

Final archaeological report

**St. Marnock's Church
Burrow
Portmarnock
Fingal**

22E0601

CMF22-1-DF001

DU015-007001
RPS No. 478

By

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Archaeology
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Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This final archaeological report discusses monitoring undertaken at St. Marnock's Church, Barrow, Portmarnock on behalf of Fingal County Council in connection with the repointing and consolidation of the structure as an historic ruin. The work was funded by the 2022 Community Monuments Fund and took place over September and October, 2022.

The site was initially surveyed in October 2020, and a condition report prepared by the writer.¹ This included a set of recommendations designed to arrest the structure's further decline and to preserve it as a cultural artefact into the future.

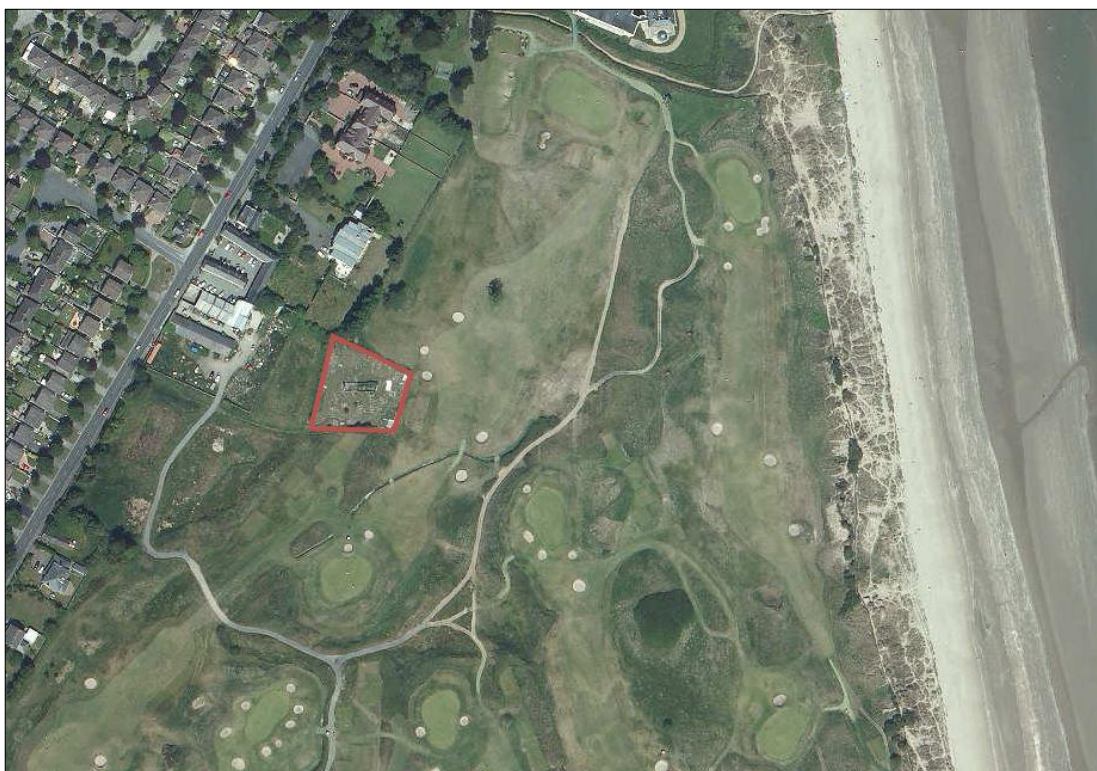


Figure 1 Site location (ASI Historic Environment Viewer)

- 1.2 The church is located within a trapezoidal enclosure at the edge of Portmarnock golf links, an area depicted as being more rectangular on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey. The graveyard is accessed through a pedestrian gate on Strand Road and the church today essentially comprises a single space with a later subdivision utilising an iron railing towards the eastern end at the chancel. Burials appear to have ceased across the site in recent years and the latest gravestone recorded was from 2004.

The church has been in ruins since at least the middle of the seventeenth century and where the bellcote at the western end survived into the age of photography, the east wall survives today only just to the apex of the gable. By 2010 the site was heavily overgrown and work

¹ Myles, F. 2020. 'Measured survey and condition assessment, St. Marnock's Church, Portmarnock'. Unpublished report submitted to the planning authority.

undertaken involved some inappropriate rebuilding of the south wall and consolidation in cement of areas of the north wall and the east gable. Ten years later the interior surface was uneven and overgrown, and vegetation had taken root again from the base of the walls. There was a substantial amount of loose rubble above the surface, especially against the eastern wall and some dimension stone was noted, including a missing barge stone from the eastern gable which has now been put back into position.

In a general sense the two gables were in a reasonable, though vulnerable structural condition; the lateral walls had been reduced over the years and where some bulging was evident, there was also loose stone along the top of the southern wall, all of which was *ex situ* and possibly represents an attempt to consolidate the structure c. 2010.

- 1.3 The church and its precinct are afforded statutory protection under the National Monuments Act (as amended) and is a Protected Structure listed on the *Fingal County Development Plan 2017-2023* (RPS No. 478). The church lies within a HA zoning, to 'protect these highly sensitive and scenic locations from inappropriate development and reinforce their character, distinctiveness and sense of place. In recognition of the amenity potential of these areas opportunities to increase public access will be explored'.

As an archaeological monument (DU015-007001-), its general designation incorporates two further monuments, the graveyard itself (DU015-007004-) and a 'wall monument' (DU015-007005-). The graveyard is also listed on the NIAH (Reg. No. 11351005), where it has been afforded a National rating. Located some 45m from the modern southwestern corner of the graveyard are two further monuments, a holy well (DU015-007002-) and an ogham stone (DU015-007003-). There is no apparent trace of these monuments surviving, where the latter was apparently broken up and cast into the former.²

There has been relatively little work undertaken on the church: it was discussed in a study of Fingal Historic Graveyards in 2008³ and a structural assessment was undertaken for the local authority in 2011.⁴ There was a 'clean-up' of the graveyard c. 2010 which included the removal of vegetation inside the church resulting in the exposure of human remains. In addition, the removal of ivy growth loosened stonework resulting in the removal of at least four courses at the western gable and the upper course of the northern wall (SMR file). It is likely that some consolidation and re-building was undertaken at the same time. To a certain extent the works discussed in this report were designed to address issues that have arisen since then, especially the introduction of concrete to the structure.

² Skyvova, P. 2005. *Fingalian Holy Wells*. Fingal County Libraries, 60.

³ *Fingal Historic Graveyards Project*. 2008. 2 Vols. Fingal County Council.

