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| Asset Ref No. | TYR017:011: Castle Site (Mound & Foundation): Pigeon Hill & TYR 017:047: Castle & Bawn: Newtownstewart Castle | |
| Heritage Type | Built | |
| Location | OS 6-inch map sheet | TYR 017 |
| | Townland | Croshballinree Newtownstewart |
| | Parish | Ardstraw |
| | LCA | Foyle Valley |
| | ITM Coordinates | |
| | NG Coordinates | H4037085770 & H4023085820 |
| Protection Status | <i>SMR; Scheduled Area, State Care</i> | |
| Condition | <i>Substantial Remains</i> | |
| Ownership (if known) | TYR 017:047: State Care | |
| Site Description | <p>TYR 017:011: This is a high mound, at river level, in a bend in the river. It measures 18m N-S x 29.5m E-W & c.5m high. There is no indication of masonry on the surface & it is very irregular. The top is very overgrown, though there are no trees & bushes. The site is bordered at E by a building & elsewhere by playing fields. An earlier field report described "clear evidence on top of the mound for stone foundations of a rectangular building."</p> <p>TYR 017:047: Built in 1619 on the site of an older edifice by Sir Robert Newcomen & described in the 1622 survey as "a Castle of lyme & stone of good strength, 4 stories high...about it is a Bawne of lyme & stone, 81ft long, 66ft broad & 9ft high, with 2 Flankers...". It is of the type of contemporary English Manor houses, with little defensive equipment. It was burned in 1641, then rebuilt. It was occupied for a night by James II in 1698 on his return from the siege of Derry & was dismantled on his orders the next day. Excavations on the site in 1999 recovered 4 large burnt posts from the doorway in the E. curtain wall, which have been dendro-dated to 1616/1617. See SM7 for further details.</p> | |
| Landscape Context (setting) | Pigeon Hill Castle is located on a bend in the River Strule just east of Newtownstewart. Newtownstewart castle is located within the Historic Town of Newtownstewart, Co. Tyrone, approximately 150m northwest of Pigeon Hill Castle. | |
| Site Appraisal | These sites are scheduled sites and Newtownstewart castle is in State Care, which is an indication of their significance to the archaeological record of Northern Ireland. | |
| Sensitivity | Both of these sites are close to the urban centre of Newtownstewart and thusly prone to human interference. However, being Scheduled or in State Care affords them protection from destruction by development. | |
| Associations: | These sites are associated with the later Medieval settlement in this area, thusly they are also associated with the Historic Settlement of Newtownstewart (TYR017:066) and Harry Avery's Castle (TYR017:012). | |
| Recommendations | These sites are very accessible and should be grouped together with the Historic Settlement of Newtownstewart (TYR017:066), Harry Avery's Castle (TYR017:012), and Stone Head (TYR | |

Appendix 4: Foyle Valley

TYR017:011: Castle Site (Mound & Foundation): Pigeon Hill
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017:065) as an overall visitor attraction.

