets, as it was occupied sporadically by the archbishops after this point. Records of Swords Castle the next 300 years are scant.

Dubious leasing practices during the 1500s led to a decline in the value of the archbishop's properties and despite the local Barnewall family having an interest in the tenancy, Swords Castle fell into ruin. In 1583 Sir Henry Sydney, Lord Deputy of Ireland, placed forty Protestant families fleeing from persecution in the Low Countries, into Swords Castle. He wrote that it did his heart good to see how they repaired the 'quite spoiled old castell'. It is not known exactly when the castle passed out of the ownership of the Archbishops of Dublin.



*Plate 3: The orchard within Swords Castle in the 1930s  
Courtesy of the National Monuments Service*

*Post Medieval:*

Although there was a garden within the castle in the archbishop's time, it was the 18<sup>th</sup> century before Swords Castle is first described as possessing an orchard. The Cobbe family of Newbridge House, Donabate who bought Swords Castle after 1830, used the land for farming and planting an orchard. Although details of the type of orchard are unknown, demesnes of the time grew cherries, pears, damsons and plums as well as apples. The oldest surviving apple tree is near the Chapel. It is an Old Bramley dating from the 1890s.

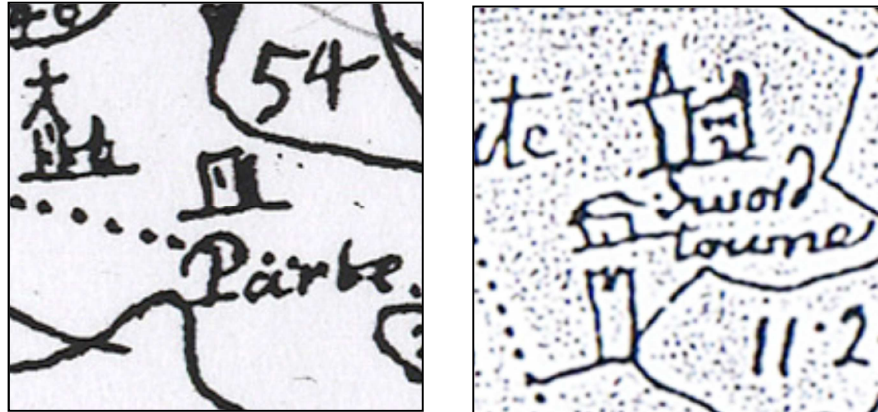
*Modern:*

Restoration works began here in the 1990s. The curtain walls, the Constable's Tower and the Chapel were reconstructed as part of a FÁS scheme which provided training in masonry and carpentry for local people. In order to protect Swords Castle into the future, a programme of repair and conservation works is also being undertaken now. Repairs to the Gatehouse, which will secure safe access, are a priority. Fingal County Council published Swords Castle Conservation Plan in 2014. This details the history and development of the castle, explains its significance and provides a policy framework for the future care and management of the castle.



### 3.1 Cartographic Evidence (after Swords Castle Conservation Plan)

The Down Survey map of the Barony of Nethercross, which dates from c. 1656 (Figs.4 & 5) depicts the castle as a simple tower. In the parish map of the same year (Wilson & Weft) the manor is similarly indicated but with the addition of battlements.



*Figs. 3 & 4: Down Survey 1656 and corresponding Parish map*

John Rocque's map, 1760 (Fig. 6), indicates the town is shown primarily laid out along a single main street, with what is now known as the Ward River flowing approximately parallel to the west. It is focused and aligned on the castle rather than on the earlier ecclesiastical centre to the west of the river. The castle is indicated, an enclosing element can just be made out and is in an almost a cruciform shape; structures appear to front onto Bridge Street and North Street, there are no structures between the western wall and the river. Several structures or subdivisions can be made out within the ward; however, no specific detail in relation to the plan-form of the internal structures can be distinguished.



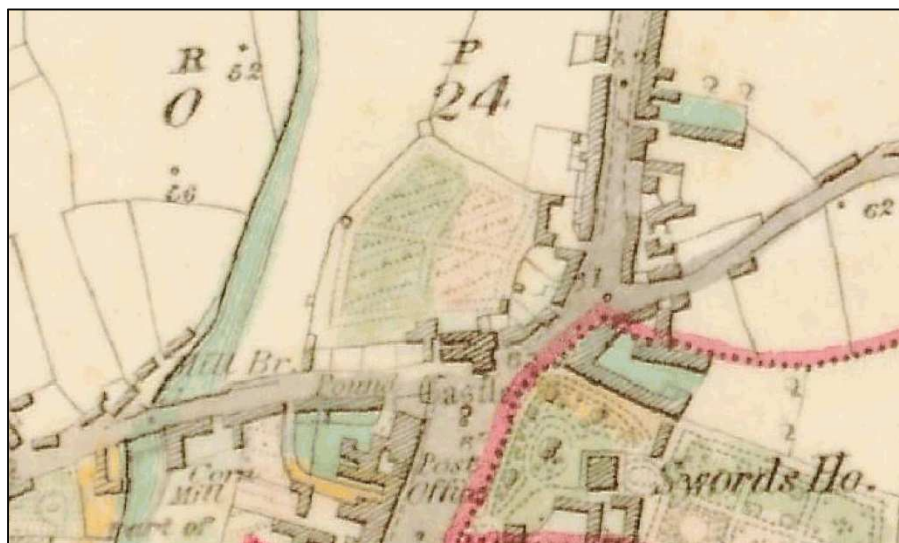
*Fig. 5: Rocque, 1760*

John Taylor records little additional detail on his 1816 map of Swords and environs (Fig. 7). However, the castle is described as an 'old fortification' and is shown erroneously as a rectangular fort with four corner bastions and is aligned incorrectly with the Main Street.



*Fig. 6: Taylor 1816*

The first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 6-inch 1836 map for Swords (Fig.8) shows castle in the townland of Townparks and the familiar irregular pentagon plan form of the precinct is accurately mapped for the first time. By this time the interior of the castle was well established as a garden and this is shown with diagonal hatching which indicates cultivation and subdividing paths.



*Fig. 7: OS 6-inch 1836 edition (colour)*

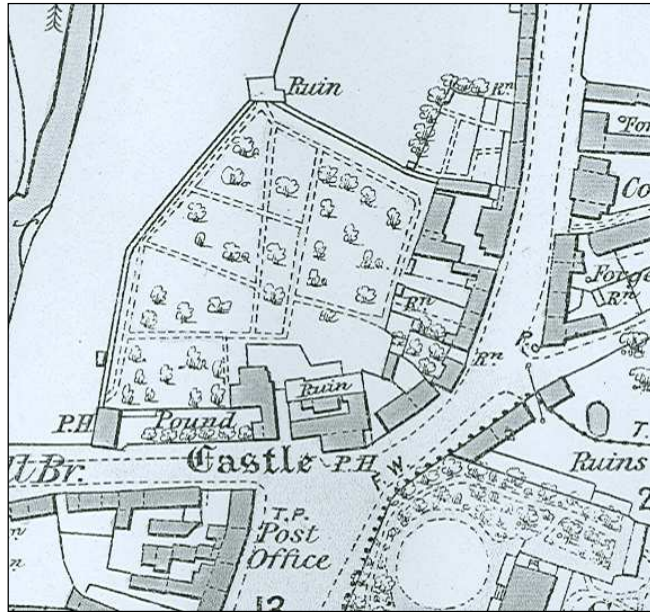


Fig. 8: OS 25-inch 1865 revision

The 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25-inch map of 1865 (Fig. 9) depicts a more complex layout of paths and plots within the castle walls. The area of ground changes from a simple Georgian layout of four cultivation plots into an eight plot Victorian walled garden. On the east side of the garden there is a distinct gap in the walled enclosure from the rear garden or yard of one of the 19<sup>th</sup> century terrace of houses.

The OS 25-inch 1906 revision map (Fig. 10) shows a traditional orchard layout but the paths and borders have apparently gone or simply overgrown and not recorded. The open access from the rear garden of one of the houses of the 19<sup>th</sup> century terrace has been closed off.



Fig.9 OS 25-inch 1906 revision

### 3.2 Previous excavations:

Several licensed archaeological investigations both internal external to the castle have been previously undertaken;

**1971** (E101) Tom Fanning excavated the Chapel & Chamber Block located in to the south-east of the castle. A medieval tiled floor, a silver denier tournois dated to AD 1310 and skeletal remains were identified.

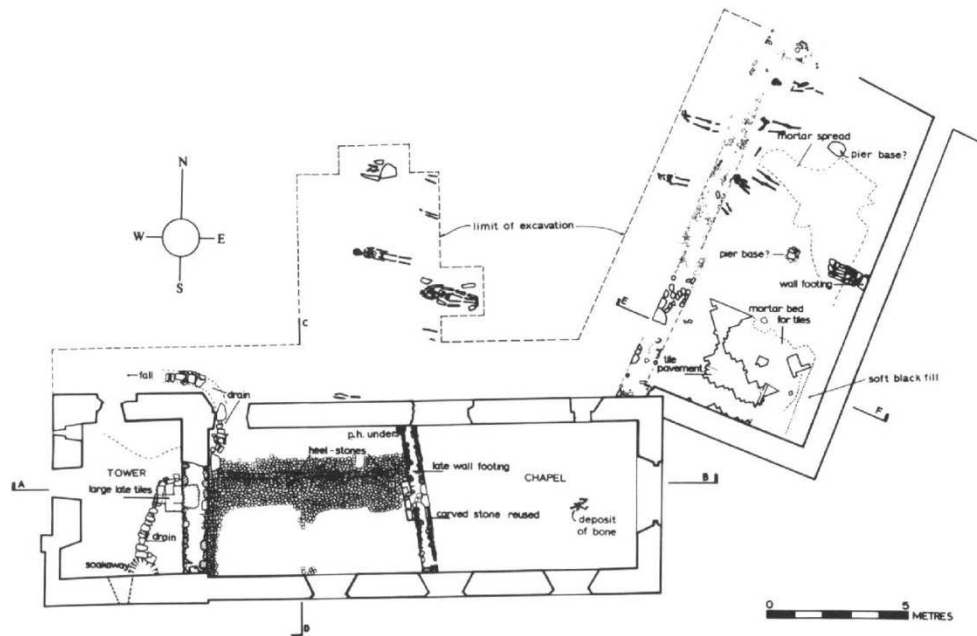


Fig. 10: Fanning's 1971 Excavation, (JRSAI 1975)

**2001** (Licence no. 01E002) Eoin Sullivan removed the overburden from an area to the north and west of the Knights & Squires Chamber. The top of wall footings, paths and ground surfaces were exposed and subsequently preserved in situ.

**2014** (C450/E4376) Mark Moraghan opened a single trench to enable stabilization works within the gatehouse. A total of seventeen skeletons predating the construction of the gatehouse were identified. Towards the base of the trench a wattle screen, lime render and part of a stone structure were excavated. Report not yet available.

**2015** (C450/E4376) Season 1 of the *Swords Castle: Digging History* project comprised the excavation of three trenches (T1-T3) within the precinct and four pits (A-D) at strategic junctions of buildings and curtain walls. Medieval structural walls reflective of the geophysical survey results and pit activity dating to the 11<sup>th</sup> century were identified.

**2016** (C450/E4376) Season 2 of the *Swords Castle: Digging History* project comprised the excavation of excavated three trenches (4-6) within the precinct of the castle (Baker, 2017). Evidence for a levelled structure, yard surfaces and large postholes was uncovered in Trench



4; a large (possibly 4m wide) ditch was identified in trench 5 and a series of pits predating a medieval yard surface in Trench 6 (Baker, 2017).

In addition unlicensed archaeological monitoring of service insertions took place in 1996/97. Immediately external to the gatehouse archaeological monitoring (C450/E4376) of services insertions in **2011** revealed two parallel walls running EW across the entrance.



*Plate 4: Monitoring undertaken by ADS Ltd., 2011*

Monitoring of the foundation trenches at the Pound was undertaken in **1993** by Leo Swan to the south of the castle wall. A medieval ditch was identified.

Test excavation in **1994** to the north of the castle by John Channing (94E0191) did not identify any remains of archaeological significance.

Claire Walsh tested (02E1279) the area external to the chapel wall in **2002** and identified almost a metre of medieval deposits that may be deeper as bedrock not attained.

