

# Limerick's Viking settlement

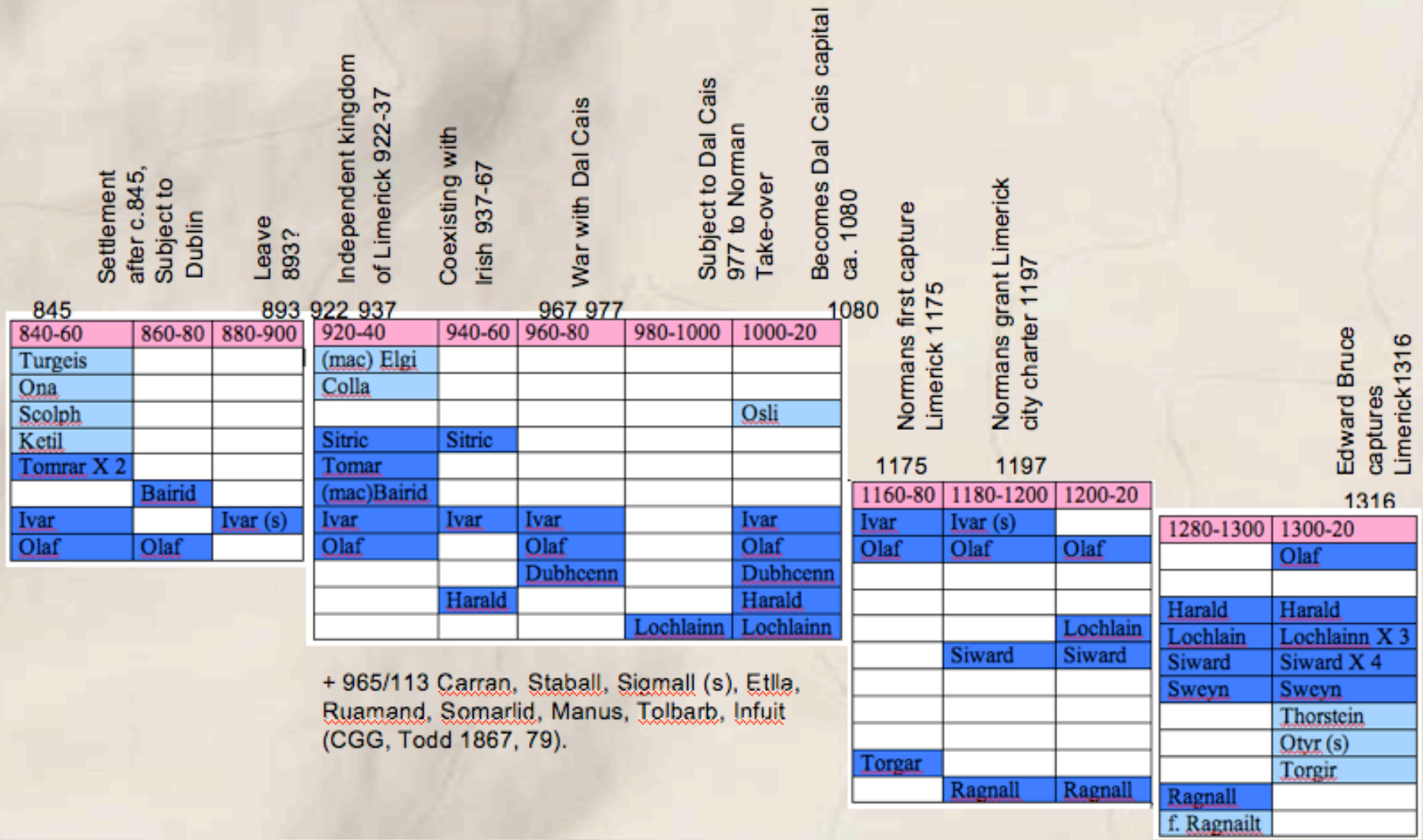
Presentation by Lenore Fischer  
Viking Genetics workshop