⁴ Dermot Nolan and Associates. N.D. *Structural Assessment of Archaeological Monuments in Fingal County Council Ownership*. St. Marnock's Church, Portmarnock (No. 6). 79-91.



Plate 1 St. Marnock's from the NW (2020)

- 1.4 The writer wishes to thank Christine Baker (Heritage Officer) and Brian O'Connor (Executive Architect), both of Fingal County Council; John Kelly (conservation engineer) of David Kelly Partnership and the various stonemasons working with James Oliver Hearty Building Contractors. Maggie Kobik contributed the drawn record and James Kyle undertook the occasional site visit, both from *Archaeology and Built Heritage*.

2 Historical contexts

2.1 The dedication to St. Marnock certainly implies an early foundation, however there is no indication of a typical oval enclosure and the remnant structure is fairly typical of the late medieval parish churches of which there is an abundance in north county Dublin. St. Marnock (d. c. 625) is better known as a Scottish ecclesiastic, however it is likely he was born on the island of Ireland. Most sources agree that he was a student of Columba's at Iona and became a missionary on the Scottish mainland. It is widely accepted that Marnock died at Annandale however at least one account gives his place of death and burial site as Inchmarnoch near Aboyne in Aberdeenshire.

He is also referred to as Marnan, Marnanus, Marnocalso or originally Ernin (from Irish *Mo-Er nin-og*). His cult is more obviously a Scottish phenomenon and it does not appear to have had much traction in Ireland beyond the vicinity of Portmarnock, where he is said to have baptised the population at the well adjacent to the church. Marnock's head was kept as a relic at Kilmarnock, where a tradition emerged where it was washed each Sunday, with the resulting water given to the sick to effect miraculous cures. Gilbert on the other hand recorded that the saint's remains were solemnly removed to St. Mary's Abbey from Portmarnock towards the end of the fifteenth century⁵ which is perhaps a useful period when considering the church's construction date.

2.2 In the context of the medieval settlement of the area the church is in an unusual location, some 1.6km northeast of the substantial medieval settlement excavated by Moriarty in 2009⁶ and on marginal ground, quite possibly subject to shifting sands. It is quite likely therefore that the site is that of the original church and the presence of the adjacent holy well and ogham stone supports the continuation of worship on the site well into the early medieval period.

2.3 The church and lands were granted to St. Mary's abbey by 1174 at the expense of the MacTurcaills, who would have been patrons of the earlier foundation. The present structure was constructed over 300 years later and in the absence of another medieval church in the parish it must have served for worship at least until the middle of the sixteenth century. The church is mentioned in Archbishop Bulkeley's visitation of 1630, where the church and chancel were recorded as being 'very ruinous'.⁷ Interestingly the parishioners were all described as being recusants and mass was being celebrated in Walter Plunkett's house.

⁵ Gilbert, J.T. (ed.) 1884. *Chartularies of St Mary's Abbey, Dublin*. Vol. II, xiii-xiv. London.

⁶ Moriarty, C. 2011. 'The medieval vill of Portmarnock' in S. Duffy (ed.) *Medieval Dublin XI*. Dublin, 229-274.

⁷ Ronan, M.V. 1941. 'Archbishop Bulkeley's Visitation of Dublin, 1630' in *Archivium Hibernicum*, Vol. 8, 66.

The church is depicted as a roofless ruin on the Down Survey barony mapping (Figure 2) but is not depicted on the parish mapping. The Civil Survey (1654-6) refers to 'chapel walls'⁸ and the evidence from both sources suggests the vicinity had become a large rabbit warren and was not cultivated. The structure is depicted on Rocque's county map (1760) as 'Church in ruins' (not illustrated).



Figure 2 The Barony of Coolock in the County of Dublin, William Wright, 1655

- 2.4 The bellcote appears to have remained a significant feature on the landscape and the first edition mapping undertaken by the Ordnance Survey in the late 1830s depicts *Church Gap* on the shoreline immediately to the east, just to the south of a 30ft spot height (Figure 3). This would suggest that the bellcote was an aid to navigation and indeed Lewis refers to the 'remains of an old church ... from which elevation is obtained an extensive view of the surrounding country, with a vast expanse of the sea'.⁹ St. John Joyce refers to the 'ancient church of the locality' (although he spent more time at the well) and suggests it was in use until 'about 1615, since when it has been in ruins'.¹⁰
- 2.5 Subsequent to its disuse, the church obviously retained a significant position in the parish and where the graveyard appears to have remained in constant use the church itself was used for burials. The wall monument (DU015-007005), which was not evident in 2020, was rediscovered over the course of the monitoring and lay extensively cracked near the northern wall of the chancel (Plate 2). The earliest inhumation recorded is that of Teresa Plunkett of Portmarnock

⁸ Simington, R.C. (ed.) 1945. *The Civil survey, AD 1654-1656*. Vol. VII: county of Dublin. Dublin.

⁹ S. Lewis & Co. 1837. *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*. London. Port St. Marnock.

¹⁰ St. John Joyce, W. 1912. *The Neighbourhood of Dublin*. Dublin, 278.

House, who was interred in a family tomb in the chancel in 1672 and her memorial stone was located over the course of the monitoring in the southeastern corner of the chancel.¹¹

Other notables apparently buried in the graveyard include the distilling Jamesons, Larry O'Neill, Lord Mayor of Dublin over the period 1917–1924¹² and members of the Plunkett family who were eventually to come into the lands originally granted to St. Mary's abbey.

- 2.6 Walsh provides the first modern description of the structure,¹³ and refers to the survival of a 'small circular-arched fenestella, for a piscina'. Walsh in addition provides a sketch which depicts both gables as being intact, where the lateral walls appear to be much lowered (Figure 4, which is actually drawn from the southeast).¹⁴

A late nineteenth-century photograph (Figure 5) shows the triple-arched bellcote with stepped crenellations above (not depicted by Walsh), typical of the late fifteenth or sixteenth century. Here, the eastern gable and much of the bellcote are obscured by ivy. In this respect the church was possibly quite similar to that at Kinsaley some 2.7km to the west, where the upper of three arches was removed when the tower was consolidated.

The depiction on the 25 inch mapping (Figure 6) includes the curving driveway to St. Marnock's house and it is likely the church acted as a picturesque ruin on the landscape.

¹¹ The memorial stone has been reported to the Archaeological Survey of Ireland as a potential Recorded Monument. See Appendix III.

¹² Morrissey, T.J. SJ. 2014. *Laurence O'Neill (1864–1943). Lord Mayor of Dublin (1917–1924), patriot and man of peace*. Dublin.

¹³ Walsh, R. 1888. *Fingal and its Churches*. Dublin, 156.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 235.



