

Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork
School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology
Queen's University Belfast



Data Structure Report No. 95

Excavations at the southern doorway of Templecorran Church, Ballycarry, Co.
Antrim

On behalf of





Queen's University Belfast

**Excavations at the southern doorway of Templecorran Church
Ballycarry
Co. Antrim**

ANT 047:010

AE/13/88E

Brian Sloan & Emily Murray

27th August 2013

Contents

1. Summary	1
2. Introduction	3
3. Account of the excavations	8
4. Discussion	17
5. Recommendations for further work	19
6. Bibliography	21
7. Appendix 1: Context Register	22
8. Appendix 2: Harris Matrix	23
9. Appendix 3: Field Drawing Register	24
10. Appendix 4: Finds Register	25
11. Appendix 5: Photographic Register	27

Figures and tables

Detail	Page
Figure 1: Location map	7
Figure 2: Plan showing trench location	9
Figure 3: East-facing section of the trench	12
Figure 4: Eastern side of doorway (Context No. 110) with corresponding west-facing section	14
Table 1: List of archaeological sites within 1km of Templecorran	5-6

Plates

Plate 1: Pre-excavation view of the southern doorway from the interior of the church, looking south-west	8
Plate 2: Demolition deposit (Context No. 104) and grave (Context No. 105/106), looking south	11
Plate 3: Plan view of the threshold (Context No. 108) and surviving eastern door-jamb (part of southern wall Context No. 110)	13
Plate 4: Detail shot of <i>in situ</i> door-jamb and threshold, looking south-east	15
Plate 5: Post-excavation shot of the trench, looking south	16

1 Summary

1.1 *Introduction*

1.1.1 The following document details the provisional results of an archaeological excavation that was undertaken by the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF), Queen's University Belfast, at the southern doorway of Templecorran Church (ANT 047:010). The excavation took place in advance of conservation work at the site, and was requested by and funded by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA).

1.1.2 The excavation was directed by Brian Sloan of the CAF under Licence No. AE/13/88 (originally issued to Dr Emily Murray CAF). Scheduled Monument Consent was issued prior to the invasive groundworks (Ref: B 3087/75)

1.2 *Aims*

1.2.1 The focus of the excavation was on the southern doorway of the church. A 2m x 1.7m trench was positioned across the doorway in an effort to assess the presence and survival of the threshold and any other architectural features that would inform the restoration/conservation of the doorway.

1.3 *Excavation*

1.3.1 A single trench, measuring 2m north/south by 1.7m east/west was excavated across the doorway along the southern wall of the church. The stratigraphy encountered was relatively simple with at least three broad phases of activity represented by the archaeology. The earliest phase consists of a relict topsoil (Context No. 107) into which the threshold (Context No. 108) and south wall of the church (Context 110) was constructed (Phase One). This phase, based on historical evidence is early seventeenth-century in date. Following the construction, use and ultimate abandonment of the church (Phase One), a series of demolition deposits built up (Phase Two) on both the interior and exterior sides of the doorway (represented by Context Nos. 103 and 104). It is assumed that this phase dates to between the late seventeenth-century and the twentieth-century when burials were inserted either side of the doorway (Context No. 105 and 106) and a graveyard soil built up (Context No. 102) (Phase Three).

1.3.2 A small artefact assemblage was recovered during the excavation. This includes a small amount of disarticulated human bone, a small corpus of post-medieval pottery and a quantity of roofing

slates. This small artefact assemblage will require further specialist identification to bring this project to completion.

1.4 *Discussion*

1.4.1 The excavation was successful in that the threshold (Context No. 108) and the eastern door-jamb of the southern wall (Context No. 110) were found to be *in situ* and their presence can better inform the planned restoration/conservation of the southern doorway.

1.4.2 The artefact assemblage is interesting in that no medieval material was recovered (although a small area was investigated). The presence of seventeenth-century pottery in a deposit that pre-dates the construction of the church shows that the seventeenth century church was not constructed on the foundations of the medieval church of Lislainan as has been suggested. Rather, it was a 'new build' possibly utilising the stone from the medieval ruin (illustrated by the possible dressed door-jamb).

1.5 *Recommendations*

1.5.1 A number of recommendations on how to bring this project to completion are detailed further in Section 5 of this report. This section primarily recommends the further study of the small artefact assemblage especially the roofing slates and the bone assemblage (for the purpose of the ultimate return of the human bone to Templecorran for re-burial).

1.5.2 In addition, it is proposed that a short article detailing the results of the excavation is prepared for inclusion in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology* as well as the general reader publication *Archaeology Ireland*. A short synopsis of the excavation will be submitted to Isabel Bennett for inclusion in the annual *Excavations Bulletin*.

2 Introduction

2.1 General

2.1.1 The following report details the preliminary results of the archaeological excavation at the southern doorway of Templecorran Church, Forthill townland, Ballycarry Co. Antrim (ANT 047:010). The site is scheduled and located at Grid Ref: J44859367. The excavation took place between the 13th – 17th May 2013 and was carried out by members of the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF), Queen's University Belfast.

2.1.2 The excavation was directed by Brian Sloan of the CAF under the Licence No. AE/13/88E (initially issued to Dr. Emily Murray CAF). The site (ANT 047:010) is a scheduled monument and as such Scheduled Monument Consent was therefore applied for, and issued prior to the commencement of the excavation (REF: B 3087/75). The excavation was carried out on behalf of, and funded by, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

2.2 Background

2.2.1 Placenames

2.2.2 The townland of Forthill in which the church is located, and village of Ballycarry are located within the parish of Templecorran in the diocese of Down and Connor and barony of Belfast Lower. The Ordnance Survey (OS) Memoirs for the parish and village, recorded in the 1830s, note that the parish is more commonly known as Broadisland (Day *et al.* 1994, 82). The OS Memoirs record that most of the eleven townlands which make up the parish are 'recent' subdivisions respecting modern roads rather than ancient boundaries. Of these eleven townlands only four are noted as being similar to 'ancient names' mentioned in 'old deeds' (Day *et al.* 1994, 82).

2.2.3 In the rolls of Pope Nicholas IV's taxation of circa 1306-7 three churches are listed in the Diocese of Connor and parish of Templecorran and these are the Churches of Irue (with the chapel of Brokenbury), Loghlat and Lislainan (Reeves 1846, 56-8). No physical descriptions of the churches are given in the taxation. The name Irue or Irewe no longer exists having being replaced by Redhall with the stable-yard of Redhall house, according to Reeves (*ibid.* 57), being the site of the former church and cemetery. The name of Brokenbury or Brakenberghe also no longer survives but the site of the church has been identified just west of the village of Ballycarry where human remains and building foundations were reportedly discovered (*ibid.*) in the townland of south-west Ballycarry (ANT 047009; J44649396). Similar remains were also discovered and

cleared-out at the site of the church of Loughlat or Lagnalitter (*ibid.*) which is located east of the village in the townland of Redhall (ANT 047008; J45419432). The last of the churches, Lislainan has been identified as the church of Templecorran in the townland of Forthill (*ibid.* 58).