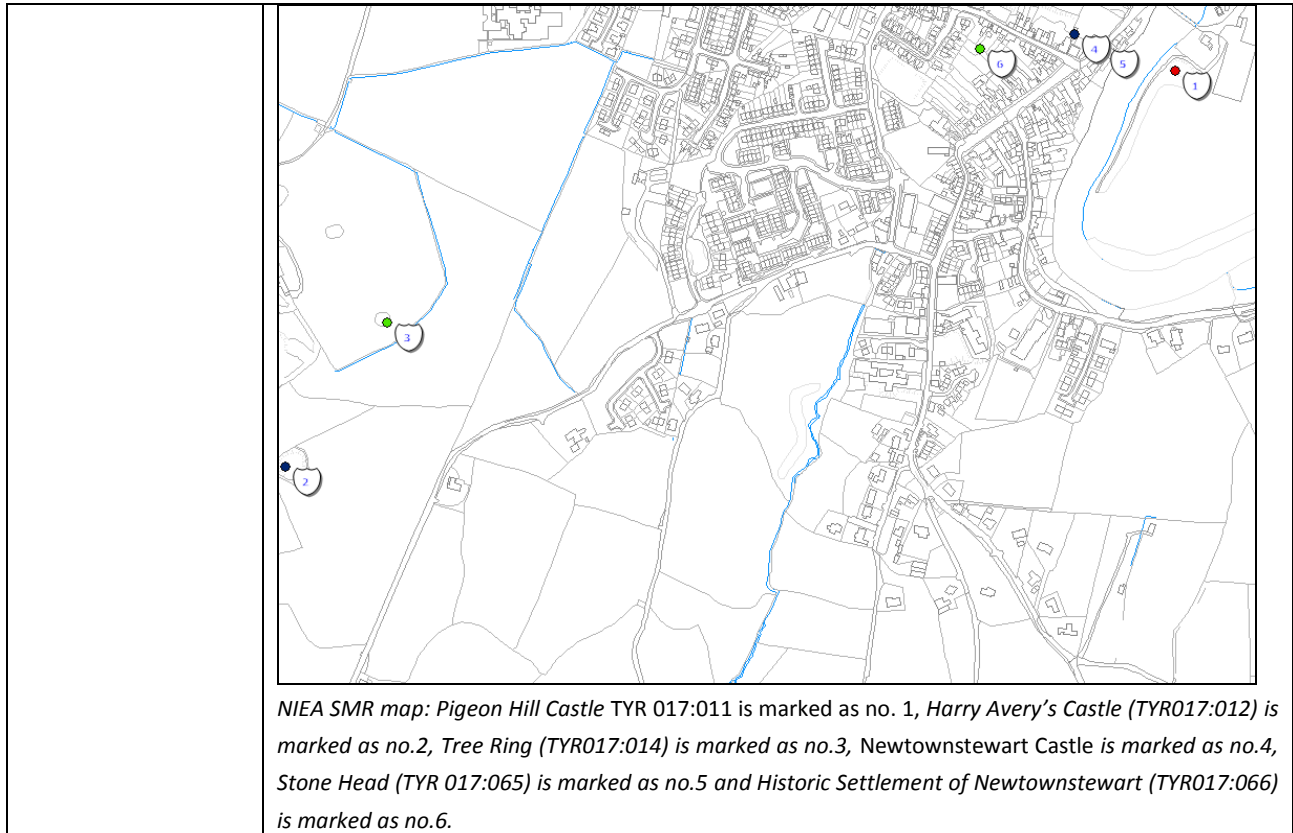
Mapping



NIEA SMR map: Pigeon Hill Castle TYR 017:011 is marked as no. 1, Newtownstewart Castle is marked as no.2, Stone Head (TYR 017:065) is marked as no.3 and Historic Settlement of Newtownstewart (TYR017:066) is marked as no.4.