Figure 3 Ordnance Survey, Dublin, sheet 15, 1836 (1843)



Plate 2 Barnewall monument (South County Dublin Libraries, Patrick Healy Collection)

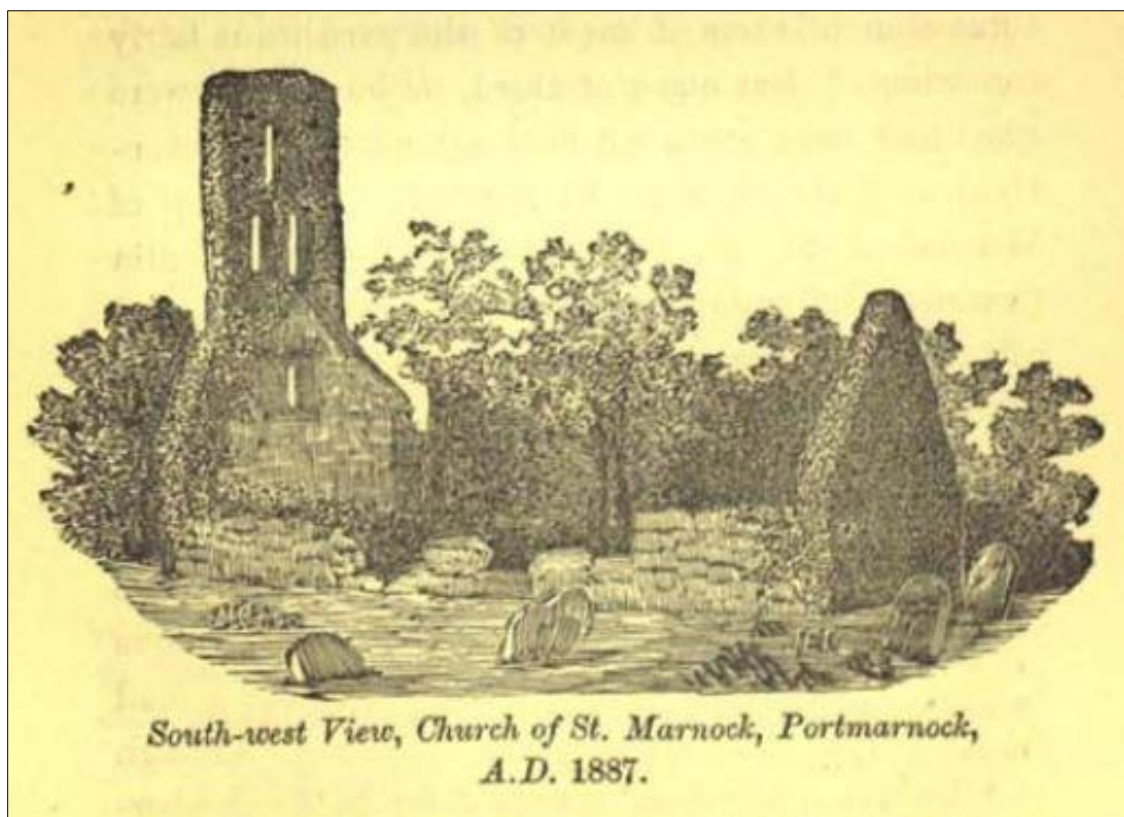


Figure 4 After Walsh, 1888, 107

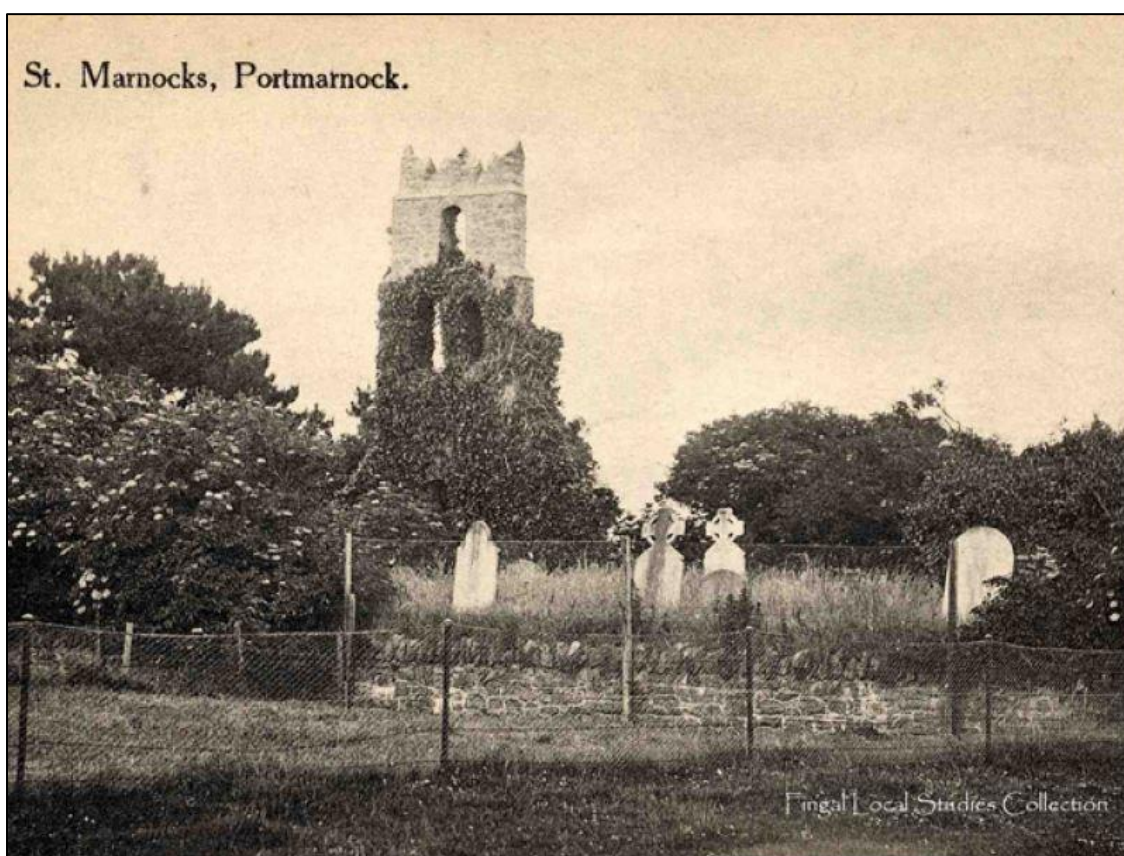


Figure 5 'St. Marnock's, Portmarnock' n.d. Fingal Local Studies Collection

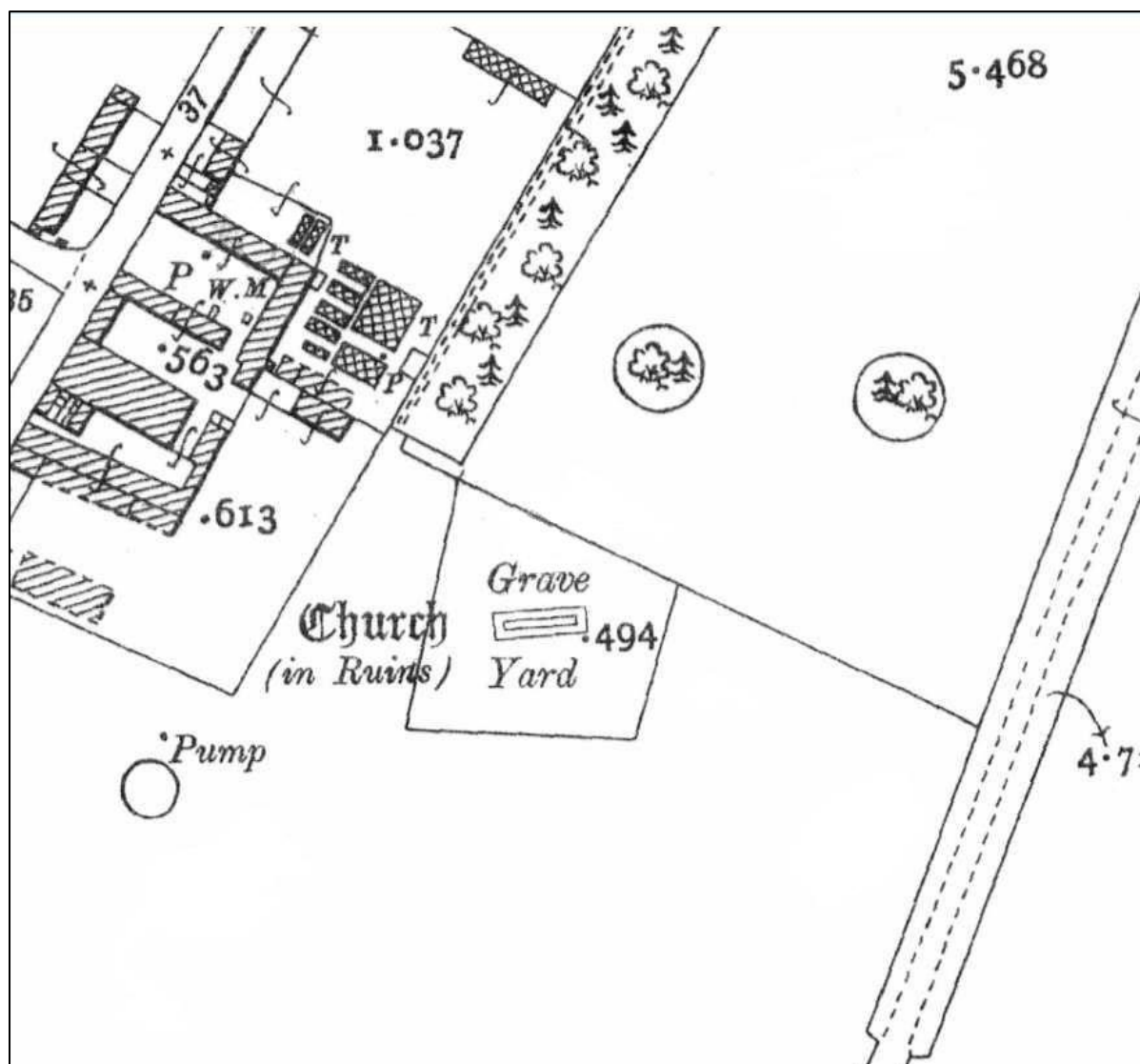


Figure 6 Ordnance Survey, DN015-03, 1906 (1909)

3 Archaeological monitoring

- 3.1 The monitoring exercise essentially comprised a series of inspections undertaken once conservation works had started. These initially involved the clearance of rubble and vegetation and consisted in the main of the repointing of the walls, however a section of the southern wall east of the doorway was rebuilt from ground level when primary masonry was encountered below a loose rubble rebuild.

The initial task undertaken was to remove the rubble from the church interior (Figure 7) and sort through the material to recover architectural stone. Seventeen stones were recovered and set aside for recording (see Figure 9, Appendix 1), with one stone obviously a component of the western gable.

The removal of the vegetation left a level surface on the underlying sandy loam. This was quite loose and surprisingly free of inclusions. The only artefact registered from the monitoring, a relatively modern knife handle (22E0601:1:1), was recovered from this material, directly underneath the western stone pile.

- 3.2 Prior to the erection of scaffolding on the eastern gable, the overgrowth was removed from the chancel and the area was cleaned-off, planned, levelled and photographed (Figure 8, Plates 3-6). In the southeastern corner the *ex situ* monument to Teresa Plunkett was recorded which comprised a limestone memorial (L: 1400mm; W: 550mm, orientated