



Date Structure Report No. 120

## Reconnaissance excavation of the lawn to the front of Lumen Christi College, Derry~Londonderry

*On behalf of*





*Reconnaissance excavation of the lawn to the front of Lumen Christi College,  
Derry~Londonderry*

IGR: C42844 16048

AE/17/60E

Brian Sloan

With a contribution by Ruairi O'Baoill

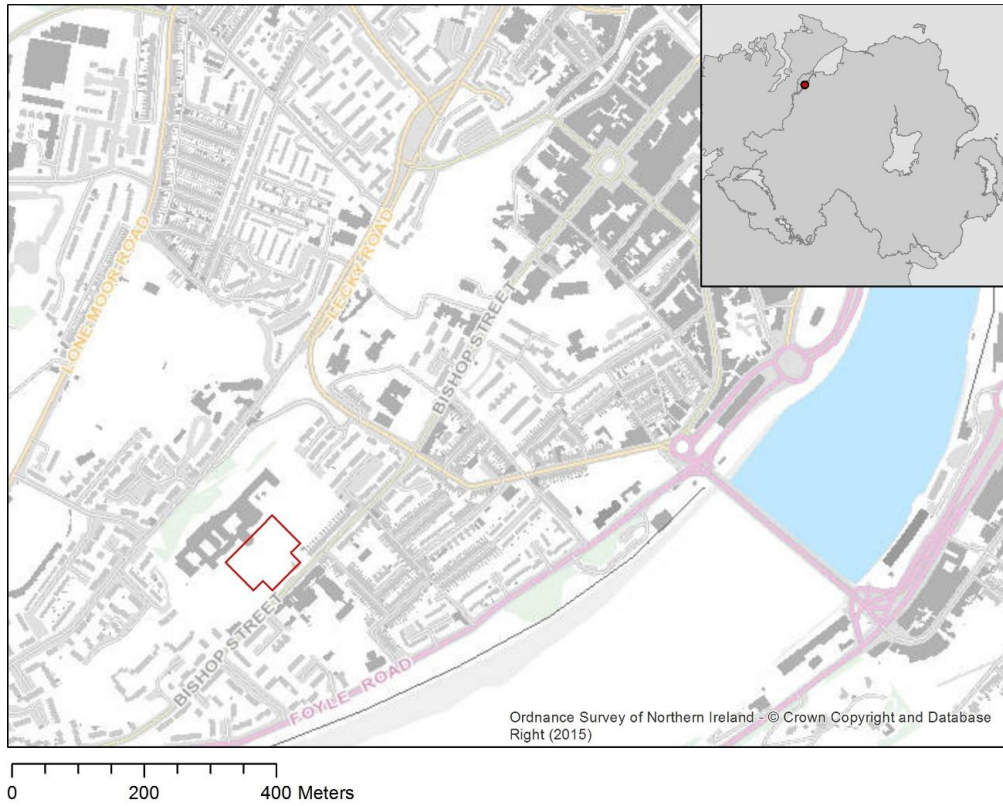
## **Summary**

A single trench was excavated on the lawn to the front of Lumen Christi College, Derry~Londonderry in May 2017. The purpose of this trench was to test geophysical anomalies identified during a survey undertaken of the area in January 2017 (McDermott 2017). A roughly circular high resistance anomaly was selected for further archaeological investigation. The excavation showed this anomaly to be geological in nature and of no archaeological significance. The trench did, however, reveal evidence for seventeenth-century archaeological features present in this area, although these has been severely truncated. This truncation likely occurred during the late eighteenth-century when the area was utilised as a summer palace (casino) and formal garden by Bishop Frederick Hervey (1730-1803).

## **Introduction**

The Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF) was commissioned by The Siege Museum in Derry to carry out an investigation into the lawn to the front of Lumen Christi College, Bishops Street Derry (Figure 1), with the work funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). This investigation was undertaken in two phases, the first being a geophysical survey undertaken by CAF in January and February 2017 (McDermott 2017). Following the identification of anomalies of archaeological potential, a small evaluative excavation was requested to assess the presence and survival of archaeological features and the suitability of the site for a further community-led investigation proposed to take place later in 2017.

Prior to the excavation, the investigation area existed as a neatly manicured lawn. Excavation was carried out entirely by hand, with the site reinstated following the recording of encountered archaeological features. The excavation area is bounded on all sides by a tarmacked driveway with mature trees present in the immediate vicinity of the trench. The lawn slopes gently from the north to the south.



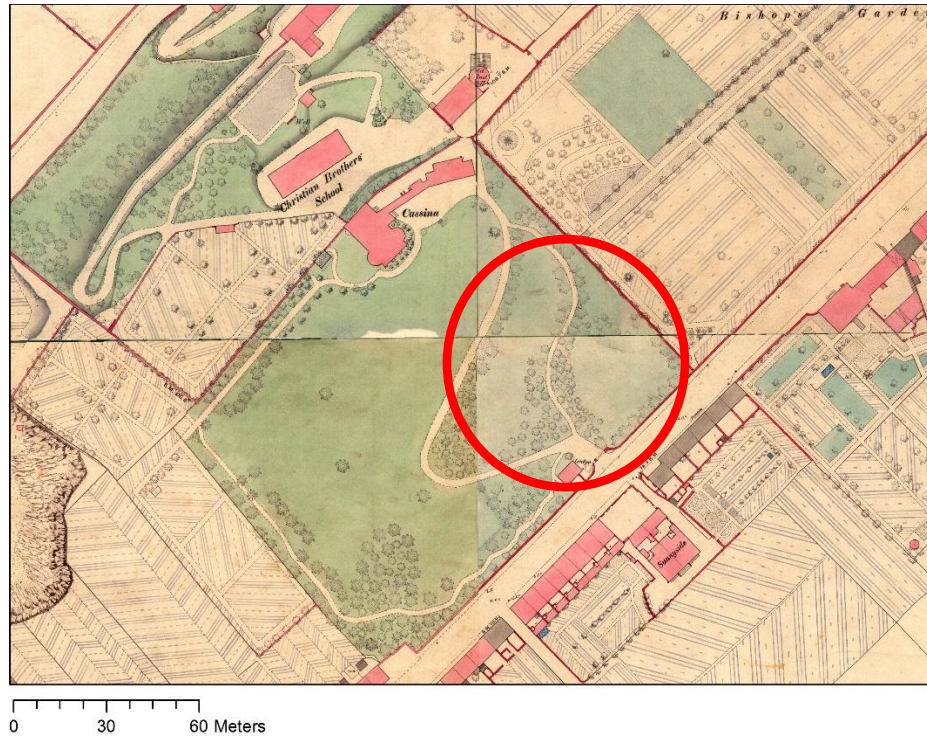
**Figure 1: General views of the investigation area with the lawn highlighted in red in both images (McDermot 2017).**

### Historical background

The area lies to the immediate south-east of Lumen Christi College in Derry~Londonderry. A 17<sup>th</sup>-century windmill (LDY 014:500) is located c. 30m to the north of the investigation area. The windmill is associated with the late seventeenth-century Siege of Derry of 1689 when it was recorded as being used as a Jacobite arsenal. It is believed that at least two skirmishes occurred in the vicinity of the investigation area during the early stages of the siege, when Jacobite forces made an unsuccessful attack on the outlying Williamite siege defences. Following this encounter, the Jacobite forces established defences corresponding to the Williamite ravelin which was built adjacent to Bishop's Gate (Logue & O'Neill 2007). There is a suggestion that the Jacobite forces may have refortified 'old ditches' located between the windmill and Derry's Walls (Doherty 2008, 105), raising the potential presence of archaeological remains that pre-date the late seventeenth century.