2.2.4 Lislainan or Lisanan is preserved in two fourteenth century references, dating to 1333 and 1380 (Reeves 1846, 58) providing a *terminus post quem* for the use of the townland name of Forthill. The origin of the name of Forthill is not known but it could derive from the hill of the same name approximately 2km south of Ballycarry village (Figure 2), on which are located possible earthworks (ANT 047:038; J45299295).

2.2.5 Templecorran church

2.2.6 The date and origin of the old cruciform-plan church of Templecorran is not known. According to *The Ulster Visitation Book* of 1622 the church (Temple-i-corrán) had 'the walles newly erected, but not roofed as yet' (O'Laverty 1884, 90). In 1657 it is recorded as being in repair but as being *ruinosa* by 1679 when it appears to have gone out of use (Roulston 2003, 123) and the Ballycarry Presbyterian meeting house was erected soon after in 1710 (Day *et al.* 1994, 112). The report on the old church in the OS Memoirs noted variations in the masonry indicating later alterations and rebuilding to the original church (Day *et al.* 1994, 110). The church also has multiple musket loops, with the two in each corner of the west gable the most prominent (Roulston 2003, 124). Firearms are first recorded in Ireland in the late fifteenth century with muskets not invented until the mid-sixteenth century (J. O'Neill pers. comm.) so these building details must be post-medieval in date and may date to the 1622 rebuilding of the church.

2.2.7 According to the Memoirs, in the 1830s the burial ground of Templecorran church enclosed a quadrangular area, 176 feet square. It is, however, suggested that the graveyard was once much larger as human remains and coffins had reportedly been found outside the demarcated burial ground to the south and east (Day *et al.* 1994, 111). The foundations of several extensive buildings in the vicinity of the church were also recorded in the OS Memoirs. These are described as having 'walls much thicker than those of the present church' and were found in the graveyard and surrounding fields (Day *et al.* 1994, 111). Stone-built graves orientated east-west were also reportedly found to the east of the church (*ibid.* 112). The description of these graves matches that of early Christian 'lintel-graves' (i.e. with side and covering slabs) similar to those excavated at sites such as Kilnasaggart, County Armagh and at Nendrum monastery, County Down (Hamlin 2008, 88-91). The discovery of lintel-graves found in proximity to Templecorran church in the early nineteenth century or earlier (Day *et al.* 1994, 112) is suggestive of probable early Christian burials of the first millennium AD. The church, however, is not mentioned by Hamlin in her thesis

on the archaeology of early Christianity in the north of Ireland (2008). The medieval pottery recovered from the excavations carried out south of the church in 1993 and 1994 included no early medieval pottery (Crothers 2000). The medieval pottery found was dated to the thirteenth century and later which corresponds with the fourteenth-century references to a church at Lislainan. There is therefore, thus far, only secure evidence for high or late medieval activity in the immediate vicinity of the church.

2.2.8 *Reverend Brice*

2.2.9 From 1610 Scots began migrating to the north-east of Ireland, in particular Nonconforming clergy who were being persecuted in their homeland (Day *et al.*1994, 86). Additional Scottish settlers also came over to south west Antrim in 1641 and 1642, in particular many soldiers to the garrison of Carrickfergus. With the former included the Reverend Edward Brice, or Bryce, who moved to Antrim with William Edmonstone. In 1609 John Dalway leased Broadisland (i.e. Templecorran) to William Edmonstone, and the lease also included ‘glebeable land to and for the parish church of Templecorran’ (Day *et al.* 1994, 97).

2.2.10 Brice had formerly been a minister at Drymen just north of the Blane Valley and the estate of the Edmonstones of Duntreath, Stirlingshire, in Western Scotland. In 1613 Brice became the first Presbyterian minister in Ireland and the old church of Templecorran is where he preached (Day *et al.* 1994, 85). He died in 1636 and is interred within the church.

2.3 *Surrounding archaeological landscape*

2.3.1 The Northern Ireland Sites and Monuments Record details eleven sites of archaeological interest in the immediate vicinity of the excavation area at Templecorran. These sites are outlined in Table 1:

SMR NO.	Grid Reference	Site Type
ANT 047:007	J 4534094460	Tree Plantation – Post-Medieval
ANT 047:008	J 4541094320	Ecclesiastical site - Medieval
ANT 047:009	J 4464093960	Ecclesiastical site - Medieval
ANT 047:068	J4477193539	Possible enclosure
ANT 047:020	J 4596093050	Standing Stone – Prehistoric
ANT 047:021	J 4629093260	Barrow – Bronze Age
ANT 047:037	J 4400093000	Cist Burial – Bronze Age
ANT 047:038	J 4529092950	Enclosure - Unclassified

ANT 047:047	J 4482094400	Enclosure – Unclassified
ANT 047:063	J 4507093490	Decorated Stone – Prehistoric
ANT 047:064	J 4380094120	Graveyard - Post-Medieval

Table 1: List of archaeological sites within 1km of Templecorran (NISMR).

2.3.2 The sites of archaeological significance in the vicinity of the excavation area show that Ballycarry has been a particular focus for human activity. The wealth of prehistoric activity in the area is understandable due to the proximity to supplies of good quality flint all along the Co. Antrim coastline. The prehistoric activity is dominated by funerary monuments, although settlement sites such as flint scatters and structures (both at Ballygally and Islandmagee), are also known from the general vicinity.

2.3.3 The wealth of evidence for the use of the area during the Medieval period is testament to the importance of the locale at this time. At least three ecclesiastical centres are known (including 'Lislainan' reputedly at the site of Templecorran), as well as a probable motte (ANT 047:006) in the grounds of Redhall.

2.4 *Aims and objectives*

2.4.1 The primary aim of the excavation was to inform the conservation and restoration of the southern doorway of the church. It was hoped that excavation would reveal a preserved threshold and other architectural features that would better inform the conservation/rebuilding of the doorway.

2.5 *Archiving*

2.5.1 Copies of this report have been deposited with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency: Historic Monuments Unit. All site records are temporarily archived within the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen's University Belfast.

2.6 *Credits and acknowledgements*

2.8.1 The excavation was directed by Brian Sloan of the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF), assisted by Stuart Alexander (CAF).

2.8.2 Assistance during the course of this excavation and the preparation of this report was kindly provided by; Andrew Gault (NIEA), Dr Emily Murray (CAF), Dermot Redmond (CAF), Jenny

Caldwell (Larne borough Council). The illustrations were produced by Brian Sloan and Sapphire Mussen (CAF).

