Two intact roofstones and at least four others, variously damaged, cover the greater part of the gallery and are laid directly on the sidestones. That toward the front measures 2.9m by 0.9m and is 0.3m thick. The next, 0.7m to the E, though split into three pieces as indicated by pecked lines on the plan, retains, more or less, its original position. When intact it measured 2m by 1m by 0.25m thick. Though not apparent from the plan, it is supported by two inward-leaning sidestones at the N, as well as by two sidestones at the S. The adjoining roofstone is split into two approximately equal parts along its long axis. The western part is in place, but the eastern is tilted skywards. When intact this stone measured 2.3m by 1.5m by 0.35m thick. Beyond this two displaced slabs that appear to have formed part of the roof protrude from the fill of the gallery. The bigger one, at least 1.5m in maximum dimension and 0.3m thick, rises above the southern side of the gallery. The smaller, at least 0.5m by 0.4m, rises above the northern side of the gallery. The roofstone beyond these is in position above the gallery and measures 1.8m by 1.4m by 0.25m thick. The adjoining roofstone covers the endchamber. Unlike the others, this slab has been placed with its long axis along rather than across the gallery. It is now split into two parts but holds its position and measures 1.75m by 1.5m by 0.25m thick.

Two outer-wall stones can be recognised to the N of the gallery. One, 0.3m beyond the front of the gallery, is 0.3m in exposed height. Between this outer-wall stone and the gallery side and extending a short distance to the E are four small stones, not hatched on the plan. Only the tops of these are visible. They seem firmly set, but their status is uncertain. They may represent an intermediate line of walling between the gallery side and the close-set outer-walling or may simply be packing-stones. The second outer-wall stone at the N is 0.4m E of the first and is 0.15m in exposed height. Four outer-wall stones survive at the S, all outside the front half of the gallery. The westernmost of these, a large boulder, is immediately outside the westernmost orthostat on this side of the gallery and rises 0.3m above it. It is 1.1m in exposed height. The second, close to the first, is 0.3m in exposed height and the same height as the gallery side. The third outer-wall stone, 0.5m beyond the second, is 0.4m in exposed height. The fourth, 1.3m to the E of the third, is a low stone, 0.2m in exposed height.

A brief description of the monument in an OS Revision Name Book (1848–9) indicates that it was then in much the same condition as it is now.

Otway 1827, 35 (described as a long cave c. 34 feet (c. 10.3m) long); Hill 1847, 15 (giant’s bed in Drummacaladerry recte Drummacalathery, a townland adjoining Carmoney, refers); OS Revision Name Book, sheet 27 (1848–9), 23; Prim 1849–51, 15 (mentions Otway’s reference quoted above); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 39, no. 93; SMR 1987, 27:11; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; RMP 1995, 27:11.


Wedge tomb
This tomb stands 35m SE of the last and is also deeply embedded in the bog. Part of a short, markedly wedge-shaped gallery covered by a single roofstone survives here. It is aligned SW–NE. Each of the sides of the gallery is represented by a long and a short orthostat. The long orthostats are opposite each other, and an inclined transverse slab is set between their western ends. Outer-walling is represented by a single stone at the S. In front of the western orthostat on the N side of the gallery there are two stones that may have formed part of the gallery side or may be the remains of a doubling of the gallery wall. A low stone immediately outside the larger of the two gallery orthostats at the N is of uncertain status but may also represent a doubling of the gallery side. There are no traces of a cairn on the surface of the surrounding bog.

The exposed gallery structure is 2.7m long. It is 1.6m wide at the W and narrows to 0.8m at the present E end of the N side. Both sides of the gallery decrease in height from W to E. In what appears to be a reference to this tomb, Otway (1827, 35) claimed that it was 20 feet (c. 6.1m) long. The structure now visible is 4.2m in overall length.

The western orthostat on the S side of the gallery reaches a maximum height of 0.95m at its outer end. The stone next to it is 0.5m high. The western orthostat at the N side of the gallery is 0.95m high. The stone beside it is 0.75m high at the W and declines to the E. The low stone outside this is 0.5m long and 0.2m thick, and its top is flush with the surface of the bog. The transverse slab is pitched inward, with an upper corner resting against
the inner face of the adjoining northern sidestone. It would stand 0.6m high if upright. When upright it is likely to have risen to within c. 0.2m of the roofstone. It seems to be a septal-stone marking a division of the gallery into a portico, of which little remains, and a main chamber. However, it is possible that the surviving roofed structure is the rear or E endchamber of an otherwise largely demolished gallery. The roofstone, laid directly on the gallery sides, is 2.65m long and 0.3m thick and narrows from 2.15m wide toward its higher, western end to 0.65m near the eastern end. It may be significant that this roofstone has been positioned with its long axis along rather than across the gallery, given that at the nearby wedge tomb (Dg. 17) only the roofstone covering the E end of the gallery is so aligned.

The lone outer-wall stone at the S leans outward. If upright it would stand 0.75m high. The western of the two adjoining stones in front of the N side of the gallery is 0.15m high. The stone next to it leans southward and would stand 0.9m high if upright.

Otway 1827, 35 (described as a long cave c. 20 feet (c. 6.1m) long); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 39, no. 94; SMR 1987, 27:12; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; RMP 1995, 27:12.


Fig. 13.

Portal tomb
This monument is on Inch Island in Lough Swilly. It stands on a terrace on the S-facing slope of Inch Top and overlooks the inner reaches of the lough. Fair pasture in the vicinity of the site gives way, closeby to the N, to rougher ground broken by occasional rock outcrops.

The tomb now consists of two tall portal-stones at the NE and, 2.5m to the SW, a low backstone. Approximately 0.7m NW of the backstone is a cist covered by two superimposed slabs, and 0.5m E of the cist a slab rests in a horizontal position on four low stones. These features stand in a low grassy mound, subrectangular in outline, measuring 10.4m N–S by 10m E–W. A hedge-grown wall runs along the western edge of the mound. There is a facing of dry-walling along the southern half of the eastern edge of the mound. The wall and facing are relatively modern features. The mound is 0.7m high at the dry-walling and 0.4m high elsewhere. There were three mature trees at the northern edge of the mound and two at the S in 1982 when the tomb was surveyed.

The portal-stones are c. 0.6m inside the NE edge of the mound. They are set longitudinally and stand 0.8m apart at their outer ends. These are well-matched stones, both with top edges sloping down toward the backstone. The northern one is 2.9m high, and the southern one is 2.6m high. The base of the latter is partially exposed. The backstone is 1.1m high. Its top is uneven and may be broken.

