

**Archaeological Excavation  
Preliminary Report**

**Drumanagh Promontory Fort  
Loughshinny, Co. Dublin**

**Consent no.: C786  
Excavation ref: E004805  
Detection No. R0000443**



*Image courtesy of The Discovery Programme*

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An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
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## **Abstract**

This report describes the preliminary results of an archaeological excavation, which was carried out under Ministerial Consent C786/E0046805 at Drumanagh Promontory Fort, Loughshinny, Co. Dublin as part of the *Digging Drumanagh-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2018*. Excavation of two trenches (1-2) took place over 10 days between 21 -31 May 2018.

Drumanagh Promontory Fort which is a National Monument (Preservation Order No.13/177) a recorded monument (DU008-006001) and protected structure (No.252) is a coastal headland located between the villages of Loughshinny and Rush (ITM 727236/ 756210). Towards the eastern end of the promontory is a Martello Tower (RMP: DU008-006003-; RPS: No.253).

The focus of the 2018 excavation at Drumanagh Promontory Fort was on uncovering the nature of the Martello Road and the impact of its construction on underlying material, while engaging the community in their local archaeology. The presence of pre Martello road construction activity was identified; the level of natural subsoil established and the early 19<sup>th</sup> century activity examined.

## Contents

1-Introduction .....	4
2-Location, topography and geology.....	5
3-Historical and Archaeological background .....	6
3.1. Cartographic Evidence.....	11
3.2. Previous Excavations .....	17
3.3. Geophysical Survey .....	19
4-Archaeological Excavation.....	21
4.1. Excavation Stratigraphy.....	22
4.2. Samples and Finds.....	33
5-Discussion.....	37
6-Conclusions .....	41
Acknowledgments.....	42
7-Post-Excavation programme.....	43
7.1. Archiving .....	43
7.2. Dissemination.....	43
8-References.....	44
Appendix 1- Feature list .....	61

## Illustrations

### Figures

- Fig. 1 Site Location Map 1:5000
- Fig. 2 Drumanagh and Lambay promontory forts (Westropp, 1921)
- Fig. 3 Martello Tower No.9 1862, Military Archive Map, Reference AD134122002
- Fig. 4 Down survey barony map, 1656
- Fig. 5 Rocque's Map of County Dublin, 1760
- Fig. 6 Duncan's Map, 1821
- Fig. 7 OS First Edition map, 1836
- Fig. 8 Drawing 14 C 15(28) (1) Courtesy of the Royal Irish Academy ©
- Fig. 9 OS 25-inch map, 1865 revision
- Fig. 10 Layout of geophysical survey panels 2014, courtesy of the Discovery Programme
- Fig. 11 Geophysical survey results Area 1A, courtesy of the Discovery Programme
- Fig. 12 Geophysical survey results, Area 1D, courtesy of the Discovery Programme
- Fig. 13 Trench layout, at scale 1:2000, (Survey data supplied by The Discovery Programme)
- Fig. 14 Right of way, Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad134122-003
- Fig. 15 1850 map, Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad134121-007
- Fig. 16 Sketch of Fence proposed at No.5 Robswall, No.8 Rush, No.10 tower-Shenick's island, 1854 Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad134123-006

### Plates

- Plate 1 Aerial Photograph May 2018, courtesy of The Discovery Programme
- Plate 2 Drumanagh Martello Tower and road facing WSW. Image: Nua Photography ©
- Plate 3 Leo Swan Collection, Oblique <http://lswanaerial.locloudhosting.net/items/show/39958>
- Plate 4 LiDAR image, Fingal County Council and The Discovery Programme 2014
- Plate 5 Fieldwalking finds distribution courtesy of the Discovery Programme
- Plate 6 Auger holes locations 2014 survey and 2017 survey courtesy of the Discovery Programme
- Plate 7 Layout of Trenches 1-2
- Plate 8 Trench 1, post-excavation, courtesy of The Discovery Programme
- Plate 9 Trench 1, Features, 9, 6, pre-excavation facing north
- Plate 10 Trench 1, Feature 6, facing west
- Plate 11 Trench 1, Feature 18, facing south
- Plate 12 Trench 1, Features 7, 5 facing west
- Plate 13 Trench 2 post-excavation, facing north
- Plate 14 Trench 2, Feature 19, post excavation, facing west
- Plate 15 Martello road, Trenches 1 and 2, facing east
- Plate 16 Trench 2, Features 3 and 13, facing east
- Plate 17 Drumanagh Post Excavation week
- Plate 18 Decorated comb fragment
- Plate 19 Belt-brace Royal Downshire militia, button Royal Artillery, pre-conservation
- Plate 20 Original approach to the Martello tower (right) and modern trackway
- Plate 21 Original approach to the Martello and disturbance photographed by Swan (1970s-80s) courtesy of Discovery Programme/National Museum of Ireland
- Plate 22 Trench 10, Post-excavation, facing south-east
- Plate 22 Some of Team Drumanagh

## 1 Introduction

This report describes the preliminary results of an archaeological excavation, which was carried out under Ministerial Consent C786/E0046805 at Drumanagh Promontory Fort, Loughshinny, Co. Dublin as part of the *Digging Drumanagh-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2018*. Excavation of two trenches (1-2) took place over 10 days between 21 -31 May 2018.



*Plate 1: Aerial Photograph May 2018, courtesy of The Discovery Programme*

The *Digging Drumanagh-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2018* was designed to address the research and knowledge gaps identified in the *Drumanagh Conservation & Management Plan* and aimed to;

- Inform and enable future works-including remedial, conservation and landscape.
- Fulfil actions and objectives identified in the *Drumanagh Conservation Study & Management Plan* (forthcoming 2018, download from [www.consult.fingal.ie](http://www.consult.fingal.ie) )
- Establish the nature, context and significance of the features inferred from the results of the geophysical survey
- Establish the impact of the construction of the Martello Tower and access road
- Engage, inform and involve the community with Drumanagh Promontory fort and Martello Tower
- Inform the Drumanagh archaeological research agenda.

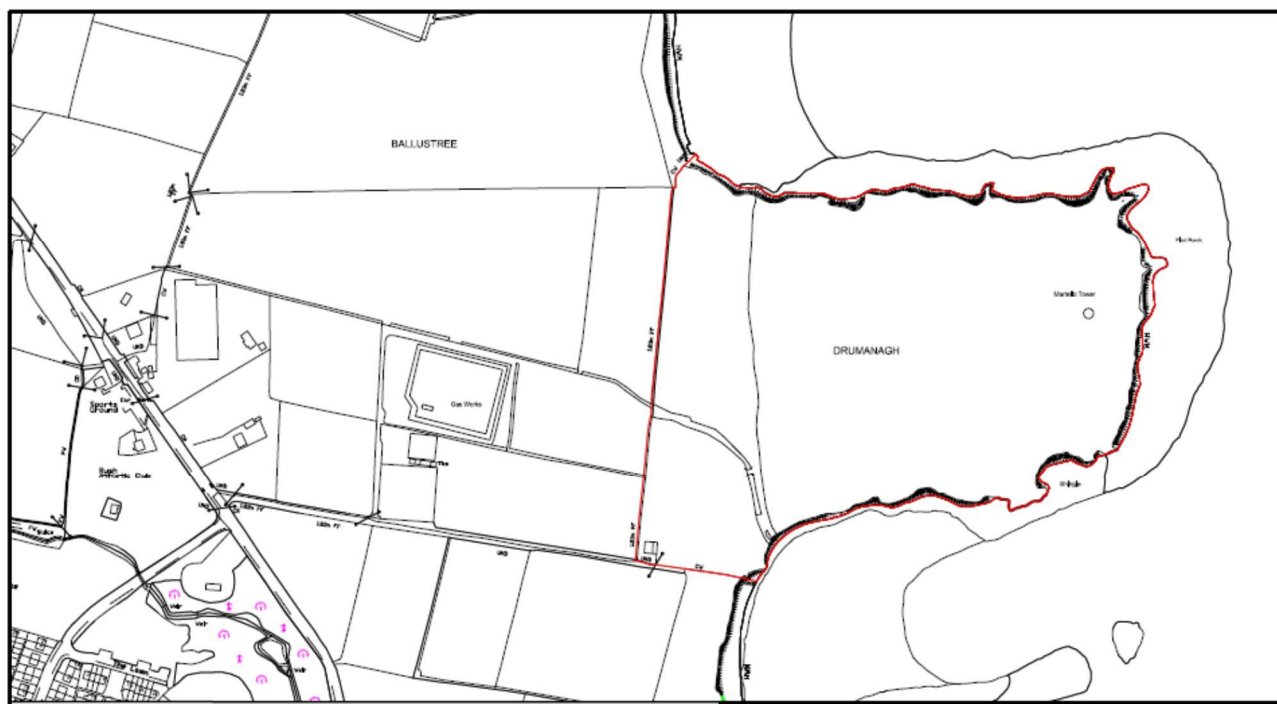
## 2 Location, topography & geology

Drumanagh Promontory Fort is a National Monument (Preservation Order No.13/177) a Recorded Monument (DU008-006001) and Protected Structure (No.252). Towards the eastern end of the promontory is a Martello Tower (RMP: DU008-006003-; RPS: No.253).

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

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

The geology consists of glacial till overlying Lower Carboniferous limestone. The soils are Grey-Brown Podzolics, with associated Gleys.



*Fig. 1 Site Location Map (at scale 1:5000)*

### 3 Historical and Archaeological Background

The historical and archaeological background has been dealt with extensively in the *Drumanagh Conservation Study & Management Plan* (Section 5 Understanding the Monument pp.9-52) available for download at [www.consult.fingal.ie](http://www.consult.fingal.ie) To summarise:

#### 1.3.1 Prehistoric Context

The extensive coastline of Fingal with its low-lying interior and naturally occurring flint pebbles was attractive to the earliest settlers who left behind ephemeral remains in the form of flint scatters and shell middens. Ms Gwendoline Stackpoole in her study of the north Dublin coastline identified nearby Kenure as 'One of the largest and richest sites on the County Dublin coast, and appears to be almost inexhaustible' (1963, 42). On nearby Lambay Island, evidence for the quarrying of the distinctive porphyry was uncovered. Links between Lambay, the coastline, Wales and Scotland indicate the emergence of a coastal and island network of communication and exchange. Approximately 600m south of Drumanagh is the site of Giant's Hill or Knocklea Passage tomb (DU008-013001-).

The Bronze Age is synonymous with the exploitation of mineral sources, the emergence of metal-working and the increased development of trade from Spain to the Baltic through the Irish seaways. Drumanagh is not only prominent in terms of being an identifiable landmark along the coastline but is located close to the copper ore deposits of Loughshinny. Mined in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries it is highly likely that this resource was the focus for earlier activity. A number of enclosures, ring ditches and cists of probable Bronze Age date have long been known along the Fingal coastline. Almost 300m north of the headland along the coast south of Loughshinny is an enclosure or possible ring ditch (DU008-051----). Three cists (DU008-013002-) were associated with the earlier passage tomb at Knocklea (Cahill & Sikora 2011, 176-180).

