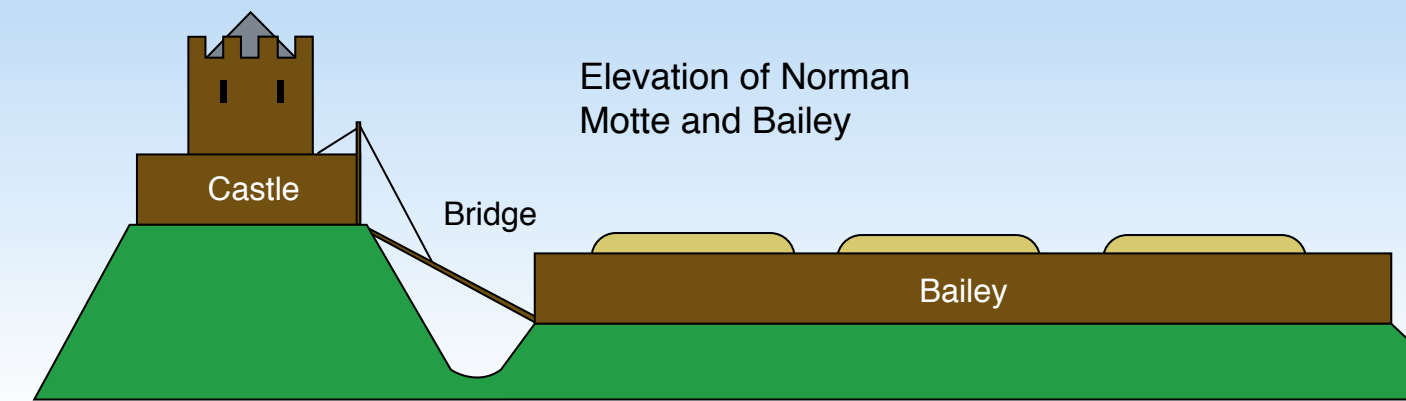
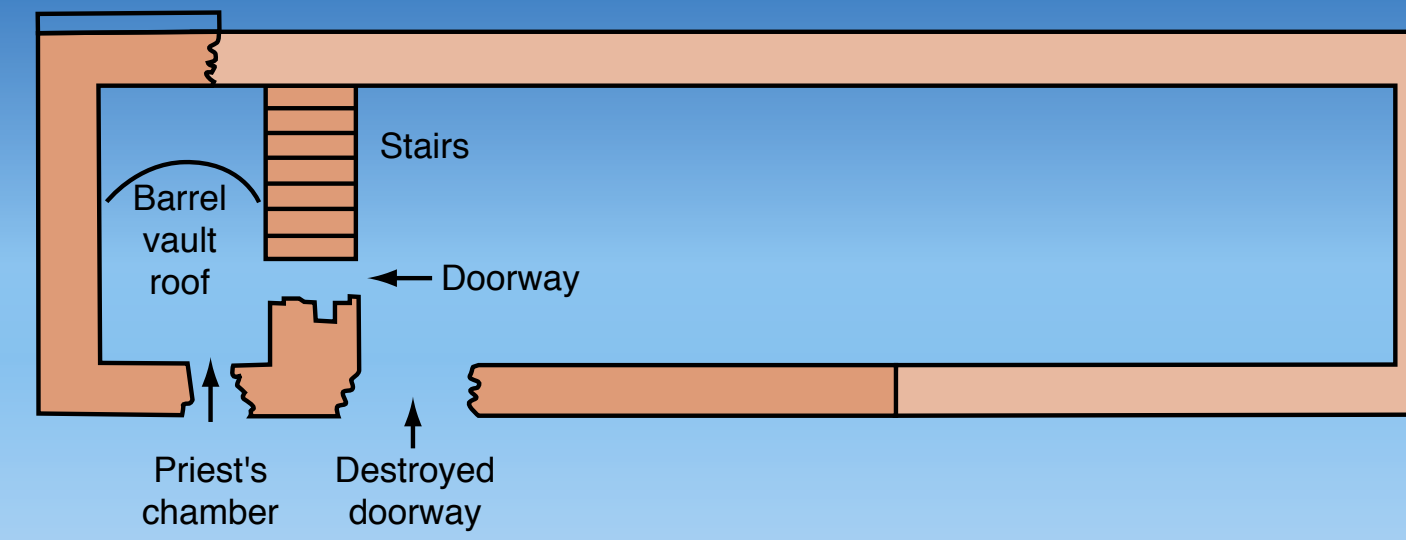


Drumcullen Droim Cuilinn



Artists impression of timber castle at Drumcullen showing meeting of armies.

Plan of St. Barrind's Church, Drumcullen



A monastery was founded here by St Barrind in the sixth century in the province of Meath on the ancient boundary with the kingdom of Munster. In the twelfth century Art O'Maelsechlainn, king of Meath, was slain by Diarmuid O'Briain at a meeting at Druim-Chuilinn. Today one can see the remains of a medieval church with a barrel-vaulted priest's residence at the west end of the church. To the west of the church are the base and head of a ninth century high cross. An Early Christian cross-inscribed slab is reused as a headstone.

To the north, on the high ground overlooking the graveyard, one can see the motte or mound on top of which a timber castle was built by the Normans in the late twelfth century. This castle may have been built by Hugh de Lacy, Lord of Meath who was responsible for the construction of castles throughout the province of Meath. The High Cross at Kinnitty Castle hotel may have originally come from this monastic site due to its association with the King of Meath. The site has been abandoned since the seventeenth century.

Bhunaigh Naomh Barrind mainistir anseo sa séú haois, i gCúige na Mí ar an sean-teorainn le Ríocht na Mumhan. Ins an dara haois déag, mharaigh Diarmaid Ó Briain Art Ó Maelsechlainn, Rí na Mí, ag cruinniú i nDroim Cuilinn.

Inniu, ag an taobh thiar den tséipéal is féidir a fheiceáil iarsmaí séipéal meánaoiseach le seomra sagairt cruinnbhogtach. Ar an taobh thiar den tséipéal tá bun agus barr Ard-Chrois ón naoú haois. Is iomaí smídíní ailtireachta Rómhánúla atá scaipithe timpeall na reilige agus tá leac le crois Chríostaí tosaigh inscríobhtha air athúsáidithe mar leac thuama.

Ó thuaidh, ar an talamh ard os cionn na reilige, feictear an "motte" nó tulach ar ar tógadh caisleán adhmaid de chuid na Normannaigh ag deireadh an dara haois déag. Is cosúil gur thóg Hugh de Lacey, Tiarna na Mí an caisleán seo, fear a thóg caisleán ar fud Cúige na Mí. Tá tuairim ann gur tháinig an Ard-Chrois ag Caisleán Chionn Éitigh ón suíomh manachúil seo, de bharr an bhaint atá ann le Rí na Mí.

Map showing the position of Drumcullen in the ancient provinces of Ireland



Fragment of carved stone at Drumcullen



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