The raised slab just beyond the N side of the tomb measures 1.5m by 1.45m and is 0.25m thick. The four supporting stones are not deeply set in the ground, if they are at all. These are 0.2m to 0.6m in maximum horizontal dimension, and none exceeds 0.2m in height. There is a pad-stone, 0.2m in maximum dimension, between the northernmost support and the covering slab. The nature and origin of this deliberate feature
Plate 21. Carnaghan (Dg. 19). From north-east showing two portal-stones and backstone.

are uncertain.

The upper covering slab of the cist measures 2.3m by 2.15m and is 0.3m thick, and the lower one is 2.3m by 1.25m and 0.25m thick. There are two very small pad-stones (not on plan) between the two slabs. The cist measures 1.2m NE–SW by 0.7m NW–SE and is 0.75m deep. The longer sides are each formed by two stones; the NE end is closed by a single stone; and the SW end is open at present. A largely concealed stone is set outside the two stones forming the western side. Just 0.5m beyond the pointed N end of the upper covering slab there is a low upright stone, 0.15m high. This is firmly set in the ground, but its function is unknown.

Fagan (1845–8) recorded that ‘two crocks of bones’ were dug up ‘near’ the site some years before his visit in 1846. Bronze Age funerary ware consisting of a vase, sherds of a vase urn and a small plain accessory vessel were found in 1880 at this site, but there is some uncertainty about whether they came from the portal tomb or the cist (Waddell 1990; B. Ó Ríordáin and J. Waddell 1993).

The surviving portal-stones and backstone are clearly the remains of a portal tomb. The cist and the raised slab are secondary features. This secondary activity and the planting of trees in the modern era account for the present outline and form of the mound.

This monument, said to be known locally as the ‘King’s Grave’, is the same as that marked ‘Standing Stones’ on the various editions of the OS six-inch maps. They are not, as stated by Killanin and Duignan (1962; 1967), separate sites.


Court tomb

This monument, 1.7km E of Carndonagh, is on good, generally level pasture and commands a view over
Trawbreaga Bay, the inner reaches of which are 2.7km to the NNW. The view southward is limited by a nearby stretch of higher ground.

The monument is partially ruined. It consists of a roofless gallery, at least 4.5m long, preceded at the NNE by the remains of a court. Little survives of the W side of the gallery, but the E side is well preserved. The structure stands toward the N end of a long mound, the eastern side of which is incorporated in a massive stone wall that rises above the tomb orthostats. The mound is c. 34m long, although its outline is somewhat uncertain at the S, and it reaches a maximum height of c. 1m above present ground level at the W. The E side of the enveloping wall and the W side of the mound converge toward the SSW, indicating an original cairn outline of generally trapezoidal shape.

Five stones form the E arm of the court, but only three stones of the W arm survive. The innermost stone of the E arm is 1m high. The other four here decline in height toward the front by intervals of 0.1–0.25m. The outermost is 0.3m high. The three courtstones of the W arm stand at its outer end and are partly concealed by loose stones. The outermost, 0.5m in exposed height, rises 0.1m above the tops of the other two, which rise 0.2m and 0.15m clear of the stones at their base. The court is c. 4.5m long and 5m wide at its outer end. Two prostrate slabs lie within it, and there are two more in the front chamber.

The gallery is divided by a jamb and septal-stone arrangement into two chambers, but there is a possibility that there was a third chamber here (see below). The front chamber is c. 2.5m long. The surviving entrance jamb, transversely set, is on the court perimeter. It is 1.1m high and rises 0.1m above the top of the adjoining courtstone. Two slightly overlapping stones form the E side of the chamber. The outer one is 0.8m high and supports three steeply inclined corbels. The outer ends of the corbels are embedded in the stone wall beside the gallery. The inner sidestone here is 1.1m high and partly overlaps a longitudinally set segmenting jamb of similar height. This jamb rises between 0.1m and 0.25m above the top of the tall septal-stone. A large stone (shown on section) protruding from the wall overlying the E side of the gallery is probably displaced.

The second chamber is c. 1.8m long and 1.4m wide. A single orthostat, 0.1m taller than the segmenting jamb, forms the E side of this chamber. A packing-stone is exposed at its outer end. A lone orthostat, 0.6m high, remains on the W side. A flat-topped stone, 0.95m high, crosses the S end of the gallery. Its base is exposed at the E, and the space beneath is filled by a small, firmly set stone (not hatched on plan). The crossing-stone may be the gallery backstone or may mark a point of segmentation. The possibility that there is a further tomb structure is suggested by a stone set transversely to the line of the gallery 1.7m beyond the crossing-stone. This is 1.6m long and 0.25m thick and rises 0.3m above the top of the mound. Excavation would be required to confirm its status, but it may mark the end of a third chamber.

A brief description of the monument in an OS Revision Name Book (1848) records that ‘the flag or covering on top’ was removed by the landowner for use in the construction of a limekiln. On removing this, he is reported to have found a small metal cup, c. 9 inches (c. 0.23m) in diameter, said to be ‘not unlike’ the bottom part of a pot. It contained only earth.

In or around 1974 a plano-convex flint knife and the butt portion of a Bann Flake were unearthed at this site. These are now in the National Museum of Ireland, Dublin, under the reference numbers 1974:84 and 1974:85.

Plate 22. Carrickafodan (Dg. 20). View along gallery from north-north-east.
When the tomb was surveyed in 1982 signs of this disturbance were still visible along the W side of the gallery and in the greater part of the second chamber as indicated in dotted outline on the plan.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 11 (1848), 90; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 18, no. 10; SMR 1987, 11:42; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; Colhoun 1995, 32; RMP 1995, 11:42.


Portal tomb

This monument, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, first came to notice in 1988. It stands in a mature forest on a little ledge of a rocky SE-facing slope among the hills forming the S side of the basin of the River Finn, c. 4km SW of Ballybofey.

The monument consists of a roofed chamber facing NE, which stands toward one end of a long cairn. The chamber is 1.7m long and 1m wide internally and stands 2.5m from the NE end of the cairn, which is set along the contour of the slope. The stone-built cairn is almost wholly covered by moss, and a layer of peat has formed along its western edge. Some fallen trees and undergrowth of bushes and rough grass obscure its perimeter in places, but its essential shape is clear. It is subrectangular in outline, measures 17m NE–SW by 8m NW–SE and reaches c. 0.7m high. Some stones have rolled downslope from its eastern and southern edges.