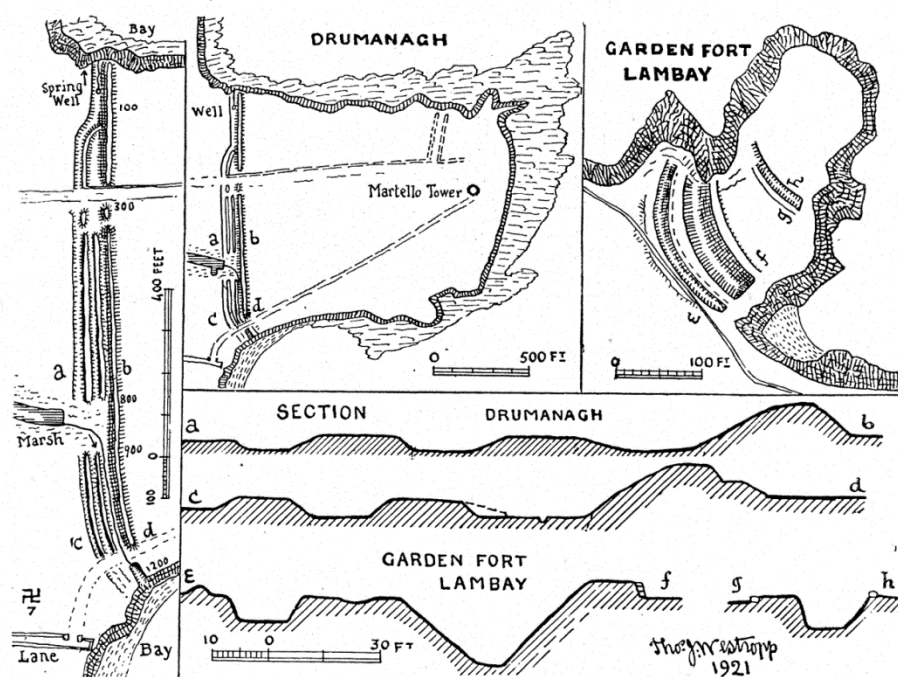


Fig.2 : Drumanagh and Lambay promontory forts (Westropp, 1921)

There are four promontory forts within Fingal. Drumanagh, is the largest and visible across the sea on Lambay are two further promontory forts, the Garden Fort which is defined by three large ditches and Scotch Point which was defended by a single ditch and bank. The size of the former indicates that it was for short term use, although its impressive rock-cut ditch indicates that it may have been a statement of power. The other large-scale promontory is Dungriffen fort, Howth

### 1.3.2. *The Roman Connection*

In recent years there has been in-depth analysis of the connections between the Romanised world and Ireland, not least of which was The Discovery Programme's *Late Iron Age and 'Roman' Ireland* (LIARI) project (2011-2014). In the 1920s work on the harbour on Lambay unearthed several burials accompanied by weaponry and jewellery. Analysis of the artefacts including a sword and shield, bronze fibulae and a beaded torc showed them to be from the Romanised world, perhaps northern England. In the 1970s ploughing on Drumanagh led to the discovery of Roman material including Gallo-Roman Samian ware and subsequent unauthorised metal-detecting of the fort and surrounding lands produced extensive metalwork from the Roman World.

Drumanagh was acknowledged as being of great significance in the context of Roman trade along the east coast (Raftery 1994, 207). Parallels have been suggested between Drumanagh and the trading port of Henigistbury Head, Dorset which was also defined by multivallate ramparts, contained evidence for metalworking, was located on the borderland between territories and had a role as a distributional centre. Newman has proposed that there is a significant routeway from Drumanagh-an extremely important entrepôt with the Romano-British world-through Damastown, Garristown, Edox and Skreen to Tara (2005, 379).

Another significant interpretation of the material recovered is that it is representative of a manufacturing centre at Drumanagh. Over forty ingots of copper bronze and brass were recovered from the site and its environs all of which are suggestive of metalworking on site (Cahill Wilson 2014, 26). A comparable ingot recovered from Damastown (c.13km from Drumanagh) is also similar to Romano-British specimens from copper-rich areas in Wales. While it has previously been assumed the Damastown ingot was imported from Roman Britain (Raftery 1994, 208) an examination of wider imperial trade patterns suggests that this was unlikely when copper was being imported to the continent from Roman Britain (Daffy 2003, 98). It is even more unlikely that copper was being imported into Drumanagh given the proximity of deposits of copper along the Loughshinny coastline.

### 1.3.3. *Early Medieval to Modern*

The development of the ecclesiastical system was closely tied to the complex secular dynastic system and ecclesiastical centres were often dependent on the largesse of particular kin-groups. St Patrick's Island is highly visible from Drumanagh as is the site of St Daman's foundation (now St Catherine's Church) at Kenure to the west and is likely that the Christian influence was felt by the communities occupying Drumanagh.

While there is as yet no direct evidence of the Vikings at Drumanagh the Norse influence in the region is extensive. The prominence of Drumanagh as a landmark for seafarers, the opportunities for landing in proximity to rich ecclesiastical centres such as Lusk, and the surviving placenames of Scandinavian origin including that of nearby Lambay infer extensive Norse activity in the vicinity of Drumanagh.

When ploughing disturbed the interior of Drumanagh in the 1970s it was noted that some of the internal earthworks may represent a medieval village on the site (NMI Files 1A/27/77). Medieval pottery was also recovered during fieldwalking of the west of the site in 2014. Drumanagh was part of the land of *Kinure* of the manor of Rush. The manor of Rush was in turn grouped with the manors of Balscadden and Turvey and frequently granted and leased throughout the medieval period by the Butlers of Ormond. Drumanagh is not recorded separately in the *Civil Survey of 1654-56*, but is encompassed within the holdings of *Kinure* held by Robert Walsh, which comprised 300 acres of mainly arable land a mansion house, ruined chapel and was bounded to the east by the sea. *Kenure* was occupied subsequent to this by Lord George Hamilton of Strabane, and then became the seat of Echlin family until 1765 when it came into the ownership of the Palmer family.

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

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



*Plate 2: Drumanagh Martello Tower and road facing WSW. Image: Nua Photography ©*

#### *1.3.4. Drumanagh, Martello Tower No.9*

One of twelve Martello towers that extend along the coast of Fingal, Drumanagh Martello tower was positioned on the promontory 'for the defence of Rush Strand and River, the pier and cover at Drummanagh Point'. A Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin Fisher was put in charge of construction which included the choosing and marking out of sites for the towers and gun batteries, employing assistants, overseers and legal advice and engaging contractors to build the towers (Bolton et al 2010, 22). Work began on the first nine towers on the north side of Dublin Bay on 1 September 1804 but construction was postponed until the spring of 1805. The towers were built so quickly that negotiations with the owners for the price of the land often took place after the towers had been built. The deed for Drumanagh and Rush Martello towers between Robert Palmer and Benjamin Fisher dates to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1806 when the land was purchased for £132.13.9. This was just over the average plot price of £50 per tower in Fingal but substantially less than the £600 the Earl of Howth received for plots at Howth and on Ireland's Eye (Bolton *et al* 2012, 22).



### 3.1 Cartographic Evidence

The Down Survey Parish and Barony maps produced c.1656 depict the promontory, almost to the point of exaggeration. Drumanagh while not labelled is very clearly shown as part of Kenure (Figure 4).

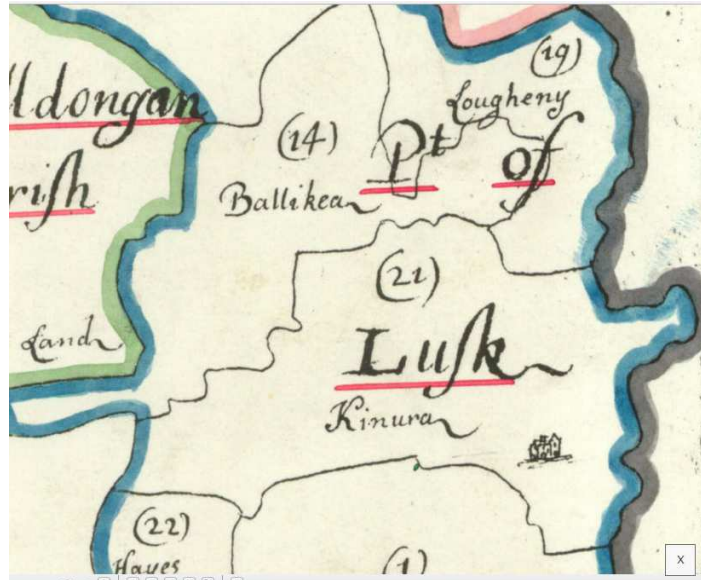


Fig. 4: Down Survey Barony Map c.1656

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



Fig. 5 Rocque's Map of County Dublin, 1760

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

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

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



Fig. 6: Duncan's 1821 map



Fig. 7: First Edition Ordnance Survey Map.. Surveyed 1838, Published 1843

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

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

The manuscript of O'Donovan's survey which appears in less detailed form in the Name Books is headed 'Ancient Remains' and is scaled 12 inches to the mile (Fig. 8). It contains some additional information. Along the northern limit of the promontory the line of a wall is depicted. It is referenced as 'Wall apparently ancient'. It is not continuous perhaps a result of the condition of being 'ancient'. There is a very definite portion of the wall at the north-east point of the promontory where there is a lunular-shaped inlet. There is a continuous although 'lighter' line that extends around the eastern and southern perimeter. It is unclear if this is a continuation of the apparently ancient wall. The stream pools within the outer banks of the ramparts before flowing within the ditch where it is traversed by the road to the Martello

tower. Significantly there are two short parallel banks on the eastern side of the ramparts. These aren't depicted on previous or subsequent maps.