In June **2016** Christine Baker (C450/E4676) undertook a test excavation along the external walls of the east range. The wall footing of the Archbishop's Apartment was identified as a ditch predating its construction. The base of the Link wall was identified and junction between it and the Double Gable examined. Trenches within the footprint of the demolished terrace identified natural subsoil into which a drain or medieval date had been cut.

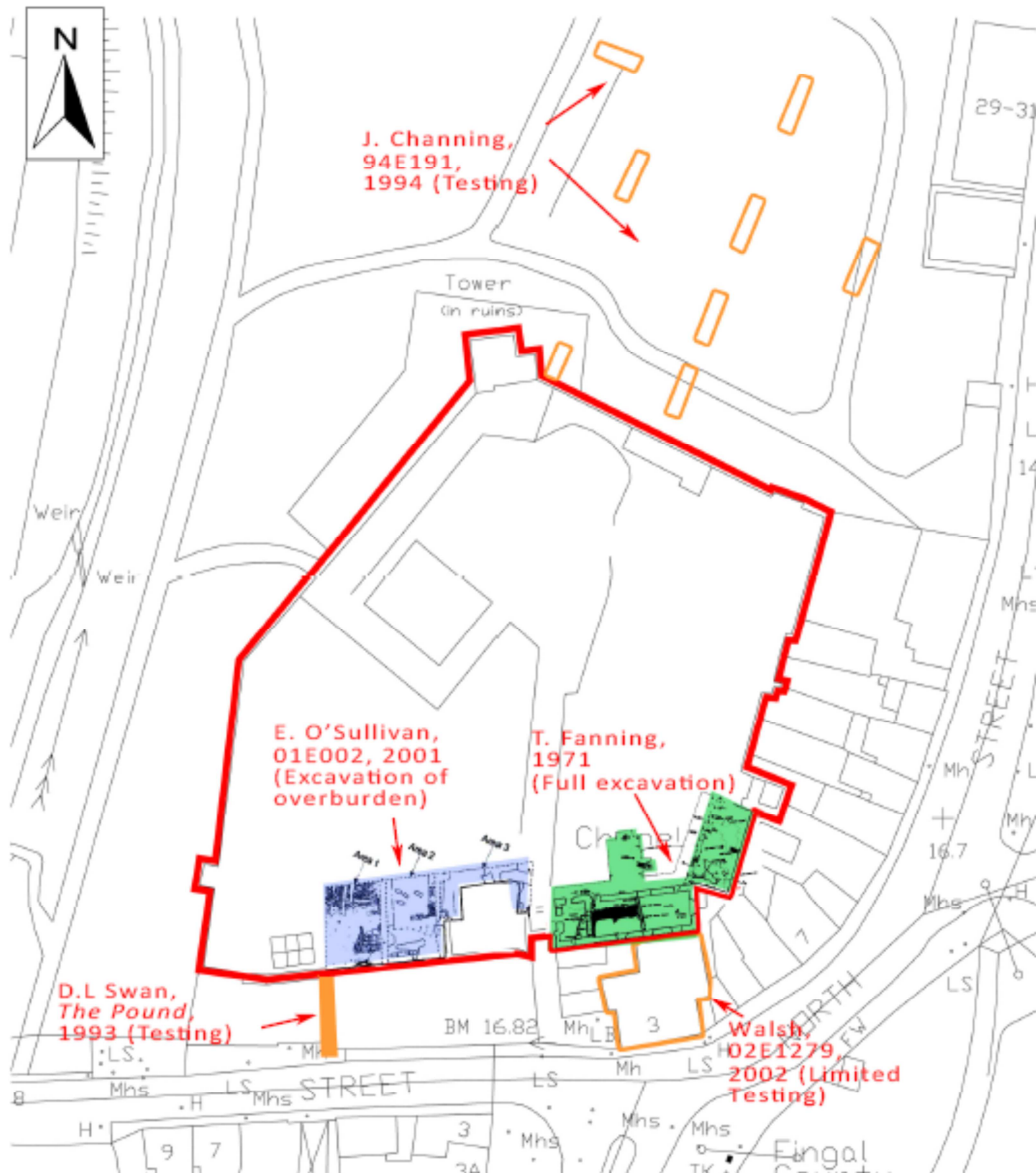


Fig. 11: Composite of previous excavations prior to 2011 (Swords Castle Conservation Plan)

### 3.3. Geophysical Survey

In addition a geophysical survey was undertaken by Target Survey (Licence no. 11R0038) as part of the Swords Conservation Plan. The survey consisted of resistivity (of an area totalling 0.4ha) internally and external to the west wall of the castle, and GPR (survey totalling 0.14ha.) both internally and for a small section externally south of the Knights and Squires.

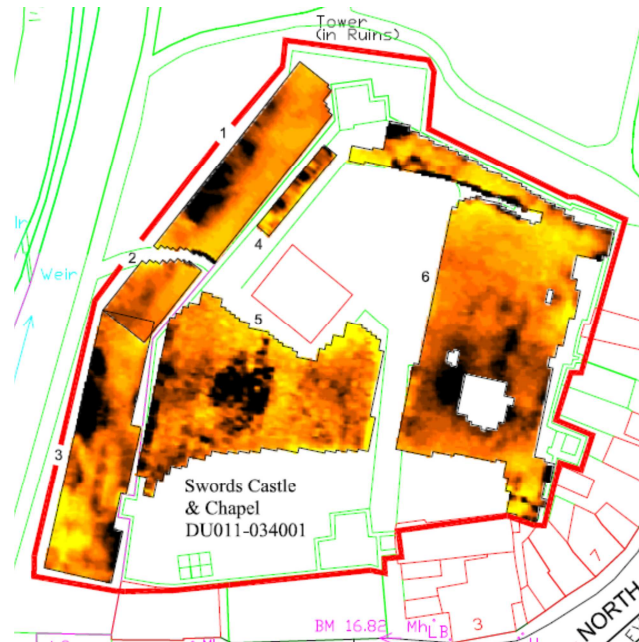


Fig. 12: Resistivity results and interpretation (Nicholls 2011)



Resistivity results indicated no evidence for a moat west of the wall of Swords Castle, although there is a suggestion of underlying material associated with the perimeter wall to the south-east. On the lower ground south of the portakabins a sub-rectangular response c.6m x 10m was identified. High resistance responses on the higher ground to the east indicate a grouping extending c.22m NS x 10m EW which may represent foundations associated with buildings (Nicholls 2011, 10-11).

#### 4 Archaeological Excavation

Based on the results from Seasons 1 & 2 and an analysis of previous archaeological investigations it was anticipated that the archaeological excavation could recover structural remains, possibly human skeletal remains and a high number of artefacts particularly medieval and post-medieval pottery, roof and floor tile. It had previously been established that the use of the castle precinct for gardens, agriculture and as an orchard had resulted in extensive disturbance.

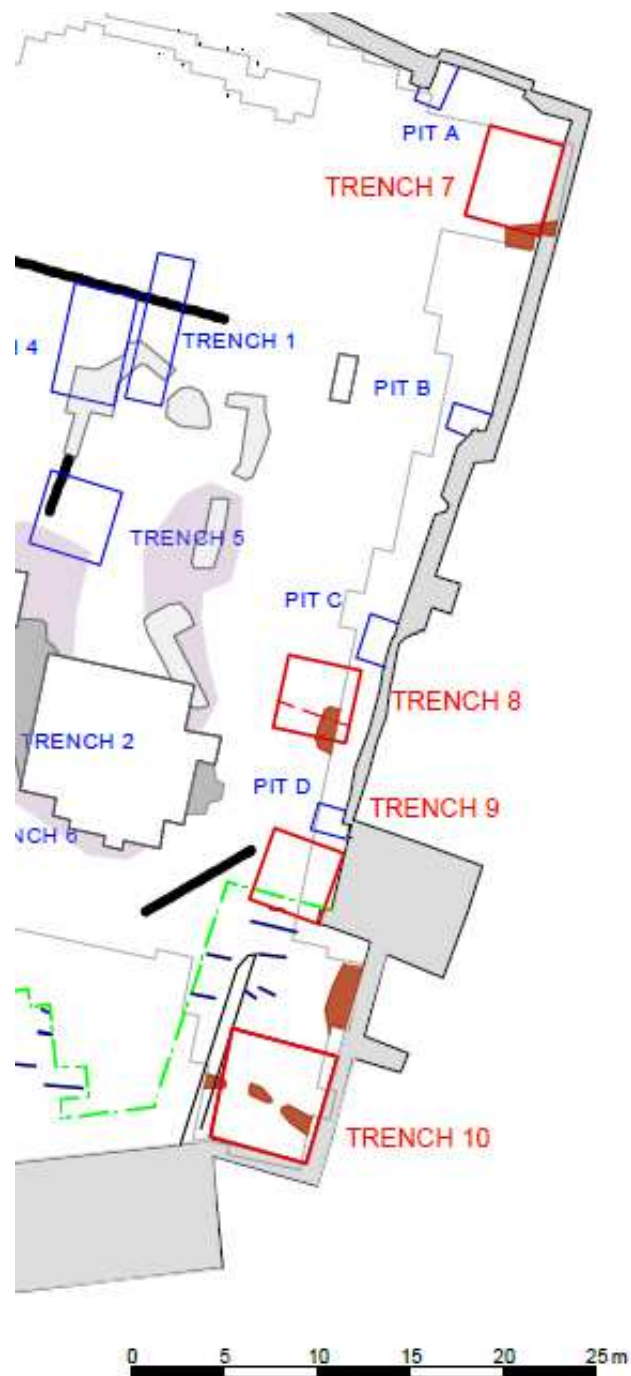


Fig. 13: Trench layout over geophysical resistance survey

Four trenches were opened within the precinct of Swords Castle. Trench 7 was located towards the north-east interior corner of the precinct to examine the interior of the breach of the perimeter wall created in the nineteenth century and the relationship with the northern mural tower. Trench 7 measured 5m NS x 4m EW and was excavated to a slab floor, a maximum depth of 1.25m.

Trench 8 measured 4m x 4m and natural subsoil was identified at a maximum depth of 1.42m. Trench 8 was located in an area west of the 'Link' wall in order to investigate a high resistance anomaly in the area and to locate the return wall of the 'Great Hall'.

Trench 9 (4m x 4m) targeted the area immediately west of the East Tower in order to investigate the confluence of the 'missing' west wall of the East Tower and the limit of burials identified by Fanning. Due to the recovery of burials this trench was excavated to a maximum of 0.64m below current ground level.

Trench 10 measured 6m NS x 5.5m EW and was located over the remains of the medieval tile pavement identified by Fanning in 1971.



Fig.14 Layout of Trenches 7-10 in conjunction with Season 1&2 Trenches 1-6

#### 4.1 Excavation Stratigraphy

The overall stratigraphy consisted of grey-yellow stony natural subsoil overlain by medieval layers and features truncated by post-medieval and modern disturbance. The depth of topsoil in all trenches was substantial and highly disturbed due to the presence of orchards and previous cultivation.

##### Trench 7

Excavation ceased at c.1m below present ground level at the level of a flagged floor which was overlain by a series of occupation layers (F126). These layers had been truncated by the construction and use of a kiln (F143). The later activity within this trench relates to the steps (F110) and a path (F111) leading to the doorway that had been inserted into the perimeter wall during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. There was evidence for waste burning beneath the topsoil (F1) and sod.



*Plate 5: Trench 7, post-excavation, facing north*

##### Trench 7-Flags and Floors:

###### *Feature F147*

Located in the north-western quadrant of Trench 7, Feature 147 consisted of a level floor surface of mortared slabs (average dimens. 0.30m x 0.2m and a maximum of 0.5m x 0.3m). The yellowish white mortar was coarse with very small stones. The surface which extends over an area of 2.75m EW x 2.25m NS appears to have a clear northern edge running east-



west. The southern edge was less clear but was defined by a change to smaller, uneven and non-level stones. Although likely contemporary with the flagged floor to the south (F145) there was a different usage in this area indicated by the nature of the stones which were heat-affected, and the overlying deposits.



*Plate 6: F147, mid-excavation, facing east*

#### *Feature 145*

Located in the southern half of Trench 7, this flagged surface was truncated by kiln F143, and extended into the drain F149. Extending over an area 4m EW x 2m NS, the floor consisted of large limestone flags (0.4m x 0.6m-1m diam.) with decayed rounded edges set level at roughly 17.5m OD. Unlike the flooring immediately to the north (F147) the stones were not mortared and gaps were infilled with smaller irregular stones (0.2m diam.) The eastern quadrant was contained within a trapezoidal setting of vertically set stones (0.25m in length and projecting 0.05m-0.12m above level of stones) of the same material defining a gently sloping surface that formed part of drain F149.