Two longitudinally set portal-stones either side of a sillstone mark the front of the chamber. A single orthostat forms each side of the chamber, and another closes its SW end. The top of the eastern sidestone dips toward the front, and the space thus left between it and the roofstone is blocked by a corbel laid against the outer face of the sidestone. A slab, now broken in two, rests against the end of the backstone. Its original function is not clear. The roofstone has been dislodged slightly and now rests in a sloping position across the chamber. At the N it has slipped down the inner face of the western portal-stone, and its opposite side is tilted upward. It rests on the inner end of the eastern portal-stone, on both sidestones and on the corbel above the eastern sidestone.

The portal-stones are 0.45m apart at their outer ends but diverge toward the S, where the gap between them is 0.7m. The western portal-stone is 0.7m high. Its top, which may be broken, is 0.3m below that of the eastern portal-stone, which is 1.05m high. The thin intervening sillstone is 0.5m long, 0.1m thick and 0.35m high. Both sidestones are in line with their respective portal-stones and lean inward against the backstone. The eastern sidestone increases in height from only c. 0.1m at its outer end to 0.4m at its inner, or southern, end. The top of the western sidestone is hidden by a layer of peat, but it appears to be c. 0.4m high. There is a gap of 0.3m between this and the inward-leaning backstone, which is 0.7m high. The corbel on the eastern sidestone measures 1m by 0.95m and is up to 0.3m thick. When intact the broken slab leaning against the end of the backstone measured 1.3m by 1m by 0.2m thick. The position of the break in this stone is indicated by a pecked line on the

Plate 23. Carrickmagrath (Dg. 21), from north-north-east.
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Plate 24. Carricknahorna (Dg. 22), from west.

Unclassified

This monument stands on a slight E–W-aligned ridge, on which there is outcropping rock, in rolling pasture c. 7.5km NE of Ballyshannon. There is a good outlook from the site.

The tomb consists of three stones, two beside each other, and the third 1.5m N of and opposite the eastern of the other two. There is a poorly defined, slightly raised stony area to the W, possibly the remains of a cairn (not on plan).

The western of the two stones at the S is 1.25m high. It rises 0.4m above the top of the adjoining stone, which rests against it. The eastern stone is skewed to the N from the line described by the western and leans in the same direction. The lone stone at the N is 1.3m high. The three stones are of split-boulder type. The split faces of the two at the S are opposed to that of the one at the N. Approximately 10m to the SW is a large boulder measuring 1.4m by 0.6m by 1m high in a field fence. This may have been taken from the tomb. The monument was in its present state when Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited it in 1847. He recorded that many stones had been removed from it within local memory. The surviving stones, clearly the remains of a megalithic tomb, may represent the N and S sides of a chamber.


Court tomb

This monument stands on a ridge in poor pasture c. 300m W of the Bungosteen River and 2.1km N of the inner end of Killybegs Harbour. The site commands an extensive outlook.

The monument consists of two elements: a gallery to the SW opening from the remains of a court at its NE end, and in front of the court a ruined chamber. The two elements are 7.5m apart and stand in a long, low, grassy mound measuring 29.5m ENE–WSW by 14.5m and up to 1m high. A trackway crossing the south-western end of the mound seems to have destroyed the back of the western gallery. A field wall now marks one side of the
track, and a change in ground level its other side.

Four courtstones can be recognised at the front of the gallery. One flanks the N side of the gallery entrance and is 0.45m high. Approximately 2m beyond this a low set stone 0.1m in exposed height seems also to be a courtstone. A third courtstone flanks the S side of the gallery entrance and is 0.3m high. The fourth courtstone, 1.2m beyond the third, is 0.3m in exposed height at its inner face and 0.8m at its outer face. A small subrectangular area of the cairn surface to the S of this stone measuring c. 4m by 3m has been deliberately removed, apparently relatively recently.

Two more or less flat-topped, well-matched jambs, 0.7m apart, form the entrance to the gallery. The southern jamb, a transversely set stone, is 0.75m high. The northern jamb, its outer face overlapped by the adjoining courtstone, is 1m high. Immediately behind the jambs are two opposed orthostats, 0.7m apart. The northern one is 1.2m high, and the southern one is 1m high. Resting on these and on the entrance jambs is a lintel measuring 2.1m by 0.9m by 0.4m thick. It appears to be somewhat displaced and originally may have rested solely on the entrance jambs. A largely concealed stone, c. 0.9m in maximum dimension, protruding from the mound immediately behind the southern entrance jamb may be a displaced corbel. Two displaced slabs lie in front of the gallery entrance. The larger, 1.2m by 1.15m and 0.6m thick, partly underlies the smaller, 1.6m by 0.35m by 0.5m thick.

Beyond the two front orthostats are two more opposite each other, both large stones. They are set outside the lines of the preceding two and stand 2m apart. The northern one is 1m high. A corbel, one end on the ground, rests against its western end. This is 0.95m long, 0.4m thick and 1m high. The southern sidestone is 1m high. A high-pitched corbel, 1.45m long, 1.7m high and 0.6m thick, rests against its outer face. An upright stone at the inner face of the front of the sidestone is 0.6m high. Its role is uncertain, but it may be a jamb, and if so it would appear to mark the division between a narrow front chamber and a wider second chamber, both c. 2m long.

Two longitudinally set jambs converging toward the E stand inside the western end of the second pair of opposed sidestones. These are 0.7m apart at their eastern ends. The southern one is 0.7m high, and the northern 0.65m high. A displaced slab, 1.5m by 1m and 0.7m thick, lies between the two jambs and leans against the northern one. This may be a fallen lintel. Two stones beyond the northern jamb appear to represent a continuation of the N side of the gallery. The stone next to the jamb is 0.85m high, and the one beyond it is 0.75m high. Three displaced stones lie outside the W end of the N side of the gallery. These are 1.05–1.3m in maximum dimension and 0.3–0.5m thick.