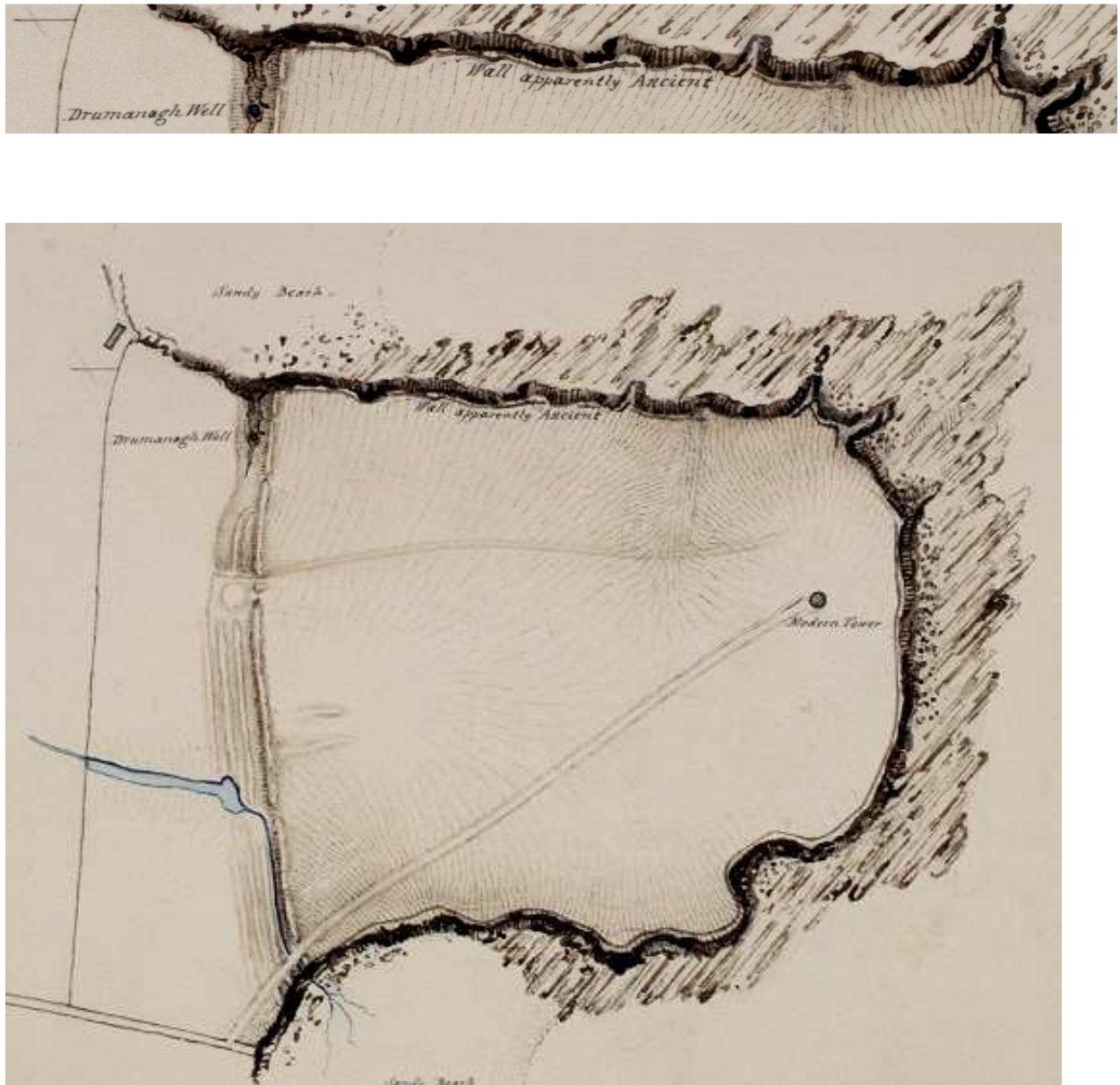


Fig. 8: Drawing 14 C 15(28) (1) Courtesy of the Royal Irish Academy ©

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

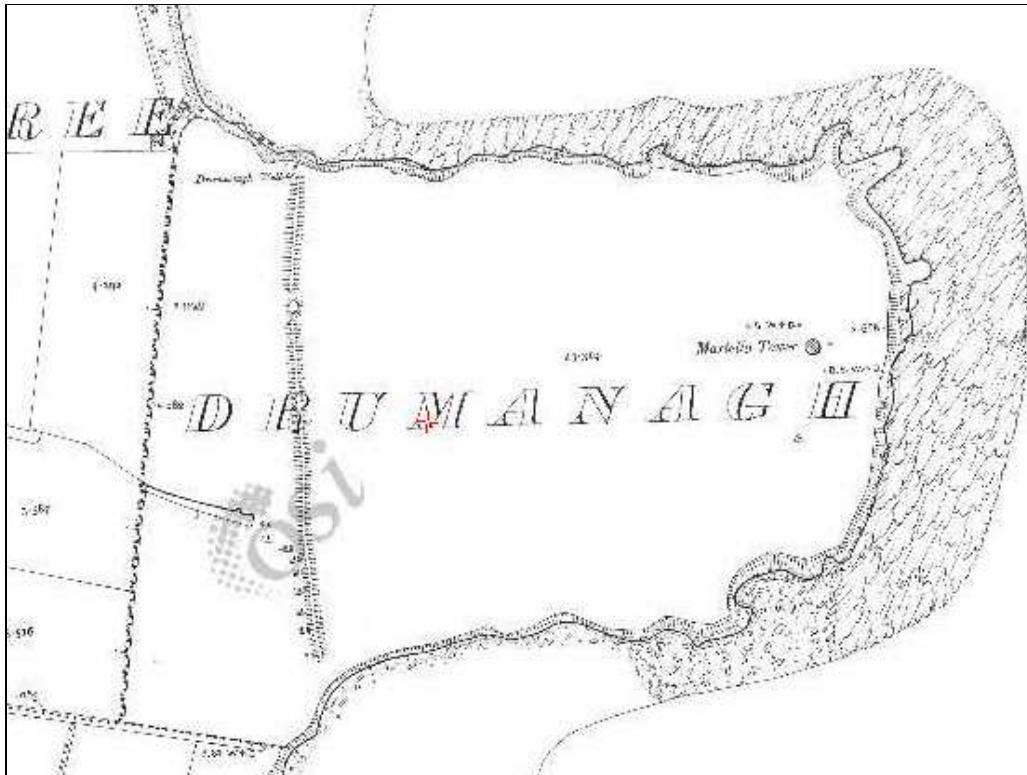
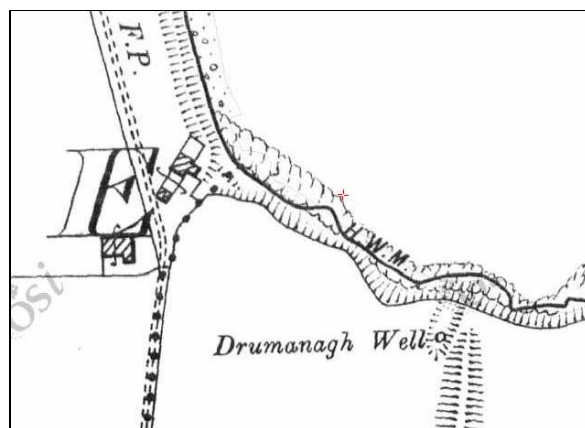
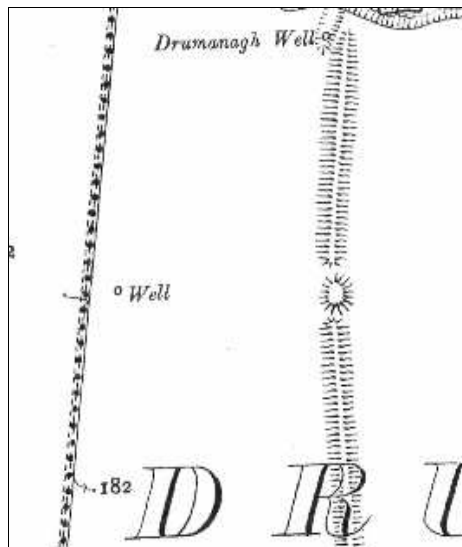


Fig. 9: 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map. Surveyed 1906; Published 1908

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



The Martello Road and relict field boundaries remain visible on aerial photographs, subsequent satellite imagery and LiDar images.