#### *Feature 149*

This drain feature which extends through the eastern curtain wall was integrated with the surface F145. The drain consists of a well-made mortared opening in the eastern wall that measures 0.65m at inner face narrowing to 0.35m over its east-west extent of 0.7m. It is blocked from the western side by the remnants of the nineteenth century bakery buildings. Similarly the height of the opening measures 0.65m dropping to 0.35m at its eastern limit.

Two slabs that constitute the floor drop gently from west to east by 0.5m over 0.7m. These base slabs are beneath the sidestone and the easternmost appear to represent a continuation of the F145 surface. There is no obvious point at which this feature was inserted into the eastern wall and it may represent an original feature which implies that flagged surface F145 represents ground level at time of the construction of the curtain wall in this area of the precinct.



*Plate 7: F145 and F149, post-excavation, facing east*

#### *Feature F126*

Overlying the north-west quadrant (F149) of the flagged floor were a series of occupation floors that consisted of a mixture of heat discoloured clay and loose charcoal and grit; The basal layer (F126:3) consisted of dark grey and red clay of firm compaction (2.75m EW x 1.25m NS; 0.1m in thickness) that came off onto heat-affected slabs, but extended beyond their northern edge into the baulk. Above this was a mottled dark grey and red clay (F126:2) of similar dimensions to the layer below (0.05m-0.1m in thickness) which contained a patch of *in situ* mortar. This sub-rectangular coarse sandy mortar (0.8m x 0.6m x 0.7m thick) may have been an attempt to create a surface, perhaps for a post-pad. The upper surface (F126:1) consisted of pale yellowish-brown clay, heavily mottled with red orange patches and black staining (1.8m x 1.8m; 0.05m-0.1m in thickness). A silver groat of Elizabeth I dated to 1569 was recovered from the upper surface of these occupation deposit providing a *terminus ante quem* for the flooring.

#### *Feature F144*

Partially overlying the remainder of the flagged surface (F145) was a deposit of pale brown clayey silt with occasional angular stones and frequent animal bone (1.75m NS x 1.5m EW; 0.07m-0.15m). A copper alloy chape, iron pin and a sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this layer. Truncated by the insertion of kiln F143 this layer extends partway into F149 drain. F144 is same as F125.

#### *Feature 125*

This is a continuation of F144 where it abuts the eastern curtain wall. Consisting of pale brown firm clayey silt with occasional small angular stones it was clearly cut by the insertion of kiln F143 on its western side.

#### *Feature 124*

Located in the south-west corner of Trench 7, this sub-rectangular deposit consisted of a greyish brown friable clayey silt with occasional small stone (1.75m Ns x 1.25m EW; 0.15m-0.2m in depth). Bone-rich this deposit overlay slabs F145. Iron nails, medieval pot sherds and tile and clay pipe fragments were recovered from this layer.

#### *Feature 117*

Sealing the occupation layers overlying the flagged floor was a post-medieval topsoil layer consisting of pale brown clayey silt (4m EW x 3.75m NS; 0.25m-0.4m in depth) with occasional small-medium stones. To the north of the trench there was a sharp transition to the underlying charcoal rich surface (F126:1) which was characterised by a concentration of slate. Clay pipe, pot, tile and iron nails were recovered from this layer. F117 and the layers and floors described above were all truncated by the insertion of the kiln F143.



## Trench 7-Kiln:

### *Feature 143*

The northern bowl of kiln consisted of a tapering oval defined to north and east by an earth-cut face rendered with mortar and to the south and west by a mix of large and medium stones in a random rubble bond (0.5m NS x 2m EW; 0.5-0.6m in height). The rough coursed layer of stone at the south-west edge included several large stones (0.5m x 0.3m h.) but with no indication of shaping. The stone walling appears to be 0.4m-0.5m thick max approaching the flue mouth giving an overall extended width of 2m against a maximum internal width of 1.6m at the widest point. The base of the bowl was a hard white mortar (F143:1) which dipped gently down from the sides to create a smooth central surface. It is noticeable finer sand mortar and whiter than the coarse deposit overlying it at northern end. Curiously there is no real indication of burning/heating of the mortar surface but as it was left in situ it is possible that it represents a final clean use and earlier layers of burnt material lie beneath.



*Plate 8: F143 kiln bowl, facing south -west*

### *Feature 161*

The flue comprised a fine orthostatic flue (0.9m NS x 0.3m EW; 0.3-0.35m) with sidewalls generally made of a single upright (2-3 in a row on each side) and with one surviving lintel at north end. Two infill deposits were noted; the basal fill (F161:2) was almost pure charcoal apparently representing a single large timber set transversely across the flue. The upper fill (F161:1) was an ashy mixed deposit mixed with mortar which almost filled the flue entirely.



*Plate 9: Flue (F161) and southern bowl (F162), facing west*

#### *Feature 162*

The southern kiln bowl or fire-pit comprised a finely made stone walled chamber or bowl. The walling was best preserved on the western side where it has up to four courses closely set up to 0.3m in thickness; In contrast to the flue (F161) the walling at the chamber was coursed stone rather than orthostatic. No mortar was identified between the stone but was exposed on the upper surface at both sides; Two fills were noted; the lowest fill (F161:1) was stony dark friable clayey silt. It was not fully excavated (due to time constraints) but appeared to overlie a layer of mortar similar to F143. The upper fill (F162:2) was loose reddish clayey silt and sand, 0.2m in thickness and dished in profile, with occasional small stones and frequent charcoal inclusions. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this feature.

#### *Feature 146*

The basal fill (F146:2) of the northern bowl of the kiln consisted of a friable mid-greyish brown silt with charcoal inclusions. It appeared to represent the initial post-use fill of F143 and was thicker at the northern end (0.4m in depth) shallowing out along the base of the kiln. In contrast to the later deposits which extend beyond, this fill lies entirely within the bowl. An upper stony deposit (F146:2) infilling the kiln bowl consisted of grey loose stones in a gritty silt matrix. Iron nails, and sherds of medieval pot and tile were recovered from this feature.



#### *Feature 158*

Overlying deposit F146 to the south was firm reddish-brown mottled black clayey silt with occasional small stone inclusions. Feature 158 sloped from south-east to north-west and appeared to represent the earliest of the second phase of infill deposits of the kiln.

#### *Feature 150*

This appears to have been deposited after the kiln had gone out of use. Feature 50 consisted of very loose black dark brown silty grit with frequent charcoal inclusions (1.5m EW x 1.25m NS; 0.1-0.5m) which lay into the general hollow of F143 but notably lies over the edge. A fragment of glazed roof tile was recovered from this feature.

#### *Feature 148*

This deposit (1.25m EW x 1m NS; 0.3m in depth) appeared to overlie the west wall of F143, just north of the flue. Feature 148 consisted of firm reddish-brown clayey silt with occasional small stones. It appeared to be a slump over the later deposit F150.

#### *Feature 114*

This deposit (2.8mEW x 2.2mNS; 0.2m-0.6m in depth) possibly resulted from the demolition of the kiln. Feature 114 consisted of loose reddish mid-brown mottled silty clay with frequent large stone inclusions, moderate animal bone and occasional mortar and slate. This deposit dominated the south side of T7 and was characterised by large angular stones dipping into the chamber of the kiln. Clay pipe fragments, tile and medieval and modern pot sherds were recovered from this feature.



*Plate 10: F115 pre-excavation, facing east*

#### *Feature 115*

This was the infill of the hollow created above kiln southern bowl. It consisted of a shallow cut (2.8m NS x 1.6m EW; 0.2m in depth) containing two distinct fills. The basal fill (F115:2) was a very dark charcoal rich gritty silty clay which was partially truncated to the east by the insertion of the nineteenth century bakery entrance. The upper fill (F115:1) consisted of dark brown silty clay. Iron nails, tile, post-medieval and modern pot sherds were recovered from this feature.

#### **Trench 7-Drainage:**

#### *Feature 116*

Interpreted as drainage or a furrow, this short (0.5m NS x 0.8m EW) linear cut truncated was aligned east-west. U-shaped in profile (0.1m-0.15m in depth) it was filled with friable mid-greyish brown clayey silt. Of similar character to F121 to which it is perpendicular but it is earlier in the sequence. Modern pottery and clay pipe fragments were recovered from this feature.

#### *Feature 121*

Interpreted as drainage or furrow, this was a long curving linear that extended southwards from the northern baulk (3m NS x 0.6m EW). U-shaped in profile (0.1m-0.25m in depth) it was filled with friable greyish-brown clayey silt with moderate charcoal inclusions. An iron horseshoe, modern pot and a nineteenth century lice comb was recovered from this feature.

#### **Trench 7-Bakery:**

#### *Feature 109*

This was a fairly level stone-free layer covering the whole trench, interpreted as late 18th/19th century topsoil. It consisted of mid-brown friable silty clay, notably free of stones with modern animal bone, charcoal and slate inclusions (0.15m -0.35m in depth). Cut by step F110 and path F111 it can be argued that this represents the ground level during the use of the doorway F175, between 0.5m-0.6m below present ground level. Modern pottery, iron nails, clay pipe fragments and medieval tile and pot were recovered from this feature.



*Plate 11: F175, blocked doorway, facing east*

#### *Feature 175*

This feature is the blocked-up doorway in East wall; Inserted into the curtain wall in the nineteenth century this doorway is topped by a concrete lintel (above which there has been replaced stone 0.45m in height) and is defined at its base by F110:3 which formed the mortared threshold of the doorway, a total of 1.8m in height. Above ground the doorway is defined by mortared limestones in fill (0.9m in width) within semi-defined limestone jambs on each side (1.4m max width), at the base of which are two protruding stones sitting on large lumps of concrete. Below ground level (0.5m in height) there are two rectilinear voids (0.25m in height; 0.1m in width) indicating rotted out wooden door jambs. The line of mortar from the 2016 Enabling Works (Phase 1) is visible just below current ground level.

#### *Feature 110*

This was a three-sided wall formalising the step down to the threshold of doorway F175. It consisted of a roughly faced limestone and mortar wall, generally one course in height. However mortar bedding on top of the stone suggested an additional missing course; Stones measured 0.25m l. x 0.2m x 0.2m h. on average and the inner and upper face generally flat but lower and rear face uneven. The stones were set into and against a roughly dug

rectangular pit (2m EW x 6m NS) cut into F109. The wall encompassed three distinct fills; the lowest fill (F110:3) consisted of compact beige mortar and sand with small stones 0.05m-0.1m in thickness. It appeared to connect directly with the thick band of mortar visible at the threshold and may represent a floor at the step. This was overlain by F110:2, very compact black silt/cinders/small stones which also overlay path F111. It was a heavily consolidated trample on this surface; The upper layer F110:1 consisted of a mix of loose mortar patches and hard grey silty sand which sloped for 0.15m thickness at northern end and tapered out at south.

#### *Feature 111*

This feature was a rough path (1.5m NE/Se x 0.8-0.9m in width; 0.1-0.5m in depth) consisting of small to medium angular stones, compacted in mid-brownish grey clay with trampled black silt at north-eastern end with frequent mortar inclusions. This well-defined compacted path of stones and loose mortar represents a routeway leading to the blocked up doorway F175. The path slopes gently down to the south-west, dropping 0.06m over 1.5m.

#### *Feature 108*

This was a shallow cut (2m Ns x 2m EW) into the step feature F110 infilled with a particularly artefact-rich continuation of the lower F1 layer. It consisted of loose gritty black silt/sand with small stone inclusions and frequent glass bottle fragments and nineteenth century ceramics. Its presence here in front of a blocked doorway (F175) suggests that the door was still open at the time of deposition.

#### *Feature 1*

Topsoil in Trench 7 consisted of a grey-brown compact stony clayey silt s that measured from 0.3 to 0.6m in depth. The north-eastern corner contained gritty burnt material with large quantities of early 20<sup>th</sup> century melted glass, bottles, metals and waste indicating that there was a bonfire in this area. A range of artefacts were recovered with medieval pot and tile alongside modern glass and brick, due to the cultivated nature of the topsoil. Bone buttons, clay pipes, iron nails, glass bottles, white wear as well as animal bone and sea shell were recovered from topsoil in this trench.