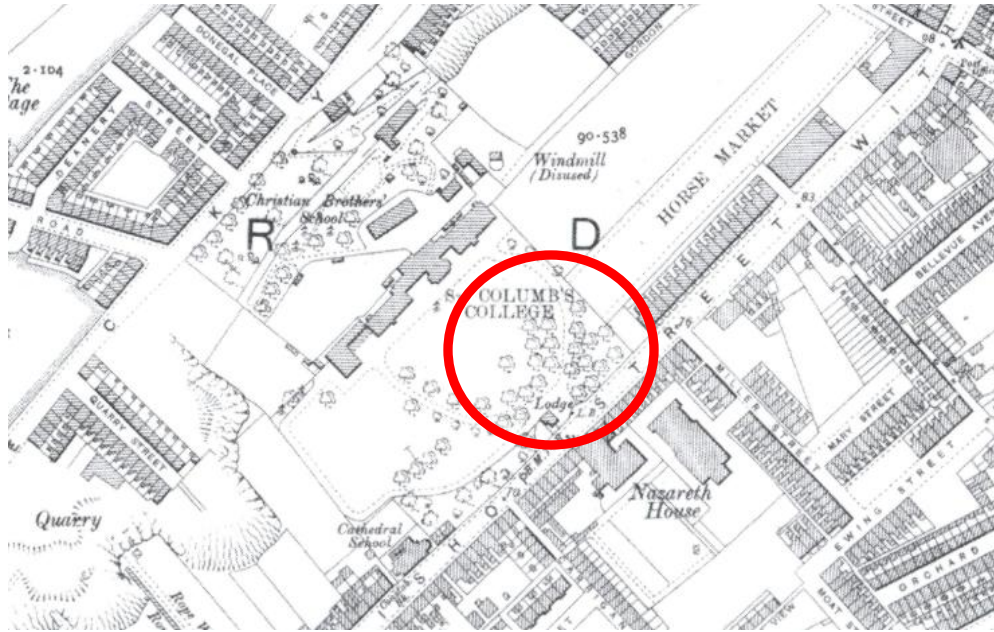


Figure 2: Investigation area (circled in red) as depicted on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS 6-inch map (1834).



**Figure 3: Investigation area (circled in red) as depicted on the OS map dating to 1873 (image provided by Dr Siobhan McDermott CAF).**

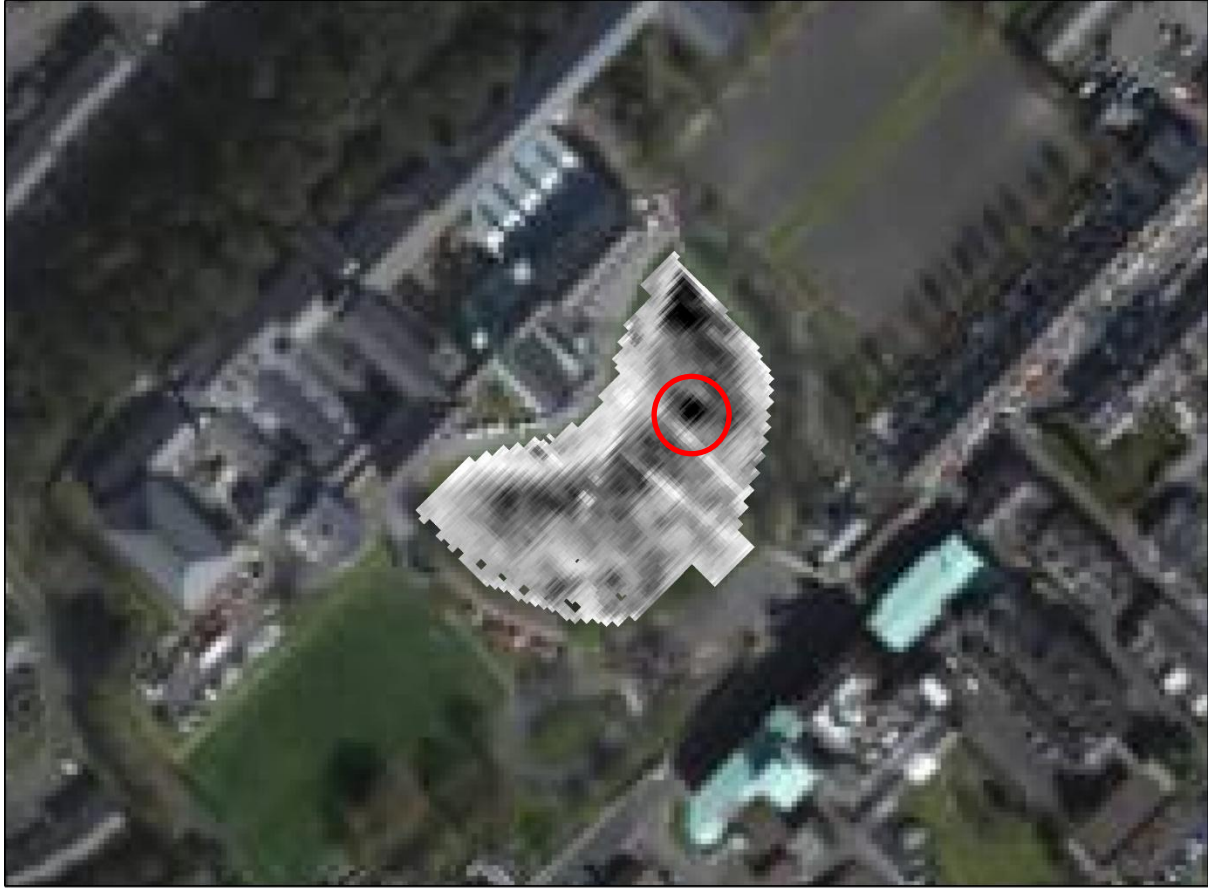
The various Ordnance Survey maps (Figures 2, 3 and 4) show that the investigation area has remained relatively undeveloped during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The early maps (Figures 2 and 3) show the presence of the 'cassina' or casino (a summer palace) constructed here in 1784 by Bishop Frederick Hervey (1730-1803) as well as the attached formal Bishop's Gardens. It is curious that the windmill (LDY 014:500) is not depicted in the earlier editions but the attached ice house(s) is. Substantive urban development is shown by the time of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition map (1905 – Figure 4) although the investigation area remains undeveloped apart from the development of St. Columb's College (now Lumen Christi College) and the formalisation of the lawn to the front of this structure.



**Figure 4: Investigation area (circled in red) as depicted on the 3rd edition OS 6-inch map (1905).**

### **Geophysical survey**

The area to the front of Lumen Christi College, comprising approximately 0.5ha, was investigated using electrical resistance in late January and early February 2017. The results of the geophysical investigation are reported in detail elsewhere (McDermott 2017) but the work identified a number of anomalies that were deemed worthy of further archaeological investigation (McDermot 2017; Figure 5). Of particular interest was a high resistance sub-circular feature (circled red on Figure 5) towards the north of the investigation area. A pair of straight low resistance linear features running in a north-west/south-east alignment are interpreted as being associated with draining and/or the relatively modern landscaping of the site; these features were not therefore investigated by the subsequent archaeological excavation.