north-south, Plate 7; No. 5 on Figure 8). The monument was set into the ground (probably on a bed of lime mortar visible at the sides), with some cracking (from top centre to centre western side), and was otherwise intact. The monument does not appear to have been recorded by Paddy Healy (who had photographed the Barnwall memorial) and it may have been obscured at the time or was simply illegible. It would appear to have been placed in its present position c. 1862 when the table tomb was erected for John William Plunkett.

The inscription was illegible (apart from the date),¹⁵ with an IHS over a Maltese cross and a long shaft running down the centre of the stone through the H, with parallel lines running down the side:

IHS
Heere under lye
th the bodie of
Teresa Plvnket
who decesed th
e 20 of Avgust
anno dmi 1672

¹⁵ The inscription has been taken from Egan, Michael J.S. 1997. *Dublin City and County Graveyards*. Vol. 10, Dublin. This was in turn transcribed from the *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead in Ireland*, Vol. 1, 343, where the initial transcription was extracted from Isaac Butler's journal, 14 June 1744.

Teresa was the third daughter of William Plunket (d. 1662), whose father Luke (d. 1636) was granted the 'castle, town, lands and hereditaments' of Portmarnock the year before he died. It is not known why she is commemorated so elegantly, or if her stone was unique to her generation of the family.

3.3 The piscina was cleared out of loose material and roots (Plate 8) where it was found that elements supporting the base of the font were still *in situ*. A large section of masonry missing from the wall above resulted in a void appearing to the rear of the arch. The wall was carefully rebuilt to the required level, ensuring that no damage accrued to the feature.