### **Trench 8**

Natural subsoil was attained at 1.42m below ground level within a single east-west sondage excavated through the centre of this trench. Above natural was a large wall (F123) abutted by a build-up of occupation and demolition layers. Relatively modern disturbance had taken place across the top of the wall.



*Plate 12: Trench 8 post-excitation, facing north*

### **Trench 8-Medieval Wall:**

#### *Feature 123*

The substantial medieval limestone wall (1.5m in width) was aligned NNE/SSW. The wall was standing to a maximum height of 0.7m at its eastern end, although it averaged 3 courses. The foundation course was uneven and extended from 0.07m-0.16m north of the wall face. It consisted of small stones (average 0.15m diam.) and 0.1m in height. It appeared to overlay natural subsoil directly and there was no obvious cut and the ground level slopes away to the north. The wall consisted of mortar-bonded large stones (0.23m-0.36m diam.) interspersed with smaller infill stones. The top of the wall was uneven, having been truncated by later activity (F171). This resulted in a surviving wall height of 0.56m at the west end and a higher central area (1.2m EW x 0.6m NS) along the southern baulk. Given its position it may be the southern wall of the 'Great Hall' or a possible perimeter wall.





Plate 13: Wall F123 post-ex and layer F159 pre-ex, facing west

### **Trench 8-Surfaces, layers and deposits**

Abutting the medieval wall (F123) were a series of relatively thin layers and deposits some of which extended over the entire width of the trench. As they were excavated within a sondage (1m-1.2m in width), the full north-south extent was not ascertained.

#### *Feature 159*

This was one of two basal layers overlying natural subsoil. Located c.40m north of the wall (F123) it appeared to slope downwards (0.01m-0.06m in depth) to the north. It consisted of a loose blackish-brown burnt deposit (4m EW x 0.5m NS) with occasional angular stone-butting up against F160. Iron objects and medieval pottery were recovered from this feature. An environmental sample (#64) was wet-sieved and is currently undergoing analysis.

#### *Feature 169*

Abutting F159 at the base of the sondage was F169 which consisted of sterile medium-compact greenish-grey sandy clay (4m EW x 0.28m NS) with occasional small angular stone inclusions. It overlay the footing of wall F123 and measured 0.18m-0.22m in depth.

### *Feature 152*

Overlying both F159 and F169 was F152 (4m EW x 1m-1.2m NS) loose grey stony sandy mortar with moderate animal bone, slate and angular stone inclusions. It was interpreted as building debris. An architectural fragment (chamfered stone with an indent that possibly formed door or window frame; striations still visible on carved surfaces. Carved at one end and truncated at other-possibility of having been burnt 0.1m in height; 0.1m in max diameter 0.5m in minimum) was recovered from this deposit as was a wedge shaped fragment of Dundry stone (0.08m in height; 0.085m in max width 0.15m-0.055m; tool marks visible one end face). Iron nails, medieval pottery and tile were also recovered from this feature.



*Plate 14: Architectural fragment, photogrammetric model, courtesy of Mick Mongey*

### *Feature 160*

Consisting of sterile greenish-brown compact clay (4m EW x 1.18m NS) with small stone inclusions; F160 sealed the footing of medieval wall (F123) and layers F159, F152 and F169. It sloped down from south to north (0.01m-0.3m in depth) and related layers F159; F152 and F169.



*Plate 15: Wall F123 mid-ex and layer F129 pre-ex, facing west*

*Feature F129*

Overlying F160 was a band of heat-affected soil (4m EW x 1.2m NS). Feature F129 consisted of loose friable, reddish brown sandy silt with frequent animal bone, occasional small angular stone inclusions and mortar flecks. F129 sloped down from south to north (0.02m-0.28m in depth). Slates, plaster fragments, iron nails and medieval pottery was recovered from this feature. An environmental sample (#57) was wet-sieved and is currently undergoing analysis.

*Feature F142*

Extending eastwards for 2.78m from the western baulk F142 consisted of compacted mid-grey gravel and sand, with frequent mortar flecks and angular stones. It was uneven (0.02m-0.16m in depth) petering out to the east where it partially abutted layer F130. Iron nails,

medieval pottery and tile and a possible fragment of human bone (E4619:142:36) were recovered from this feature.

*Feature F131*

This layer extended across the width of the sondage, westwards from the eastern baulk for 2.8m before being truncated by later activity (F174, F118). Feature F131 consisted of loose mid-reddish brown sandy silt with frequent animal bone and shell inclusions (0.02m-0.16m in depth). Mortar and plaster fragments, slate, iron nails, medieval pottery and tile were recovered from this feature.

*Feature 130*

Above F131 and similarly truncated by later activity in the west of Trench 8, Feature 130 (3.2m EW x 1.2m NS) consisted of sterile loose grey sandy gravel, 0.01m-0.18m in depth.

*Feature 174*

Located at the western baulk of Trench 8, Feature 174 consisted of yellowish-red clayey sandy silt deposit (1.2m EW x 0.8m NS) with occasional small stone 0.01m-0.12m in depth.

*Feature 173*

Abutting F130 to the west and of similar composition, Feature 173 comprised mid-grey mortar rich sandy deposit (0.4m EW x 1.2m NS) with small angular stone inclusions, 0.01m-0.08m in depth.

*Feature 118*

This deposit extended 2.83m northwards from the top of the wall F123. Feature 118 was a loose greyish-brown/yellow-mottled silty sand with moderate angular and sub angular stone, 0.4m in depth. Medieval pottery and tile, iron nails, clay pipe fragments and modern pot were recovered from this feature.

*Features F112*

This stony deposit of loose light yellowish-brown silty sand extended across the eastern half of Trench 8 (4m NS x 1.9m EW). It contained frequent medium and small angular stone with slate and animal bone inclusions. It was truncated to the west (0.4m-0.64m in depth) by later activity (F171). Iron objects and nails, medieval and modern pottery, clay pipe fragments and red brick were recovered from this feature. A fragment of inscribed slate was documented as being recovered from this layer, although it is likely to be from the interface of this and F106, where another fragment of the same piece was recovered.





*Plate 16: Trench 8, Modern truncation over F123, facing south*

### **Trench 8-Modern cuts and deposits**

#### *Feature F172*

Located in the south-western corner (0.87m EW x 0.2m NS) this was sterile brownish-grey sandy clay with occasional small angular stone inclusions of medium compaction, 0.46m to 0.76m in depth. It was truncated by F171.

#### *Feature F171*

This cut was identified in the southern baulk as truncated U-shape in profile (2.2m max width, narrowing to 1.2m; 0.8m in depth). Orientated NW/SE the cut extends down the medieval wall F123, through the stony deposit F112, and northwards from the southern baulk beyond the extent of the trench. This cut was filled by F106.

#### *Feature 106*

This feature comprised the fill of cut F171. It consisted of loose mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular fragments of limestone and frequent animal bone and shell inclusions. Slate, mortar/plaster, medieval ridge and floor tile fragments, medieval and modern pottery, iron nails, and clay pipe fragments were recovered from this feature. A fragment of slate inscribed with musical notation was also recovered. This feature was overlain by topsoil (F1).



*Feature 113*

Cut into F106 this transpired to be tree roots (0.72m diam.) of non-archaeological origin.

*Feature 1*

The topsoil within Trench 8 was loose dark brown sandy silty with small rounded stone inclusions, between 0.24m-0.55m in depth. Bone buttons, clay pipe stems, medieval pot and tile and a large bag modern pottery were recovered from this feature.

*Feature 107*

A modern gully, aligned north-south Feature 107 cut through topsoil and F112 towards the eastern extent of Trench 8. Concave in profile (2m NS x 2.24m EW; 0.3m-0.8m in depth) it contained loose blackish brown peaty silt from which clay pipe, modern and medieval pottery and plastic were recovered. Possible human disarticulated remains (E4619:107:9) were also identified.

### **Trench 9**

Natural subsoil was not attained with Trench 9. The maximum depth of excavation was 0.64m below ground level. To the east of the trench the wall associated with the East Tower was uncovered (F153). There were two distinct horizons of soil (F163 and F127) both of which contained burials. Two pits (F122, F128) post-dated the burials above which were the remnants of topsoil (F1) and sod.



*Plate 17: Trench 9, Post-excavation, facing east*

### **Trench 9-Wall:**

An aim of the 2017 season of excavation was to identify the western wall of the East Tower the junction of the South wall of the tower, a possible stairwell (F154) and the foundations of the western wall (F170) were uncovered.

#### *Feature 170*

The foundation stones of the west wall of the East Tower were exposed for 2.2m north-south within Trench 9. Apparently robbed out the remaining large (0.4m-0.7m diam.) unshaped limestone within compact orange brown stony clay, c.1.2m in width. Abutting F153, it was overlain by mortar-rich F153.

#### *Feature 153*

Interpreted as the mortar-rich backfill of the robbed out west wall of the East tower, Feature 153 consisted of very loose grey brown sandy silt (2.3m NS x 0.2m) with stone inclusions that

extended beyond the eastern baulk. It measured from 0.16m to 0.136m in depth and two sherd of medieval pottery and disarticulated bone (E4619:153:4) were recovered from this feature.



*Plate 18: Wall junction F154, mid-excavation, facing east*

#### *Feature 154*

This constituted the junction of the truncated southern wall of the East tower and the removed west wall (F170). The south wall appeared to sit on what appeared within the trench as a rounded plinth of mortared stone (1.62m EW x 1.6m NS) that survived to three courses in height (0.35m). The base was not exposed due to the presence of human skeletal remains (Sk.15), the skull of which was identified c.18m west of the face of wall F154, thus implying pre-construction deposition of burials.

#### **Trench 9-Layers:**

Two horizons (F163, F127) of activity were identified within Trench 9, the uppermost of which (F127) was truncated by the insertion of burials.

#### *Feature 163*

This layer was exposed to the east of the trench (4m NS x 0.8m EW) and contained skeleton #15. It consisted of moderately compact, dark brown, silty clay with occasional stone inclusions. It appears to have been cut by the insertion of the walls F154/F170 but was excavated to a maximum of 0.15m. Medieval floor tile and disarticulated human remains (E4619:163:3) were recovered from this feature.



*Feature 127 = F132-F141, F155-F157, F166*

This was compact yellow brown clay with stone, occasional animal bone and shell inclusions that extended over most of T9, except where it abutted F153 to the east. Burials 1-14 are cut into F127 (0.04m-0.55m in depth) which extends over wall F154 and is above layer F163. No discernible gravecuts were visible but numbers were assigned to the material surrounding each burial which was essentially F127. Disarticulated human remains (E4619: 127:8), medieval pottery and tile and modern pottery were recovered from this feature.

#### **Trench 9-Burials:**

##### **Skeleton 1 (E4619: 132:1)**

This burial was identified just 0.05m below the current ground level, which in this area consisted of patchy sod and woodchip. Aligned east-west, Sk.01 survived as an extended supine burial with arms flexed across the pelvis; a truncated torso (no cranium) and truncated legs (no feet). The skeletal remains were in poor condition. There was no discernible gravecut. It was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F132. A modern beer bottle cap was recovered during the excavation of this burial.



*Plate 19: Sk.02, facing west*

**Skeleton 2 (E4619: 133:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.02 survived as an extended supine burial with arms flexed across the pelvis with hands in the pelvic cavity a truncated torso (no cranium) and truncated legs (no feet). The skeletal remains were in poor condition. There was no discernible gravecut. It was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F133. The burial of this skeleton was above Sk.06 and appears to have truncated Sk.11.

**Skeleton 3 (E4619: 134:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.03 survived as an extremely poorly preserved supine burial. The upper right torso; the right arm and lower mandible were distinguishable but crushed. There was no discernible gravecut. It was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F134. The burial of this skeleton was above Sk.08.

**Skeleton 4 (E4619: 135:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.04 was located adjacent to the northern baulk. Sk.04 survived as a truncated supine burial. The upper right torso; upper right and left arms and lower mandible and fragments of the cranium were distinguishable but in poor condition. There was a partially gravecut distinguishable to the south (0.6m EW). Sk.04 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F135. The burial of this skeleton was truncated by Sk.07. A sherd of medieval pottery was recovered during the excavation of this burial.



*Plate 20: Sk.01, Sk.05 and Sk.02, mid-excavation, facing west*



**Skeleton 5 (E4619: 136:1)**

This burial was located between Sk. 01 and Sk. 02. Aligned east-west, Sk.05 survived as an extended supine burial with arms flexed across the pelvis; a truncated torso (no cranium). The skeletal remains were in poor condition and cut to the west by pit F122. There was no discernible gravecut. It was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F136. Sk.05 partially overlay Sk.06.