0 30 60 Meters

**Figure 5: Greyscale plot of processed data gathered with 0.5m probe spacing (image provided by Dr Siobhan McDermot CAF). The anomaly that was archaeological investigated is circled in red.**

### **Excavation Methodology**

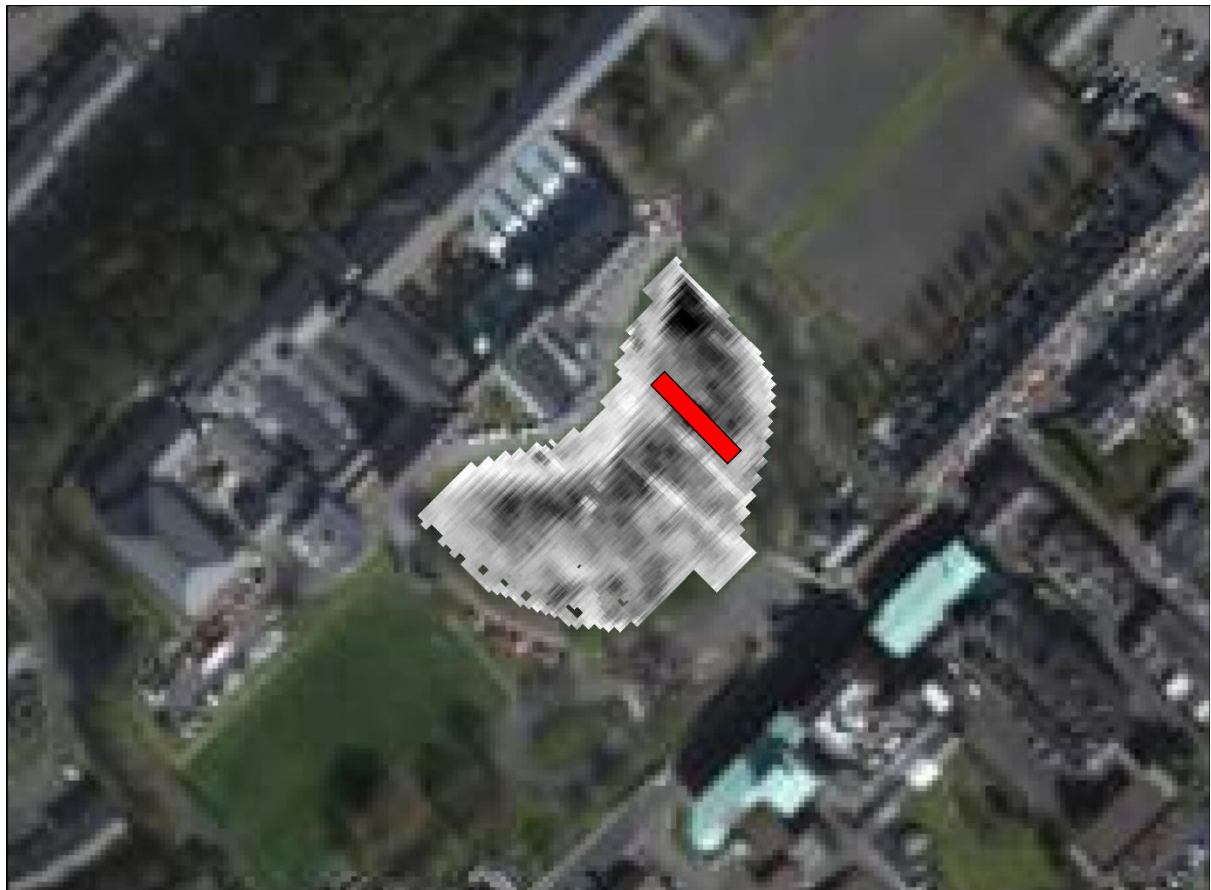
The trench initially measured 12m in length although this was extended to 18m following discussions with Lumen Christi College and the HED Inspector, Ronan McHugh. This was to facilitate the community aspect of the investigation with the school's Year 9 pupils participating in the excavation. The corners of the trench were established using a Lecia CS15 GNSS rover to survey grade accuracy (+/- 3cm).

The site context record was created using the standard context recording method. Individual features were planned (Scale 1:20 or 1:10 where appropriate) and photographed. Subsoil cutting features were investigated, in the first instance, by excavating a box-section through the feature to recover information about its profile and fills. In addition to the photography and illustration, the principal site records will consist of context sheets augmented by a site diary. No deposits



suitable for sampling were encountered during the investigation. The perimeter of the site was fenced off with high-visibility fencing and signage warning of an open excavation was displayed. The site was reinstated on completion of the excavation.

It is recommended that the Harris Matrix for the stratigraphic sequence encountered in the trench (Appendix 2) is consulted when reading the account of the excavation below.



0 30 60 Meters

**Figure 6: Location of the trench (shaded red) to investigate the geophysical anomaly (circled red in Figure 5).**

#### **Account of the excavation**

The sod (Context No. 101) in the trench was an average 0.13m thick and consisted of active grass roots within a light to mid brown clay loam. Occasional inclusions of small angular and sub-rounded stones were noted throughout the sod. Removal of the sod (Context No. 101) revealed the topsoil (Context No. 102) which extended across the trench.

The topsoil (Context No. 102) consisted of a firm to friable mid brown clay loam. Frequent inclusions of small to medium angular stones (ranging in length between 40mm – 80mm) were noted throughout this deposit which was on average 0.1m thick. The topsoil (Context No. 102) produced a varied artefact assemblage including numerous fragments of glazed ceramics (ranging in date from the fifteenth – nineteenth century), bottle and window glass, clay pipe fragments and flint. Removal of the topsoil (Context No. 102) revealed on the most part undisturbed natural subsoil (Context No. 103). However, in the south-eastern end of the trench a layer of large angular rocks (Context No. 105) was encountered (Plate 1). This was to prove to be the upper fill of a shallow subsoil cut feature (Context No.106).