3.4 The wall to the east of the entrance was rebuilt in loose unmortared rubble to a relatively fair face. The rubble was removed by hand to a point where solid masonry was encountered (Plate 9). The mortar here was very different to that exposed elsewhere on site. It was yellow in hue and very gritty to the touch with inclusions of small pebbles and marine shell and very similar to medieval bonding mortars recorded on excavations in the city. Where there was no further masonry encountered at this level it is likely that this constitutes the primary eastern reveal of the entrance.

As the existing western reveal has been formed by the works undertaken c. 2010, there is no evidence as to the primary width of the door. There is no indication as to the primary floor level and the insertion of a 2m grid bar did not succeed in establishing the presence of a threshold below.

As referred to above, a considerable quantity of masonry had been removed over the area of the piscina further east. It is possible that the failure was a function of an ivy root growing up through the southeastern corner of the church which was removed without further disturbing the masonry. The area where the masonry had collapsed was then rebuilt in keeping with the style of the primary masonry (Plate 11).

West of the entrance two fair faces had been reconstructed from ground level and the resultant void backfilled with loose rubble (Plates 12 and 13). The rubble was removed prior to the consolidation of the wall to investigate its stability and it was found that two pieces of architectural stone had been used in the reconstruction of the interior wall (Plate 14). One was a cill identical in design to that recovered from the rubble (22E0601:8) where below this was a large flat rectangular stone, similar to 22E0601:3, also recovered from the rubble.

It was decided to retain the rebuilt section of wall and to consolidate using a lean-mix poured into the void, stitched across with helibars. The top of the wall was then flanchued to arrest water ingress (Plate 15).¹⁶

¹⁶ All of the wall tops were similarly flanchued, where it was originally intended to provide a soft-top.

3.5 The western section of the northern wall had been rebuilt in a similar fashion, however the stones within were better compacted and there was no necessity to provide further internal structural support. Here, the junction between the primary masonry and the work undertaken c. 2010 was better defined and there was less repointing required. The wall tops were flanché where there was less rebuilding required than on the wall opposite (Plate 16).

3.6 The gables were both repointed externally and internally. On the exterior of the eastern gable, one *in situ* chamfered stone signalled the primary window reveal where the window opening was blocked in antiquity. This feature was not obscured by the repointing however the removal of vegetation across the elevation did not expose any other cut reveals; the blockage is quite obvious and has remained so after the work undertaken.

The head of the small window in the western gable was cracked and underwent invisible repair work which involved the insertion of a steel bar. The sloping cill below was consolidated but not rebuilt, where there survived *in situ* stones suggesting the angle of the slope.

3.7 The final works undertaken involved spreading Ballylusk stone throughout the interior and securing the iron railing fronting the chancel into the wall at either side. Minor works secured the gate, leaving it half-opened, where the railings themselves were treated and painted.

All of the remaining stone was placed in gabions which now sit in the church interior, with the architectural fragments recovered placed in a separate gabion and placed in front of the west gable (Plate 18).



Plate 3 View of chancel area after removal of vegetation, looking southeast



Plate 4 View of chancel area after removal of vegetation, looking north



Plate 5 View of chancel area after removal of vegetation, looking northwest



Plate 6 View of chancel area after removal of vegetation, looking southwest



Plate 7 Teresa Plunkett memorial



Plate 8 Piscina after clearance



Plate 9 East entrance reveal after the removal of rubble



Plate 10 East entrance reveal under reconstruction



Plate 11 Reconstructed section of masonry over piscina



Plate 12 Interior south wall, previous reconstruction work west of entrance. Reused architectural stone indicated



Plate 13 Void within south wall, west of entrance



Plate 14 Cill rebuilt into south wall (below small scale), with larger stone directly below



Plate 15 South wall west of entrance after flaunching



Plate 16 North wall after launching



Plate 17 West gable after removal of rubble and ivy



Plate 18 View of the church towards the end of conservation works

4 Discussion and recommendations for further works

- 4.1 The monitoring exercise undertaken at St. Marnock's did not involve physical excavation although the clearance of vegetation did succeed in locating the Barnwall memorial and that to Teresa Plunkett, which add to the corpus of post-medieval funerary monuments in Fingal. In addition, the recovery of several curved stones draws a direct parallel with the medieval parish church at Kinsaley, where identical stones are evident in the (heavily restored) bellcote.

Where Kinsaley is the most proximate medieval church, it is 7m shorter than St. Marnock's (17.2m compared with 10.25m in Kinsaley) and slightly narrower (5.1m to 4m). St. Marnock's is quite likely the earlier foundation and its plan may well be influenced by that of an earlier structure. There was nonetheless nothing recorded that suggests the present structure is any earlier than the mid-fifteenth century

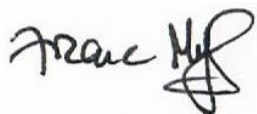
- 4.2 There remain several unanswered questions regarding the morphology of the church, questions which might be best answered by a programme of archaeological excavation. Excavation will doubtless be complicated by the number of burials which undoubtedly extend across the church interior. Other questions concern the internal arrangement of the church and the extent to which there may be vaults located under the chancel area to the east.

The primary ground surface was not identified and is quite likely to be at least 1000mm below the existing surface. In this regard it is useful to consider St. Feicín's church on Omey Island in Connemara (GA021-017-), which was completely buried in drifting sand dunes until it was exposed in an illegal excavation in 1981. Where the surrounding landscape has stabilised with the development of the golf links, a cursory examination of the historic mapping suggests that previously the landscape was in constant flux and there may be a considerable build up of material around the church.

- 4.3 Where resources have been expended on the conservation of the structure, the most pertinent recommendation is that the structure be inspected bi-annually, and that any vegetative growth is immediately dealt with.

Of more immediate concern is the presentation of the Barnwall memorial and the newly recovered Plunket slab, both of which are vulnerable to damage at their present locations. It is recommended that they both be taken up and affixed to the north wall of the chancel, without obscuring the blocked ope. The remaining funerary monuments can then be stabilised and the surface relaid using the existing slabs.

- 4.4 Consideration should also be given to reconstructing the interior cill in the west gable, where several *in situ* stones indicate the primary slope. This could be undertaken with some more consolidation work at the junction of the west gable and the lateral walls.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Franc Myles". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive hand.

Franc Myles MUBC MIAI

Appendix I

Catalogue of architectural stone (Figure 9)

Seventeen large worked limestone fragments were separated out from the rubble which had been assembled in two piles within the chancel. One stone, which had been loosely placed on top of the south wall, was obviously the missing barge stone from the southern side of the western gable and it was retained for immediate reinsertion.