**Skeleton 6 (E4619: 137:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.06 survived as a truncated supine burial. Cut by the insertion of pit F122, Sk.06 was characterised by a partial pelvis and truncated lower limbs (no feet). The survival of finger bones associated with the pelvis implied the hands were crossed here. The skeletal remains were in poor condition and appear to have been crushed. There was no discernible gravecut. Sk.06 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F137.

**Skeleton 7 (E4619: 166:2)**

Overlying Sk.04, Sk.07 survived as truncated lower limbs. There was no discernible gravecut. Sk.07 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F166. A sherd of glazed medieval pottery was recovered from this feature.

**Skeleton 8 (E4619: 138:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.08 survived as a truncated supine burial. Cut by the insertion of pit F128, Sk.08 was characterised by a partial pelvis and torso. The skeletal remains were in poor condition. There was no discernible gravecut. Sk.08 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F138.

**Skeleton 9 (E4619: 139:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.09 survived as a truncated supine burial. It was located towards the northern baulk where there was a concentration of burials. Sk.09 was immediately overlain by Sk.03 and in itself overlay Sk.14. Sk.09 was a juvenile, characterised by the upper body including cranium. The cranium had been truncated, as if sliced at a singular level. It appeared to have rested on a pillowstone. There was a jumble of disarticulated bone associated with this burial. There was no discernible gravecut. Sk.09 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F139.

**Skeleton 10 (E4619: 140:1)**

Aligned east-west, the left side of Sk.10 survived as a truncated supine burial. Cut by the insertion of pit F122, Sk.10 also extended into the western baulk. It was characterised by a the left arm, torso, pelvis, arm and leg (no feet). It appeared to have overlain Sk.06. The skeletal remains were in poor condition. There was no discernible gravecut. Sk.10 was within

F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F140.

**Skeleton 11 (E4619: 141:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.11 survived as a truncated supine burial. Located below Sk.02, Sk.06 was characterised by the upper torso and arms (no cranium). The skeletal remains were in extremely poor condition and appear to have been crushed. There was no discernible gravecut. Sk.11 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F141.

**Skeleton 12 (E4619: 155:1)**

Aligned east-west, Sk.12 survived as they lower limbs and feet of a supine burial. The burial extended into the western baulk, c.0.2m below the present grass level. Only the right lower limb and both feet could be retrieved. Sk.12 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F155.

**Skeleton 13 (E4619: 156:1)**

These were the partially disarticulated remains of a burial disturbed by the insertion of Sk.10. There was no discernible gravecut. Sk.13 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F156.



*Plate 21: Sk.09 and Sk.14, facing west*

**Skeleton 14 (E4619: 157:1)**

Located at the north-western corner of Trench 9 and aligned east-west, Sk.14 survived as a truncated supine burial within a concentration of burials. It appears to have been truncated by the insertion of Sk.09 and was associated with disarticulated burials, which may correlate to the pushing aside of its lower limbs to accommodate the later burial. Sk.14 extended into the western baulk. The skeletal remains were in relatively acceptable condition. There was no discernible grave-cut. Sk.14 was within F127, compact stony soil, although the material surrounding the burial, also compact stony soil was recorded as F157.

**Skeleton 15 (E4619: 163:41)**

Located to the east of Trench 9, at a lower level than the other burials, Sk.15 survived as a cranium. It was within layer F163 and if aligned east-west would have been truncated by the insertion of the junction of the west and south walls of the East Tower, indicating an earlier date of deposition. The skull had been inadvertently hit with a mattock and the loose fragments were removed for dating, the remainder of Sk.15 being left *in situ*.

**Trench 9-Pits:***Feature 128*

This feature comprised a sub-circular pit (0.94m NS) that extended 0.7m from the western baulk. Concave with sloping sides (0.12m-0.28m in depth) it cut through Sk.08 and contained loose garden type black silt with roots, brick, and animal bone inclusions that may relate to orchard activity. Modern pottery, clay-pipe fragments, tile and disarticulated human remains (E4619:128:7) were recovered from this feature.

*Feature 122*

This rectilinear pit (1.64m NS x 1.2m EW) was located in the south-west corner of Trench 9. Steep-sided with a flat base (0.16m to 0.44m in depth), the fill was a mid-brown loose clayey silt with larger stone rubble towards the base with animal bone inclusions. Clay pipe fragments, medieval pot, modern pottery, glass and disarticulated human remains (E4619:122:13) were recovered from this feature.

*Feature 1*

Topsoil in Trench 9 consisted of dark brown clayey silty, 0.08m to 0.18m in depth. Bone buttons, clay pipe fragments; a horseshoe, medieval and modern pottery sherds, tile, 20<sup>th</sup> century coins and plastic were recovered from this feature.

### **Trench 10**

Natural subsoil was not attained with Trench 10 which was excavated within the southern quadrant of the Archbishop's Apartments. The aim was to investigate the extent of the medieval floor tiles that had been left behind after Fanning's 1971 investigation and if the burials identified during that excavation were possibly reburied here. Removal of 0.08m-0.3m of overburden (F119) which had been covered in patchy sod and woodchip was onto 1971 plastic. The relationship at the corner of the Archbishop's Apartments and the Chapel was investigated.



*Plate 22: Trench 10, Post-excitation, facing south-east*

### **Trench 10-Walls and Floors:**

In order to investigate the relationship between the Archbishop's Apartments and the Chapel, a small sondage (1.6m EW x 0.65m NS) was opened at the south-west corner of Trench 10. The foundations of the western wall (F167) of the Archbishop's Apartments were revealed as was a metalled surface (F165).

### *Feature 167*

Aligned north-south the remnant of the western wall of the Archbishop's Apartments; previously uncovered by Fanning, was identified. It survived as one course (exposed for 0.6m NX x 0.35m EW) of unmortared limestone unfaced blocks (average 0.2m diam.) and loose small stones. Cut into subsoil, it had been backfilled by Fanning. The construction of Chapel truncated the southern wall of the Archbishop's Apartments.



#### *Feature 165*

This was a compact metallised surface of angular and sub-angular stones (0.02m-0.06m diam.) set into orange brown clay. It was exposed for 0.8m EW x 0.65m NS within the exploratory cut in the south-west corner of Trench 10.



*Plate 23: F165, F167, post-excavation, facing south*

#### *Feature 164*

Overlying the metallised surface (F165) Feature 164 was soft brown orange clayey silt with occasional small stone inclusions, that extended across the majority of Trench 10 (5.5m EW x 4m NS), except the north-west quadrant which was reminiscent of very compact redeposited subsoil. This layer measured 0.13m in depth in the south-west corner of the trench.

#### **Trench 10-Mortar Deposits:**

Two differing extents of mortar (F168, F120) were identified overlying the clay layer (F164) in Trench 10.

#### *Feature 168*

Located to the north-east quadrant of Trench 10 this compact white-yellow mortar spread extended for 1.6m south of the northern baulk. Irregular in shape it has a maximum east-west dimension of 0.7m and appeared to have been truncated to the west.

### *Feature 120*

This was the mortar bed for medieval tile pavement F151. It consisted of loose yellow white mortar of fine granulation. It survived in patches with occasional medieval tile fragment inclusions across a maximum area of 4.5m EW x 3.5m NS. Located c.2.6m north of the south wall of the Archbishop's Apartment was a distinct area (1.75m EW x 1m NS) of the mortar bed where the imprint of the removed medieval tiles survived. There was a distinct edge along the northern limit which probably indicates the extent of the medieval tile pavement.

### **Trench 10-Medieval Tile Pavement:**

The majority of the medieval tile pavement had, following recording, been removed by Fanning to the National Museum of Ireland. However a number of tile fragments had been uncovered just 0.08m below ground level.



*Plate 24: F151, post-excavation, facing north*

### *Feature 151*

This feature comprised the remains of the medieval tile pavement. Located along south wall of the Archbishop's Apartments these remains extended over 1.6m east-west and became more fragmented as it extended northwards for a maximum of 0.4m. Set into a mortar bed the tiles were mainly half tiles of differing patterns which may represent resetting of the original pavement.

**Trench 10-Overburden:**

The overburden within Trench 10 immediately overlaid the plastic that had been placed there in 1971 following Fanning's excavation.

*Feature 119*

The overburden, essentially the backfill of Tom Fanning's spoilheap consisted of dark to mid brown loose silty clay with animal bone and plastic inclusions. Clay pipe fragments, medieval pottery and tile, human disarticulated remains (E4619:119:251) and modern pottery were recovered from this feature.



## 4.2. Samples & Finds

The environmental sampling strategy was overseen by Dr Meriel McClatchie who undertook a training day on site. Soil samples were retrieved from possible flooring layers and the kiln. Wet sieving took place on site. Animal bone and shell were retrieved from all features and layers. All layers and features of all trenches and a significant proportion of topsoil were dry-sieved. Artefacts from all layers and features were retrieved. Those from stratified layers and features and of medieval date from topsoil were processed, labelled and registered on site.



*Plate 25: Dr Meriel McClatchie demonstrating wet-sieving of soil samples on site*

### *Soil Samples*

A total of eight soil samples were sieved for environmental analysis. These samples, the majority of which were 20 litres in volume were specifically targeted. A total of three samples (#59, #65, #66) were taken from the kiln F143. Two samples (#42, #54) were taken from different layers of the flooring F126 that was truncated by the insertion of the kiln. One sample was taken from the burnt deposit (#64) towards the base of the wall F123 in Trench 8 and another (#57) from the later heat-affected layer within the same trench. Dr Meriel McClatchie is currently undertaking analysis of the archaeobotanical remains.

### *Bone Samples*

The sampling methodology for bone was to hand-retrieve all bone from all features and layers. Additional retrieval was from dry sieving of the layers and wet sieving of samples. A total of 88 samples were registered from layers and features including small mammal and bird bones as well as a small number of fish bones. Margaret McCarthy is currently undertaking analysis of the animal bone remains.



### *Human Bone*

Fragments of disarticulated human remains were recovered from each trench, both from topsoil and later features, indicative of the later disturbance by the use of the site for cultivation and as an orchard. A total of fifteen burials were identified within Trench 9. Disarticulated remains were also recovered from stratified features including pits F22 and F128; layers F127 and F163 and wall backfill F153. Dr Linda Lynch is currently examining the disarticulated human remains.

### *Sea shell Samples*

A total of thirty samples of seashell were recovered. The majority of the samples are oyster shell but there were also crustacean shells identified.

### *Building material*

A total of 13 slate fragments and eighteen samples of stone, mortar, worked stone and plaster were retrieved. These will be combined with the samples of building materials to be examined as part of the *Story of the Stone* element of the project.

### **Artefacts**

A total of 1295 artefacts were registered. This can be divided into pottery (330), tile (569), clay pipe (108), stone (2) and bone (8) artefacts. Metal finds were divided into iron nails and objects, copper alloy pins and a lead seal. A silver groat was recovered from Trench 7 and an inscribed slate from Trench 8. The latter is unusual in that musical notes were inscribed on one. The slate has been subjected to reflectance transformation imaging by Gary Devlin of The Discovery Programme in order to ensure the musical notation has been recorded which will be further analysed.



*Plate 26: Slate inscribed with musical notation, courtesy of Siobhan Duffy*

*Pottery:*

A total of 330 sherds of medieval pottery were recovered during the excavation. A significant proportion appears to be local ware. The pottery is currently being examined by Clare McCutcheon.

*Tile:*

A total of 529 tile fragments were recovered the majority of which from Trench 10, where the remnants of the medieval tile pavement was located. Decorated floor tile fragments, roof tiles and decorated ridge tiles were identified from topsoil and stratified layers across the site. The tile is currently being examined by Joanna Wren.

*Clay Pipe:*

A total of 16 bowls and 93 stem fragments, some of which were identified as being decorated or forming a mouthpiece or bowl-end of a stem. Fragments were recorded from the topsoil and upper layers of all the excavated trenches. The clay pipes are currently being examined by Siobhan Duffy.

*Metal finds:*

A majority of metal artefacts recovered were nails. Metal artefacts will x-rayed by Susannah Kelly and conserved on her advice.