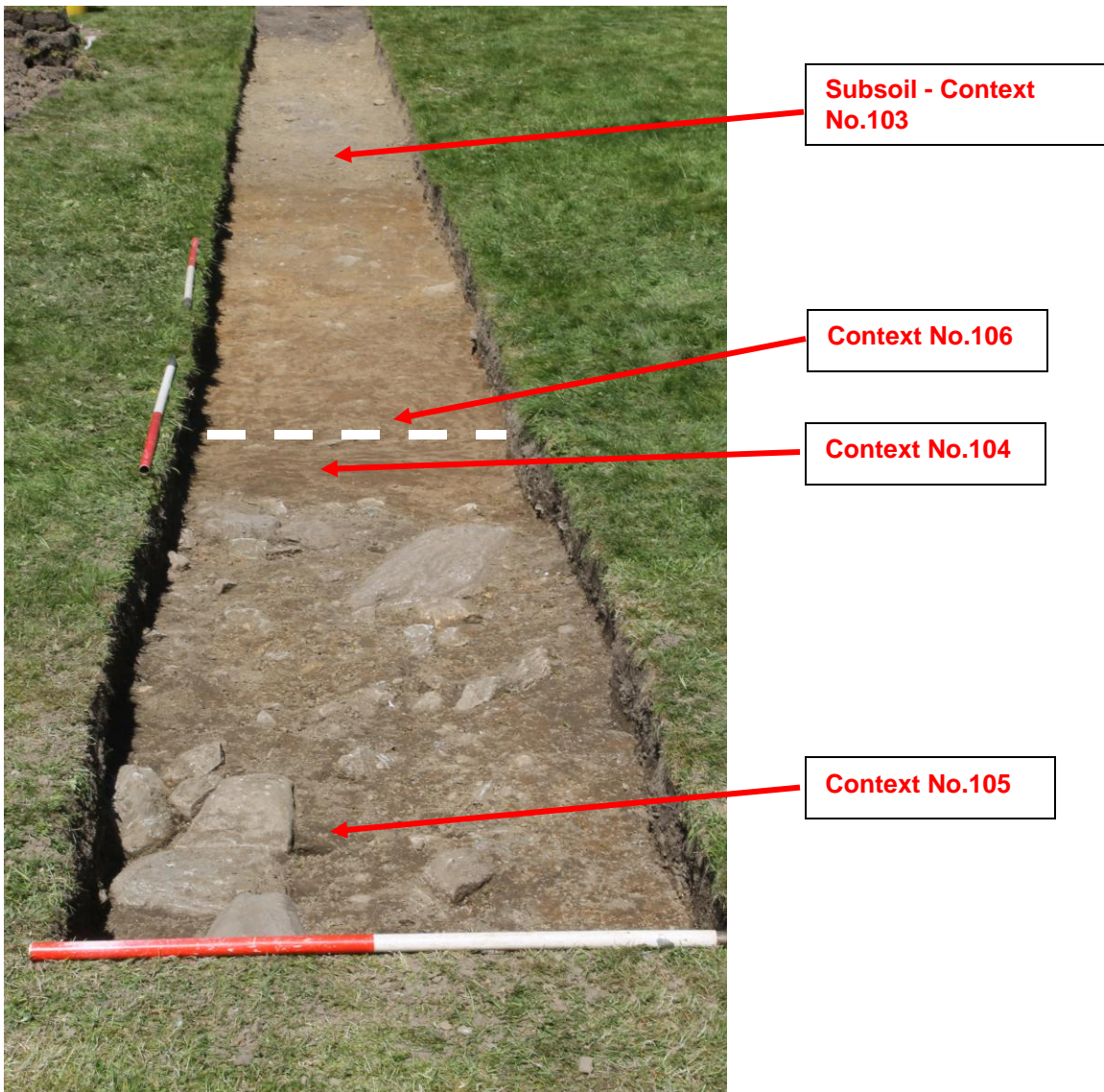
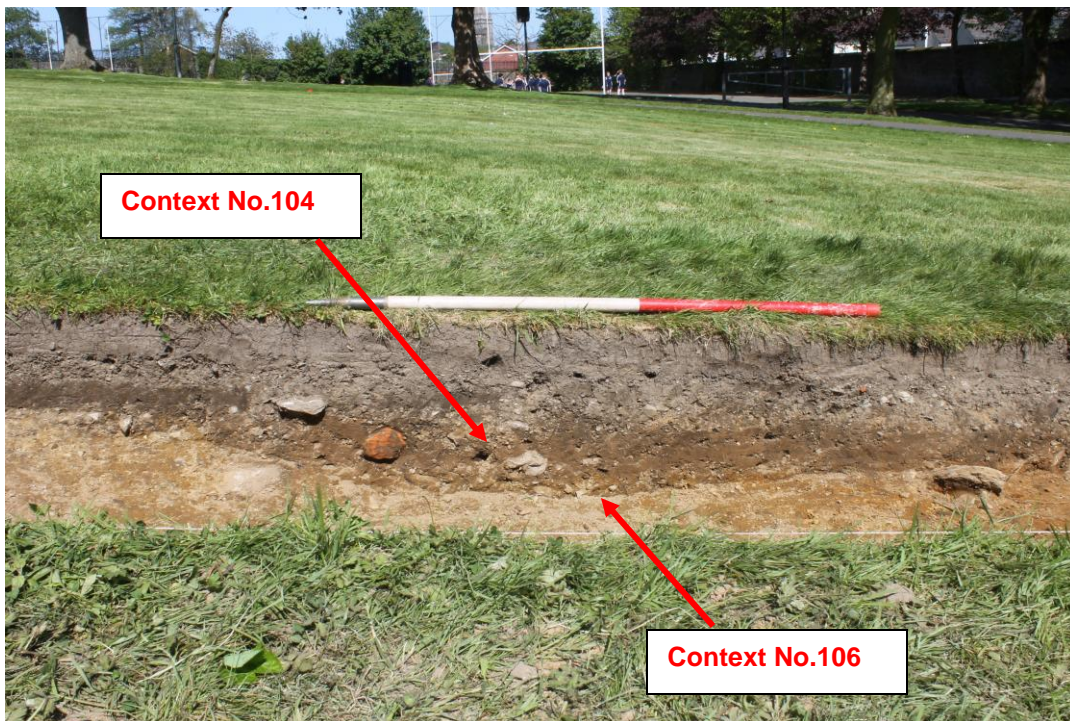


Plate 1: Annotated photograph of the trench showing the *in situ* seventeenth century deposits (Context Nos. 104 and 105) looking north-west.

The layer of large angular rocks (Context No. 105) was the stratigraphically latest fill of the shallow cut feature (Context No. 106) and overlay a basal deposit of light to mid grey silty clay (Context No. 104). The stony deposit (Context No.105) consisted of medium to large angular and sub-angular rocks (maximum length 0.93m) with in a matrix of dark greyish brown sandy loam. The deposit (Context No. 105) measured 2.8m (north-west/south-east) and was a maximum of 0.18m thick. The stony deposit (Context No. 105) was concentrated along the north-facing section and was not represented on the south-facing section (see Figures 4-6).

Directly beneath the stone and loam deposit (Context No. 105), a deposit of light to mid grey silty clay (Context No. 104) was encountered. This deposit measured approximately 5.1m (north-west/south-east) and varied in thickness from 0.05m to a maximum of 0.3m in the southern corner of the trench. The silty clay (Context No. 104) exhibited frequent inclusions of small angular stones (maximum length 40mm) as well as occasional charcoal flecking. A moderate artefact assemblage was recovered from this lower fill of the feature including two small sherds of glazed ceramics, a variety of clay pipe stems and a single clay pipe bowl. Initial analysis of these artefacts suggest that this feature dates to the later part of the seventeenth-century (see Appendix 4).



**Plate 2: South-west facing section of the trench showing the lowermost fill of the cut feature (Context No. 106)**

The silty clay (Context No. 104) was the lowermost fill of a shallow cut feature (Context No. 106). The cut of this feature (Context No. 106) measured approximately 5.2m (north-west/south-east) and the depth varied with the feature getting deeper towards the south and south-eastern end of the trench. The feature (Context No. 106) had a gently sloping side (at the north-western end) with a very uneven base. The interpretation of what this feature represents (Context No. 106) is difficult to ascertain, not least for the restricted size of the trench meaning that the full extent of the feature was not investigated, but also for the presence of a horizontal discontinuity (Context No. 107) that has truncated the feature and its filling deposits (Context Nos. 104 – 106). It is likely that this discontinuity (Context No. 107) occurred during the late eighteenth century when the area was landscaped for use as Bishop Hervey's casino and formal gardens.