The chamber at the E end of the monument, aligned NE–SW, is 4.5m in overall length and was at least 1.7m wide. Two orthostats form the N side. The western one leans inward and is 1m high. The eastern, slightly outside the line of the western, is 0.65m high. A sidestone at the W end of the S side of the chamber has fallen inward. If upright it would stand 1.3m high. A single orthostat marks both the E and W ends of the chamber. The one at the W is 0.8m high. It does not span the full width of the chamber and may be a jamb. The orthostat at the E end is also 0.8m high. This too may be a jamb. A prostrate slab lying at the E end of the chamber measures 1.7m by 1.35m and is 0.5m thick. Two other blocks of stone, not shown on the plan, also lie here. The eastern one measures 1.1m by 0.9m, and the western one 1.3m by 1m; both are 0.4m thick. Approximately 0.6m beyond the southern sidestone is a low upright stone, 0.2m high. This supports a larger, displaced stone, 1.5m in maximum

Plate 25. Carricknamoghil (Dg. 23), from north-east. The separate chamber in foreground and gallery in background.
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Plate 26. Carricknamoghil (Dg. 23). The gallery from south-west.

dimension, which leans against it. The upright stone, though well set, is of uncertain status and is not hatched on the plan. Approximately 3m SSW of the chamber is a low stone of uncertain status, c. 0.2m high.

Fagan (1845–8) visited this monument in 1847, and it appears from his rather generalised account that it was then more or less as it is now. The original design of the monument is unclear. There seem to be two possibilities: that both elements opened off either end of a large central court, or that the structure at the E is a subsidiary chamber opening off a terminal full court. Both of these designs are known in this area of County Donegal. Given the present state of the monument, it seems that the second alternative is marginally the more likely. De Valera’s (1960) suggestion that the front of the larger gallery lay to the W is now considered unlikely, a view expressed by him in an unpublished note in 1964.


Plate 27. Fig. 20.

Wedge tomb
This monument, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, is one of three wedge tombs at the southern end of this townland. One of the others (Dg. 25) is just under 200m to the S, and the other (Dg. 26) is c. 550m to the SE. The one described here is on a slight platform immediately E of the base of a prominent rocky knoll on which there is a large stone enclosure (Lacy 1983, 116, 118, no. 709). This is an area of heather-grown bog broken by numerous rock outcrops. To the N the land falls to the valley of the Glentogher River. There is an outlook to Quigley’s Point, on the shore at Lough Foyle, almost 5km to the SE.

The ruins of this tomb are deeply embedded in the bog. It is aligned NNE–SSW and is described here as if it lay N–S. The gallery is represented by two opposed sidestones that support a roofstone in a sloping position with its higher end to the S. The gap between the orthostats narrows from 1.3m at the S to 1m at the N. Three stones of close-set outer-walling are visible. The first overlaps the N end of the eastern sidestone, and the second overlaps its S end. The third is opposite the second and on the W side of the monument. Between the two opposed outer-wall stones are two stones protruding from the ground, neither of which appears to be structural. The northern one is 0.2m high, and the southern one is 0.4m high. Approximately 1m S of the last is a stone with a marked southward lean. It would stand 1m high if upright. Its function is uncertain, but it may represent a facade.

The eastern sidestone is 0.4m high at its southern end. The western sidestone leans inward. If upright it would be 0.5m high at its southern end. Both sidestones decrease in height toward the N. The overlying roofstone is 2.3m long and 1.8m in maximum width and narrows abruptly near its northern end. The western edge of this
stone is partly obscured by heather-grown peat. The northern outer-wall stone on the E side of the monument, now partly concealed, is 0.35m high. The second outer-wall stone here, 1.8m to the S, leans outward. This stone, if upright, would be 0.9m high. The outer-wall stone at the W side of the monument leans inward. It would stand 0.6m high if upright.


25. Carrowmore or Glentogher. OS 30:3:3 (63.6 60.3). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1903). OD 500–600. C 486 355. Plates 28 and 29. Fig. 20.

Wedge tomb
This monument, c. 200m S of the last, is on generally level boggy ground just S of the valley of the Glentogher River. It is overlooked by higher ground closely by the E and W. From the site there is a view of Lough Foyle at Quigley’s Point, 5km to the SE. Outcropping rock occurs in the vicinity.

The monument, somewhat embedded in the bog, consists of a partly roofed gallery, c. 6m long, orientated almost SW–NE. A narrow opening at the NE end now allows access beneath the roofstones to the eastern two-thirds of the gallery. The western end lacks a roof and is blocked by tomb collapse. The gallery narrows from 1.75m wide at the W to c. 0.5m at the E, where the back is missing or remains concealed. The tallest sidestones at the W rise 0.9m above those at the E end. Two overlapping roofstones cover the mid-section of the gallery, and a partly concealed slab lying in front of the entrance may also have formed part of the roof. This measures 1m by at least 2.3m and is 0.2m thick. There appear to have been at least three lines of walling beyond each side of the gallery. A stone immediately outside the westernmost stone on the N side of the gallery and another immediately outside the fourth orthostat on this side seem to represent a doubling of the gallery side, as does a gapped line of four stones just outside the S side of the gallery. Between the westernmost of the latter four and the gallery side is another set stone. There are the remains of two additional lines of walling beyond both sides of the gallery. A leaning stone at the SW corner of the monument and another at the NW represent a ruined facade, and a fallen stone to the N of the latter may be another facade-stone. The structure stands in an oval, heather-grown, stony mound that is 10.7m long (E–W) and 8m wide near the W end, from where it narrows toward the E end. The mound rises to the height of the gallery sides. A number of displaced stones at the site are not shown on the plan.

The design of the partly collapsed W end of the gallery is unclear. A transversely set stone stands between the western ends of the gallery sides. Its orthostatic character leaves some doubt about whether it served to divide the entrance or is the remnant of a closing feature. It leans inward and would stand 0.8m high if upright. Beside this at the N is a partly concealed small stone, 0.2m high. It is of uncertain status and is not hatched on the plan. Approximately 0.8m to the E and midway between the gallery sides is an orthostat measuring 0.8m in exposed
height. The top of this stone is level with the tops of the sidestones at either side. Approximately 0.6m further to the E and set transversely to the line of the N side of the gallery is a jamb-like stone. This, measured at its inner face, is 1m high. It may indicate a division of the gallery into a portico, c. 1.7m long, and a main chamber. To the W of this stone and at right angles to its northern end is a small set stone that serves to strengthen the gallery wall. It is 0.3m long, 0.15m thick and 0.5m in exposed height. A displaced slab (not on plan), 1.5m by 0.75m by 0.15m thick, leans against the jamb-like stone.