Of the remaining stones, six displayed chamfered curvilinear edges for which exact analogues can be seen c. 2.7km to the west on the bellcote at St. Nicholas' at Kinsaley (DU015-002001-). The stones were used to form the arched openings over the bells and there are presumably six similar stones missing from the assemblage. They were all recovered from the rubble pile below the bellcote.

Another similar stone (22E0601:12) was recovered from the eastern pile had a better-formed curve which accommodated a narrow groove. This presumably formed part of a window head. One stone (22E0601:8) was a chamfered cill stone, similar to that recorded in the south wall, and it has a centrally-placed mullion rebate and a narrow groove for glazing.

The remaining stones were cut to a rectangle with most displaying rebates. One of the smaller examples held a central rebate and is possibly a mullion rebate (22E0601:10). Of the remainder, it has been suggested by Brian O'Connor, project architect for Fingal County Council, that the larger stones were placed at the sides of the bellcote openings to hold the yoke or headstock of the bells into the structure. This theory may have some traction where the stones are not as weathered as the other examples and would have had some protection from the elements provided by the arches above the bells.

The stones have been placed in a gabion and are now secured within the chancel.

Catalogue number	Size (in mm)	Possible function
22E0601:1	H:350; W:350; T:120	Possible support for bell yoke
22E0601:2	H:490; W:170; T:100	Arch from bellcote opening
22E0601:3	H:610; W:430; T:180	Possible support for bell yoke
22E0601:4	H:540; W:210; T:150	Arch from bellcote opening
22E0601:5	H:550; W:170; T:120	Arch from bellcote opening
22E0601:6	H:460; W:170; T:200	Arch from bellcote opening
22E0601:7	H:370; W:240; T:110	Arch from bellcote opening
22E0601:8	H:550; W:220; T:150	Window cill
22E0601:9	H:500; W:220; T:120	Possible arch fragment from bellcote opening
22E0601:10	H:230; W:230; T:100	Mullion rebate?
22E0601:11	H:370; W:270; T:120	Possible window reveal
22E0601:12	H:400; W:350; T:130	Window head
22E0601:13	H:420; W:170; T:150	Possible gable roof stone
22E0601:14	H:490; W:470; T:150	Arch from bellcote opening
22E0601:15	H:540; W:310; T:100	Unknown
22E0601:16	H:320; W:230; T:140	Unknown

Appendix II

Finds catalogue

There was one artefact recorded over the course of the monitoring, a bone table knife handle (22E0601:1:1) which was recovered from underneath the western stone pile. The tang is accommodated in the handle and the blade has snapped just beyond the guard. The knife is unlikely to be any earlier than the mid-nineteenth century.

L: 112mm (154mm with blade); W: 24mm, tapering to 14mm at the guard.



Plate 19

22E0601:1:1

Appendix III

ASI Monument Report Form



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

NATIONAL MONUMENTS SERVICE

Monument Report Form

The following report form has been designed to assist persons who may wish to supply information on newly discovered monuments. The current operational policy of the National Monuments Service is primarily to record monuments dating from the pre-AD 1700 period. Please check the records of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland on the National Monuments Service website www.archaeology.ie before sending in a report to ensure that the monument has not already been recorded. This Monument Report Form will form part of the Sites and Monuments Record.

County: Fingal

Townland(s): Burrow (Portmarnock)

Classification: (e.g., ringfort, standing stone, cairn, mound) Wall monument

Irish Transverse Mercator co-ordinates: E: N:

Irish Grid co-ordinates: E: N:

The Archaeological Survey of Ireland uses mapping provided by OSI: this utilises the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) co-ordinate system. This replaces the former Irish Grid referenced mapping. If possible, please supply ITM co-ordinates. These should be determined using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit that is enabled for the ITM co-ordinate system. A twelve-figure reference should be determined at the centre of the monument (six for easting and six for northing). Alternatively, users may derive the ITM co-ordinates from the mapping component of the National Monuments Service website (www.archaeology.ie).

Source of co-ordinates (please fill one): GPS Website

Date of inspection of monument (dd/mm/yyyy): 15/09/2022

Name of person compiling report (Block Capitals): FRANC MYLES

Address: Archaeology and Built Heritage Phone no.: 086 8537281
Spade Enterprise Centre, St. Paul's
Smithfield
North King Street, Dublin 7 Email address: francmyles@abh.ie

Are you content to be identified by name on the Historic Environment Viewer as the person who reported the monument. Yes No

Setting of monument: (i.e., situation and land use in and around monument, etc.)

Located in southeastern corner of the chancel of St. Marnock's Church (DU015-007001-), in association with the Barnwall memorial (DU015-007005-). The surrounding graveyard (DU015-007004-) is trapezoidal in plan and is itself surrounded by a golf links. The church is undergoing a scheme of repointing and consolidation at the time of writing.

Condition of monument: (i.e., whether obscured by trees, scrub, bushes, etc.)

Now exposed after clearance of undergrowth. Set into the ground (probably on a bed of lime mortar visible at the sides), with some cracking (from top centre to centre western side). Otherwise intact.

Local information: (i.e., local name, field name, past history, etc.)

The monument doesn't appear to have been recorded by Paddy Healy (who photographed the Barnwall memorial) and it may have been obscured at the time or was simply illegible. It would appear to have been placed there c. 1862 when the table tomb was erected for John William Plunkett.

References (where relevant): (i.e. publications, web address, etc.)

See Egan, Michael J.S. 1997. *Dublin City and County Graveyards*. Vol. 10, Dublin. Transcribed from the *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead in Ireland*, Vol. 1, 343, where the transcription was extracted from Isaac Butler's journal, 14 June 1744.

Other notes: *For example, if the monument has been found as the result of a licensed archaeological investigation then the **licence number** should be given and if the monument has been completely excavated (i.e. there is **NO** surviving archaeology above or below ground surface) this should be noted here. If the monument has been discovered as the result of geophysical investigations then this should be stated. If there is a planning application associated with it, the planning reference number should be given.*

Exposed by the writer under 22E0601 licence, while monitoring conservation works funded by the Community Monuments Fund 2022. Presently protected by a plastic membrane and timber, where scaffolding has been erected above it to repoint the wall.

Summary description of monument: (additional details may be supplied on a separate page(s))

Limestone memorial (ledger or *ex situ* wall monument?). L: 1400mm; W: 550mm, orientated north-south. Illegible inscription (apart from the date), with an *IHS* over a Maltese cross with a long shaft running down the centre of the stone through the *H*, with parallel lines running down the side.