The shallow feature in the south-eastern end of the trench (Context No. 106) was the only archaeologically significant feature encountered during the investigation. The feature was cut into the natural subsoil (Context No. 103) which consisted on the whole of a yellowish orange compact stony clay. The natural subsoil (Context No. 103) changed slightly towards the south-eastern end of the trench where it was observed as being slightly softer and of a sandier consistency (Plate 3). However, a sondage excavated to a depth of 0.95m proved this to be a natural band in the subsoil and not of an archaeological nature or significance. Following the recording of the feature and sections, the trench was manually backfilled and the site reinstated



**Plate 3: Post-excavation shot of the trench looking north. Note the change in the nature of the subsoil in the foreground of the picture.**

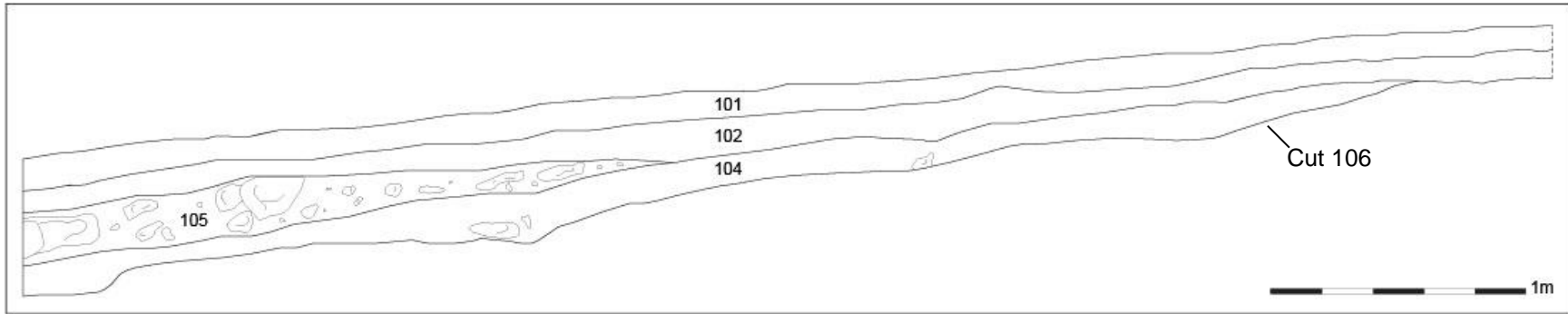


Figure 4: South-western six-metre end portion of the north-east facing section

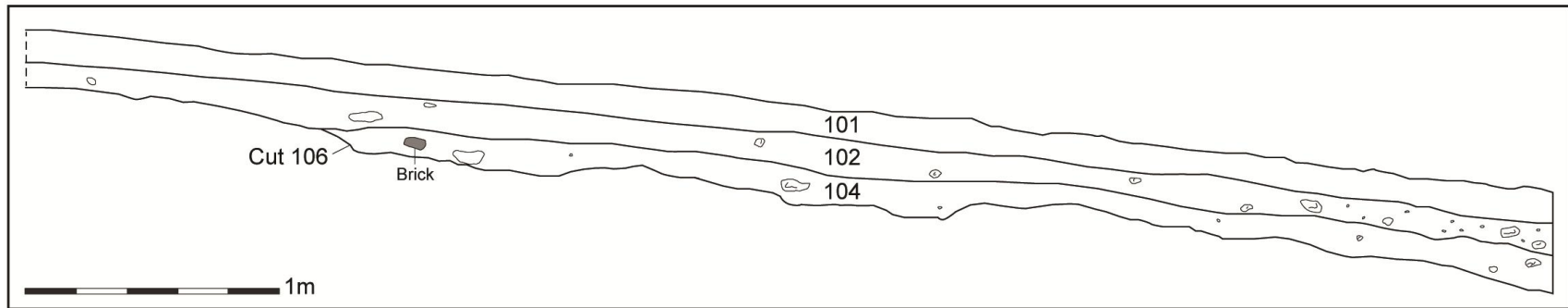


Figure 5: South-western six-metre end portion of the south-west facing section

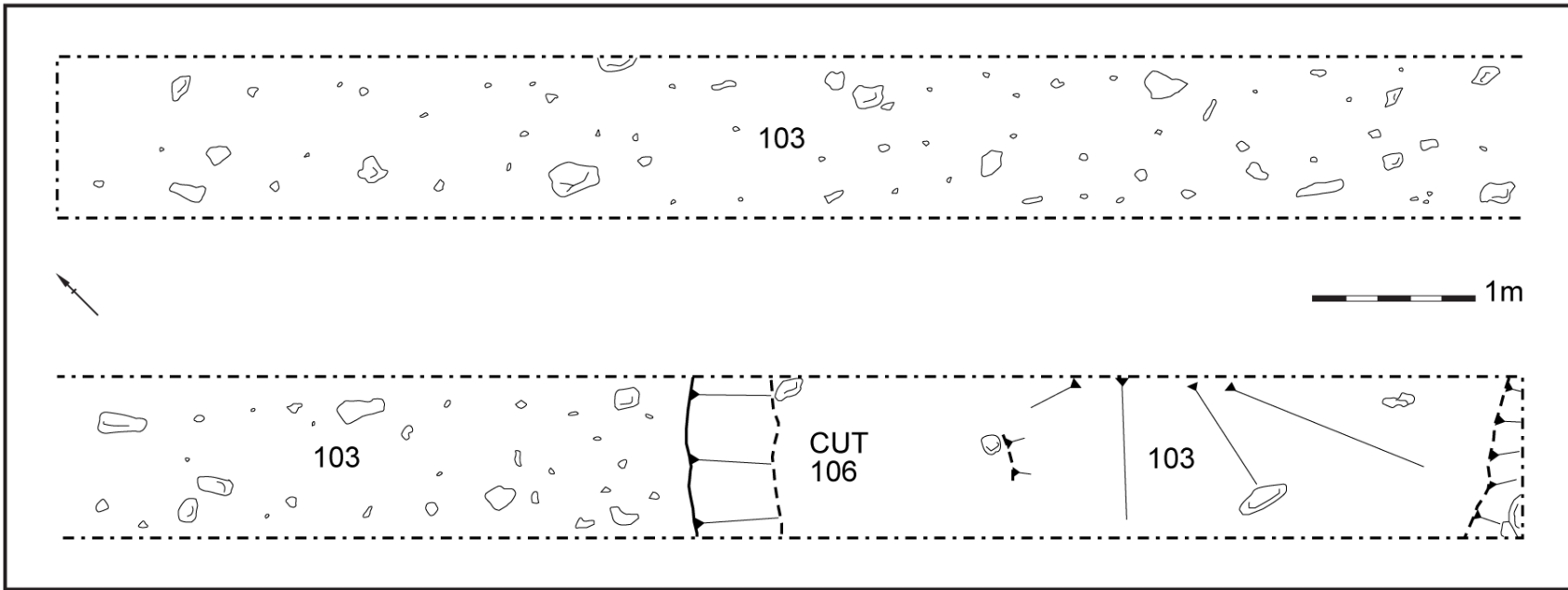


Figure 6: Post-excavation plan of the trench.

### **Artefact assemblage**

A reasonably small but varied artefact assemblage was recovered during the excavation (see Appendix 3 for Finds Register). The finds have been studied by Ruairi O’Baill (CAF) for analysis and his report is included as Appendix 4 in the current document. A short synopsis of the main findings from this artefact analysis is included below.

The artefact assemblage is dominated by ceramic sherds (117 in total). Of these, the majority date to between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries with a single sherd being identified as ‘Scottish Grey Ware’ which is most likely fourteenth or fifteenth century in date. The ceramics assemblage spans the recent history of the site; with potentially the siege, Bishop’s gardens and early history of the school all represented. A number of clay pipe fragments (32 in total) were recovered, primarily from topsoil deposits, although a number were stratified and recovered from Context No. 104. The majority of these represent fragments of the pipe stem and are relatively undiagnostic. However, two bowls were recovered (one from topsoil [Context No. 102] and one from the basal fill of the shallow feature [Context No. 104]) and both are dated, based on size and morphology, to the late seventeenth century.

The rest of the artefact assemblage is relatively undiagnostic, comprising fragments of glass (both bottle and window), corroded iron objects and brick fragments. A single flint flake was recovered from the topsoil (Context No. 102). This is a primary flake (intact dorsal cortex) which, taken with the lack of other prehistoric material, remains undiagnostic.