The N side of the gallery is composed of seven orthostats and two smaller stones between the second and third orthostat from the W. The westernmost orthostat rises 0.5m, and that next to it 0.6m, above the collapsed material at this end of the gallery. The remaining five orthostats at this side are accessible beneath the roofstones. Their heights from W to E are 1m, 0.85m, 0.7m, 0.55m and 0.15m. The two orthostats at the E end are set inside the line of the others, thereby abruptly narrowing the gallery. The western one of the two small stones between the second and third orthostats is 0.15m long, at least 0.05m thick and 0.4m in exposed height. The eastern is 0.15m long, at least 0.05m thick and 0.15m high. The single stone outside the westernmost orthostat on this side, which, as mentioned, seems to represent a doubling of the gallery wall, is 0.4m in exposed height. The similarly positioned stone outside the fourth orthostat on this side is 0.3m high.

There are eight stones in position on the S side of the gallery. The easternmost, like the two opposite on the N side, is set inside the line of the other seven, and the second orthostat from the front is set transversely to the long axis of the monument. The outer faces of all but the western three, which rise above the collapsed material at this end of the gallery, are concealed. The exposed heights of the three referred to, from W to E, are 0.9m, 0.3m and 0.4m. The remaining five, accessible beneath the roofstones, are, from W to E, 0.7m, 0.7m, 0.6m, 0.5m and 0.3m in exposed heights. The westernmost stone of the gapped line of four small stones doubling this side

Plate 28. Carrowmore or Glentogher (Dg. 25), from south-west.

Plate 29. Carrowmore or Glentogher (Dg. 25), from east.
of the gallery is immediately outside the fourth gallery orthostat and is 0.15m in exposed height. The set stone between this and the gallery wall is 0.4m in exposed height. The second of the line of four stones is just outside the opposed ends of the fourth and fifth gallery orthostats, which diverge as they rise, and it blocks the gap thus caused. It rises just above the gallery side. The third of these stones serves the same function outside the opposed ends of the fifth and sixth orthostats and rises to around the height of the gallery side. The fourth, just over 1m to the E, is 0.15m in exposed height.

The upper surface and parts of the perimeter of the two overlapping roofstones covering the middle portion of the gallery are obscured by peat. The western one overlies the outer end of the eastern. Both rest directly on the N side of the gallery, and at the S is a pad-stone (not on plan) between each and the gallery wall. The western one also rests on the jamb-like stone dividing the gallery and measures 1.4m long E-W by at least 1.8m. The eastern one measures 1.5m E-W by 2.2m. Both are over 0.1m thick.

Outer-walling at the N side of the monument is represented by four partly concealed orthostats. That at the W, 0.8m beyond the front of the gallery, is 0.6m in exposed height. Just W of this the tops of two firmly set stones protrude above the surface. The eastern one measures 0.15m by 0.08m and is 0.15m in exposed height, and the western measures 0.2m by 0.05m by 0.08m high. Neither is definitely structural, and they are not hatched on the plan. The other three outer-wall orthostats here are set inside the line of the western one. These may represent an inner line of outer-walling. Partly concealed by peat, the biggest is 0.9m or more in length, and all are at least 0.1m thick. Their exposed heights from W to E are 0.05m, 0.15m and 0.4m.

There also seem to have been two lines of outer-walling at the S, the inner represented by three stones and the outer by two stones at the W end of the structure. The two lines are up to 0.3m apart, and the inner one is 0.4m beyond the gallery side. The westernmost stone of the inner line is 0.35m in exposed height. The second, 0.2m to the E, is 0.2m high, and the third, 0.4m further E, is largely concealed and rises just above ground level. The western of the two stones outside these is 0.1m in exposed height. The eastern, 0.5m to the E and partly concealed, is 0.2m high. Two stones, 0.7m apart and c. 0.4m beyond the E end of the gallery, seem to be part of the outer-walling. The northern one is 0.2m high, and the southern is 0.15m high. Approximately 0.2m W of and parallel to this is a stone that may indicate a doubling of the outer-walling at this end of the gallery. It is 0.25m high.

The facade-stone at the SW corner of the monument leans westward. It is 1.1m long and 0.2m thick and would stand at least 1.1m high if upright. The second facade-stone, 2.2m to the N, leans more markedly westward. It is 0.8m long and 0.2m thick and would stand at least 0.9m high if upright. A stone to the N of this lies more or less flat and protrudes from the slope of the cairn. It is not clear whether this also formed part of the facade. It measures 0.4m by at least 0.3m and is 0.15m thick. The facade-stones are now almost prostrate, and their bases lie closer to the front of the gallery than shown on the plan. Because of the extent of collapse at this end of the monument the relationship of the facade to the front of the gallery is unclear.

This monument, described as well preserved in 1848, was then, as now, open at its NE end (OS Revision Name Book, 1848).

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 30 (1848), 61; A.I. Young 1929, 8 may refer; Colhoun 1949, 112 (plan d); Killanin and Duignan 1962, 127 and 380; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 140; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 39, 41, no. 96; SMR 1987, 30:1; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; Colhoun 1995, 76–7 (plan); RMP 1995, 30:1.

26. Carrowmore or Glentogher. OS 30:3:3 (68.8 60.4 approx.). Not marked (1903). OD 600–700.

C 492 355. Plate 30. Fig. 20.

Wedge tomb

This monument, c. 550m E of the last, is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map. It stands on a terrace on a boggy, W-facing hillside overlooking the southern end of the valley of the Glentogher River. Immediately to the E the ground rises to an extensive plateau overlooked by Glencar Hill.

The monument, deeply embedded in bog, consists of a gallery, 2.3m long, divided by a septal-stone into a portico, at the SSW, and a roofed main chamber. The gallery narrows and lowers toward the NNE. A low mound, oval in outline and measuring 7.8m SSW–NNE by 5.6m encloses the structure. This is 0.5m high at the SSW but decreases in height at the NNE of the monument, where its outline is rather uncertain. Beyond the W side of the
COUNTY DONEGAL

Plate 30. Carrowmore or Glentogher (Dg. 26), from south-south-west.

gallery the edge of the mound merges with a low natural slope.

Each of the portico sides is represented by a single orthostat, set with their outer ends 1.45m apart. It appears that these mark the outer end of the gallery, but the absence of a frontal feature leaves some uncertainty. Both are exposed to a height of 0.6m and rise c. 0.5m above the top of the septal-stone. The outer face of the septal-stone is concealed, and its inner face is exposed to a height of 0.25m above the muddy floor of the main chamber. It is 1.15m long and 0.15m thick and now leans inward.