Plate 3: Oblique <http://lswanaerial.locloudhosting.net/items/show/39958>

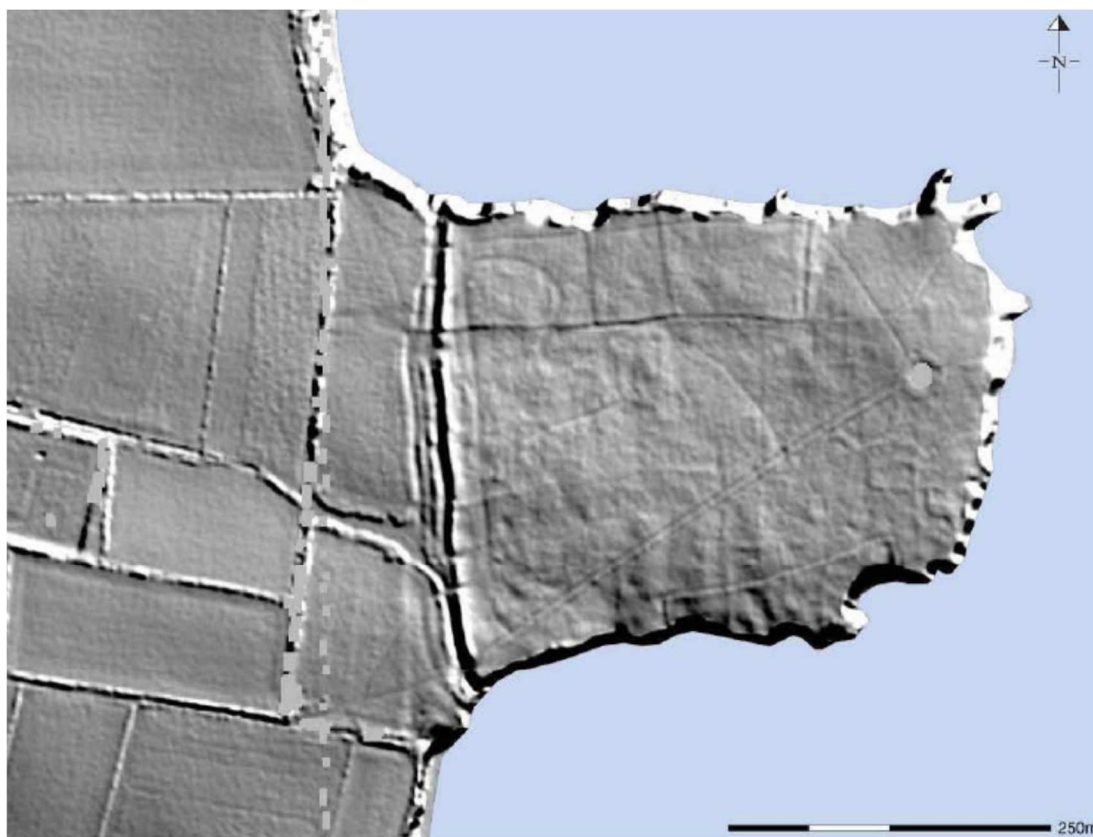


Plate 4: LiDAR image, Fingal County Council and The Discovery Programme 2014

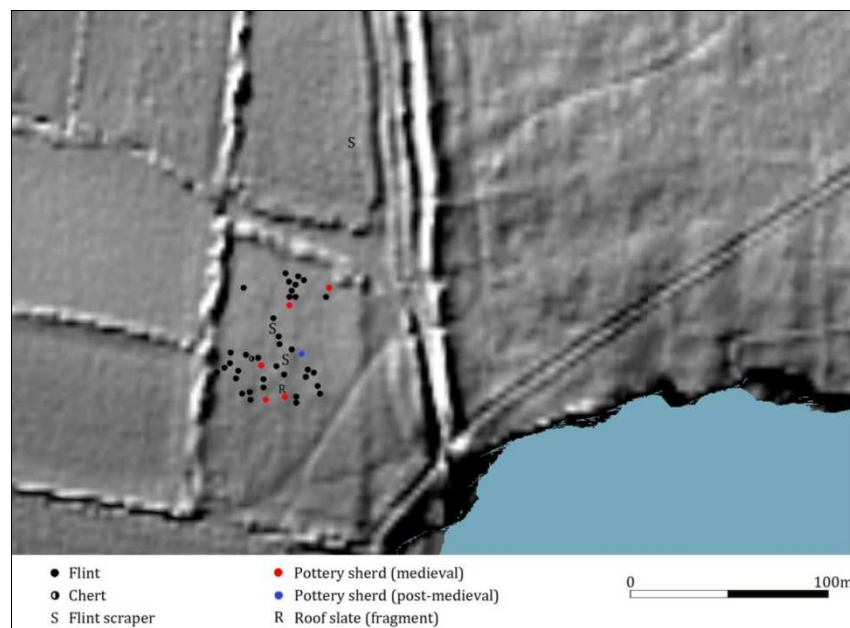
### 3.2 Previous excavations:

Ploughing in the 1970s uncovered a series of hut sites suggesting extensive settlement. A sherd of Gallo-Roman Samian Ware was recovered from the site (Raftery 1996, 19), as was a pin of early medieval date and medieval pottery. A range of artefacts of both native and Roman/Romano-British derivation were recovered through illegal metal-detecting.

#### 2014 Ministerial Consent: C601/E4501

In advance of proposed fencing of the headland a programme of auguring was undertaken by Mr Tom Condit, of the National Monument Service in conjunction with members of the Discovery Programme. A total of 122 test pits, arranged in a series of 'runs' comprising six or less bore holes, were excavated as close to the cliff-edge defining the promontory as feasible using an 'auto auger mechanical post hole borer' with a 20cm diameter auger over two days in June 2014. No artefacts or, indeed, soil horizons of clear archaeological significance were encountered (Dowling 2014). A total of 49 surface finds of archaeological and potential archaeological interest were identified including flint (both worked and unworked) and pottery, together with a single fragment of roof slate.

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



*Plate 5: Fieldwalking finds distribution courtesy of the Discovery Programme*

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



*Plate 6: Auger holes locations 2014 survey (blue) and 2017 survey (red), courtesy of the Discovery Programme*

#### **2017 Ministerial Consent: C786/E4805**

In advance of the installation of boundary fencing and access gates, a two day programme of augering was undertaken by Ger Dowling and Gary Devlin, Discovery Programme and Christine Baker, Fingal County Council. A total of 56 auger holes were excavated. No artefacts or soil horizons of archaeological significance were identified although a high level of modern disturbance was evident, particularly along the north-western and southern boundaries. In addition monitoring of the removal of modern detritus and a cow shed was undertaken at the south-west limit of the site. A boundary stone associated with the Martello Tower was recovered.

### 3.3. Geophysical Survey

The National Museum of Ireland commissioned a geophysical survey of the promontory in 1999. As part of the *Late Iron Age and 'Roman Ireland' Project 2011-14* undertaken by the Discovery Programme, six separate areas, comprising 4.7 ha in total were targeted for geophysical survey at Drumanagh and environs (Licence No.: 12R127).

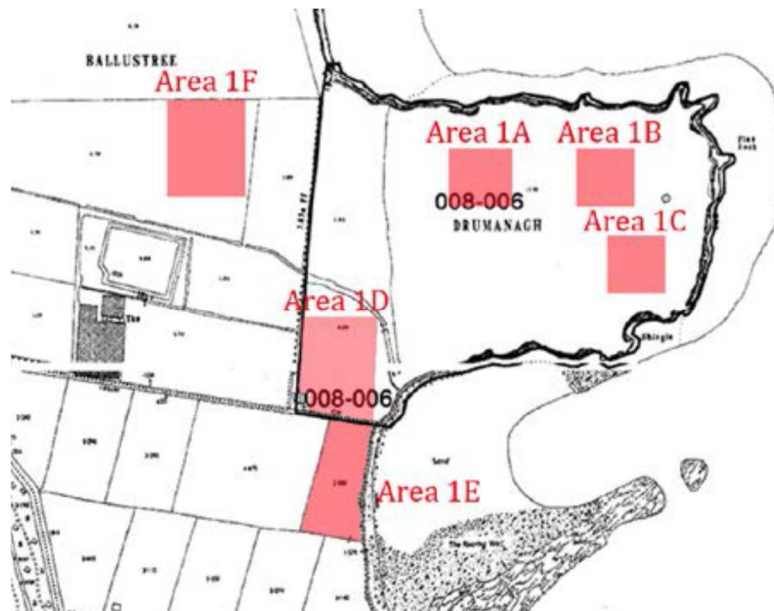


Fig.10 Layout of geophysical survey panels 2014, courtesy of the Discovery Programme

Three areas (1A, 1B, 1C and 1D) were to the east of the promontory and another (1D) was to the west of the ramparts in the south-west of the site. Gradiometry was conducted using 0.25m sample and 0.5m traverse intervals (Dowling 2014, 65).

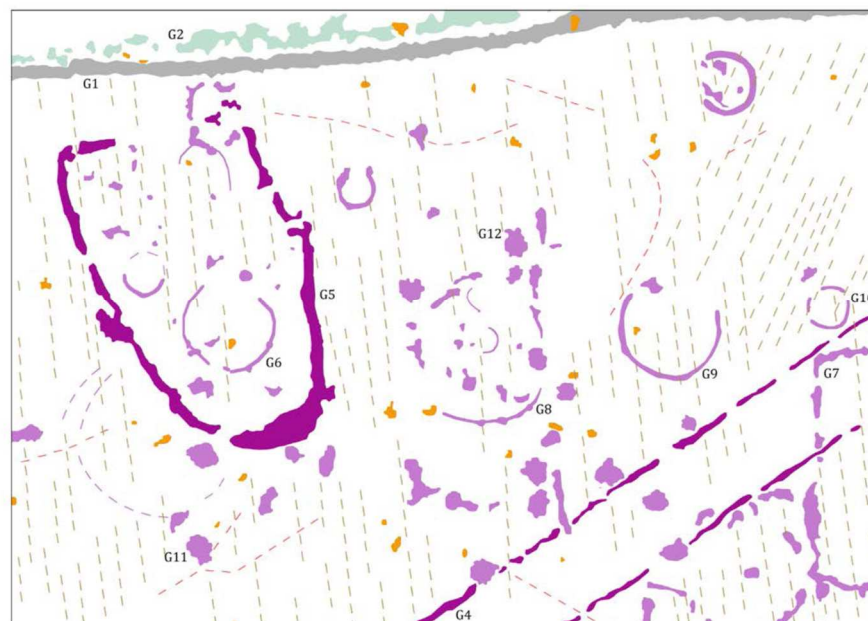
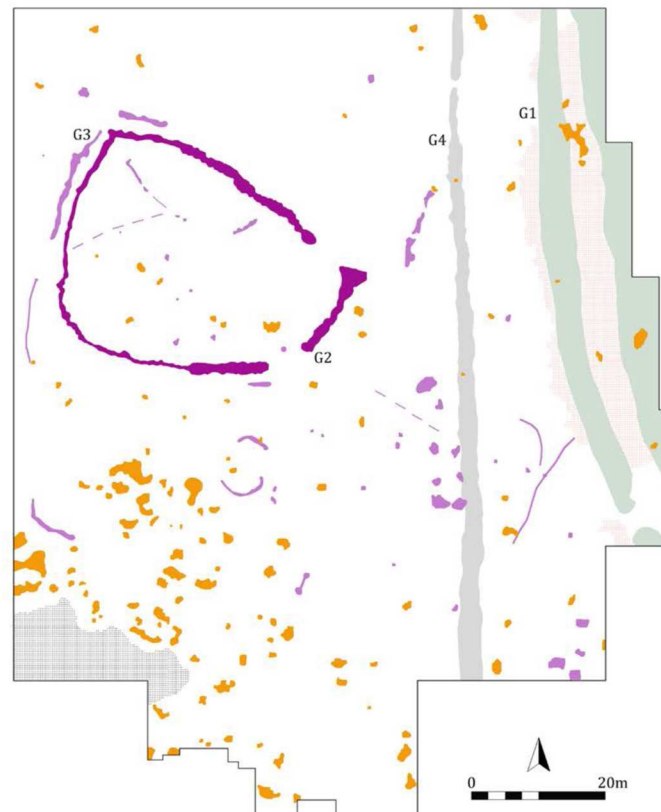


Fig.11 Geophysical survey results Area 1A, courtesy of the Discovery Programme

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

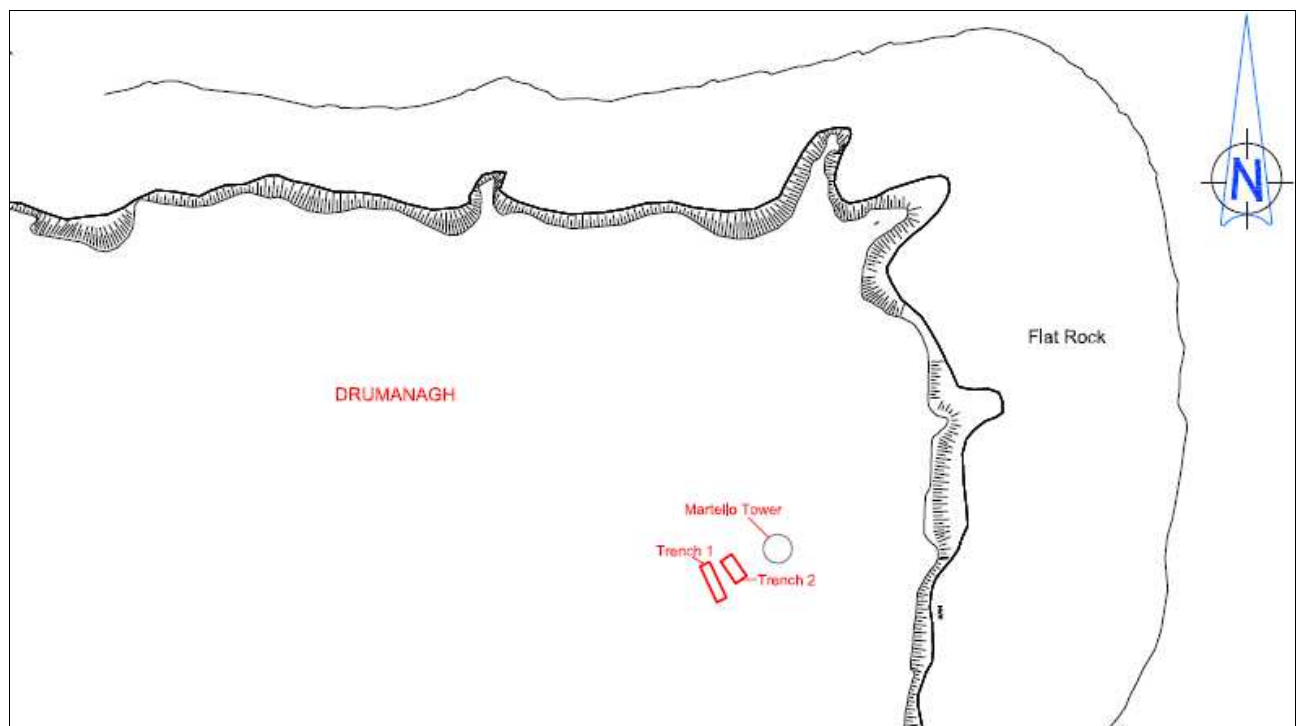


*Fig. 12 Geophysical survey results, Area 1D, courtesy of the Discovery Programme*