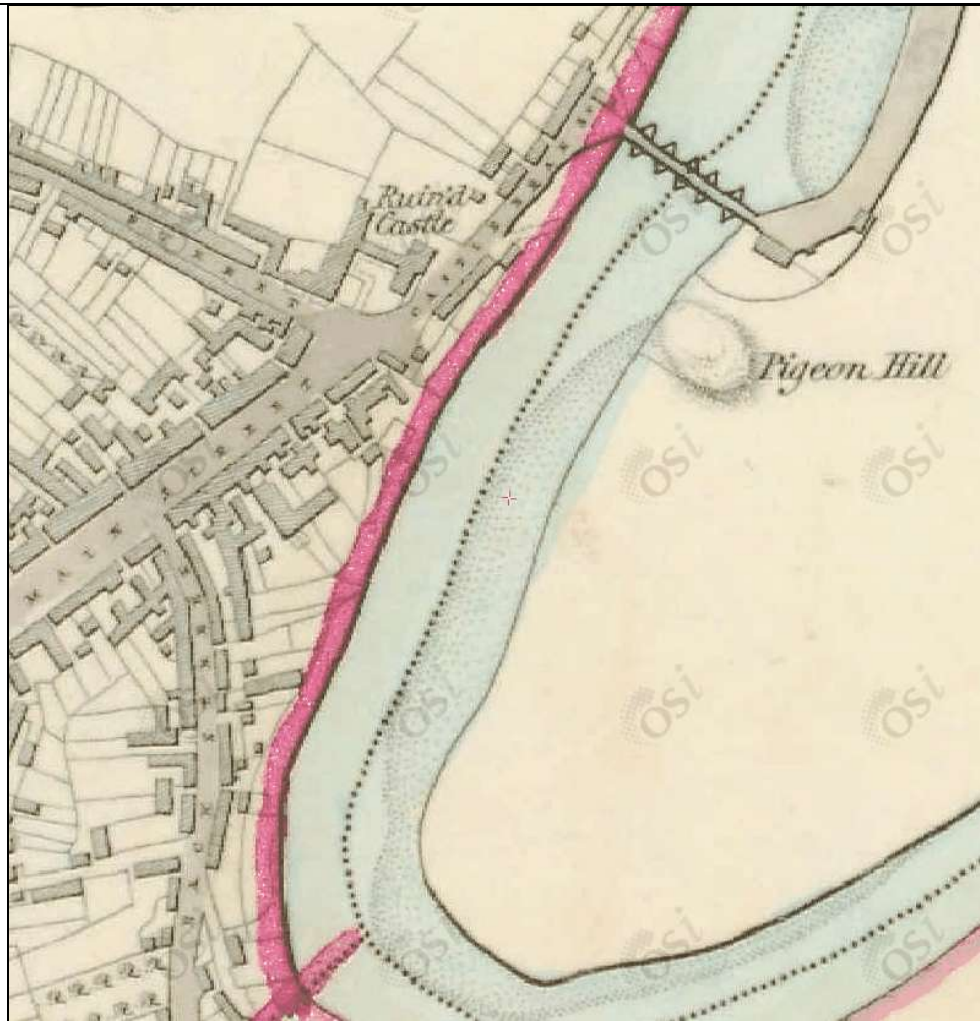
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1st ed OS Map extract (1829-1842)(www.osi.ie)

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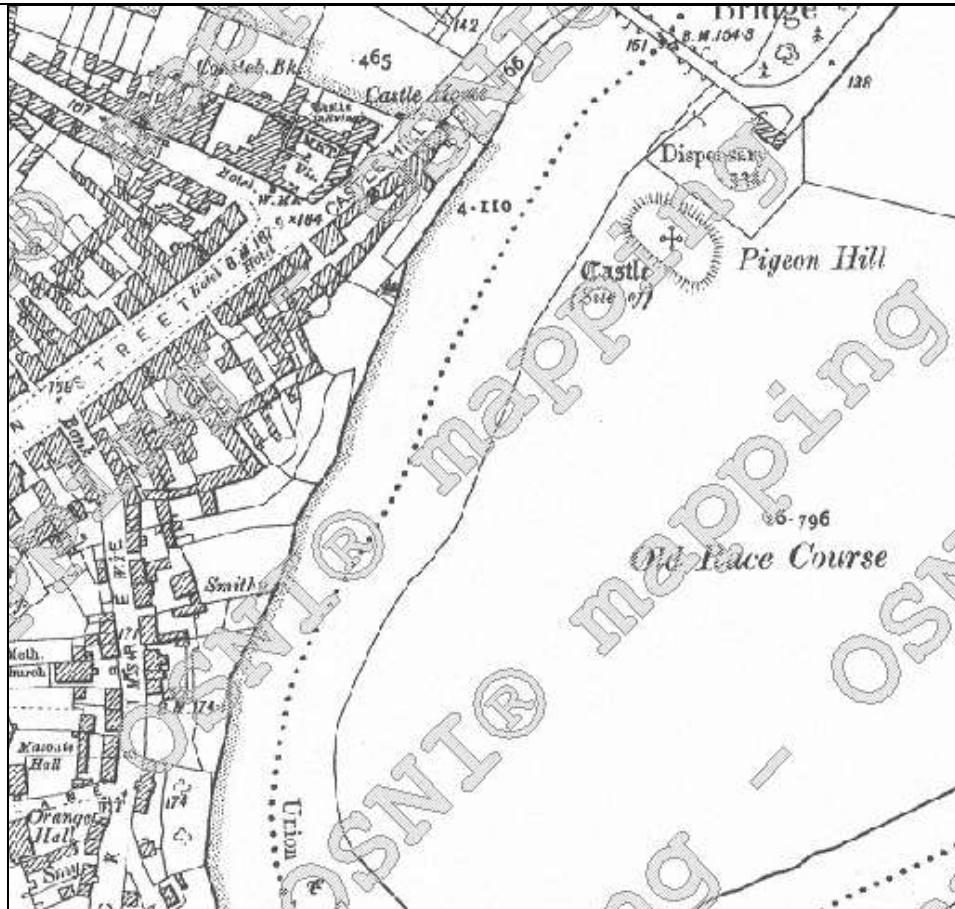
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1st ed OS Map extract (1829-1842)(www.osi.ie) Extended view

