

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9911097525503321
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Titolo	Castles and colonists : an archaeology of Elizabethan Ireland / / Eric Klingelhofer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Manchester ; ; New York : , : Manchester University Press, , 2010
ISBN	9781781702505 1781702500 9781847793195 1847793193
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiv, 176 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	The Manchester Spenser
Disciplina	941.505
Soggetti	English - Ireland - History - 16th century Excavations (Archaeology) - Ireland Ireland History 1558-1603 Ireland Social conditions 16th century Ireland Social life and customs 16th century Ireland Antiquities
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 24 Apr 2026).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Archaeology and Elizabeth's empire -- Elizabethan fortifications in Ireland -- Colonial settlement -- Vernacular architecture -- The archaeology of Kilcolman Castle -- Spenserian architecture in Ireland -- Conclusions.
Sommario/riassunto	This book examines life in the leading province of Elizabeth I's nascent empire. It shows how an Ireland of colonising English farmers and displaced Irish 'savages' were ruled by an imported Protestant elite from their fortified manors and medieval castles. The book displays how a generation of English 'adventurers' including such influential intellectual and political figures as Spenser and Raleigh, tried to create a new kind of England, one that gave full opportunity to their Renaissance tastes and ambitions. Based on decades of research, it details how archaeology had revealed the traces of a short-lived, but significant, culture that has, until now, been eclipsed in ideological

conflicts between Tudor queens, Hapsburg hegemony and native Irish traditions.