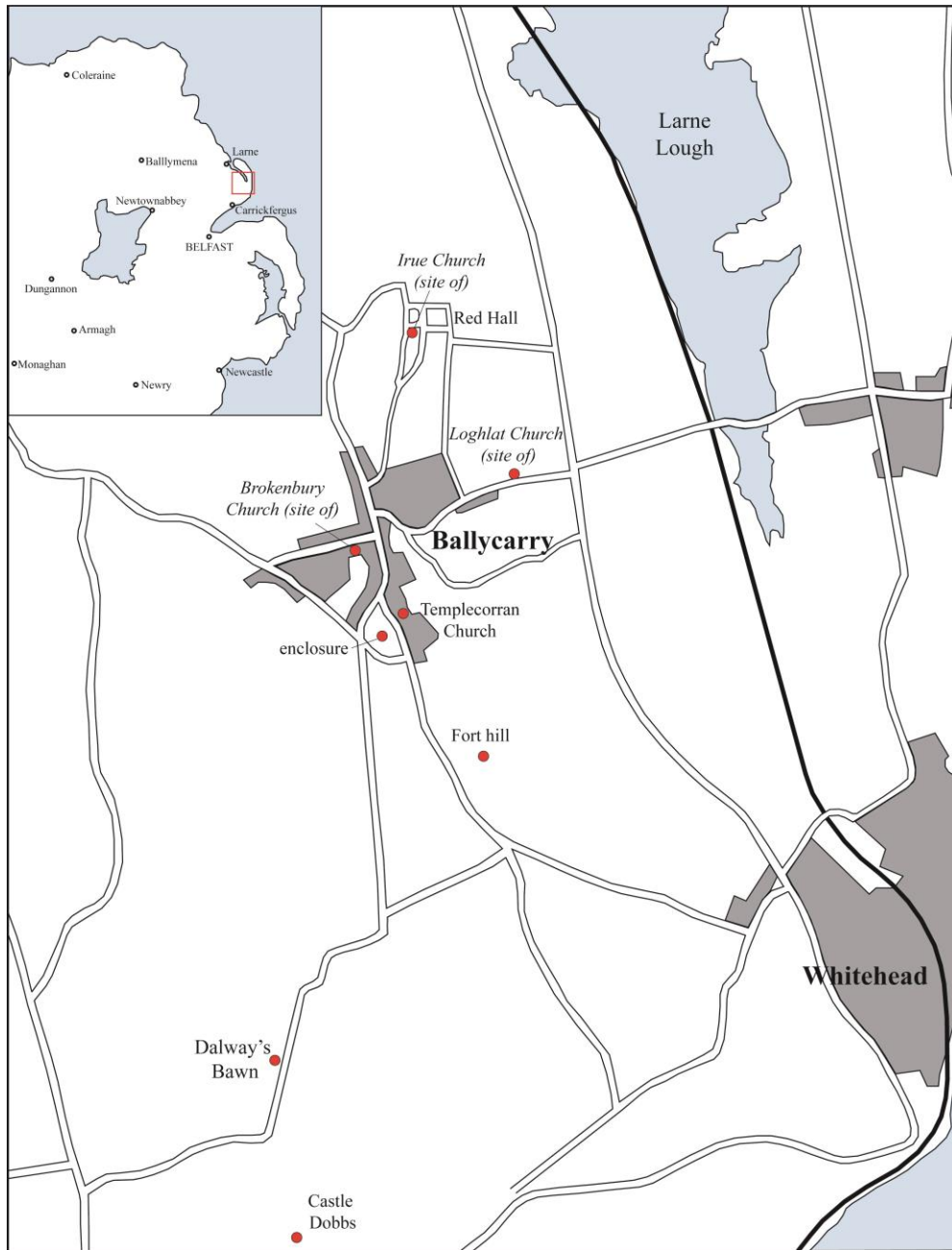


Figure 1 Map of south-east County Antrim showing the location of the village of Ballycarry, and church of Templecorran.

3 Account of the excavation

3.1 Methodology

3.1.1 A single trench was excavated across the doorway situated along the southern wall of the church (Plate 1; Figure 2). The trench was manually excavated to the surface of the natural bedrock (Context No.109) which was encountered at an average depth of 0.8m from the present ground surface. Following the excavation of the trench, it was left open at the request of Andrew Gault (NIEA) to allow visual inspection by a Structural Engineer.

3.1.2 The context record was created using the standard context recording method. The list of contexts is reproduced in Appendix One, and the Field Drawing Register is reproduced in Appendix Three. The remainder of the site records are reproduced in the Small Finds Register (Appendix Four), and the Photographic Register (Appendix Five).

3.1.3 Prior to the excavation starting, scaffolding was erected by personnel of the Carrickfergus Depot of the NIEA. This was to enable the excavation to proceed without risk of masonry falling.



Plate 1: Pre-excavation view of the southern doorway from the interior of the church looking south-west. Prior to the excavation taking place, scaffolding was erected by the Carrickfergus depot of the NIEA in the gap in the southern wall.

3.2 Account of the excavations

3.2.1 The Harris Matrix for the site is reproduced in Appendix Two. It is intended that this is referred to whilst reading the account of the stratigraphic sequence present on site.