Appendix 4: Foyle Valley

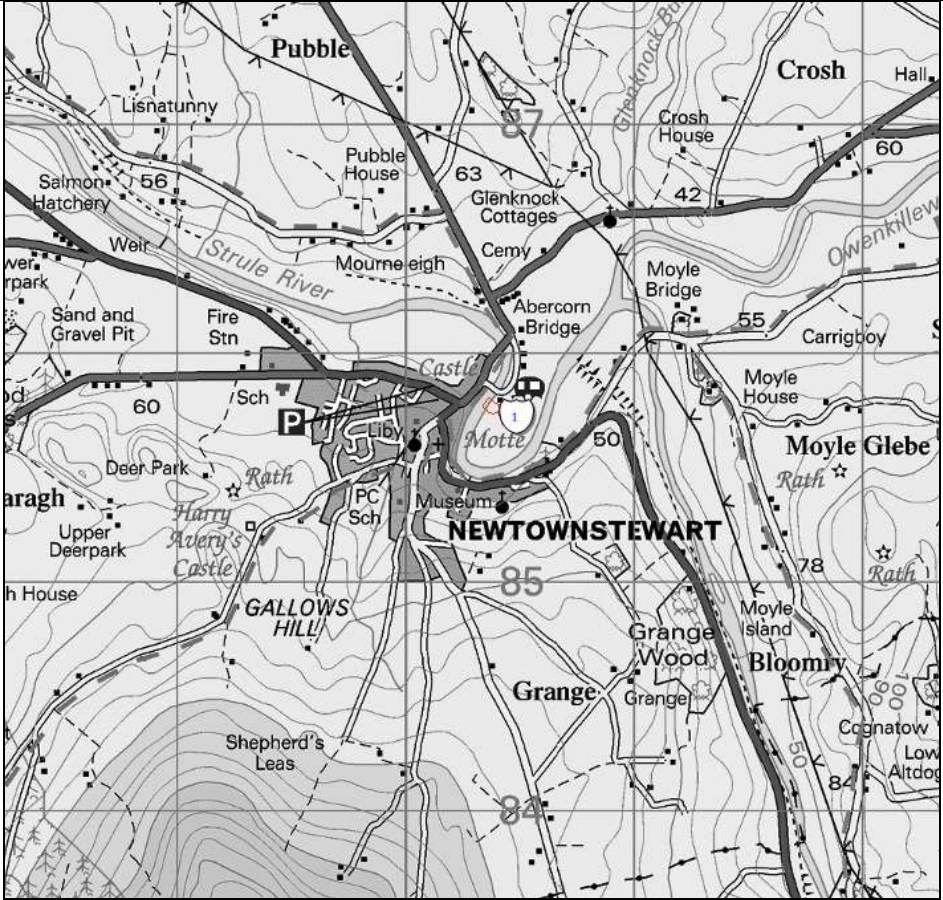
TYR017:011: Castle Site (Mound & Foundation): Pigeon Hill
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2nd ed OS Map extract (1905) (www.osni.gov.uk)

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| |  <p>OSI 1 to 50,000 Discovery Series Map extract(NIEA Map Viewer) : TYR 017:011 is marked as no. 1</p> |
| References | NIEA SMRS |
| Plates | |
| Additional Notes | |

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