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

#### 4 Archaeological Excavation

The objective of the 2018 excavation was to investigate the original approach road to the Martello tower in order to inform an access plan for the site. Originally three targeted test trenches were proposed but time only allowed for the opening of Trench 1, and Trench 2 to the west-south-west of the Martello tower. The ground slopes naturally away from the precinct of the Martello tower and the ground level sloped down gently between Trench 2 and Trench 1. An area of vegetation had been cut in advance of the excavation. The banks of the road way were highly visible furthest from the Martello tower becoming undefined as the ground rises.



*Fig. 13: Trench layout, at scale 1:2000, (Survey data supplied by The Discovery Programme)*

Two trenches were opened within Drumanagh Promontory Fort. Trench 1 measured 15m NS x 4m extended across the width of the extant Martello roadway. It was excavated to subsoil to the west and south, top a maximum depth of 0.75m.

Trench 2 measured 10m x 5m and natural subsoil was identified at 0.6m below ground level. It was situated to target the intersection of the Martello road with the paling and the path to the entrance to the Martello tower. It was depicted as highly disturbed on the 1999 geophysical survey.



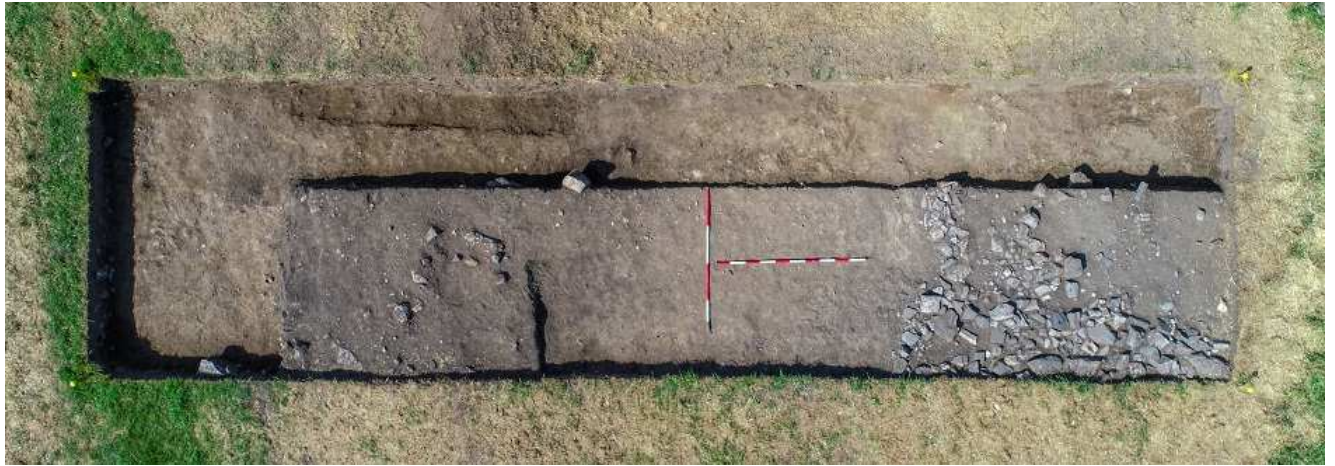
*Plate 7: Layout of Trenches 1-2*

#### **4.1 Excavation Stratigraphy**

The overall stratigraphy consisted of orange brown stony natural subsoil overlain by disturbed loamy soil layers truncated by the construction of the Martello roadway.

##### **Trench 1**

Trench 1 measured 15m NS x 4m EW. Natural subsoil was attained to the south and west of the trench c.0.4m and 0.75m below present ground level, reflecting the remains of the Martello road. Natural subsoil was overlain by an interface layer (F15) and a loamy garden soil (F10) with a shell-rich deposit (F12) in the south of the trench. The banks (F5, F6) associated with the roadway which were defined by footings (F17, F18) and the roadway by compacted layers (F8, F14). The corner of a possible structure (F7) was identified to the north-east of the trench. Topsoil averaged between 0.08m and 0.22m across Trench 1.



*Plate 8: Trench 1, post-excavation, courtesy of The Discovery Programme*

### **Trench 1- Layers:**

#### *Feature F15*

Extending across Trench 1, Feature 1 constituted the interface between activity and natural subsoil. F15 averaged 0.16m in depth and consisted of a mottled natural/soil mix of yellow brown loose silty clay with small sub/angular stone inclusions. Five fragments of struck flint and a single animal bone were retrieved from this layer.

#### *Feature 10*

Located to the south of Trench 1 and consequently south of the Martello road, this was a layer that immediately overlay F15. Feature 10 consisted of a dark brown friable loamy layer which was very similar to topsoil. It extended across the trench east-west and for 2.6m north-south where it was truncated by the construction of the bank of the Martello road. It measured from 0.18m to 0.22m in depth and contained extensive animal bone, some burnt. Two large sherds of buff thick-walled pottery and tiny fragments of copper alloy were recovered from this layer. Feature 10 appears to be the original ground layer disturbed by insertion of the Martello road.

#### *Feature 12*

Located over F10, in the south of Trench 1 towards the eastern baulk, this was a deposit (2.6m NS x 1.6m EW) that contained large stones. Feature 12 consisted of dark brown friable loamy clay with frequent small shell and gravel inclusions. A decorated bone comb (E4805:12:1) was retrieved for this deposit.



*Plate 9: Trench 1, Features, 9, 6, pre-excavation facing north*

### **Trench 1-Martello Road**

This road or hollow way was visible at ground level as two distinct banks bounding a pronounced hollow road approximately 4m in width.

#### *Feature 14*

This layer which overlay F15, extended across the width of the Martello road exposed within Trench 1, approximately 12.2m north-south. It consisted of friable yellow-brown gritty clay, 0.1m to 0.22m in depth with frequent small stone and occasional animal bone inclusions. Modern pottery was retrieved from this layer.

#### *Feature 8*

This was the surface of the hollow way. Feature 8 consisted of a compacted small (0.03m max) rounded and sub/angular stones/pebble surface. There was a more cobble-like deposit towards eastern baulk (stones 0.1m-0.17m diam.), however the surface became looser and lensed out to the west. It appears that the metalled surface nearer the Martello tower (evident within Trench 2) gave way to a soil-based roadway. Clay pipe stems, 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and some animal bone were retrieved from this surface.

#### *Feature 5*

This feature constituted the northern bank of the Martello road, which was raised on existing ground surface by digging into sod/topsoil and upcasting onto the bank. The bank (3m EW) was not clearly defined towards the east end of Trench 1 due to presence of a possible structure (F7). Feature 5 appeared flat-topped and has been exposed for 3.5m north-south (it extends beyond the northern baulk of the trench). In profile it measures 0.5m at its highest point, sloping gently down to the south where it appears to have been partially revetted (F17). The bank consisted of dark to medium brown silty clay with slight variations in compactness. It contained moderate small stone inclusions, occasional animal bones and mixed seashells. There was little discernment of difference in the bank as it was being excavated, the subtleties between the buried sod and interface with topsoil only becoming apparent in the section face. An incomplete perforated bone pin, 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and iron objects were recovered from the bank.

#### *Feature 17*

Interpreted as a stone footing of partial revetment for the northern bank (F5) of the Martello road, Feature 17 consisted of a linear arrangement of angular limestone and fieldstone (0.24m-0.35m diam.) that was exposed for 1.5m east-west.



*Plate 10: Trench 1, Feature 6, facing west*

#### *Feature 6*

This feature constituted the southern bank of the Martello road, which was raised on existing ground surface by digging into sod/topsoil and upcasting onto the bank. Feature 6 appeared flat-topped (c. 2.8m in width at top) and c.4m in overall width. In profile it measures 0.7m at its highest point, sloping gently down to the north where it appears to have been partially revetted (F18) and to the south where its construction had truncated layer F10. The bank consisted of dark to medium brown silty clay with slight variations in compactness. It contained moderate small stone inclusions, occasional animal bones and one fragment of seashell. There was little discernment of difference in the bank as it was being excavated, the subtleties' between the buried sod and interface with topsoil only becoming apparent in the section face. A clay pipe bowl, a marble and a flint flake were recovered from the bank.

### *Feature 18*

Interpreted as a stone footing of partial revetment for the southern bank (F6) of the Martello road, Feature 18 consisted of a linear arrangement of angular limestone and fieldstone (0.17m-0.33m diam.) that was exposed for 1.35m, east-west.



*Plate 11: Trench 1, Feature 18, facing south*

### *Feature 9*

Located on the top of the southern bank (F6) of the Martello road, this deposit of relatively large stones, averaging 0.25m in diameter, sloped down to the south west over an area 2.9m NS x 2m EW. They formed no discernible pattern.

### **Trench 1-Structure**

On the 1850 map (refer Fig. 15) the northern bank of the Martello road appears to terminate (or be truncated by) at a structure.

### *Feature 7*

Interpreted as the possible south-east corner of the structure depicted on the 1850 map, this deposit consisted of large stones (0.2m-0.4m diam.) within a mid-brown silt matrix forming a dense cluster in the north-east of Trench 1. Feature 7 extended westward from the eastern baulk for a maximum of 0.8m and north-south for 2.7m. Stone downslope along the bank (F5) may represent tumble from the structure.