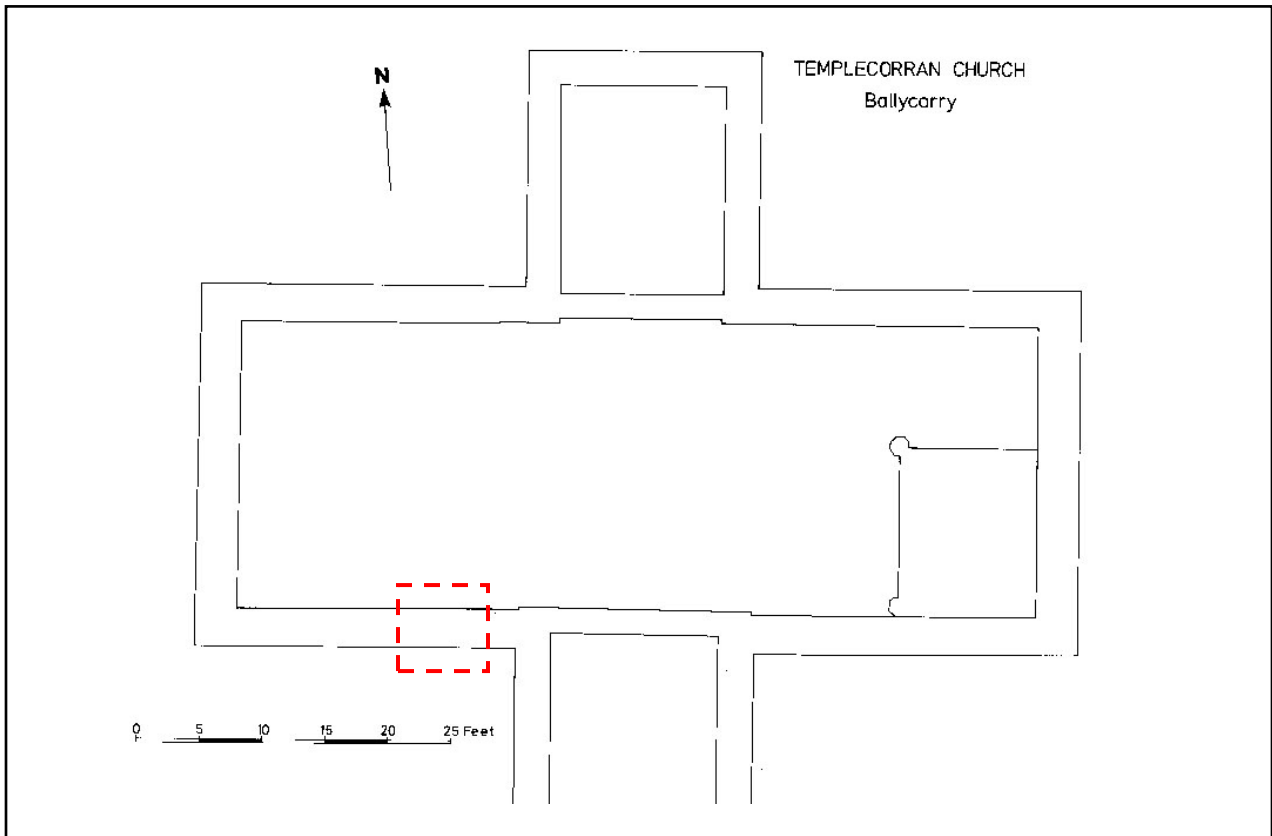


Figure 2: Plan of Templecorran church (ANT 047:010) showing location and approximate outline/scale of proposed excavation trench. Plan downloaded from the NI-SMR online (<http://apps.ehsni.gov.uk/ambit/Default.aspx> Accessed April 29th, 2013).

3.2.2 A single trench (measuring 2m north/south by 1.7m east/west) was excavated by hand over the threshold of the southern doorway of the church. The excavation continued to an average depth of 0.8m where the surface of the bedrock (Context No. 109) was encountered. The threshold (Context No. 108) was encountered approximately 0.6m from the current ground surface on the exterior side of the southern wall (Context No. 110) (the ground surface is physically higher on the exterior than it is on the interior). The threshold (Context No. 108) was kept *in situ* as per the Research Design (Murray 2013).

- 3.2.3 The uppermost deposit encountered in the trench (Context No. 101) consisted of a light to mid brown, friable sandy loam. As the southern doorway is an access point into the ruin of Templecorran with graves either side of the south wall, the excavation area has become eroded with the upper deposit (Context No.101) consisting of active grass and roots as well as bare earth. The brown sandy loam (Context No. 101) varied in thickness from 0.05m to a maximum of 0.25m and contained frequent small angular and sub-angular stones (average size 40mm x 30mm) as well as active plant roots. Artefacts from this deposit (Context No. 101) included pottery, glass (sherds of a modern drinks bottle), fragments of plastic and disarticulated human bone fragments. The uppermost deposit in the trench (Context No. 101) directly overlay a dark brown clay loam (Context No. 102).
- 3.2.4 The dark brown clay loam (Context No. 102) was a relatively thick deposit (maximum thickness 0.3m) and quite firm to trowel. Numerous angular stones (average size 100mm x 120mm) were noted throughout this deposit (Context No. 102) along with small fragments of brick, coffin furniture (coffin handle) and fragments of disarticulated human bone. A single sherd of feather-tailed Staffordshire slipware of late seventeenth-century date (Cormac McSparron *pers comm.*) was recovered from this deposit (Context No. 102).
- 3.2.5 The removal of the brown clay loam (Context No. 102) revealed two deposits. The first was a firm dark brown silty clay (Context No. 105) that was present at the northern end of the trench. This deposit (Context No. 105) was an average of 0.3m wide (exposed dimensions north/south) and spanned the width of the northern end of the trench. This deposit (Context No. 105) was not excavated as it was clear that it was the fill of a relatively recent (early twentieth-century) grave cut (Context No. 106). Excavation in this end of the trench ceased to avoid unnecessary disturbance of this grave (Context No. 105/106). Removal of the brown clay loam (Context No. 102) also revealed a discreet deposit of angular stones within a mortar flecked sandy loam (Context No. 103). It is probable that the grave (Context Nos. 105/106) along the northern end of the trench was actually cut through the graveyard soil/topsoil (Context No. 102) rather than predating the build up of this deposit. However, due to the similarities of the soil matrix of both deposits, the grave was not recognised until the fill (Context No. 105) contrasted against the mortar rich demolition deposits (Context No. 103 and 104).



Plate 2: Possible demolition deposit (Context No. 104) and Grave (Context No. 105) looking south.

3.2.6 The mortar flecked sandy loam (Context No. 103) measured 1.65m (north/south) and was on average 0.2m thick. Occasional medium sized angular stones were observed throughout this deposit (Context No. 103) as well as a quantity of roofing slates and disarticulated human bone. The mortar flecked sandy loam (Context No. 103) was removed to reveal a firm stony, mortar rich demolition deposit (Context No. 104). This deposit (Context No. 104) spanned the width of the trench (east/west) and measured 0.65m (north/south) and small to medium angular stones were frequent throughout. This deposit (Context No. 104) varied in thickness from 0.12m-0.35m and produced numerous fragments of roofing slate (a cluster is circled in Figure 3). It is probable that the mortar rich deposit (Context No. 104) relates to a period of decay of the structure where the roofing material and masonry have fallen both inside and outside of the structure.

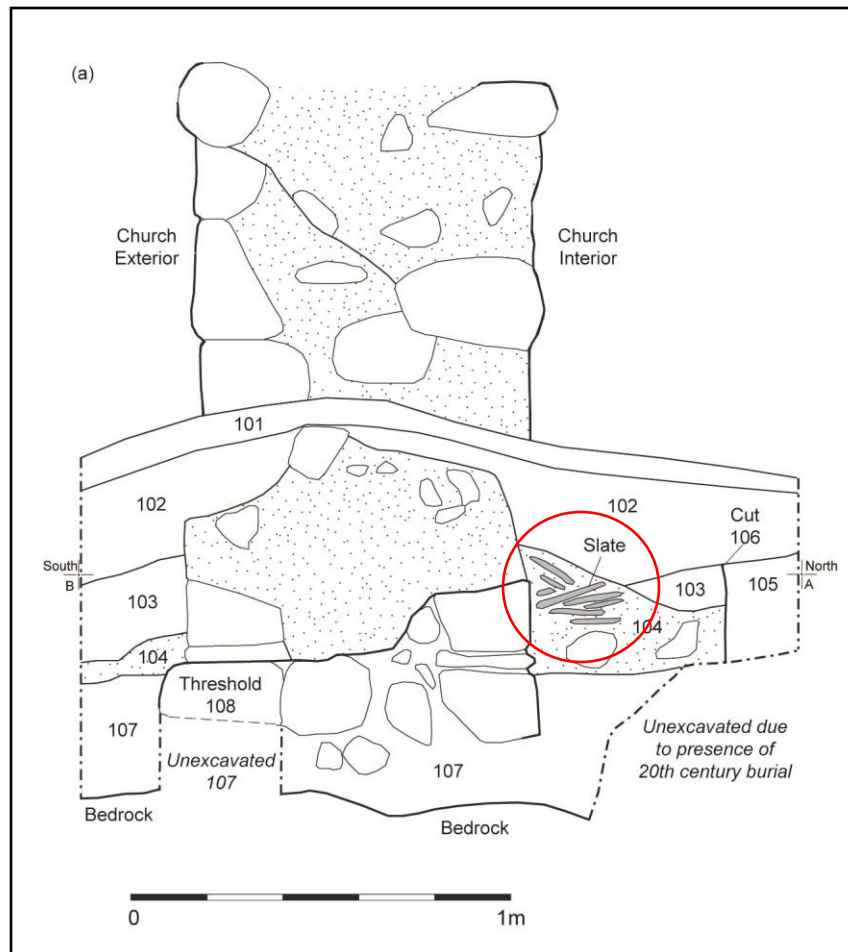


Figure 3: East-facing section of the trench. A cluster of roofing slates within the mortar rich demolition deposit (Context No. 104) is circled.