The main chamber is 1.4m long at its W side and 1.7m at the E owing to the skewed setting of the backstone. It is 1.1m wide just inside the septal-stone and narrows to 0.7m at the opposite end. Three stones form its eastern side. That to the S, largely concealed, is 0.1m thick and at least 0.3m long, and its top is 0.35m lower than the adjoining portico sidestone. The second sidestone is set inside the end of the first. It rises 0.15m above the top of the septal-stone. The innermost sidestone here is 0.05m lower than its neighbour. The W side of the chamber consists of two orthostats. That next to the septal-stone is 0.3m in exposed height. The second sidestone is set inside the line of the first, and there is a small packing-stone, measuring 0.2m or more, between them. This sidestone is the same height as the other. The backstone, inset between the sides, rises 0.3m above the floor of the chamber.

The front half of the main chamber is covered by a roofstone 1.1m long, 1.45m wide and 0.2m thick. It rests on the middle one of the three stones on the E side of the chamber, on the outer of the two at the W side, and on the outer end of a second roofstone, which covers the inner half of the chamber. There is a gap varying from 0.12m to 0.25m between the underside of the outer roofstone and the top of the septal-stone. A growth of peat covers much of the top of this roofstone and the entire top of the inner roofstone. The latter is at least 0.7m long, at least 1m wide and at least 0.15m thick. It rests on the top of the inner sidestone on the W side of the chamber and on the sloping inner end of the middle sidestone on the E side of the chamber. There is a small space between its underside and the tops of both the inner sidestone at the E and the backstone.

Colhoun 1949, 112 (plan a), 116; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 41, no. 97; SMR 1987, 30:3; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; Colhoun 1995, 78 (plan); RMP 1995, 30:3.

27. Carrowmullin. OS 38:5:6 (17.3 36.3). Not marked (1905). OD 0–100. C 340 265. Plate 31. Fig. 19.

Unclassified

This monument is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch maps. It stands on sloping pasture near the village of Fahan and c. 50m from the E shore of Lough Swilly. The sharply rising ground to the E of Fahan restricts the outlook in that direction.

The megalithic remains at the site consist of four slabs: three in a line at the N, orientated NE–SW, and one at the S. These stones rise above the surface of a long grass-grown mound 12.3m long, 6.8m in maximum width and 1m high. Excavation would be required to determine how the orthostats relate to original ground level.

The eastern of the three stones at the N side of the structure is 0.25m high, and the stone next to it is 0.5m
high. The third stone here is 2.1m to the W of the last and is 0.7m high. The lone orthostat at the S is 0.5m high. There is a tree, shown on plan, 0.2m from its outer face. A smaller tree, close to the SW edge of the mound, is not shown.

The nature of the remains is somewhat uncertain, but they may be those of a megalithic gallery at least 4m long and c. 1.3m wide, the northern side of which increased in height toward the W. It seems that the site was traditionally associated with St Mura, at least in the 19th century, when it appears to have served as a penitential station where an annual *turas*, or pattern, took place (Doherty 1891, 41–2). The rather neat outline of the mound might owe something to activity related to this aspect of the site.


28. Carrownaganagh. OS 36:10:1 (30.0 27.9). Not marked (1905). OD 300–400. C 159 255. Plates 32 and 33. Fig. 21.

*Wedge tomb*

This monument is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map. It stands on a gentle fall of ground 100m SE of a tributary of the Bunlin River, which enters the sea at the inner end of Mulroy Bay, 3.2km to the NE. The land in the immediate vicinity of the monument provides fair pasture, but in the surrounding area there are considerable occurrences of outcropping rock and patches of light peat cover. To the NW the hill range extending northward from Lough Salt Mountain, 2.5km away, restricts the outlook.

The monument, in a fair state of preservation, consists of a WSW-facing gallery, 4m long, divided by a high septal-stone into a partly roofed portico, the N side of which survives, and a roofed main chamber. A single outerwall stone survives at the N. There is a considerable cairn at the site, which survives beyond both sides of the tomb and covers much of the roof. At the S and along the top of the gallery it is largely grass grown. At the N, where it was disturbed at the date of survey, it was seen to be composed of sizeable stones under a layer of earth c. 0.3m thick. The cairn measures 4.2m N–S by 4.2m E–W and is 1.5m high.

The portico, c. 1.3m long, is almost fully obscured by cairn material, but the outer face of the single slab that forms its N side is visible. This is 0.7m high. A roofstone, partly hidden by cairn material, overlies the inner part of the portico. Its eastern end rests on the septal-stone, and its western end dips into the cairn material in the portico. It measures 1.8m N–S by at least 0.7m E–W and is 0.25m thick. A prostrate slab, partly hidden, at the front of the portico is over 0.7m long, 0.5m wide and 0.25m thick. The septal-stone, at least 0.5m high, is partly obscured by cairn material. However, it is clear that it is contained within the gallery sides and that it fully blocks access from the portico to the rest of the gallery.

The main chamber, 2.5m long, lacks a backstone. It is 1.15m wide just inside the septal-stone and narrows to 0.7m at its eastern end. Two stones form each side. The western of the two stones on the N side, the outer end of which is partly hidden by the cairn, is 0.4m high. The eastern stone is 0.5m high. The outer faces of the two
sidestones at the S are obscured. The western one is 0.4m high, and the eastern one is 0.45m high. The two sidestones at the S and the eastern one at the N support a roofstone that covers the chamber. There is a pad-stone (not shown on plan) between the roofstone and the western end of the supporting sidestone at the N. The roofstone, the southern side of which is hidden by the cairn, is 2.5m long (E–W), c. 1.5m wide and 0.2m thick.

At right angles to the outer face of the stone forming the N side of the portico is a set stone, 0.35m high. Its top is 0.35m below that of the portico side, and it seems to have functioned as a buttress. Approximately 0.3m outside the western sidestone on the N side of the main chamber is an outer-wall stone, its base hidden by cairn stones. This stone leans outward, is 0.9m long and 0.2m thick and would stand at least 0.7m high if upright. At either side of this is a prostrate slab, both of which are partly concealed. These may originally have formed part of the outer-walling. The western one measures at least 0.9m in maximum dimension, and the eastern, partly overlain by the outer-wall stone already referred to, measures 1.75m by at least 0.8m.