*Plate 12: Trench 1, Features 7, 5 facing west*

### *Feature 1*

Topsoil within Trench 1 consisted of a dark brown rich silty clay of friable compaction and small stone inclusions. It measured from 0.08m to 0.22m in depth and contained occasional animal bone. Plastic, beer cans, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery, clay pipe fragments, copper alloy military paraphernalia, bottle glass, and a flint flake were recovered from topsoil.

## **Trench 2**

Trench 2 measured 10m NS x 5m EW. Natural subsoil was attained to the south and west of the trench c.0.55m and 0.63m below present ground level. Natural subsoil was overlain by a loamy garden soil (F11) in the south of the trench and cut by pits (F19, F21) a slot (F20) and a later post (F22). The Martello road is defined by the remnant of the southern bank (F6) a metalled surface (F13) and infill (F2). The corner of a possible structure (F3) was identified to the north-west of the trench and associated 19<sup>th</sup> century activity (F16). Further later activity was identified to the south. Topsoil averaged between 0.15m and 0.28m across Trench 2.



*Plate 13: Trench 2 post-excavation, facing north. Image courtesy of the Discovery Programme*

## **Trench 1-Pits & cut features:**

### *Feature F19*

Cut into natural subsoil, this oval pit (0.7m NS x 0.4m EW) had a concave base with steep sides to the north and east with a gentler to the south. It extended beyond the limit of Trench 2 to the west. The single pit fill (0.1-0.26m in depth) consisted of loose medium-dark brown silty clay with frequent small stone (0.05m-0.25m diam.) frequent animal bone inclusions. An environmental sample (#6) was wet-sieved and is currently undergoing analysis.



*Plate 14: Trench 2, Feature 19, post excavation, facing west*

#### *Feature 20*

Cut into natural subsoil this linear feature was aligned NE/SW (1.4m x 0.1-0.14m in width) and had a sharp break of slope at top and base with vertical sides and flat base. The single fill consisted of dark brown stony silt of medium compaction (0.02m-0.07m in depth) and contained occasional fragments of animal bone.

#### *Feature 21*

Cut into natural subsoil, this sub-circular pit (0.7m NS x 0.6mEW) had concave sides and gradual base. Extending beyond the western limit of Trench 2, the pit contained a single fill of light brown compact charcoal-flecked silty clay with small stone inclusions (0.13m-0.20m in depth). An environmental sample (#8) was wet-sieved and is currently undergoing analysis.

### **Trench 2- Layers:**

#### *Feature 11*

Located to the south of Trench 2 Feature 11 consisted of a dark brown friable loamy layer which was very similar to topsoil (and F10 in Trench 1). It extended across the trench and for 5.36m north-south. It measured from 0.28m to 0.48m in depth and contained extensive animal bone and moderate seashell. At the interface with F4 which partially overlay this layer and topsoil the finds retrieved from F11 consisted of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, iron nails and glass. An incomplete bone pin, a decorated bone comb (similar to that recovered from F12 in Trench 1) and a partial blue glass bead with white stripes were identified within F11. Disarticulated

human remains (E4805:11:26) were also identified from this feature. The diaphyseal fragment of an adult left femur (Linda Lynch pers. comm.) has been sent for analysis. Feature 11 appears to be the original ground layer disturbed by insertion of the Martello road.

#### *Feature 4*

Partially overlying F11 and F6, Feature 4 was a spread of loose shell (90%) and pottery-rich silt that extended (5m EW x 4.32m NS) thinly (0.01-0.05m in depth) from the Martello road to the southern baulk of Trench 2. Occasional animal bone, clay pipe, iron objects and a marble were recovered from this deposit.



*Plate 15: Martello road, Trenches 1 and 2, facing east*

#### **Trench 2-Martello Road**

This road was less visible prior to excavation than in Trench 1. The ground level rose up closer to the Martello tower and there was only a small vestige of the southern bank (F6) perceptible.

#### *Feature 6*

The slight rise that constituted the terminal of the southern bank of the Martello road within Trench 2 extended eastwards from the western baulk. It measured approximately 2.5m in width with a definite slope visible down to metalled surface F13 along its northern limit. In profile it measures 0.35m at its highest point. The bank consisted of dark to medium brown silty clay with slight variations in compactness.

#### *Feature 13*

This surface (3.5m-6m NS x 5m EW) consisted of moderately compact limestone rubble and small-medium sized stones within a dark brown silty matrix with shell and animal bone inclusions. It abutted structural feature (F3) to the north and appeared to be defined by a kerb

(2.5m in length and 0.3m average width) of larger stones long its western limit, and the remnants of bank F6 along its southern limit. The roadway appears to curve to the north-east as it nears the Martello Tower. Iron objects, clay pipes, 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and bottle glass were retrieved from this feature.

#### *Feature 2*

Directly overlying surface F13 (4.5m NS x 5m EW) and similarly defined to the north by structure F3 and to the south by F6 and F11, Feature 2 was a gravel deposit 0.13m to 0.24m in depth. It consisted of very loose small stone gravel in a dark brown silt matrix with very occasional animal bone and seashell inclusions. Stones (0.02m-0.07m) were rounded and appear beach-rolled but there was no sand present. Iron nails, marbles, three 19<sup>th</sup> century militia uniform buttons, early 19<sup>th</sup> century wine glass and 1862 coin were recovered from this deposit.

#### **Trench 2-Structure**

On the 1850 map (refer Fig. 15) the northern bank of the Martello road appears to terminate (or be truncated by) at a structure.



*Plate 16: Trench 2, Features 3 and 13, facing east*

#### *Feature 3*

Interpreted as the possible north-east corner of the structure depicted on the 1850 map (and identified as Feature 7 in Trench 1), this deposit consisted of large stones (0.15m-0.5m diam.) within a mid-brown silt matrix forming a dense cluster in the north-west of Trench 2. Feature 3 extended eastward from the western baulk for a maximum of 2.8m and north-south for 1.45. Slate and mortar inclusions were evident and the upper layer of stones was removed onto a

layer of flatter stones resulting in a more level surface, overlying natural subsoil. A possible internal deposit was Feature 16. Clay pipes and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered from Feature 3.

#### *Feature 16*

Possibly associated with the interior of Structure F3/F7, this deposit (1.42m NS x 1m EW) consisted of relatively compact dark brown silty clay (0.16-0.28m in depth) with small stone, mortar and animal bone inclusions. Feature 16 directly overlay pit F19 and natural subsoil. Clay pipe, bottle glass and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from F16. Disarticulated human remains (E4805:16:2) were also identified from this feature. The right frontal crania vault fragment of a possibly female adult (Linda Lynch pers. comm.) has been sent for analysis.

### **Trench 2-Paling**

The 'Paling' is denoted on the military archive maps as a dotted line demarcating the extent of the land take around the Martello Tower.

#### *Feature 22*

Interpreted as a post and brace, this post-pipe was excavated in section. Located in the southern baulk 1.7m west of eastern baulk of Trench 2, the square post-pipe (0.4m in height, 0.1m in width) formed by the rotting of timber forming a hollow space. F22 becomes evident 0.3m below the current ground surface, indicating the post hasn't been driven down in modern times. Approximately 0.3m from the top of the upright another post-pipe is at an angle, squared with rounded top and similar dimensions (0.4m in length, 0.1m in width). Both post and brace appear to fit into an east-west linear (1.05m EW, 0.35m in width) cut into natural which may have formed the base. A sherd of blackware associated with base plate was evident in section.

#### *Feature 1*

Topsoil within Trench 2 consisted of a dark brown loamy silty clay of friable compaction and small stone inclusions. It measured from 0.15m to 0.28m in depth and contained moderate animal bone. Plastic, beer cans, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery, clay pipe fragments, copper alloy military paraphernalia and bottle glass were recovered from topsoil.

#### 4.2. Samples & Finds

As there was no running water at Drumanagh, wet-sieving, animal bone washing, artefact processing, labelling and registering took place during a Drumanagh Post-Ex week (5-8 June 2018) in the grounds of Swords Castle.



*Plate 17: Drumanagh Post Excavation week*

##### *Soil Samples*

A total of eight soil samples were retrieved and four were wet-sieved for environmental analysis. These samples, 20 litres in volume were specifically targeted. Two samples (#6, #8) were taken from the stratigraphically earliest features on site, pits F19 and F21. A sample (#1) was taken from the base of the northern bank of the Martello road (F5) and another sample (#5) from the probable original ground level in Trench 2 (F11). These will undergo analysis for 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 36 samples were registered from layers and features including small mammal and bird bones as well as a small number of fish bones.

#### *Human Bone*

Two fragments of disarticulated human remains were recovered from Trench 2. An adult femur (E4805:11:26) was retrieved the probable original ground level (F11) and a cranium fragment from a probable female adult (E4805:16:2) from a later features (F16). Both are indicative of the disturbance caused by the construction of the Martello road. Dr Linda Lynch is currently examining the disarticulated human remains.

#### *Sea shell Samples*

A total of 9 samples of seashell were recovered. The majority of the samples are mixed shell but there was a possible dog whelk shell identified from the probable original ground level (F11) in Trench 2.

#### *Flint*

A total of 16 samples of flint were recovered mixed throughout the layers and features. Some appeared to be field flint common along this coastline; other examples were of struck flints evident of processing and there were two flint flakes (E4805:1:453, E4805:6:19), residual finds from topsoil and the southern bank of the Martello road.

### Artefacts

Artefacts were hand-retrieved during excavation, identified with a detection device which was used to scan the spoil heaps, and retrieved through extensive sieving. A total of 1682 artefacts were registered, the majority of which can be dated to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century activity associated with the Martello tower. This can be divided into pottery (1480), clay pipe (53), stone (3), glass (1) and bone (7) artefacts. Metal finds were divided into iron nails and objects, military uniform buttons and a belt-piece of the Royal Downshire regiment. Of the finds of possible later prehistoric/early medieval date were two flint flakes, two fragments of decorated long-handled combs, two fragments of bone pins and part of a blue and white-striped glass bead.



*Plate 18: Decorated comb fragment*

#### *Pottery:*

A total of 1480 sherds of mainly 19<sup>th</sup> pottery were recovered during the excavation. Two sherds of thick buff coloured pot may represent early imports.

#### *Clay Pipe:*

A total of 8 bowls and 45 stem fragments, some of which were identified as being decorated. Although fragments were recorded throughout the layers of both trenches, the majority were retrieved from topsoil and the Martello road (F2, F3) in Trench 2. The clay pipes are currently being examined by Siobhan Duffy.

#### *Metal finds:*

A majority of iron artefacts recovered were nails and currently unidentifiable objects. Metal artefacts will be x-rayed by Susannah Kelly and conserved on her advice. Of the eight copper

alloy artefacts recovered, five were associated with 19<sup>th</sup> century militia, including a belt piece of the Royal Downshires and a uniform button of the Royal Artillery.