IHS
Heere under lye
th the bodie of
Teresa Plvnket
who decesed th
e 20 of Avgust
anno dmi 1672

Report accompanied by a sketch plan and/or section, elevation drawings?

Yes

Report accompanied by a photograph(s):

Yes

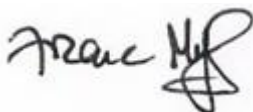
Where possible the date the photo was taken should be written on the back if not already imprinted on it.

Report accompanied by a copy of OS map Yes and/or aerial photo: Yes

It is important that the report be accompanied by either a map or aerial photograph (web-derived aerial photos are acceptable) with the location and extent of the 'monument' clearly marked on it. The aerial photo or map must be at a scale where field boundaries are clearly visible to enable it be referenced to Ordnance Survey Ireland mapping.

Checked against National Monuments Service website, www.archaeology.ie: Yes

Signed:



Date: 29 September 2022

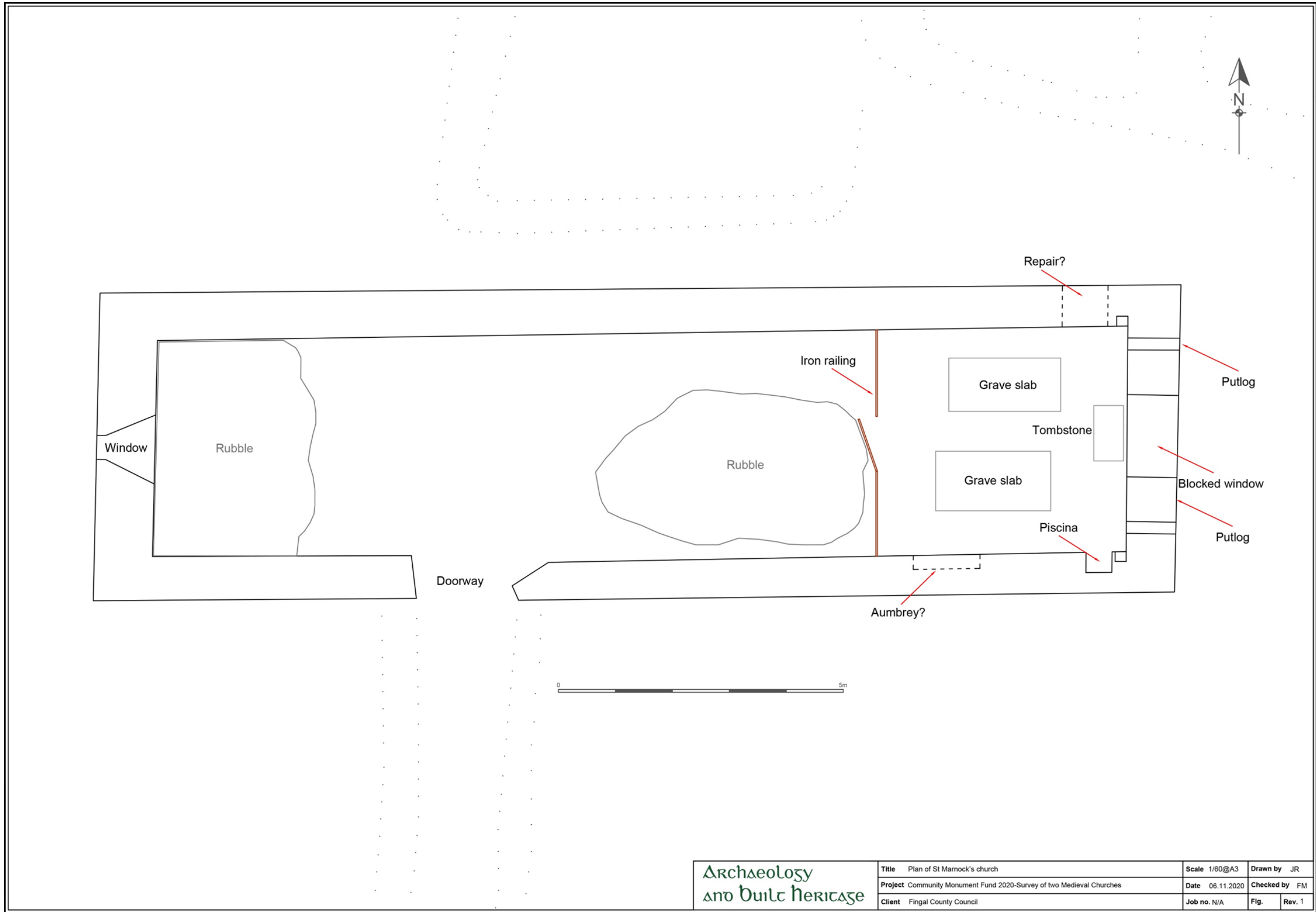
On completion of this form please send it, together with any supporting documentation, to:

Archaeological Survey of Ireland
National Monuments Service
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
The Custom House (Room G50)
Dublin 1
Dublin D01 W6XO

nationalmonuments@housing.gov.ie

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Archaeology and Built Heritage	Title Plan of St Marnock's church	Scale 1/60@A3	Drawn by JR
	Project Community Monument Fund 2020-Survey of two Medieval Churches	Date 06.11.2020	Checked by FM
	Client Fingal County Council	Job no. N/A	Fig. Rev. 1