*Plate 27: Siobhan Duffy, processing finds*

## 5 Discussion

The focus of the 2017 season of excavation at Swords Castle was towards the eastern limits of the precinct, assumed to be the earliest area of occupation. While the level of natural subsoil was not attained across the site, the presence of a hitherto unknown kiln was discovered, stratified medieval activity was established, burials uncovered and the nature and extent of post-medieval and modern disturbance was recorded.

### *Trench 7*

Trench 7 was situated towards the north-eastern corner of Swords Castle precinct. Adjacent to the nineteenth century breach in the curtain wall it was located to determine the effect of that breach internally and to investigate a geophysical anomaly. It was also hoped to identify the internal walls of the northern mural tower and determine the relationship with the activity in Pit A c.2.5m to the north-west.

Excavation was to the level of the flagged floor from which a silver groat dating from 1569 was recovered from the layers sealing it. The northern limit of this floor was defined by intense burning which had also been evident within Pit A as Feature 26/30. A sample from the latter, produced more than 1500 plant components, dominated by bread wheat grains. One of these grains provided a 2 sigma radiocarbon date of AD 1419-1512 (UBA-32458). While it was a possibility that the remnants of the southern junction of the northern mural tower would be identified there had been significant later activity in the north of Trench 7. There was however a sharp transition from the stony layer (F117) to the underlying flooring layers that was characterised by a concentration of slate towards the northern end of the trench, again reflecting activity in Pit A which was interpreted as roof collapse.

The eastern extent of the flagged floor was integrated with an opening in the curtain wall which probably functioned as a drain (F149). Built in sections over different periods the construction period generally ascribed to the curtain walls is mid-late 15<sup>th</sup> century, although the eastern range is thought to be earlier. A break in the line of the northern section of the curtain wall was identified c.3m south of Trench 7 during Phase 1 of the Enabling Works (Baker, 2017) and may indicate a different phase of construction. The level of integration of the drain with the flagged floor (F145) and the fact that there is no obvious point of insertion of the drain into the curtain wall could imply that the flagged floor was the ground level here at the time of the curtain wall construction. The flagged floor with its *terminus post quem* of later 16<sup>th</sup> century indicates there may have been two phases of construction or perhaps an inside (F147)/outside (F145) function.

The investigations in Trench 7 had been formulated with a view to understanding the effect of the breach of the curtain wall by the proprietors of Dunne's bakery in the nineteenth century. It was therefore somewhat co-incidental that a kiln should be uncovered within the curtain walls. The kiln (F143) was cut through the flagged floor and its sealing deposits and therefore must date to the after the later 16<sup>th</sup> century. This period coincided with the occupation of the Swords Castle by Dutch Protestant settlers who had been given asylum there by Sir Henry Sydney in the 1580s. The kiln had been cleaned out with a basal mortar surface and post-use backfill apparent.



*Plate 28: Kiln, Trench 7, facing north*

The 'new entrance' (F175) from the bakery yard to the rear of Mr Dunne's house was investigated. Dunne's bakery was known locally for its white bread. In the 1901 Census Patrick Dunne was listed as master baker and he occupied the premises along with his wife Anna Mary Dunne who was a shopkeeper. A decade later Anna Mary Dunne was still listed as a shopkeeper but now also a widow, with no mention of another baker being present (Census 1911). According to local lore The Cobbes who were in ownership of Swords Castle at the time took great exception to the 'illegal' doorway and insisted in be blocked up forthwith (Bernadette Marks pers comm.).





Fig. 15: Drawing of the new entrance c.1890s, courtesy of Bernadette Marks

The remains within Trench 7 show a well-defined compact path (F111) leading to a three-sided wall (F110) formalising steps down to the threshold of the doorway.

#### *Trench 8*

Geophysical survey had identified an amorphous anomaly west of the 'Link wall' a nineteenth century infill along the line of the eastern curtain wall between the extant Double Gable and the East Tower. The trench was sited to investigate this and to locate the return wall of the 'Great Hall'. The remains of a substantial east-west wall were uncovered towards the south of Trench 8. Internal to this the subsoil appeared to slope down and was overlain by a series of burnt layers and heat-affected soil. During previous investigations of Pit C, c.1m to the north of the Trench 8 at the junction of the Double Gable and the link wall two courses of original curtain wall had been identified. They had been heat-affected. Is it possible that a building here had burnt down? The northern return wall of the Double Gable had been identified in Pit B. Although not fully exposed within the trench it was substantial in nature, and not dissimilar in form to wall F123. If these are both the return walls then the 'Great Hall' as it has been described would have measured 30m in width (NS).

#### *Trench 9*

Trench 9 targeted the area immediately west of the East Tower in order to investigate the confluence of the 'missing' west wall of the East Tower and the limit of burials identified by Fanning. Burials were uncovered less than 10cm below the current ground level. Aligned east-west, these burials were in poor condition, many exhibiting evidence of having been

crushed. There had been significant disturbance in and around the burials with pits having been dug through them and tree roots from the later orchard planting having become intertwined with the skeletal remains. Spatially these burials appear to be a continuation of those identified by Tom Fanning in 1971, but there are no levels available for the latter and neither have they been recovered for dating. There is just one entry in the excavation site notebooks that relates to the burials immediately south of Trench 9. It describes a trench extension 'to remains of the west wall has produced 11 new burials, again orientated EW and all but one reach to, but not underneath wall remains' (Fanning, 9/11/71). Fanning goes on to argue that although graves lay on both sides of the wall-footings and some had been inserted into the sides of these footings, none were placed over the top, even when the wall was robbed out and therefore this would indicate that the wall was standing when the burials took place. Along with the shallow nature of the internments this suggested that the 'bawn was re-used as a graveyard when the castle was no longer occupied' (1971, 60).



*Plate 29: David Newman Johnson and Tom Fanning examining skeletons  
©National Monuments Service*

Similarly the burials uncovered in Trench 9 appear to extend as far as the newly uncovered west wall of the east Tower indicating that the wall was extant at the time. However almost 30cm lower than Sk1-14, the skull of Sk.15 was found, the remainder of the burial apparently truncated by the insertion of the tower wall. The burials found in 2014 which underlie the Gatehouse and Chapel are predominantly 11<sup>th</sup> century in date and there was a burial ground present prior to the construction of Swords Castle. It is probable that there are two episodes of burial that pre-and post-date the use of occupation of the castle.

#### *Trench 10*

This trench was sited to investigate the extent of the remains of the medieval tiled pavement first unearthed by Fanning in 1971. The overburden was removed onto the

plastic that had been put there to cover the remains in 1971. The uncovering of the mortar beds was assumed to reflect the removal of tiles by Fanning. However an examination of his site notebook found that he had encountered 'a mortar bed, traces of which remain in the area where the tiles are missing'(Fanning 10-11/11/71).



*Plate 30: 1971 plastic, Trench 10*

It also transpired that a small extension at the south-west corner of the excavated to confirm the relationship between the south wall of the Archbishop's Apartment's and the Chapel had already been undertaken by Fanning;

'A small extension of Cutting 2 was opened ...this was done to locate the western wall footing ...where the probable earlier S wall of the bishop's quarters seems to have been interrupted for the insertion for the N chapel wall' (Fanning, 4/11/71).

## 6 Conclusions

The 2017 season of excavation continued to establish the presence of previously unknown structures and medieval activity within the precinct of Swords Castle. Further post-excavation analysis will allow for the development of a definitive chronology for the activity uncovered.



*Plate 31: Post medieval pottery workshop*

An important aim of the *Swords Castle: Digging History* is to engage the wider public with the national monument in their midst. This year saw the participation of almost 100 volunteers including many who have taken part in previous seasons. A post-medieval pottery workshop with Rosanne Meenan added to the training of those on-site and allowed the participation of those not disposed to digging. A collaboration with artists Fiona Hallinan and Sabina McMahon and Dr Meriel McClatchie interpreted the environmental evidence uncovered on site in the form of food prepared for the volunteers.

An over-arching final report encompassing specialist contributions and an analysis of the excavation results in conjunction with the historical and architectural evidence will be produced in due course for submission to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the National Museum of Ireland.

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6<sup>th</sup> February 2018



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## 7 Post-Excavation Programme

All soil and animal bone samples were processed on site. All artefacts were cleaned and labelled on site. Specialist analysis is ongoing (see below). Dating material will be forwarded for AMS dating once selected in conjunction with the recommendations of the appropriate specialist.

Task	Specialist	Status
Archaeobotanical analysis	Dr Meriel McClathcie	Ongoing
Charcoal analysis	TBC	TBC
Animal Bone analysis	Mags McCarthy	Ongoing
Pottery	Clare McCutcheon	Ongoing
Tile	Joanna Wren	Ongoing
Small Finds (metal, bone, stone, clay pipe)	Siobhan Duffy	To be undertaken
X-Ray & Conservation	Susannah Kelly	To be undertaken
C14 Dating-macrofossil plant remains; human bone; charcoal	Chrono Lab, QUB	Selection of datable material to be undertaken

### 7.1 Archiving

All digital photographs are indexed. A total of twenty-three plans and section drawings have been scanned. Both have been saved to the Heritage file on the Fingal County Council mainframe. The paper archive is currently with the director and will be scanned and copied for deposition in the both the Fingal Local Studies Archive, Swords and the Collections Resource Centre.

### 7.2 Dissemination

During 2017, Heritage Guide No.77 Swords Castle was distributed by Archaeology Ireland. Copies were sent to local schools and libraries and distributed in Swords Castle. An article on the project was also published in Ireland's Own. A summary account has been submitted to Excavations.ie. The form of further publication will be decided on completion of the entirety of the project.

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## Appendix 1-Feature Register

Feature #	Trench	Description	Dimensions	Over	Under	Artefacts	Animal Bone	Shell	Human Bone	Slate/Building Material	Slag
1	Tops oil	<b>T7</b> -layer of burnt 20th century material indicating the spread from rubbish burning overlain with compact stony silt and a layer (0.2m thick ) of sod. <b>T8</b> -loose dark brown sandy silt, <b>T9</b> -dark brown clayey silt	<b>T7</b> 0.3-0.6m; <b>T8</b> 0.24m-0.55m; <b>T9</b> -0.08m-0.18m	<b>T7</b> -F108; <b>T8</b> -F106; <b>T9</b> -Sk1 F122, F128, F127, F153	T7-T8- Sod	<b>T7</b> : 1 bottle stopper, ceramic marble; 1 buckle; 5 nails; 3 iron objects; 2 bone buttons; 23 clay pipe stems and 6 bowls; 12 medieval pot sherds; 19 sherds; 17 tile frags; large bag modern pot; cans, melted glass, bottles <b>T8</b> :2 bone buttons; 20 clay pipe stems; 8 sherds of pot; 8 frags of tile; large bag modern pottery. <b>T9</b> -1 bone button; 5 clay pipe stem and 4 bowls; 1 horseshoe nail; 5 nails; 1 object; 5 pot sherds; 15 tiles frags; small amount modern pot; 20th century coins; plastic	<b>T7</b> -mixed animal bone (medium bag) and 10 fishbone frags; <b>T8</b> -mixed animal bone (medium bag) and fragment fishbone; <b>T9</b>	<b>T7</b> -medium bag	Yes	<b>T7</b> -1 frag grey slate; <b>T8</b> -Small fragments; <b>T9</b> -small frags slate	



106	T8	Fill of cut F171; Consists of loose mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular fragments of limestone and frequent animal bone and shell inclusions	2m NS x 4mEW	F171	F1	Modern pot; Medieval pot; ridge and floor tile fragments; iron nails; clay pipe; musical slate frag (E4619:106:74)	Large bags mixed and fishbone	2 bags assorted seashell		Large bag mixed grey and purple slates with mortar adhered, some with nail holes plus redbrick an mortar/plaster	1 lump
107	T8	Modern gully; aligned NS gentle concave in profile; Contains loose blackish brown peaty silt fill	2m NS x 2.24mE W; 0.3- 0.8m in depth	Cuts F1	Sod	Plastic; Modern pot; Medieval pot; clay pipe	Bag mixed; small mammal and fishbone		DAR E4619:107:9		Large lump