3.2.7 Removal of the mortar rich demolition deposit (Context No. 104) revealed the *in situ* stone threshold (Context No. 108). It appears that this stone (a single slab of probable sandstone, maximum exposed dimensions of 1.24m east west x 0.29m north/south x 0.13m thick) was laid directly on a relict topsoil (Context No. 107). The door-jambs of the southern wall (Context No. 110) mortared directly onto it (Figure 4; Plates 3 and 4).

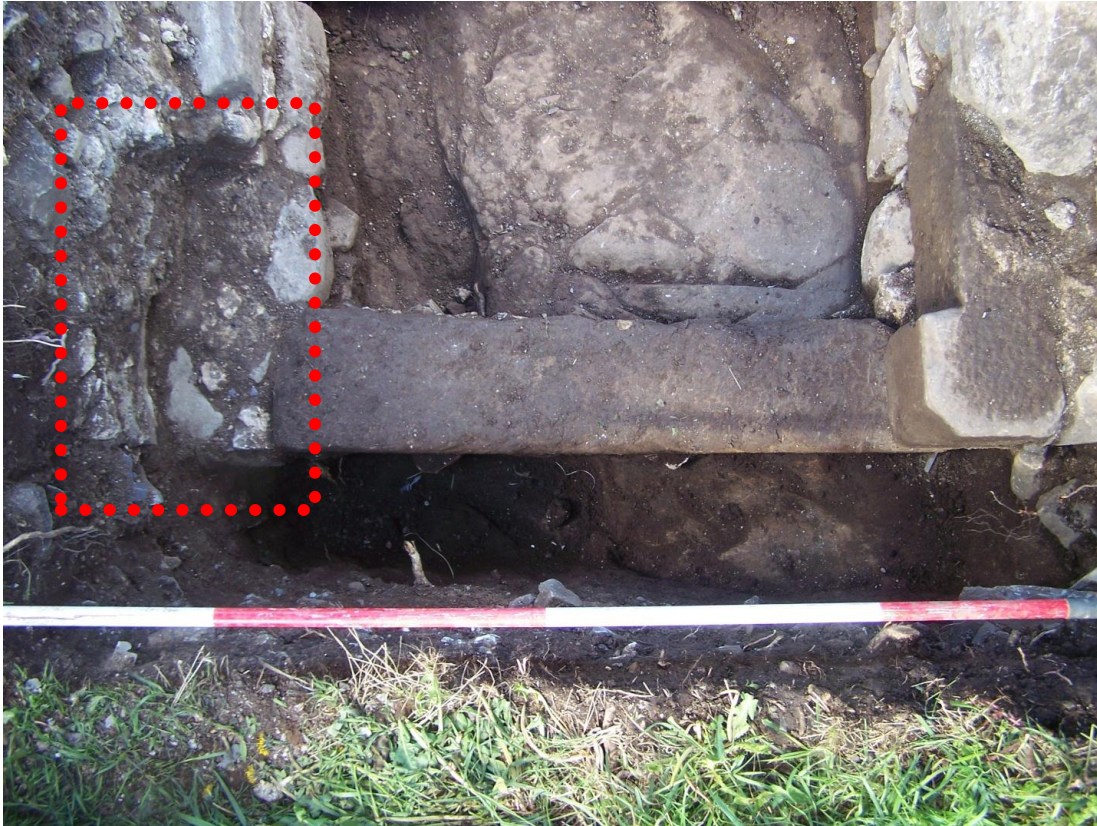


Plate 3: Plan-view of the threshold (Context No. 108) and surviving eastern door jamb (Context No. 110). Highlighted is the recess in the western portion of the southern wall (Context No. 110) showing the cut stone (western door-jamb) has been robbed out from this side of the doorway.

3.2.8 The walls of the southern doorway were observed in both the east-facing section and west-facing section of the trench (Figures 3 and 4). The wall (Context No. 110) comprised medium to large rounded boulders bonded with a creamish buff mortar. A great deal of disturbance has occurred to the southern doorway with collapse due to decay of the lime mortar and root disturbance. This decay of the doorway is particularly evident on the eastern side of the door way (Figure 4) illustrating the extent to which roots and humic topsoil have worked in amongst the superstructure of the wall, ultimately destabilising the fabric of the building.

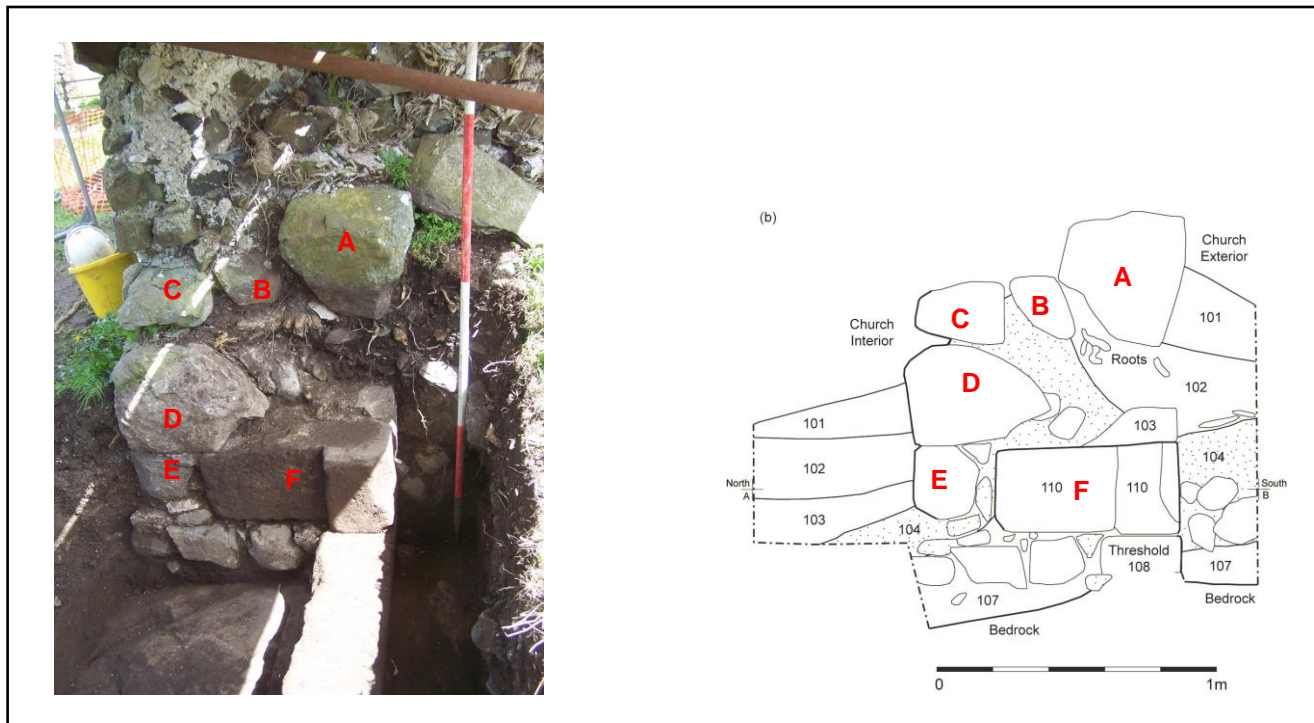


Figure 4: eastern side of the southern doorway (left) with corresponding section drawing (right).