### **Discussion**

The excavation is deemed to have been a success on a number of fronts: first, the geophysical anomaly was archaeologically investigated and found to reflect a variation in the natural geology, second, archaeologically significant deposits were encountered (albeit truncated by later activity), and third both local Primary and Secondary level pupils were engaged and participated in the investigation.

The excavation revealed the presence of archaeological features dating to the seventeenth-century. It is evident, however, that the area has been severely truncated, probably due to the landscaping activities that transformed the area in the eighteenth century for use as a casino and formalised gardens. Given the nature of the site, and the pivotal role it played during the siege, it is likely that other features relating to the siege are present under the lawn to the front of Lumen Christi. However, it is unclear as to the extent of the truncation, or whether the survival of Context No. 106 is unique to the site, with other features of archaeological significance possibly being obliterated during the eighteenth century.

The interpretation of the excavated feature (Context No. 106) is somewhat problematic. Despite the obvious truncation of the site during the eighteenth century (represented by the horizontal discontinuity Context No. 107) the feature is still incredibly shallow in relation to the modern ground surface. If the feature was to be interpreted as the remains of some sort of defence relating to the siege, then the archaeological results would indicate that a significant and major episode of landscaping had been undertaken in this area during the late eighteenth century when Bishop Hervey had his summer palace constructed.

The potential archaeological anomalies identified during the geophysical survey undertaken in January (McDermott 2017) were proven by excavation to be geological in nature. As such, the geophysical results must be deemed as lending little to any future archaeological programme considered for the lawn to the front of the college. Any further excavation would therefore effectively have to be carried out 'blind' with no guarantee of encountering any archaeologically significant features or deposits. Taking this into consideration, the lawn at Lumen Christi College may not prove suitable for a further community-led component of fieldwork, and it is recommended that other possibilities are investigated by the Siege Museum.

### **Site Archive**

The site archive consisting of artefacts, field drawings and photographs are currently housed at the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, School of Natural and Built Environment, Queen's University Belfast. Copies of this report have been lodged with HED:DfC, The Siege Museum in Derry, and Lumen Christi College.

### **Acknowledgements**

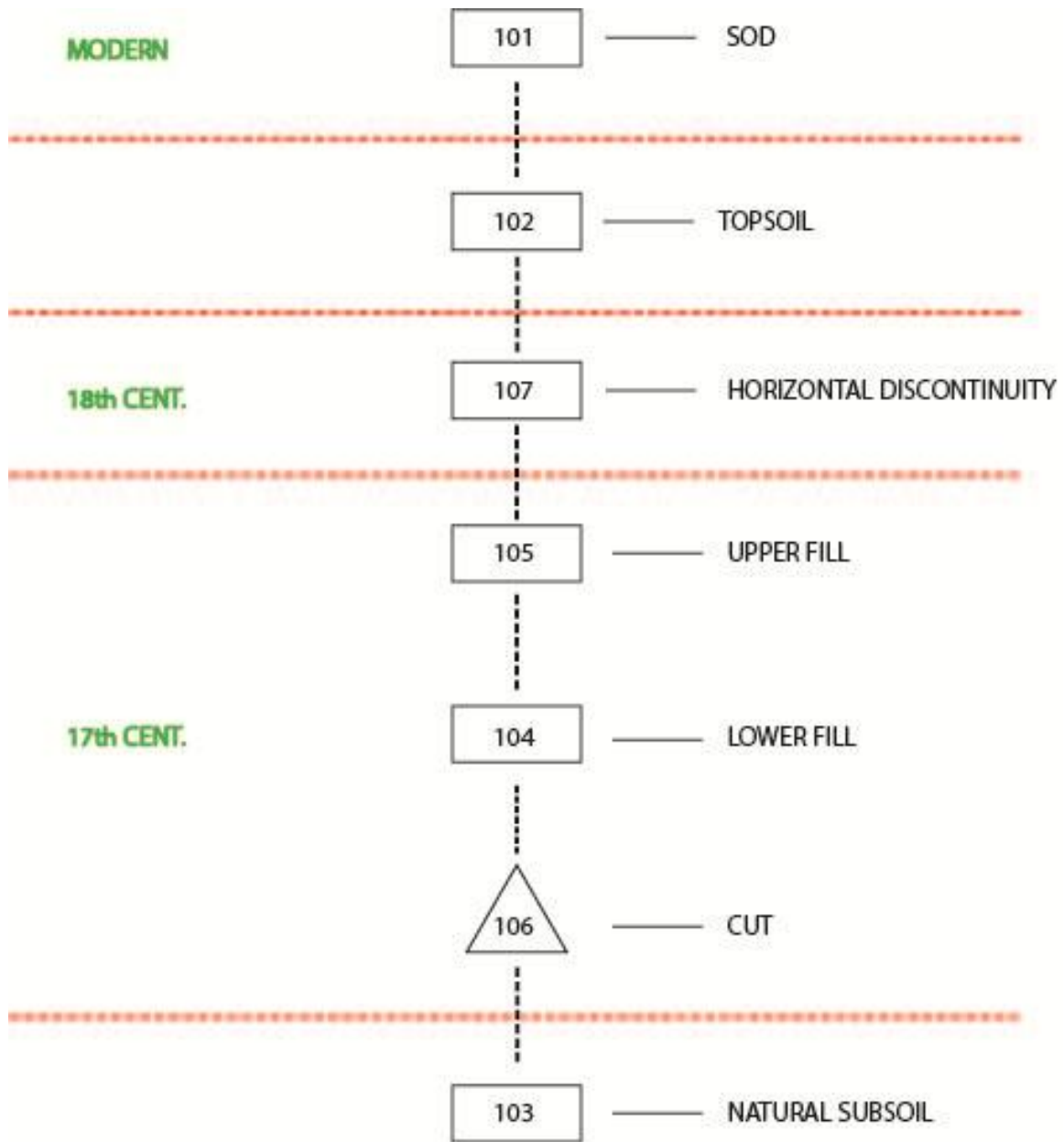
The excavation was directed by Brian Sloan with the assistance of Ruairi O'Baoill and Matthew Addams (all CAF). Thanks are due to the following people for their help and enthusiasm throughout the project: Stephen Doherty and the staff and students of Lumen Christi College (in particular the Year 9 students who participated in the excavation); Nazareth House Primary School (P6 class); Keith Beattie (The Siege Museum); Dr. Colm Donnelly (CAF), and Ronan McHugh (HED:DfC). In addition, Ivor Doherty, Roy Hamilton, Ian Bartlett and John Bryson are to be thanked for their interest during the excavation. The illustrations were completed by Ruth Logue (CAF). Particular thanks are due to the Heritage Lottery Fund for providing funding to the Siege Museum in order to support this archaeological investigation.