108	T7	Modern concentration of finds; A shallow cut into the step feature f110 an underlying old topsoil (F109); infilled with a particularly artefact-rich continuation of the lower F1 layer. Loose gritty black silt/sand with small stone inclusions. Glass bottles and 19th century ceramics. Stones at the F110 wall had been displaced by the cut completely at the NE and at least one course at the S and W. Its presence here in front of a blocked doorway (F175) suggests that the door was still open at the time of deposition	2m NS x 2mEW	F110	F1, F109	Glass bottles; 19th century ceramics; tile and clay pipe	Small bag small mammal and fishbone	bag of assorted seashell	DAR E4619:108:9		Lump
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109	T7	Older topsoil consisting of mid-brown friable silty clay, notably free of stones. Modern animal bone, charcoal modern slate inclusions. A fairly level stone free layer covering the whole trench, interpreted as late 18th/19th century topsoil. Cut by step F110 and path F111 so it can be argued that this represents the ground level during the use of the doorway F175, between 0.5m-0.6m below present ground level.	4m NS x 4m EW; 0.15m-0.35m in depth	F115 F124	F110, F111	Modern pot; Lead seal; iron nails and objects; flint; clay pipe, medieval tile and pot	Large bag mixed; small mammal, fishbone	bag of assorted seashell			yes
110	T7	Three sided wall formalising step down to threshold of doorway f175. Consists of roughly faced limestone and mortar wall, generally one course with occasionally two smaller stones. Mortar bedding on top of the stone suggest an additional missing course; Stones on average 0.25m l. x 0.2m x 0.2m h. Inner and upper face generally flat but lower and rear face uneven. Stones set into and against roughly dug rectangular pit 2m x 6m with mortar and small stones set between the internal facade and the pit side.	2m NS x 1.6m EW; 0.25m max	Cuts F109	F108/F 111	Modern pot; Iron nails; clay pipe;	Small bag mixed	bag of assorted seashell			Tiny frag of waste

	<p>Pit/foundation was cut into F109 with the wall creating a roughly faced sunken area. In addition to the infill within F108, F100 had three distinct fills; Lowest fill F110:3 consisted of a compact beige mortar and sand with small stones 0.05m-0.1m in thickness. It appears to connect directly with the thick band of mortar visible at the threshold and is may represent a floor at the step. This was overlain by F110:2, very compact black silt/cinders/small stones which also overlay path F111. It is a heavily consolidated trample on this surface; The upper layer F110:1 consisted of a mix of loose mortar patches and hard grey silty sand which sloped for 0.15m thickness at N end and tapered out at S. It is interpreted as the infill prior to the truncation by F108.</p>									
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111	T7	Rough path consisting of small to medium angular stones, compacted in a mid-brownish grey clay with trampled black silt at NE end; frequent mortar inclusions. Well defined compacted path of stones and loose mortar sitting on/in F109 topsoil. The path had a very compact surface of black silt overlying it at NE end which is identical to F110:2 and probably represents trample-represent same routeway surface leading to the blocked up doorway F175. the path slopes gently down to the SW dropping 66mm over 1.5m	1.5m NE/SW; 0.8m-0.9m in width ; 0.1m-0.15 in depth	F110	F108	Iron objects; tin glazed earthenware; clay pipe	Small bag mixed; fragments of small mammal	bag of assorted seashell		Burnt Brick	Yes
112	T8	Stone deposit loose greyish brown silty sand with frequent medium and small angular stone and moderate animal bone inclusions; Spread over F118 to north of trench-WAS this cut by cut for wall???	4m NS x 1.9m EW; 0.40m-0.64m in depth	F118/ F123	F1	Button; iron objects and nails; medieval pot sherds and tile; other half of inscribed slate; modern pot; clay pipe	Medium bag mixed; small mammal and fishbone	bag of assorted seashell		Redbrick; small fragments slate with nail holes	
113	T8	Non -archaeological tree roots									

114	T7	Possible deposit resulting from demolition of kiln; consisting of loose reddish mid-brown mottled with occasional silty clay with frequent large stone inclusions; moderate animal bone and occasional mortar and slate. Dominated the south side of T7 with a reddish upper surface with four large stones dipping down gradually then more sharply. Beneath its upper surface characterised by large angular stones dipping into the chamber of the kiln.	2.8mE W x 2.2mNS ; 0.2m- 0.6m in depth	F150	F115	Clay pipe; pot and tile	Medium bag mixed; small mammal and fishbone	bag of assorted seashell		1 frag slate	
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115	T7	Infill of hollow created above kiln firepit; A shallow hollow or cut containing two distinct fills, the upper F115:1 resembles overlying F109 dark brown loose silty clay and basal fill F115:2 is a very dark charcoal rich gritty silty clay. The E side of the feature ran under F110 and was partly truncated by it. Despite the shallow nature of the feature it appears from relationship with F116 that it had a cut component so may represent the base of a deeper feature truncated by F109	2.8mNS x 1.6m EW; 0.2m	F114	F109	Pot sherds, tile, iron nails; modern pot	Large bag mixed	bag of assorted seashell			
116	T7	Drainage or furrow; Short linear cut truncated at each end by F121 and F115; U-shaped in profile and filled with friable mid-greyish brown clayey silt. Of similar character to F121 to which it is perpendicular but earlier in the sequence-may represent improvement activity	0.5m NS x 0.8m EW; 0.1m-0.15m in depth	F117	Cut by F121/F115	Modern pot; Clay pipe and tile frag		bag of assorted seashell			

117	T7	Post-medieval topsoil layer consisting of pale brown clayey silt with occasional small-medium stones; a sharp transition to the underlying charcoal rich surface F126:1 is characterised by a concentration of slate	4m EW x 3.75m NS; 0.25m-0.4m	F126	Cut by F143	Clay pipe; pot and tile; iron nails	Large bag mixed; small mammal, fishbone	bag of assorted seashell	DAR E4619:117:14	2 frags/morale/plaster/burnt stone?	
118	T8	Deposit; loose greyish brown /yellow mottled silty sand with moderate angular and sub angular stone; First of a series of deposits north of wall	4m EW x 2.85m NS; 0.4m max	F130	F112	Modern pot; medieval pot and tile; clay pipe, iron nails	2 large bag of mixed; small mammal and fishbone	bag of assorted seashell		Fraggs with nail holes	
119	T10	Overburden -backfill of Tom Fanning's spoilheap overlying 1971 plastic; consists of dark to mid brown loose silty clay with animal bone, plastic inclusions	6m x 6m ; 0.1m-0.3m in depth	Plastic/F120/F151	Sod/wo odchip	Clay pipe/ medieval pot/ tile fragments (hundreds); large bag of modern pot	Medium bag mixed; small mammal and fishbone		DAR E4619:119:251		Yes
120	T10	Mortar bed for medieval tile pavement; Loose yellow white mortar of fine granulation. Patchy with occasional medial tile fragment inclusion; Towards NE quadrant the layout of the medieval tiles visible over an area 1.75mEW x 1m NS; Mortar overlies a soft mid-orange brown layer F164	4.5m EW x 3.5m NS	F164	1971 plastic/F119/F151	iron pin; 98 tile frags		bag of assorted seashell	DAR E4619:120:200		



121	T7	Drainage or furrow; Long curving linear to the S and extending beyond N and W baulks; U-shaped filled with friable greyish brown clayey silt moderate charcoal inclusions	3m NS x 0.6m EW; 0.1m-0.25m in depth	F116	F109	Iron horseshoe/ 19th century nit comb; tile frags; modern pot	Medium bag mixed; small mammal and fishbone	bag of assorted seashell		Small frags purple and grey slate;
122	T9	Rectilinear pit located in SW corner of T9. Steep sides with flat base. Fill was a mid-brown loose clayey silt with larger stone rubble towards the base; animal bone, human bone, glass and pottery inclusions	1.64m NS x 1.2m EW; 0.16m-0.44m	Cuts Natural	F1	Clay pipe; medieval pot; modern pot; glass; iron objects	Small bag mixed	bag of assorted seashell	DAR E4619: 122:13	
123	T8	Medieval wall; Substantial medieval limestone wall, aligned NNE/SSW. Mortar bonded with large facing stones and rubble core interior; Has a footing and no evidence of a foundation cut-may be constructed directly on natural; survives at east and west of T8 to a maximum of 3 courses; could be south wall of medieval hall? or perimeter wall? Wall standing to 0.7m in height at E end; foundation one course-stepped in 0.25m above foundation 0.07-0.1m or half a course. Large stone construction c.0.36m diam., 0.06m-0.23m in thickness.	4.14m x 1.4m in width; 0.64m in surviving height	Natural	F112/F169/F171/F172					

		Foundation course uneven-stones 0.15m-0.33m diam. extends 0.07m-0.16m north of wall face. Uneven removal of stone-stands to 0.56m at W end; central area of wall remains also at a higher level-1.2m EW x 0.6m NS extending from baulk-wall is mortar bonded									
124	T7	Sub-rectangular deposit located in SW corner of T7; Consisted of a loose bone rich layer overlying slabs F147; Greyish brown friable clayey silt with occasional small stone inclusions	1.75m NS x 1.25m EW; 0.15m-0.2m in depth	F145	F117	Iron nails and objects/ pot sherds and tile; clay pipe; modern pot	Large bag mixed; small mammal, fishbone	2 bags assorted seashell		Small frags purple and grey slate;	
125	T7	Layer. May be a continuation of F144. Pale brown firm clayey silt with occasional small angular stones. Clearly cut by F143 on its W side. Abuts E wall. Overlies a gritty coarse sand/silt/mortar layer to N of F45.	1m x 1m;	F145	F143		Medium bag mixed; small mammal and fishbone				
126	T7	Series of occupation floors and mixture of heat discoloured clay and loose charcoal and grit; Upper surface F126:1 is a pale yellowish brown heavily mottled with red orange patches and black staining. Upper surface of layers	F126:1 1.8m x 1.8m; 0.05m-0.11m depth; F126:2-2.75m EW x	F126: 2:3/F 147	F117	Silver groat 1569; pot sherds and tile frags, iron nails	3 x medium bag mixed; small mammal, duck bill fish bone	2 bags assorted seashell		Very small fragments of slate	

		overlying mortared slabs F147; underlying loose concentration of fragmentary purple slate at base of F117. Characterised by alternating spreads of loose charcoal silting within compact yellowish clay; F126:2 Mottle dark grey and red firm clay and patch of insitu mortar; Notable feature of the second of the series of floor layers is an in situ patch of coarse sandy mortar, sub-rectangular 0.8m x 0.6m x 0.07m thick. This appears to represent attempt to create a firm surface-post pad? Lowest level in sequence-grey with frequent heat reddening firm compact clay; Came off onto an extensive area of heat affected slabs but dipped down past their northern edge into the baulk	1.6m NS; 0.05m-0.1m depth; F126:3-2.75m EW x 1.25m NS 0.1m min							
127	T9	Redeposited natural; Compact yellow brown clay with stone, occasional animal bone and shell inclusions. Extends over most of T(-abutts F153 to E. Burials 1-14 are cut into F127 but sits over wall F154 and F163	4m x 4m ; 0.04m-0.55m in depth	F154/F163	F1 cut by Sk1-Sk14/F122/F128	Pot, tile; modern pot	Medium bag mixed; small mammal	bag assorted seashell	DAR E4619: 127:8	small frag mortar

128	T9	Sub circular pit located along western baulk. Concave with sloping sides it cut into Sk08. Contained black garden type loose silts with lots of roots, with brick, animal bone inclusions-may relate to orchard activity	0.94m NS x 0.7m EW; 0.12m-0.28m in depth	Sk08	F1	Modern pot; clay pipe, tile	Small bag mixed		DAR E4619: 128:7		
129	T8	Heat affected soil; loose friable, reddish brown sandy silt with frequent animal bone. And occasional small angular stones and mortar flecks; Band of sloping soil from south to north	4m EW x 1.22m NS; 0.02m-0.28m depth	F160	F131/F142	Medieval pot; iron nails;	Large bag mixed; small mammal, fishbone	bag of assorted seashell		Large frags purple slate/small mortar/plaster frags	Waste
130	T8	Sterile lens consisting of loose grey sandy gravel, extends from face of wall F123 northwards within T8	3.2m EW x 1.2m NS; 0.01m-0.18m in depth	F131	F118						
131	T8	Deposit of material north of wall consisting of loose mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent animal bone and shell inclusions	2.8m EW x 1.2m NS; 0.02m-0.16m in depth	F129	F130	Lots of medieval pottery, tile; iron nails; glass bead?	3 x large bags mixed; 2x small mammal; 2 x fishbone	bag of assorted seashell		Mortar/plaster frags	Yes