3.2.9 A single dressed stone (labeled 'F' in figure 4; detailed view Plate 4) was observed at the eastern side of the doorway. The corresponding dressed stone from the western side was absent, although the mortar bedding for the stone is *in situ* (Plate 3). It is probable that the entire doorway was originally edged with similar stone to the surviving door-jamb, and they have been robbed out following the abandonment of the church in the late seventeenth century.

3.2.10 The threshold (Context No. 108) sat directly on a firm deposit of greyish brown silty clay (Context No.107). This deposit (Context No.107) was present in both the interior and exterior of the church, and ran underneath the threshold (Context No. 108). The silty clay (Context No. 107) is interpreted as being a relict topsoil as it was present both inside and outside the church, rather than a beaten clay floor which would have been confined to the interior of the church. Numerous small to medium sized angular stones (average size 40mm x 30mm) were observed throughout this deposit (Context No. 107) as well as occasional charcoal flecks and frost-shattered flint pieces. A single sherd of pottery (degraded glaze visible on the exterior surface) was recovered from the silty clay (Context No. 107) which has been provisionally identified as seventeenth century in date (Ruairi O'Baoill *pers comm.*).



Plate 4: Photo of the *in situ* door-jamb (Context No. 110) and threshold (Context No. 108) post excavation, looking south-east.

3.2.11 The silty clay (Context No. 107) directly overlay the natural bedrock (Context No. 109) which consists of basalt. The bedrock (Context No. 109) sloped from east to west, with no archaeological features being observed at this level. The trench was recorded and left open at the request of Andrew Gault (NIEA).

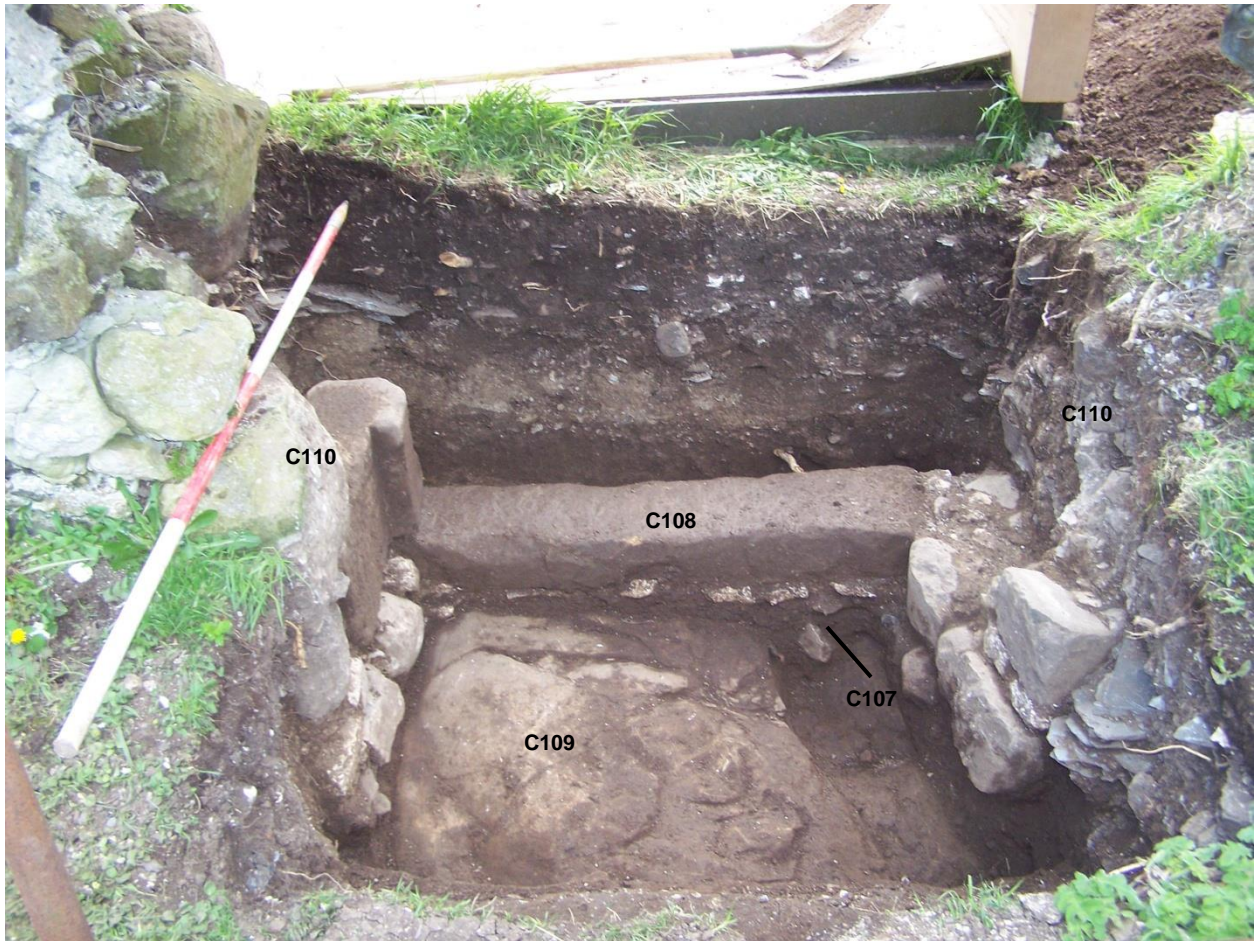


Plate 5: Post-excavation photo of the trench looking south, taken from the interior of the church. Shown are the threshold (Context No. 108), soil deposit/relict topsoil (Context No. 107), natural bedrock (Context No. 109) southern wall and door jamb of church (Context No. 110), looking south.

4 Discussion

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The excavation was successful in that the aim of assessing the presence and survival of architectural features associated with the southern doorway was achieved. Excavation showed that the threshold of the southern doorway survives *in situ*, as well as the lower course of the eastern door-jamb. It is hoped that the surviving features will advise on the restoration/conservation of the southern doorway.

4.2 Re-use of possible medieval stone work

4.2.1 The *in situ* door-jamb at the base of the eastern side of the doorway (Context No. 110) is interesting in that it could have originated from the ruins of the medieval church of Lislainan, reputed to be located on the site of Templecorran. Indeed, references from the nineteenth-century report the discovery of substantial mortared walls when digging the area south of Templecorran for graves (Day *et al.* 1994, 111). This suggests that a structure, possibly the medieval church of Lislainan, is located between the ruins of Templecorran and the modern church to the south (for a fuller discussion see Sloan 2011).