3 November 2009

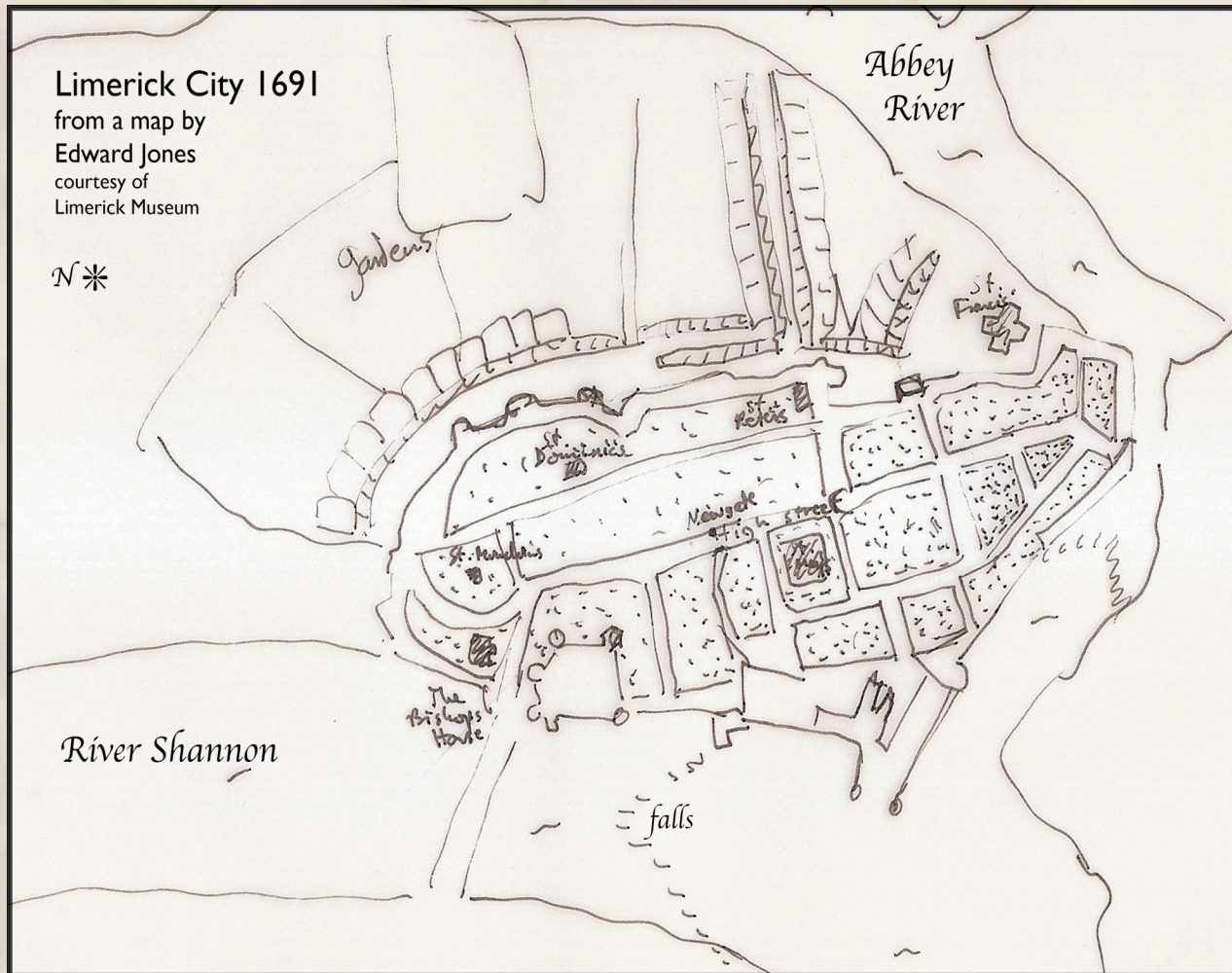
Mary Immaculate College, Limerick

# Traces left by the Viking community:

- Through time: Personal names recorded in documents.
- Through space: place names



Scandinavian names in Munster, 840-1320  
(excluding Waterford)