## Appendix 1 – Context Register

<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
101	Sod
102	Topsoil
103	Natural
104	Lower fill of shallow feature
105	Upper fill of shallow feature
106	Cut of feature
107	Horizontal discontinuity

Appendix 2 – Harris Matrix



### Appendix 3 – Finds Register

#### *Corroded Metal:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
102	4	2 nails and 2 lumps of iron
102	1	Copper alloy
<b>Total No. of Pieces:</b>	<b>5</b>	

#### *Clay Tobacco Pipes:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
104	15	Includes 1 mostly intact, recognisable pipe bowl, 14 stem pieces, white in colouration
102	14	Stem pieces, white in colouration, one piece possibly from pipe bowl
101	3	Includes 1 mostly intact, recognisable pipe bowl, 2 stem pieces, white in colouration
<b>Total No. of Pieces:</b>	<b>32</b>	

#### *Glass:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
101	14	Includes 9 pieces of shattered bottle glass (3 clear, 2 green, 4 dark green colouration), 5 pieces of window glass (clear in colouration)
102	86	Includes 24 pieces of shattered bottle glass (dark green in colouration), 53 pieces of shattered window glass (varying from clear to green in colouration), 9 pieces of vessel glass, some curved, 1 with raised markings
<b>Total No. of Pieces:</b>	<b>100</b>	

#### *Ceramics:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
101	1	Partial teapot stem
101	1	Partial vase base
101	5	Black glazed earthen ware, 2 glazed on 1

side, 3 on both sides

101	6	Earthen ware, 2 unglazed, 2 glazed on 1 side, 2 glazed on both sides
101	6	Patterned earthen ware, glazed both sides
104	3	2 orange clay glazed on one side, 1 white colouration, glazed on both sides
102	1	Ceramic stopper
102	1	Bellarmine jug fragment, glazed on one side
102	11	2 glazed on one side, the rest glazed both sides
102	17	Patterned earthen ware, 2 glazed on one side, the rest on both sides
102	14	Black glazed earthen ware, one glazed on both sides, the rest on 1 side
102	15	Unglazed earthen ware
102	43	Cream earthen ware, 7 glazed on 1 side, the rest on both sides

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**Total No. of Pieces: 124**

*Brick:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
101	4	3 bright orange in colouration, 4 <sup>th</sup> one darker in tone
104	1	Large, mostly intact

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**Total No. of Pieces: 5**

*Flint:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
102	1	Small squat flake

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**Total No. of Pieces: 1**

*Bone:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
102	1	Small thin flake
<b>Total No. of Pieces:</b>	<b>1</b>	

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*Slate:*

<b>Context No. (C.)</b>	<b>No. of Pieces</b>	<b>Comments</b>
102	1	Small thin flake with two lines incised parallel on either side of the flake
<b>Total No. of Pieces:</b>	<b>1</b>	

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## Appendix 4 – Artefact analysis (Ruairi O’Baill)

### The Ceramics Assemblage

#### *Introduction*

A total of 117 fragments of assorted ceramics were recovered during the Lumen Christi College excavation (Table 1). The assemblage came from the three main contexts investigated. Two of these were mixed topsoil horizons (C.101 and C.102), the third (C.104) the fill of a truncated feature cut into the subsoil in the south of the trench and of probable late 17th century date.

Context Number	Pottery type	Number of fragments
101	<p>4 body sherds of Black Glazed earthenware.</p> <p>1 rim sherd of Pearlware (late 18th-late 19th centuries).</p> <p>5 sherds Slipware, including a fragment of a scroll handle from a tankard. ?Staffordshire.</p> <p>1 badly abraded form of locally produced Brown glazed earthenware.</p> <p>4 fragments of Creamware.</p> <p>1 small fragment of a Stoneware vessel base.</p> <p>1 fragment of Salt-glazed stoneware (mid-18th century) – Staffordshire?</p> <p>1 fragment of porcelain plate or saucer.</p> <p>1 fragment of unglazed Red Earthenware,</p>	19
102	<p>1 body sherd of Scottish Grey Ware. 14th or 15th century.</p> <p>14 sherds of Black glazed earthenware vessels -locally produced?- some from crocks and one body sherd with attached decoration.</p> <p>2 sherds of English Black glazed earthenware, one a rim sherd.</p> <p>1 ceramic bottle stopper-Victorian.</p> <p>1 fragment of the medallion of a Bellarmine/ Bartmann German Stoneware jug- decoration in relief consists of section of leaf and medallion cordon.</p> <p>1 small fragment of a linear cordon with a floral design above it from a Westerwald German Stoneware tankard. <i>Circa</i> 1700?</p> <p>1 rim sherd of Pearlware (late 18th-late 19th centuries).</p> <p>6 sherds of Tin-glazed earthenware. White glaze.</p>	95

	<p>8 fragments of unglazed Red Earthenware, some badly abraded. One fragment is a section of a strap handle of a jug, another is a fragment of a pantile from a roof.</p> <p>2 fragments of Bristol/ Staffordshire Slipware. Yellow glaze. 17th-18th century.</p> <p>5 body fragments of (different) Stoneware vessels. Two of these are white glaze and are probably English and 19th century. The other three fragments are finer and maybe German and 17th-18th century date.</p> <p>27 body sherds of Creamware vessels, some con-joined, including two rim sherds, one with blue-banded decoration, and five from the same vessel that has brown transfer print decoration. 18th-19th century.</p> <p>7 sherds of Spongeware pottery including two rim sherds, from at least two vessels, some of which are conjoined. 19th century, probably Scottish.</p> <p>8 sherds of Tin Glazed earthenware pottery, two of which are conjoined and one of which has been burnt. Blue decoration.</p> <p>4 sherds, including rim sherd, of Slipware tankard from two different vessels. 17th-18th century. ?Staffordshire.</p> <p>2 sherds of locally made Brown glazed earthenware.</p> <p>3 fragments of porcelain, 18th-19th century.</p> <p>2 fragments of Slipware/ stoneware?</p>	
104	Two conjoining fragments of ?locally-made earthenware and 1 fragment of Bristol Staffordshire trailed slipware. Late 17th-early 18th century	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>117</b>

**Table 1. The ceramic assemblage from the Lumen Christi College excavation.**

*Discussion*

There were 117 fragments of pottery and four fragments of undiagnostic brick (three from C.101 and one from C.104) recovered from the Lumen Christ College excavation. A total of 114 out of the 117 sherds were discovered in topsoil layers C. 102 and C. 102.

The earliest ceramic uncovered from the excavation was a single sherd of Medieval Scottish Grey Ware, of probable 14th or 15th century date. It was recovered from topsoil layer C. 102, which also yielded more than 90 pieces of various Post-Medieval ceramic types

The discovery of Medieval pottery a short distance outside the 'Island of Derry' should not be unexpected considering how important an ecclesiastical centre the city was during the Medieval period, exemplified by the variety of church foundations illustrated on the Docwra map of c.1600. Similar types of pottery were also discovered within the walled town during McSparron's 2012 excavation at St. Augustine's Church and at Murray's 2013 excavation at Bishops Street Within (McSparron 2012, 20-21; Murray 2013; Ó Baoill 2013, 66-68).

It is interesting that no sherds of the commonly found Medieval Ulster Course Ware pottery were discovered during the 2017 excavation. This may be down to the small size of the trench but fragments of this ubiquitous pottery were found on Logue's 1999 excavation at Bishop Street Without / Nailor's Row, not far away from Lumen Christi College, and on Murray's 2013 excavation at Bishop Street Within (Ó Baoill 2013, 71).

Only one context from the Lumen Christi College excavation yielded stratified artefacts. This was context C. 104, the fill of a truncated cut feature (C.106). The ceramics recovered from it consisted of two small conjoining fragments of what might be locally-made earthenware and one very small fragment of Bristol Staffordshire trailed slipware. These date to the late 17th-early 18th centuries and are broadly contemporary with the date of the clay tobacco bowl also recovered from the same context. It is, therefore, not inconsistent to think that this type of pottery could have been in use at the time of the siege of 1689. A fragment of hand-made red brick from this context is also presumably 17th century in date.