29. Carrowreagh. OS 20:4:4 (72.0 47.3). Not marked (1903). OD 500–600. C 495 405. Plates 34 and 35. Fig. 21.

Wedge tomb
This monument, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, is situated at the northern end of the Inishowen peninsula, c. 5km SSE of Carndonagh. It stands in a large tract of bog, where it was uncovered, along
with the remains of a stone circle (Lacy 1983, 69, no. 325) c. 100m to the W, during turf-cutting in around 1980. The site is on a gentle slope c. 30m W of the Meenahonor Burn, a tributary of the Glennagannon River, which flows to the sea at Trawbreaga Bay c. 9km to the NNW. There is a good outlook from the site over the surrounding area, except to the S, where it is restricted by gently rising ground.

The plan published here was made in 1982, when the N side of the monument was still partly covered by peat that rose 0.6m above it. The site was revisited in 1991, when it was found that further turf-cutting had fully exposed a tall orthostat at the NW and had uncovered another stone beside it that had not been visible in 1982. This has been added to the plan. By 1991 much of the monument was concealed by discarded sods. The structure appears to have been in a ruinous condition before it was enveloped by the peat.

The monument consists of a gallery, at least 4.5m long, now open at both ends, and flanked at either side by outer-walling. It lies more or less W–E. The gallery is 1.5m wide at the W end; it narrows and decreases in height toward the E. A single roofstone is in place at around midway along the gallery.

Two orthostats stand at the W end of the S side of the gallery. The western one, which leans inward, is 0.7m in exposed height, and the eastern one is 0.2m lower. Approximately 0.8m beyond the last the line of this side of the gallery is continued to the E by two small stones, only the tops of which are visible. These may well be sidestones. Four orthostats are exposed along the N side of the gallery. That at the W end is a good match for its counterpart on the S side. It is 0.8m high. The second, largely concealed by the roofstone, is 0.2m high. The third orthostat on this side, its western end concealed, is only 0.05m in exposed height. A displaced slab, c. 1m in maximum dimension, rests on this. The fourth orthostat is 0.05m in exposed height.

The roofstone measures 1.45m N–S by 1.1m E–W and is 0.2m thick. At the N it rests on the second sidestone of the gallery, and originally it would have rested on the corresponding sidestone on the S side but has slipped
and now lies on a buried stone that overlaps the inner face of that sidestone. The buried stone is c. 0.8m long, and its top is flush with the surface here. It is of uncertain status and is not shown on the plan. Beneath the southern half of the roofstone is a separate piece broken from its underside.

Three outer-wall stones are exposed at intervals beyond the front half of the S side of the gallery. The stone at the W is 0.2m high; the second is 0.1m high; and the third is only 0.05m in exposed height. An outer-wall stone beyond the E end of the N side of the gallery is 0.5m high. It rises 0.25m above the top of a small set stone at its inner face. At the W end of the N side of the monument and just outside the inner end of the large orthostat at the front of the gallery is a set stone, 0.35m in exposed height. This may be an outer-wall stone or may represent a doubling of the gallery side.

Stones of various sizes are scattered at the site, but there is no recognisable trace of a cairn or mound. A stone protruding from the peat beyond the SW corner of the gallery is of uncertain status. It is 1.2m long, 0.2m thick and 0.4m in sloping height.


Court tomb
This tomb, overgrown by bushes and other foliage, is 600m from the W side of and overlooks Killybegs Harbour. It stands on a low rise on rough, uneven ground. It has been incorporated in a later circular stone enclosure, apparently a cashel. Only the western part of the perimeter of this later structure is readily traceable. It is indicated by broken hatched lines on the plan.

The tomb consists of a gallery preceded at the SW by the remains of a court. The status of a number of set stones beyond both arms of the court is uncertain. The gallery, to which there is a lintelled entry, is c. 7.5m long and divided by segmenting jambs into two chambers, the outer one longer and wider than the inner. Corbelling survives along both sides of the outer half of the gallery, and three lintels resting on the gallery sides cover much of its inner half. It is likely that the two eastern lintels were placed here after the main period of use of the tomb (see below). In front of the gallery, in the court area, is a slight fall in ground level toward the SW, which may owe something to the construction of the cashel. The back of the gallery has been incorporated in a low bank that is roughly concentric with the cashel wall. In this bank, and 3m SE of the back of the gallery, is an upright stone, 1.75m long, 0.15m thick and 0.7m high. Neither this stone nor the bank is shown on the plan. There is considerable stone fill in and alongside the gallery, but no readily identifiable cairn outline could be discerned.

Two jambs, 0.85m apart, mark the entrance to the gallery. Five courtstones survive beyond the northern jamb, but only one beyond the southern jamb. The disposition of the stones at the N indicates a straight-sided court at least 7.5m long, and an original width of c. 6m seems likely. The exposed heights of the courtstones at the N,
from W to E, are 1.1m, 1m, 1.05m, 1.1m and 0.4m. The courtstone at the S side is 3m beyond the southern entrance jamb and is 0.9m in exposed height. Just 1m beyond this is a prostrate and partly concealed slab. It measures 2m by 0.9m by 0.4m thick and may be a fallen courtstone. The line of this is continued to the SE for a distance of 3.5m by three stones. The first of these, largely concealed, is 0.15m high. The other two seem deliberately set, but their status is uncertain. They are 0.5m and 0.6m high. Approximately 2m W of this line of stones is a displaced slab, 1.7m in maximum dimension.

There are a number of set stones outside the N arm of the court. Four of these form a line 1.1m N of its outer end. Three are contiguous, and the fourth is 0.6m to the W; they range from 0.15m to 0.55m high. Approximately 0.45m S of the westernmost of the four is a small, low, seemingly set stone, and to the NW is another. The former is 0.15m high, and the latter, which leans westward, would stand 0.45m high if upright. Parallel to and c. 2.5m N of the E end of the line of four stones are two set stones, 0.7m apart. In 1982, when the plan was made, these lay partly concealed by upcast derived from the construction of a sewerage system for a nearby dwelling-house. The western one is 0.45m in exposed height, and the eastern is 0.5m. As mentioned above, the status of all these stones to the N of the court is uncertain, and they are not hatched on the plan. Just SE of the outer two courtstones of the N arm of the court is a low mound, 2.5m by 1.8m and 0.5m high, which may be the remains of an old fence. At the western edge of this mound is a partly concealed prostrate slab, 1.7m in maximum dimension, and at its eastern edge are two small stones, the southern one 0.65m in exposed height and the northern 0.35m.

