

Frances Pritchard

Great Britain

The Dublin Viking-Age Project: The Textile Programme

The Medieval Dublin excavations 1962-81 undertaken by the National Museum of Ireland have resulted in a much deeper understanding of the late Viking Age town (AD 841-1169) and its material culture. The remarkable conditions of preservation prevailing on the sites means that the range and quantity of artefacts made from organic material is exceptional for an urban settlement of the mid 10th to mid 12th centuries in NW Europe.

Aspects of the textiles have been presented at previous NESAT symposia in 1984, 1988 and 1990 by Elizabeth Wincott Heckett and myself. However, further study is required and a two-year post for conserving the textiles (commencing in July 2010) will enable this work to proceed. The strategy for analysing and publishing the textiles will be discussed.

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