*Plate 19: Belt-brace Royal Downshire militia, button Royal Artillery, pre-conservation*

## 5 Discussion

The focus of the 2018 season of excavation at Drumanagh promontory fort was the Martello road in the vicinity of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Martello tower, towards the eastern limit of the headland. The level of natural subsoil (hitherto unknown) was attained in both trenches; the nature and construction of the Martello road was investigated and the level of impact of its construction on earlier stratigraphy ascertained.

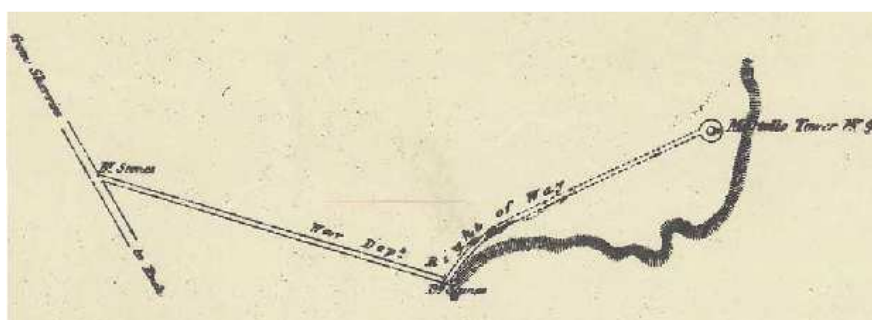


*Plate 20: Original approach to the Martello tower (right) and modern trackway*

### *Martello Road*

The 'Right of Road' or 'War Department Right of Way' is depicted on the 1850 and 1859 (published 1862) Royal Engineer Corp maps for Drumanagh. It extends from the end of the laneway (that runs from the Rush-Skerries road) from the stone piers that mark the former gates, through the prehistoric ramparts and across the headland to the land take of the Martello tower, marked at its limits by boundary stones. When the tower was sold back to the Palmer estate in 1908 it was described in the deed as

'that part of the lands of Drumanagh on which the Martello Tower number nine has lately been erected containing Ten Thousand superficial feet being also the Estate of the said Roger Palmer with a like Right of Passage for ever from the High Road to said Martello Tower...' (1174/1/3).



*Fig. 14: Right of way, Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad134122-003*

Clearly visible on the ground as a hollow road between two parallel low banks, the excavation revealed the roadway had been constructed by simply digging into sod and topsoil and casting it up onto banks. It had been hoped the base of the road which measured 4m in width would have a defined surface such as cobbles but it appears it was compact earth. However as the roadway approached its terminus at the Martello tower there was a deliberate metalled surface of compact small stone laid with a stone kerb, which marked the end of the southern bank. This appears contiguous with a stone footing or revetment of the earthen banks. The roadway here swung to the north-east towards the doorway of the Martello and by the remains of a structure.

Apparent on the 1850 map which was 'prepared in accordance with the orders of Colonel Oldfield Commanding Royal Engineer in Ireland of 7<sup>th</sup> March 1850' and subsequent iterations, signed in 1851, the rectangular structure is aligned north-east/south-west and appears to truncate the northern bank of the Martello road, which narrows at this point. It was identified in the north-west corner of Trench 2 and the north-east corner of Trench 1 as large slabs of limestone and associated 19<sup>th</sup> century activity, which indicated a structure of c.7m 70 in length. This structure was no longer depicted on the later map which was surveyed in 1859 and printed at the Topographical Department of War Office in 1862.

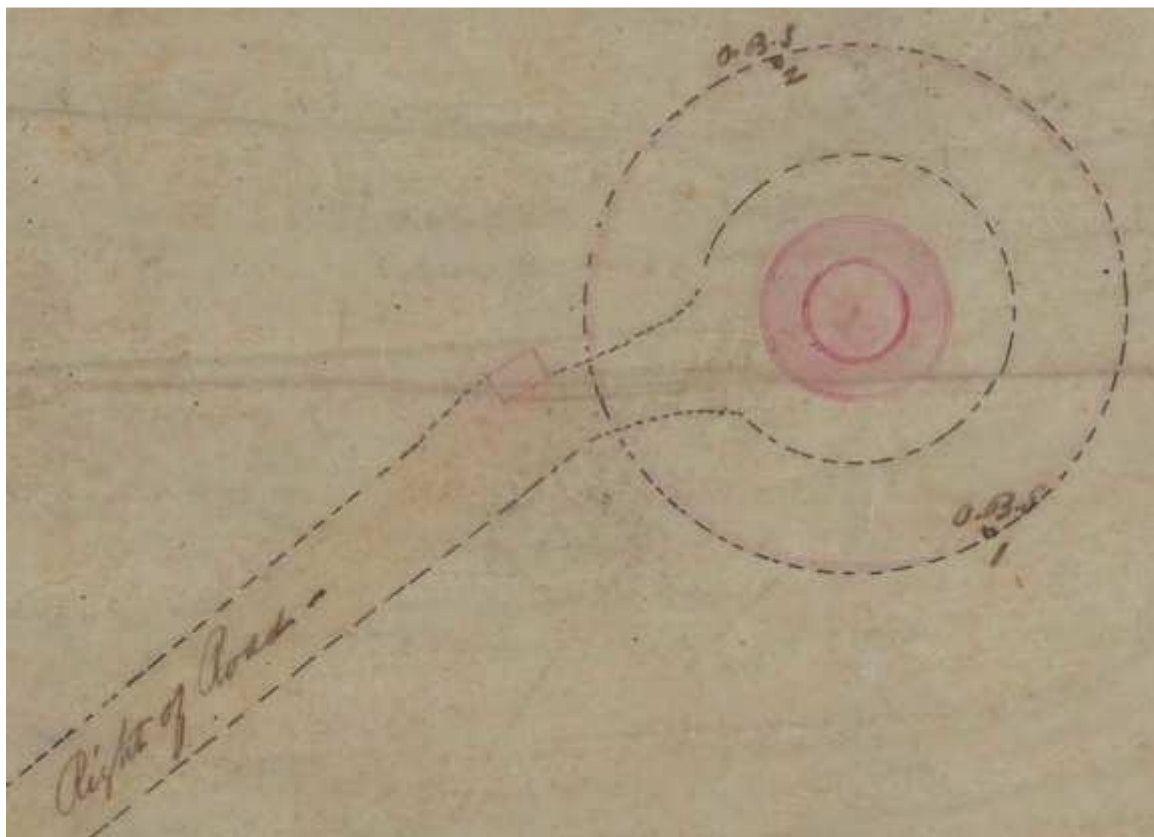
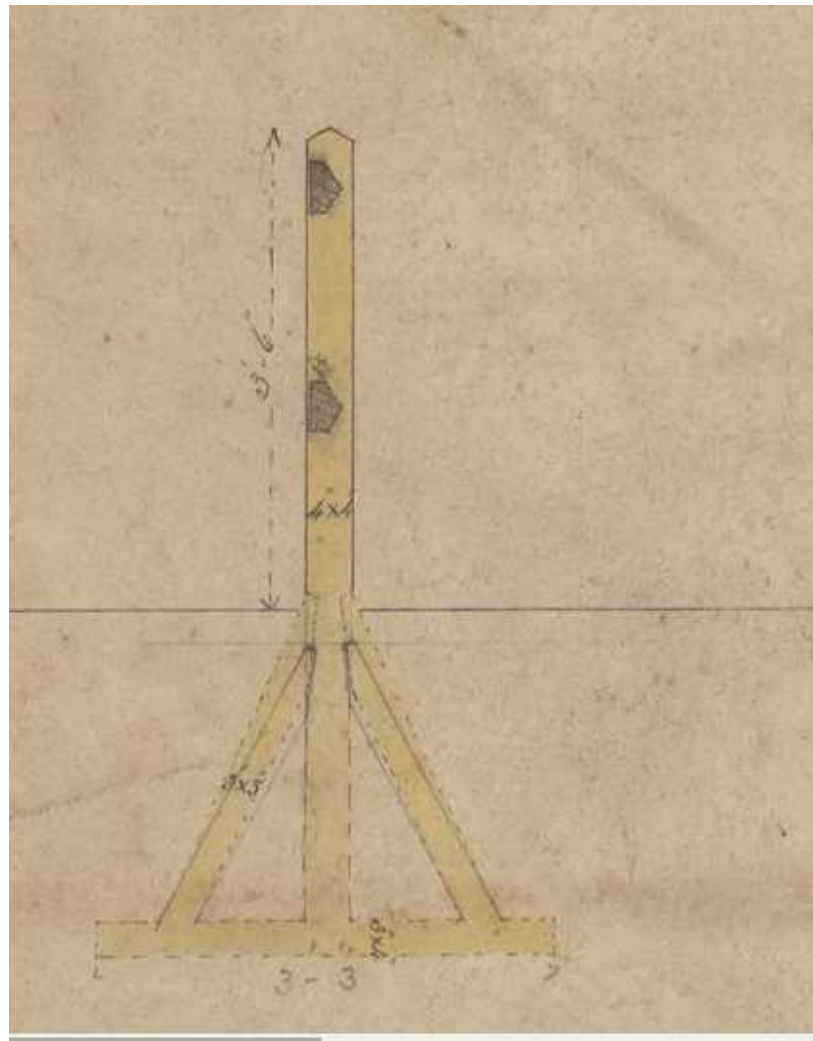


Fig. 15: 1850 map, Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad134121-007

It is unclear if the metalled surface was laid as the road rose up in front of the Martello tower as a practical measure to aid access or if it was an unloading area associated with the as yet unknown function of the structure.

The delineation of the land take surrounding the Martello tower is marked on the military archive maps as the 'Paling'. It is unclear as to what constitutes the paling. Examination of maps pertaining to the other Martello towers in the region such as that at Skerries Martello tower indicate a bank, a wall and a clay and stone fence. There are also records dating to 1852 and 1854 of a 'sketch of fence proposed for No.5 Tower Robswalls, No.8 Tower Rush, No.10 Tower Shenick's Island'. The fence is drawn as a series of uprights, braced and set into a base plate. This is reflected in Feature 22 which was excavated in section within Trench 2. The diameters of the post-pipe and brace excavated reflect those on the sketch plan, indicating the probability of a similar fence surrounding Drumanagh Martello at one point.



*Fig. 16: Sketch of Fence proposed at No.5 Robswall, No.8 Rush, No.10 tower-Shenick's island, 1854*  
Archival Reference Code: IE/MA/MPD/ad134123-006

### *Earlier Activity*

Both the geophysical survey (1999) and aerial photographs from the 1970s and 1980s show a degree of disturbance immediately south of the Martello road. This was reflected in Trench 1 and 2.