The fragment of a medallion from a Bellarmine stoneware jug, also recovered from Context C.102, can be added to very many examples found on excavations in Derry since the 1970s (Ó Baoill 2013, 84-85). This type of imported German ware emerges in the mid-1500s and was produced for the next two centuries. The many finds of Bellarmine jug fragments in the city are a testament to the city's flourishing trade in the late Medieval period and during the 17th century after the walled town was created. It is impossible to determine, however, whether the fragment from Lumen Christi College relates to either the Gaelic Medieval settlement at Derry or the later Plantation town. A fragment of Bellarmine jug was uncovered from horizons associated with Hugh O' Neill's important castle on Castle Hill, Dungannon, during excavations carried out there in 2007 showing that the ware (and its contents) were popular and imported into both areas controlled by Gaelic lords in the late Medieval period and also later by the new colonists who settled in the plantation town of Derry in the 17th century.



The vast majority of the ceramic assemblage recovered from the excavation at Lumen Christi College dated from the 18th century onwards. It is a mixture of utilitarian and tablewares. The Post-Medieval assemblage is very similar to what archaeologists would expect to uncover in other important urban centres in Ulster such as Carrickfergus and Belfast and comprise various Staffordshire wares, Slipwares, Creamwares, Tin-Glazed earthenwares, Stonewares, Black and Brown glazed earthenwares and Spongewares. Indeed, all of these pottery types and more have been recovered from excavations carried out in Derry from the 1970s onwards. The lack of North Devon pottery is noticeable but this is not unexpected, given the small size of the trench and the known predominance of Staffordshire wares over North Devon pottery in 17th century assemblages from other excavations that have been undertaken in Derry.

Some of the 18th and 19th century pottery recovered probably relates to the period in the 18th century when the Earl Bishop, Frederick Augustus Hervey (elected Bishop of Cloyne but translated to the See of Derry in 1768) built his casino *circa* 1784 on the location where the current Lumen Christi College now stands (Rankin 1972, 9). The lawn in front of the College where the 2017 excavation took place was originally part of the casino's attached formal garden. A fragment of Westerwald stoneware jug found in context C.102 may date to any time from the 17th to the 19th centuries, the period when Westerwald was produced in Germany. It is the type of high quality pottery that someone like Earl Bishop may have had in the kitchen of his casino and it is tempting to suggest that the piece may relate to this period of use at the site.

The Victorian and later pottery and artefacts from the 2017 excavation, such as the fragment of writing slate, date to the occupation of the site by St Columb's College, constructed in 1879 and replaced in 1997 by Lumen Christi College (Calley 2013, 55-56).

## **The Clay Tobacco Pipe assemblage**

### *Introduction.*

A total of 32 fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the Lumen Christi College excavation from a total of three contexts (C.101, C. 102 and C.104). Two of these contexts (C. 101 and C. 102) were topsoil layers and yielded finds from a variety of periods including Neolithic struck flint, Medieval pottery and much Post-Medieval pottery and glass. The third context (C. 104, fill of cut C. 106) was a truncated feature cut into the underlying subsoil clay. The clay tobacco pipe assemblage took the form of 29 clay pipe stems and four fragments of bowl (Table 2).

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Stem fragments</b>	<b>Bowls/ Bowl fragments</b>
101	2	1
102	13	1
104	14	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>

**Table 2. Fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered from the Lumen Christi College excavation.**

*Discussion*

Roughly half of the clay tobacco fragments recovered from the excavation (17 out of 32) came from mixed topsoil horizons C. 101 and C.102. One stem had a fragment of a low flat heel attached. It is not inconsistent to believe that many, if not all, date to the seventeenth century.

Roughly half of the clay pipe tobacco fragments (15 out of 32) were recovered from the fill (C. 104) of the truncated feature (C. 106) that had been cut into subsoil in the south-west of the trench. The bowl fragment from this feature had a small shallow foot and milling around the rim. From size and profile it would appear to date to the second half of the 17th century and could conceivably have belonged to a soldier manning the trenches that were dug here during the 1689 siege (Ayto 1987).

None of the bowl or stem fragments recovered from the excavation exhibited decoration or clay pipe maker's marks to assist in identifying where they had been manufactured. All appear to have been plain utilitarian tobacco pipes, consistent with those possessed by soldiers.

**The Glass assemblage**

*Introduction*

A total of 100 fragments of glass were recovered from the Lumen Christi College excavation from a total of two contexts (C.101 and C. 102). These contexts were topsoil horizons and yielded finds from a variety of periods including Neolithic struck flint, Medieval pottery and much Post-Medieval pottery and glass. The glass assemblage took the form of 72 fragments of bottle glass and 28 fragments of window glass (Table 3).

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Green Bottle glass fragments</b>	<b>Clear bottle glass fragments</b>	<b>Light green glass fragments</b>	<b>Brown glass bottle fragments</b>	<b>Window glass fragments</b>
101	6	4	-	-	4
102	26	25	10	1	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>

**Table 3. Fragments of glass recovered from the Lumen Christi College excavation.**

### *Discussion*

All the glass was Post-Medieval in date. The window glass and white glass from C.101 were barely patinated and may date to the Victorian period or later, possibly from the time of St Columb's College. A large fragment of base of a white glass vessel from this context contained a pontil scar suggesting that the vessel was mold-blown. This form of vessel manufacture appears to have ceased by the last quarter of the 19th century. Most of the six fragments of green bottle glass displayed more evidence of patination and clouding suggesting that they are older, possibly dating to the 17th or 18th century. The green glass bottle content from C.102 was mostly body fragments with a couple of neck fragments and one basal fragments. Again, these could date to any period from the late 17th- early 19th century. The Clear window glass fragments and bottle or vessel fragments were not as patinated and probably date from the Victorian period and the 20th century.

### **The fragment of Writing Slate**

A small fragment of thin slate with incised roughly parallel horizontal lines was discovered in C. 102. The fragment was a maximum of 360mm long and 180mm wide. It consisted of two parallel and roughly horizontal incised lines 30mm apart separated by a distance of 170mm from a single horizontal incised line. This arrangement was exactly the same on both faces of the slate. The artefact would appear to be a fragment of a child's writing slate with the lines acting as those on paper. (Davies 2005 and especially photograph on page 67; Warren 1810). This form of slate was commonly used in schools before the late Victorian period in Britain and Ireland as it was cheaper than paper until the twentieth century. Prior to the establishment of Lumen Christi College in 1997, the site had been occupied by St Columb's College, established in 1879. The fragment of writing slate would originally have belonged to one of the pupils and probably dates to the period c1879-1925, after which date writing slates were phased out.

### **The Metal artefacts**

The remains of two iron nails and a lump of corroded iron, possibly encasing an artefact, were recovered from mixed topsoil horizon C.102.

#### *Nails*

One of the nails is incomplete, consisting of a fragment of shank, heavily corroded. The second is a squat hand-forged nail with rectangular head, heavily corroded, and with a square-profiled shank. It is possibly of 17th or 18th century date and would have been made by a blacksmith in a forge. The technology to produce machine-made nails was only developed around 1800 in England and the United States.

#### *The copper alloy strap or band*

This artefact consisted of a small and fine fragment of flat, narrow copper alloy. The piece was incomplete and undecorated. Both ends originally appear to have had an eyelet but neither of these survive intact. The piece would have been too fine to have served a major function but could have been part of a composite decoration such as a book binding. The date of the strip is uncertain.

## Appendix 5 – Field Drawing Register

<b>Drw #</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Initial</b>
1	Post-excavation plan	1:20	BS
2	South-west facing section	1:10	ROB, MA
3	North-west facing section	1:10	BS
4	North-east facing section	1:10	BS

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