4.2.2 The re-use of medieval stone work is a common occurrence in later religious and secular structures. Carved medieval stone work was noted built into the fabric of the seventeenth-century church at Derryloran, Co. Tyrone (TYR 038:019) (Colm Donnelly *pers comm.*). Cut medieval stone originating from Dundrum Castle, Co. Down was also incorporated into the construction of the seventeenth-century structure Blundell's house (Philip Macdonald *pers comm.*).

4.3 The possible date of the construction of Templecorran

4.3.1 The exact date of the construction of Templecorran is not known, but generally associated with activity in the early seventeenth century. The description of the church as being 'newly erected but not roofed as yet' in 1622 (O'Lavery 1884, 90) suggests that it was in the process of construction at this date. However, the Sites and Monuments Record (ANT 047:010) suggests that the structure might be the reconstructed medieval church of Lislainan.

4.3.2 The excavations at the southern doorway would indicate that Templecorran is a seventeenth-century new build and not the reconstructed medieval church of Lislainan. The sherd of seventeenth century pottery recovered from a deposit (Context No. 107) demonstrably earlier

than the construction of the southern wall of the church provides a *terminus post quem* of the seventeenth century for this portion of the church. This, along, with the gun loops evident in the western wall of the structure which appear to be in the primary phase of construction of the structure would indicate that Templecorran is seventeenth century in date, and not constructed on the foundations of the medieval Lislaynan. However, the presence of the dressed stonework indicates that the walls of the medieval church were utilised for building materials in the seventeenth century, and the documentary evidence suggests the presence of the foundations of a substantial structure (possibly the medieval church) in the graveyard and/or surrounding area of Templecorran.

4.4 *Conclusions*

- 4.4.1 The excavations at Templecorran were a small part of a planned programme of restoration and conservation of the structure. The presentation of the structure to the general public is important due to the importance of Templecorran in the developing story of the Presbyterian Ministry in Ulster. The fact that the threshold and door-jamb survive *in situ* is of great benefit to the conservation of Templecorran as more informed restoration of the southern doorway can now be carried out.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered during the excavation which will require further work to bring the project to completion. It is also intended to prepare an article based on the results of the excavation for inclusion into the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, as well as a short piece for inclusion in the general reader publication *Archaeology Ireland*.

5.2 Artefact assemblage

5.2.1 The small assemblage of artefacts is mostly post-medieval in date, with the exception of the struck flint that represents prehistoric activity in the vicinity. The assemblage includes a quantity of roofing slates, disarticulated human bone, flint and pottery sherds.

5.2.2 A small corpus of pottery sherds (22 sherds) was recovered during the excavation. On the whole these sherds are from modern black glazed earthenware and cream-glazed ceramics. A single sherd was recovered from the relict topsoil layer (Context No. 107) that has been identified as seventeenth-century in date (Ruairi O'Baoill *pers comm.*). As such it is not recommended that the ceramic assemblage requires further specialist work..

5.2.3 The assemblage of roofing slates (33 in total) is interesting in that it provides information on the roof of the seventeenth century church. It is recommended that these are analysed to gain maximum information out of the assemblage.

5.2.4 A small assemblage of bone (87 fragments in total) was recovered during the excavation (mostly from the mixed topsoil/graveyard soil Context No. 102). It is unknown at present the ratio of animal to disarticulated human bone, and it is recommended that the bone is passed onto a specialist for identification and cataloguing. Ultimately it would be intended that the human bone is returned to Templecorran for reburial.

5.2.5 The other components of the artefact assemblage (flint, glass, plastic etc) lend little to the archaeological interpretation of the site and do not merit further specialist attention.

5.3 *Publication*

- 5.3.1 It is recommended that the results of the excavation are presented for inclusion in the general reader text *Archaeology Ireland*. It is also recommended that an article is prepared for inclusion in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*. A short summary will also be prepared for inclusion in the annual *Excavations Bulletin*.

6 **References**

Crothers, N. 2000 Rescue excavations at Templecorran, Ballycarry, County Antrim. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology* 59, 29-46.

Day, A., McWilliams, P. and Dobson, N. (eds.) 1994 *Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland. Vol. 10 Parishes of County Antrim 1830-1, 1833-5, 1839-40. East Antrim Glynn, Inver, Kilroot and Templecorran*. Belfast: The Institute of Irish Studies, the Queen's University Belfast.

Hamlin, A.E. 2008 *The archaeology of early Christianity in the north of Ireland* (edited by T.R. Kerr). BAR British Series 460. Oxford: Archaeopress.

Murray, E. 2013. *Project design for a proposed archaeological excavation at Templecorran Church, Forthill townland, County Antrim*. Unpublished research design prepared on behalf of the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, submitted 29th April 2013

O'Laverty, J. 1884 *An historical account of the diocese of Down and Connor, Vol. 3*. Dublin: James Duffy & Sons.

Reeves, W. (ed.) 1847 *Ecclesiastical antiquities of Down, Connor, and Dromore, consisting of a taxation of those dioceses, compiled in the year MCCCVI* (Facsimile reprint of 1847 edition published by Kessinger Publishing).