*Plate 21: Original approach to the Martello and disturbance photographed by Swan (1970s-80s)  
courtesy of Discovery Programme/National Museum of Ireland*

The loamy rich soil (Features 10 and 11) truncated by the construction of the Martello road contained evidence of that disturbance-18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, clay pipes etc. as well as evidence for earlier activity. The presence of flint flakes and struck flint was not unexpected. This coastal zone of Fingal has long produced evidence for the processing of flint of Neolithic and Bronze Age date. Although in the early stages of research comparable material for the bone combs are indicate a possible Iron Age date, while the glass bead and bone pins could date from that period into the Early Medieval period. Perhaps the presence of two fragments of human remains in distinctly different features at either end of Trench 2 illustrates both the intensity of activity at Drumanagh across the millennia and the questions that remain to be answered.

## 6 Conclusions

This first scientific excavation at Drumanagh promontory fort has answered questions around the nature and effect of the latest period of construction activity the 19<sup>th</sup> century Martello road on the site. In doing so evidence for earlier activity has also been identified. Further post-excavation analysis will allow for the development of a definitive chronology for that activity and will inform the future management of the site.



*Plate 22: Some of Team Drumanagh*

The *Digging Drumanagh* project was designed as a Fingal community archaeology project and is an objective of the *Drumanagh Conservation Study & Management Plan*. It is an important aim to engage the wider public with the National Monument in their locality. This year saw the participation of 51 volunteers including local people and those who have taken part in previous Fingal community archaeology projects.

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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1 August 2018

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Thanks are also due to The Heritage Council who support the Community Archaeologist position.

## 7 Post-Excavation Programme

All soil and animal bone samples were processed during the Drumanagh Post-Ex week at Swords Castle between 4-8 June 2018. 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 McClatchie	Ongoing
Animal Bone analysis	Siobhan Duffy	Ongoing
Human Bone analysis	Dr Linda Lynch	Ongoing
Pottery		Undergoing procurement
Small Finds (metal, bone, stone, clay pipe)	Siobhan Duffy	Ongoing
X-Ray & Conservation	Susannah Kelly	Ongoing
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 sixteen 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

A summary account has been submitted to Excavations.ie. The results of the excavation will be published in several accessible forms and disseminated through talks and appropriate media.

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## Appendix 1-Feature Register

Feature #	Trench	Description	Dimensions	Over	Under	Artefacts
1	T1 - T2	Topsoil. T1-Dark brown friable loam with small stone inclusions 0.15-0.28m in depth. T2-Dark brown rich silty clay with small stone 0.08m-0.22m in depth	T1-0.15-0.28m in depth; T2 0.08-0.22m in depth	T1: F5, F6, F8, F9, F10 T2: F2, f3, F4, F16	Sod	Shell, animal bone, plastic, modern pottery; clay pipe T1 (7), T2 (1); Cu Alloy military (T1 (3) T2 (1), iron objects (T1 (5); flint flake T1; glass window and bottle and slag
2	T2	Gravel deposit: very loose small stone gravel in a dark brown silt matrix. Stones (0.02m-0.07m) are rounded and appear beach rolled but no sand present. Abutts large stone structure (F3) in NW corner of trench.	4.5-6mm EW x 5m NS; 0.13m to 0.15m deepening to 0.18m-0.24m	F3, F13	F1	19th century militia buttons; clay pipes, 19th century glass; 1862 coin; iron nails/objects; 2 marbles, possible stone counter
3	T2	Possible corner of building that appears on 1850 map; large limestone (0.15m-0.5m diam.) spread with slate and mortar, compacted within mid-brown silt matrix. Upper layer of stone comes down onto a layer of flatter stones resulting in more level surface overlying natural subsoil. May extend into T1 (=F7). Forms corner and possible internal deposit (F16).	2.85mEW x 1.45mNS; 0.1-0.30m in depth	Natural	F2	Clay pipe and modern pottery
4	T2	Deposit of refuse material; spread of loose shell (90%) and pottery filled silt that extends thinly from the bank (F6) to the southern baulk of T2	5m EW x 4.32mNS; 0.01m-0.05m in depth	F6, F11	F1; Cut by posthole F22	Pottery (mainly blackware/modern); clay pipe, iron objects; marble

5	T1	North bank of hollow way: Raised on existing ground surface by digging into sod/topsoil and upcasting onto bank. Bank not clearly defined at E end of cutting due to presence of F7. Appears flat-topped. Revetted on south side by large stones that did not extend as far as This feature constituted the northern bank of the Martello road that was raised on existing ground surface by digging into sod/topsoil and upcasting onto the bank. The bank was not clearly defined towards the east end of Trench 1 due to presence of a possible structure (F7). Feature 5 appears flat-topped and has been exposed for 3.5m north-south (it extends beyond the northern baulk of the trench). In profile it measures 0.5m at its highest point, sloping gently down to the south where it appears to have been partially revetted (F17). The bank consisted of dark to medium brown silty clay with slight variation in compactness and small stone inclusions. There was little discernment of difference in the bank as it was being excavated, the subtleties' between the buried sod and interface with topsoil only becoming apparent in the section face.W baulk. Incorporates base (F15), buried sod (F14) and upcast (F5)	3.5m NS m x 3m EW; 0.5m depth	F14/F15	F1	Incomplete perforated bone pin; modern pottery; iron objects; possible plough pebble
6	T1/T2	South bank of hollow way; Raised on existing ground surface by piling sod and topsoil in existing sod. Possible revetment on inner face i.e. north side of the bank (F18). Continues into Trench 2.	At top 2.8m/base just under 4m; 0.7m height	Natural	F1	Clay pipe bowl; heel of shoe?, marble, flint flake

7	T1	Interpreted as the possible south-east corner of the structure depicted on the 1850 map, this deposit consisted of large stones (0.2m-0.4m diam.) within a mid-brown silt matrix forming a dense cluster in the north-east of Trench 1. Feature 7 extended westward from the eastern baulk for a maximum of 0.8m and north-south for 2.7m. Stone downslope along the bank (F5) may represent tumble from the structure.	0.8m EW x 2.7m NS	F5	F1	
8	T1	Surface of hollow way: Consisted of compacted small (0.03m max) rounded and sub/angular stones/pebble surface. More cobble like deposit towards eastern baulk (stones 0.1m-0.17m diam.). Became looser and lensing out to the west. May be slippage from F2 appears as if the metalling in T2 gives way to soil based hollow way.	4m NSx 4m EW; 0.1m in depth	F14	F1	Button, clay pipe stems; modern pottery
9	T1	Deposit: Stones naturally formed (0.25m average diam.) located on top of eastern quadrant of southern bank of the hollow way, sloping down to SW.	2.9m x 2m	F6, F10	F1	
10	T1	Layer: Dark brown friable loamy clay-very similar to topsoil. Located to the south of bank of hollow way. Contained extensive animal bone, some burnt. Possible original ground layer disturbed by insertion of hollow way.	4mEW x 2.5mNS; 0.18m-0.22m in depth	F12	F15	two large sherds of buff thick walled pot; possible stone artefact; tiny fragments of copper alloy

11	T2	Layer: Dark brown moderately compact friable clayey silt with small stone and shell inclusions. Located to south of Martello road. 18th/19th century activity at interface with layer above. Contained extensive animal bone towards base. Possible original ground surface disturbed by later activity.	5.38m NS x 5m EW; 0.28m-0.42m in depth	F4, F6	Natural	Iron nails, glass and modern pottery; Decorated antler comb, partial blue glass bead; incomplete bone pin; DAR E4805:11:26
12	T1	Deposit: Dark brown friable loamy clay with high small shell and gravel inclusions. Contains large uncut stones. Overlies F10 to south of bank F6, towards eastern baulk.	2.6m NS x 1.6mEW; average 0.12m in depth	F1	F10	Decorated antler comb
13	T2	Martello Road: Limestone rubble and small-medium sized stones within a dark brown silty matrix of moderate compaction with shell and animal bone inclusions.	3.5m- 6mNs x 5mEW; 0.08m-0.28m in depth	F2	F6/Natural	Iron object, clay pipe, modern pottery, glass bottle
14	T1	Martello road: Beneath stone F8 within base of hollow road; Loose friable yellow-brown gritty clay with small stone inclusions.	12.2mNS x 4m EW; 0.10-0.22m in depth	F8	F15/Natural	Modern pottery
15	T1	Interface between activity and natural subsoil-may be bioturbation. Mottled natural/soil mix of yellow brown loose silty clay with small sub/angular stone inclusions	0.16m in depth	F5, F6	Natural	Clay pipe stem fragment; 5 fragments of struck/burnt flint

16	T2	Deposit: Post roadway construction activity. Maybe associated with interior of structure F3/F7. Dark brown silty clay with small stone and shell inclusions. Relatively compact with modern materials	1.42m NS x 1mEW; 0.16m-0.28m in depth	F1	F19/Natural	Modern pottery, clay pipe stem; bottle glass; DAR E4805:16:2
17	T1	Possible stone footing for north bank of Martello road; Consists of linear arrangement of angular limestone and fieldstone (0.24m-0.35m diam.) interior to base of northern bank	1.5m EW x 0.95m NS; 0.24m depth	F5	F15/Natural	
18	T1	Possible stone footing for south bank Martello Road; Consists of linear arrangement of angular limestone and fieldstone (0.17m-0.33m diam.) interior to base of southern bank	1.35m EW x 1m NS; 0.33m depth	F6	F15/Natural	
19	T2	Pit: Oval pit cut into natural subsoil, concave base with steep sides on N and E, gentler to the S. Truncated by western baulk of cutting. Fill consisted of loose medium-dark brown silty clay with frequent small stone (0.05m-0.25m diam.) inclusions and frequent animal bone	0.7m NS x 0.4mEW; .1m-0.26m depth	F16	Natural	
20	T2	Slot/Gully; Aligned NE/SW; Linear cut into natural subsoil; sharp break of slope at top and base with vertical sides and flat base; exposed 0.7m below present ground level. Fill consisted of dark brown stony silt of medium compaction	1.4m x 0.1-0.14m in width; 0.02-0.07m in depth	F11	Natural	

21	T2	Pit: Sub-circular pit cut into natural; Concave sides and gradual base; Contains light brown compact charcoal-flecked silty clay with small stone inclusions.	0.7m NS x 0.6mEW; 0.13m-0.2m in depth	F11	Natural	
22	T2	Post & Brace; Postpipe excavate din section. Located in Southern baulk 1.7m west of eastern baulk of cutting; Square post-pipe formed by rotting of timber forming hollow space-appears 0.3m below current ground surface-hasn't been driven down in modern times.C.0.2m/0.3m from top of upright another post-pipe is at an angle, squared with rounded top and similar dimensions, both appear to fit into a linear EW cut into natural which may have formed a base post. Sherd of blackware in section associated with base plate.	Upright-0.4m in height/0.1m width; brace 0.4m x 0.1m; base 1.05m, 0.35m in width	F1	Natural	