Figure 7

Plan of St. Marnock's church

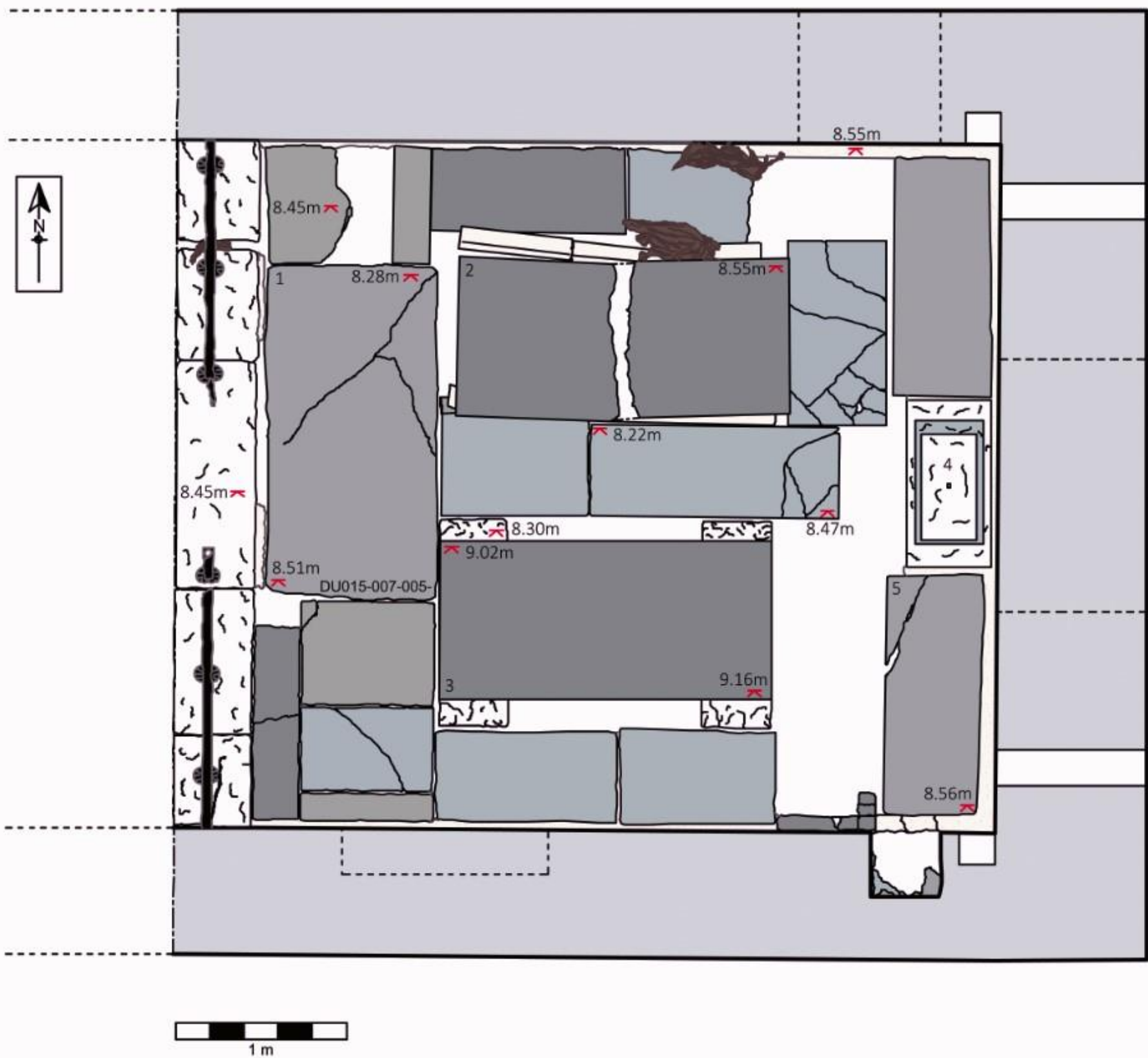


Figure 8 Plan of chancel area after the removal of overgrowth

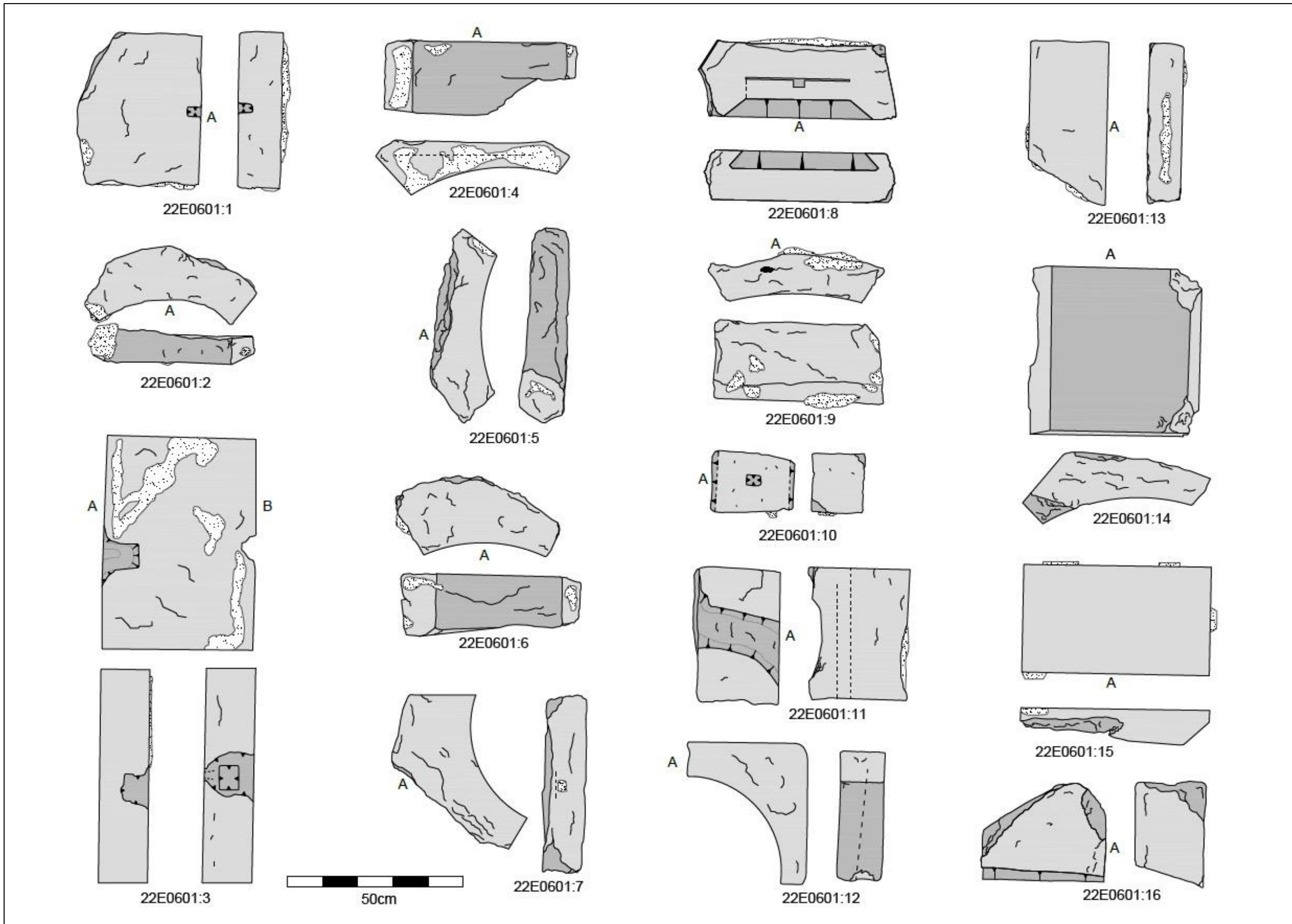


Figure 9

Architectural stone recovered from the rubble