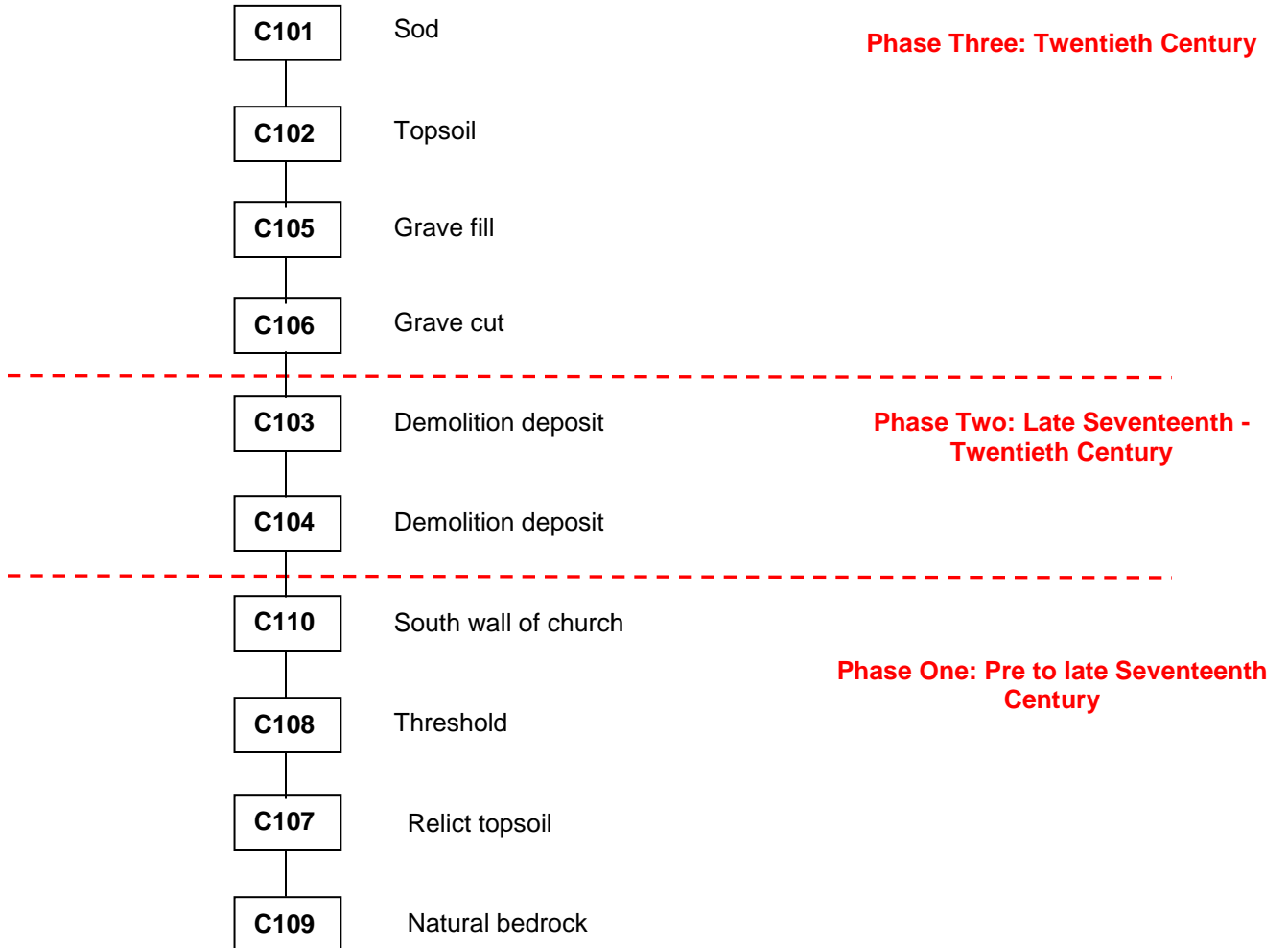
Roulston, W. 2003 *The provision, building and architecture of Anglican churches in the north of Ireland, 1600-1700*. Unpublished PhD thesis, Queen's University, Belfast.

Sloan, B. 2011. *Excavations at a Scheduled Enclosure site (ANT 047:068), Ballycarry, Co. Antrim*. Data Structure Report No. 75 prepared by the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork on behalf of Mr. Tom Topping.

Appendix One: Context Register

Context No.	Description
101	Sod layer
102	Topsoil / mixed graveyard soil
103	Mortar-flecked sandy loam
104	Mortar-rich demolition deposit
105	20 th Century grave fill
106	20 th Century grave cut
107	Relict topsoil
108	<i>In situ</i> threshold
109	Natural bedrock
110	Extant southern wall of the church

Appendix Two: Harris Matrix



Appendix Three: Field Drawing Register

Drawing No.	Type	Scale	Description
1	Plan	1:20	Demolition deposit Cxt. 104 and grave Cxts. 105/106
2	Plan	1:20	Plan following removal of Cxt 104, showing threshold Cxt 108
3	Plan	1:20	Post-ex plan of trench following excavation of relict topsoil Cxt 107
4	Section	1:10	West-facing section of trench
5	Section	1:10	North-facing section of trench
6	Section	1:10	East-facing section of trench

Appendix Four: Finds Register

Context No.	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)
101	Coin (modern)	1	6.6
101	Flint	4	22.5
101	Glass	18	148.2
101	Bone	12	85.5
101	Plastic	5	8.0
101	Pottery	3	8.7
102	Animal bone	6	37.2
102	Glass	6	52.5
102	Human bone	25	371.7
102	Metal fragments	1	300.9
102	Pottery	16	134.2
102	Roof slate	4	1324.0
102	Wood (stake)	1	482.4
103	Flint	7	51.3
103	Human bone	21	104.8
103	Metal fragments	4	62.6
103	Pottery	2	52.1
103	Roof slate	13	5846.0
104	Flint	3	57.8
104	Human bone	7	26.2
104	Roof slate	15	7080.0
104	Shell	1	4.0
105	Bone	16	125.5
105	Roof slate	1	157.4
105	Shell	1	7.4

107	Flint	4	82.1
107	Metal fragments	3	32.4
107	Slag	1	46.0
107	Pottery	1	-

Appendix Five: Photographic register

DSCN No.	Description
5007	Pre-ex looking south
5008	Pre-ex looking south-west
5009	Pre-ex looking north-east
5010	Scaffolding looking east
5011	Scaffolding looking north-east
5012	Scaffolding looking south
5013	Scaffolding looking south-west
5014	Working shot
5015	Trench following removal of Cxt. 101 looking south
5016	Trench following removal of Cxt. 101 looking south
5017	Trench following removal of Cxt. 101 looking south-west
5018	Trench following removal of Cxt. 101 looking south-west
5019	Working shot
5020	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5021	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5022	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5023	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5024	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5025	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5026	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5027	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south-west
5028	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5029	Demolition deposit Cxt.104 looking south
5030	Working shot
5031	Grave Cxt. 105/106 looking west

5032	Grave Cxt. 105/106 looking west
5033	Threshold Cxt.108 looking south
5034	Threshold Cxt.108 looking south
5035	Threshold Cxt.108 looking west
5036	Threshold Cxt.108 looking west
5037	Threshold Cxt.108 looking west
5038	Threshold Cxt.108 looking west
5039	Mid-ex of door jamb Cxt. 110 looking east
5040	Mid-ex of door jamb Cxt. 110 looking east
5041	Mid-ex of Cxt.107 looking south
5042	West facing section
5043	East facing section
5044	East facing section
5045	East facing section
5046	Detail of door jamb Cxt.110 looking east
5047	Detail of door jamb Cxt.110 looking east
5048	Eastern side of doorway Cxt.110 looking south-east
5049	Eastern side of doorway Cxt.110 looking south-east
5050	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5051	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5052	East facing section
5053	East facing section
5054	East facing section
5055	East facing section
5056	East facing section
5057	East facing section
5058	East facing section
5059	East facing section

5060	Missing door jamb looking west
5061	Missing door jamb looking west
5062	Missing door jamb looking west
5063	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5064	Bedrock Cxt.109 looking south
5065	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-west
5066	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-west
5067	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-east
5068	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-east
5069	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-east
5070	Plan view of trench, post-ex
5071	Plan view of trench, post-ex
5072	Plan view of trench, post-ex
5073	Western side of Cxt.110
5074	Western side of Cxt.110
5075	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5076	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5077	Western side of Cxt.110
5078	Missing door jamb looking west
5079	Missing door jamb looking west
5080	<i>In situ</i> door jamb looking east
5081	Threshold Cxt.108 looking west
5082	Threshold Cxt.108 looking west
5083	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5084	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-west
5085	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-west
5086	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5087	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-east

5088	Post-ex shot of trench looking south-east
5089	Post-ex shot of trench looking south
5090	Scaffolding and signage looking south-west
5091	Scaffolding and signage looking south
5092	Templecorran looking south-east