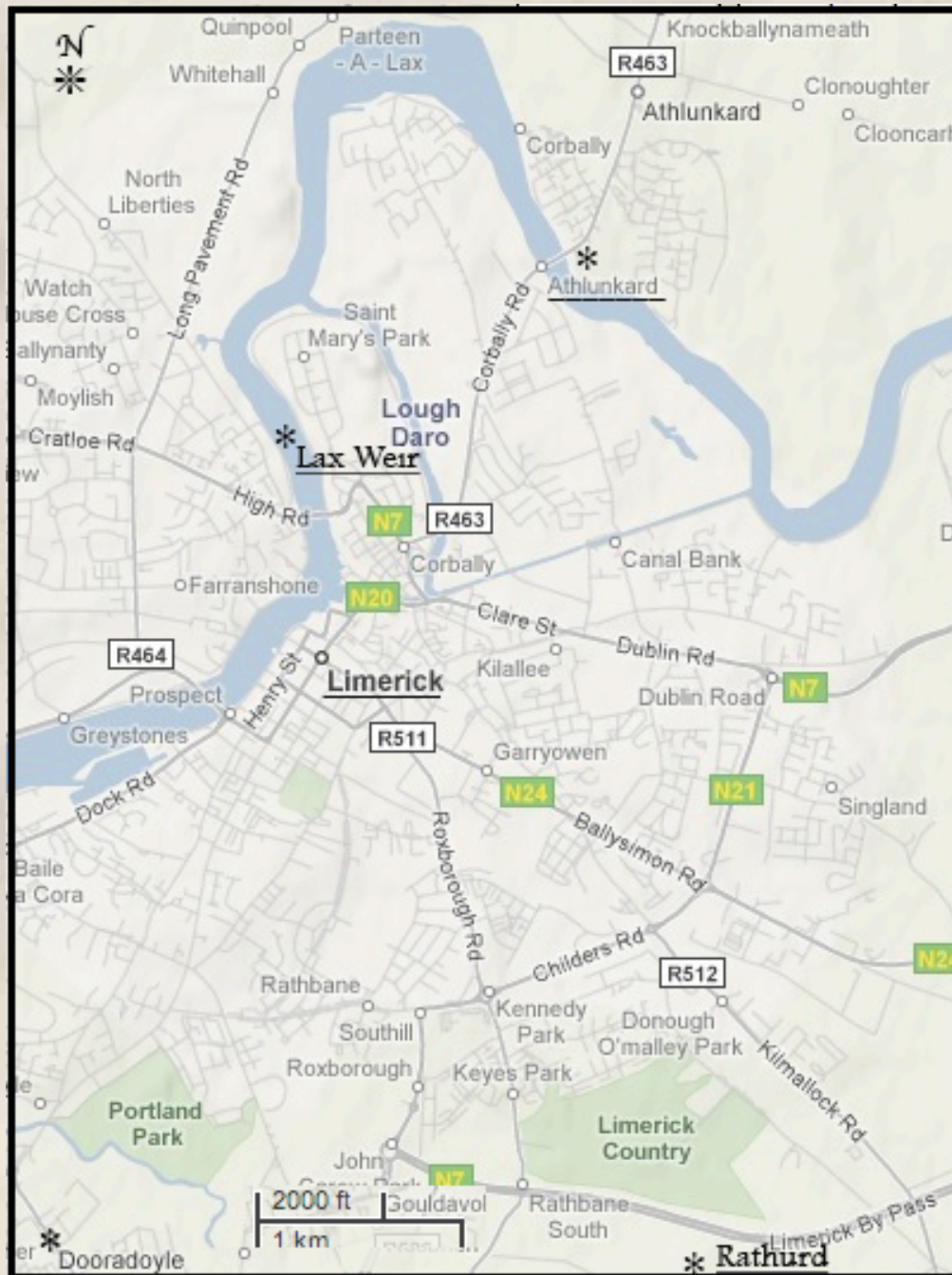


# Searching for the Viking Town Of Limerick

- 845 'the ships at Limerick' (AU, CS)
- 922 Tamar/Tomrar lands at Limerick (CGG)
- 965 Limerick sacked: described as dun with streets and houses (CGG)

- 1290s Siwards own 2 burgages in Limerick (CD)
- 1309 house of Thomas Harold burned in Limerick (CJR)
- 1685 Thomas Philips map shows layout of probable pre-Norman town (Hodkinson 2002)





## Viking traces close to Limerick City

• **Limerick < Hlymrekr < Luimneach**  
(Greene 1976)

• **Athlunkard < Ath Longphoirt** (CS 1656 'Longford')

• **Lax Weir** (Lk Corp. Rentbook 1669 'Lax Weir')

• **Rathurd < Rathsyward** (BBL 1253 Rathsyward; CJR 1311 Walter Syward of Sywardsrath)

• **Dooradoyle < Tworodell** (Down Survey 1654) conjecturally < Thordelb (Westropp 1905)

# Traces of Viking settlement around Limerick

5 holdings belonging to Siward family

One each to Ketil, Olaf, Ragnal, Sitric, Sweyn, and Thurstein