132	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk01-same as F127		F127	F1/Cut by F122						
133	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk02-same as F127		F127	F1						
134	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk03-same as F127		F127	F1						
135	T9	Mid brown stony silty clay-sub-rectilinear gravecut visible on the south side-gravecut for Sk04	0.6m EW x 0.2m NS; 0.05m depth	Sk09	Sk07						
136	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk05-same as F127		F127	F1						
137	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk06-same as F127		F127	Sk05						
138	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk08-same as F127		F127	Cut by F128		2 frags of fishbone				

139	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk09-same as F127		Sk14	Sk07						
140	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk10-same as F127		Sk06	Cut by F122						
141	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk11-same as F127		F127	Sk02						
142	T8	Compacted lens of gravel and sand, mid grey with frequent mortar flecks and angular stones	2.78m EW x 1.1m NS; 0.02m-0.16m depth	F129	F131/F174	Iron nails; medieval pot and tile;	Medium bag mixed; small mammal and fishbone	bag of assorted seashell	DAR e4619:142:36	4 frags slate with holes;	
143	T7	Kiln; Northern bowl of kiln with stone walling at S, mortared cut face at n; tapering oval bowl defined at N end by earth-cut face rendered with mortar to n and E and at the south by a mix of large and medium stones in a random rubble bond. Some indication of a coarse sandy mortar between stones but it has been badly eroded. To s rough coursed layer of stone	2.5m NS x 2m EW; 0.5-0.6m in height	F117	F146						

		at SW edge including several large stones (0.5m x 0.3m h.)No indication of shaping. The stone walling appears to be 0.4m-0.5m thick max approaching the flue mouth giving an overall extended width of 2m against a maximum internal width of 1.6m at the widest point. The base of the bowl is a hard white mortar (F143:1) which dips gently down from he sides to create a smooth central surface. It is noticeable finer sand mortar and whiter that the coarse deposit overlying it at N end. Curiously there is no real indication of burning/heating of the mortar surface but as it was left in situ it is possible that it represents a final clean use and earlier layers of burnt material lie beneath								
144	T7	Deposit, pale brown clayey silt with occasional angular stones and frequent animal bone inclusions, overlying flagged surface F145. appears to be truncated by construction/use of kiln F143 and extends partway into F149 drain. F144 is same as F125	1.75m NS x 1.5m EW; 0.07m-0.15m	F149/ F145	Cut by F143	Cu alloy chape, iron pin, 1 sherd medieval pot	Large mixed; small mammal and fishbone	bag of assorted seashell		

145	T7	<p>Flagged surface truncated by Kiln F143, apparently continuing into F149 as base of drain; Approximately 16 large limestone slabs (0.4m x 0.6m-1m diam.) with decayed rounded edges set level at roughly 17.5m OD. Gaps are infilled with smaller stones (0.2m diam.) all are irregular in plan and all are securely set firmly in a solid level surface. There was no obvious evidence of mortar except for lumps of coarse mortar on surface. The E half was contained within a trapezoidal setting of vertically set stones (0.25m in l. and projecting 0.05m-0.12m above level of stones) of the same material defining a gently sloping surface that formed part of drain F149. the NW corner of the E setting had been truncated by F143 kiln and level stones at W end had been removed</p>	4m EW x 2m NS	?	F149						
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146	T7	<p>Fill-abutting F143 Basal fill (F146:2) consisted of a friable mid greyish brown silt with charcoal inclusions; appears to represent the initial post use fill of F143; thicker at N end and shallows out along the base of the kiln beneath stony layer F146:1; significantly lies entirely within the bowl as later deposits lie beyond; F146:1- upper stoney deposit infilling kiln bowl-grey loose stones in a gritty silt matrix. Initially exposed at base of F115 and excavated partially in EW sondage.</p>	<p>F146:2- 2.4m NS x 2m EW; 0.04- 0.4m F146:1 2m NS x 1m EW; 0.4m</p>	F115	F158	<p>Iron nails, medieval pot and tile</p>	<p>2 x medium mixed; 10 frags small animal/fi shbone</p>	<p>bag of assorted seashell</p>	<p>frags of purple slate with mortar; lumps of mortar</p>	<p>Waste</p>
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147	T7	Solid floor surface at level of mortared slabs (average dimns. 0.30m x 0.2m some longer 0.5m x 0.3m) tending to be at the north. Mortar was coarse with very small stones, yellowish white. The surface appears to have a clear N edge running EW. The S edge was less clear but was defined by a change to smaller, uneven and non-level stones. Indicator of heat on stones most notable along N edge.	2.75m EW x 2.25m NS	?	Cut by F143/ F126:3						
148	T7	Later fill deposit within kiln F143; consisted of reddish brown firm clayey silt with occasional small stones. This deposit appears to overlie the W walled portion of F143 just north of the flue (F161), with what appears to be a subsequent slump over the later deposit F150-CHECK	1.25m EW x 1m NS; 0.3m in depth	F158	F150						

149	T7	<p>Drain through eastern wall integrated with surface F145; well-made mortared opening in eastern wall (w.0.65m at inner face narrowing to 0.35m over 0.7m where it is blocked apparently from the W side. Height at opening 0.65m dropping to 0.35m on E. Two slabs on floor drop gently from W to E by 0.5m over 0.7m. the base slabs are beneath the sidestone and the easternmost appear to represent a continuation of F145 surface. the rest drops down over 0.35m over two closely set lintels. there is no obvious point at which this feature was inserted into the E wall and may represent an original feature-implying that F145 represents ground level at time of construction.</p>	0.7m EW x 0.65m NS (min 0.35m )	F145	F144						
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150	T7	Burnt material redeposited within upper fill of kiln; very loose black dark brown silty grit with frequent charcoal inclusions; the loose gritty deposit lies into the general hollow of F143 but notably lies over the edge and appears to fill the cut that truncates f144.F145 to the east. Definitely deposited after the kiln has gone out of use and been partly dismantled. It may indicate that the E extent of the hole made by the kiln is the earlier deposit	1.5m EW x 1.25m NS; 0.1-0.5m	F158	F114	Iron object; 1 frag glazed roof tile	Small bag mixed; fragments of small mammal	bag of assorted seashell		
151	T10	Remains of medieval tile pavement; located along south wall becoming more fragmented as extends northwards; set into mortar f120	1.7m EW x 0.1-0.4m NS	F120	F119/plastic	Medieval floor tiles				
152	T8	Grey medium loose stony sandy mortar; building debris sealing burnt deposit F159	4m EW x 1.2m NS; 0.24m	F159	F160	Iron nails; medieval pot and tile	small mixed			Architectural carved fragment; vitrified mortar?
153	T9	Mortar rich backfill of robbed out west wall of E tower; very loose grey brown sandy silt with stone inclusions	2.3m NS x 0.2m EW; 0.16m-0.36m depth	F170/F154	F1	2 sherds med pot; 1 modern pot	6 frags		DAR E4619:153:3	

154	T9	Wall of E tower-junction of South and west walls-possible circular turret? Lime mortar bonded wall. 3 courses of limestone. No foundation trench exposed. Pad of clay w large stone on north side (F170) May suggest wall sits on plinth of redeposited clay. Cut into F163-disturbed Sk15	2.18m EW x 1.66m NS; 0.32m	F163/ Sk15	F127						
155	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk12-same as F127		F127?	F1						
156	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk13-same as F127		F127	F1						
157	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk14-same as F127		F127	F1						



158	T7	Reddish brown mottle black firm clayey silt with occasional small stone inclusions; sloping SE to NW overlying F146:1, this reddish fill slumps in from E side of the kiln and appears to represent the earliest of the second phase of infill deposits within the n base.		F146:1	F148	1 nail; 1 glazed pot sherd	medium mixed	bag of assorted seashell		2 very small frags mortar	
159	T8	Loose blackish brown burnt deposit with occasional angular stone-butting up against F160	4m EW x 0.5m NS; 0.01-0.06m	Natural	F152	Iron objects; medieval pot	5 frags				
160	T8	Greenish brown medium compaction clay with small stone inclusions; F160 seals F123 wall footing and related material f159; F152 and F169	4m EW x 1.18m NS; 0.03m-0.1m	F152	F129						

161	T7	<p>Flue connecting firepit and bowl of kiln; a fine orthostatic flue with sidewalls generally made of a single upright (2-3 in a row on each side) and with one surviving lintel at north end. Two infill deposits were noted, an ashy mixed deposit mixed with mortar which almost filled the flue entirely (F161:1) and an underlying concentration of charred wood and charcoal (F161:2). F161:1 coarse yellow sand, yellow mortar with small angular stone; F161:2 almost pure charcoal apparently representing a single large timber set transversely across the flue.</p>	0.9m NS x 0.3m EW; 0.3-0.35m	?	F146						
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162	T7	Kiln bowl; finely made stone walled chamber or bowl. The walling is best preserved on the W side where it has up to 4 courses closely set up to 0.3m in thickness; In contrast to the flue (F161) the walling at the chamber is coursed stone rather than orthostatic. no mortar identified between stone but was exposed on the upper surface at both sides; Two fills were noted. F162:2 was an upper fill of loose reddish clayey silt and sand with occasional small stones and frequent charcoal 0.2m in thickness and dished in profile; F161:1 the lowest fill noted, as tony dark friable clayey silt. It was only partially investigated but appears to overlie a layer of mortar similar to F143	0.9m NS x 0.5m EW; 0.7m depth	?	F143:1	1 sherd medieval pot	medium bag mixed	bag of assorted seashell		
163	T9	Moderately compact dark brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions; may represent earlier soil horizon. Contains burial sk15. Cut by wall F154/f170	4m NS x 0.8m EW; 0.15m	?	F127/F154/F170	Medieval floor tile	medium bag mixed	bag of assorted seashell	DAR E4619:163:3	

164	T10	Soft brown orange clayey silt with occasional small stone inclusions. Covers most of the trench except the NW quadrant which is more compact and redeposited natural like	5.5m EW x 4m NS; 0.12m max.	F165/ F167	F120						
165	T10	Cobbled/metalled surface beneath F164, consisted of angular and sub-angular stones (0.02m-0.06m diam.) set into orange brown clay; exposed in exploratory cut in SW corner of T10	0.8m EW x 0.65m NS	?	F164						
166	T9	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with moderate stone inclusions associated with Sk07-same as F127		Sk04	F1	1 sherd medieval pot					Slag
167	T10	Western wall remnant of Archbishop's Apartments; previously uncovered by Fanning. One course, linear; appears to be cut into subsoil-some small disturbed stones visible. Chapel truncates Archbishop Apartments wall	0.6m NS x 0.35m EW	natural?	F119						
168	T10	Compact mortar bed									

169	T8	Medium compact greenish grey sandy clay with occasional small angular stone inclusions; Overlying F123 footing	4m EW x 0.28m NS; 0.18m-0.22m	F123	F152						
170	T9	Foundation stones for robbed out west wall of the East Tower; Large limestone within compact orange brown stony clay.	2.2m NS x 1.2m EW; 0.42m min.	Cuts F163	F154						
171	T8	Cut recognisable in s baulk of T8; orientation NW/SE. Cuts up cast F172 and demolition rubble F112; sloped sides with irregular base. Filled with F106	4m EW x 2.2m NS; 0.5m-0.8m	F123/ F172	F106						
172	T8	Medium compact brownish grey sandy clay with occasional small angular stone inclusions. Possible up cast of natural deposited over F123 during robbing out phase??/	0.87m EW x 0.2m NS; 0.46m-0.76m	F123	F171						
173	T8	Mid grey mortar rich sandy deposit with small angular stone inclusions	1.2m NS x 0.4m EW; 0.01m-0.08m	F174	F118						



174	T8	Yellowish red clayey sandy silt deposit with occasional small stone butts up against F123 at west end of T8	1.2m NS x 0.8m EW; 0.01m- 0.12m	F142	F118/F 173						
175	T7	Blocked up doorway in East wall; Inserted into perimeter in the 19th century this doorway is topped by a concrete lintel (above which there has been replaced stone 0.45m in height) and is defined at its base by F110:3 which form the mortared threshold of the doorway. above ground the doorway is defined by mortared limestones in fill (0.9m in width) within semi-defined limestone jambs on each side (1.4m max width) at the base of which are two protruding stones sitting on large lumps of concrete. Below ground level (0.5m in height) there are two rectilinear voids (0.25m in height; 0.1m in width) indicating rotted out wooden door jambs. The line of mortar from the 2016 Enabling works is visible just below ground level.	1.8m height; 0.9-1.4 (ext. width)								