The front chamber of the gallery appears to have been c. 4m long. It is 2.4–2.7m wide except at its inner end, where it narrows to 1.6m. The entrance jambs are well matched, more or less flat-topped blocks of equal height. The northern one is 1m in exposed height and rises 0.25m above the top of the adjoining courtstone. The southern jamb is 0.8m in exposed height. The large lintel above them rests directly on the northern jamb and on a small pad-stone, 0.3m by 0.25m by 0.1m thick, between it and the top of the southern jamb. The lintel measures 2.4m by 1.7m and increases from 0.8m in depth close to its southern end to 1.15m near its northern end. A displaced stone, 0.8m in maximum dimension, lies in front of the northern jamb, and there is a partly buried stone, 0.6m in maximum dimension, in front of the southern jamb. A displaced slab, 1.3m by 0.9m by 0.2m thick, resting on the last may be a displaced corbel.

Two sidestones, 0.7m apart, represent the S side of the front chamber. The first of these overlaps the entrance jamb and is 0.8m high. It supports three corbels, the outer ends of which rest on the ground. The outermost of the three measures 0.95m by at least 0.6m and is 0.25m thick. There is a small pad-stone between it and the top of the sidestone. The other two corbels measure 0.85m by 0.7m and 0.75m by 0.55m; both are 0.3m thick. Outside these is a partly buried stone, at least 1.25m long, 0.3m thick and 0.4m high. It does not appear to be in situ. The second sidestone on this side is skewed inward to narrow the chamber. It is also 0.8m high. Outside this is a low set stone, 0.45m long, 0.3m thick and 0.35m high. It is unclear whether this is a structural stone. A displaced slab overlies the space between the two sidestones. Its western end rests on some fill at the inner end of the large sidestone, and its eastern end rests on the lintel above the segmenting jambs. This displaced slab, which may have served as a corbel, measures 1.35m by 0.75m and is 0.15m thick.

The greater part of the N side of the front chamber is formed by a large orthostat, 1m in exposed height. There is a small upright stone between this and the entrance jamb. This measures 0.3m by 0.2m by 0.3m in exposed height. A small orthostat beyond the opposite end of the large orthostat is skewed inward to narrow the back of the chamber. A hole has been dug around this stone, exposing it to a depth of 0.85m. Three tiers of corbelling survive at this side of the chamber. There are three corbels in the lowest tier. Their outer ends rest on the ground and are concealed. The westernmost of the three rests against the outer face of the entrance jamb. It measures 1.2m by 0.95m by 0.3m thick. The second measures 0.8m by 0.6m by 0.45m thick, and the third measures 1.2m by at least 0.6m by 0.2m thick. Two corbels of a second tier rest on the outer two of the lowest tier. The western one measures 1.2m by 0.6m by 0.2m thick. Beside and partly overlying the eastern edge of this is a small pointed corbel, 0.65m by 0.4m by 0.2m thick. A single corbel of the uppermost tier remains. It rests on the two corbels of the middle tier and measures 2m by 2m by 0.3m thick.

Three displaced slabs lie in the front chamber. One, 0.9m by 0.55m by 0.2m thick, lies against the inner edge of the large orthostat at the N side of the chamber. A large slab, 2.3m by 1m by 0.2m thick, apparently a displaced roofstone, lies on the floor of the inner end of the chamber. The third displaced stone, 1.15m by 0.7m by 0.25m thick, lies against the S side of the chamber.

The segmenting jambs are longitudinally set and stand inside the gallery sides. They are 0.6m apart, and both
are 0.9m high. A lintel, 2.3m by 1.25m by 0.5m thick, rests on the jambs. The inner chamber would have been c. 3m long. It is 1.55–1.9m wide where measurable and appears to have narrowed toward the back. Two orthostats form the N side of the chamber; one survives at the S side and is closed by a backstone. The outer and larger of the two northern orthostats, the outer face and both ends of which are concealed, is 0.7m high. The other is skewed inward to narrow the back of the chamber. The outer face of this too is concealed. It is 0.3m high. The orthostat on the S side, its outer face and both ends obscured, is 0.4m high. The tall backstone is flat on top with sloping ends, giving it the outline of a truncated gable. It is 1.1m high and rises c. 0.7m above the chamber sides. Two lintels roof part of the chamber. The outer of these, immediately inside the segmenting jambs, rests on the chamber sides. It measures 2.15m by 1.15m and is 0.3m thick. The inner, immediately in front of the backstone, also rests directly on the chamber sides. This measures 2.4m by 0.6m by 0.25m thick. The placing of these lintels directly on the chamber sides contrasts with the employment of corbels to raise the sides of the outer chamber. As the backstone rises above the top of the lintels, it is likely that originally there was corbelling here, and it is also suggested that the two lintels covering this chamber are probably later additions, perhaps associated with the construction of the cashel. The cashel-dwellers may have converted the gallery for use as a souterrain. The status of the lintel above the segmenting jambs is uncertain, but it may be in situ. A set stone, 0.95m long, 0.35m thick and 0.4m high, c. 0.9m N of the back of the gallery and close to the surviving arc of the later stone enclosure, is of uncertain status.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited this monument in 1847, and his report indicates that the tomb was then much as it is now except that five lintels, not four as now, lay across the gallery. There were still five in place until the 1950s (Crozier 1957). It is likely that the large slab in the front chamber then lay on the gallery sides. Conaghan (1974) has recorded that there was ‘a small enclosure about three feet [c. 0.9m] in diameter’ in the court area in front of the entrance to the gallery. This feature was not identified during the survey of the tomb.


Wedge tomb

This monument is 1.5km N of Dunkineely village. It stands on a low N–S-aligned ridge in boggy land broken by rock outcrops. There is a good all-round outlook from the site except to the NE, where it is limited by Drumardack Hill, 0.7km distant. To the SW is a view of the sea at McSwyne’s Bay, c. 2km away. What appears to be a pre-bog field wall approaches the site from the W. Trees have been planted in this area, but an open space has been left around the structure.

This monument consists of the remains of a round kerb c. 10m in diameter enclosing three galleries, each facing SSW, set side by side. This complex structure stands in a low round mound, not more than 0.5m high. The mound extends 0.75–2.5m from the kerb and measures 13.5–14.5m across. A layer of heather-grown peat on top of the surviving roofstones indicates that the monument was covered by bog, probably until recent centuries. The usual W–E convention is not followed in this description.

Twelve kerbstones survive in situ. A single one at the N is 0.6m high. Six more form a curved line at the NE. Their heights from N to S are 0.6m, 0.8m, 0.1m, 0.15m, 0.1m and 0.2m. A single kerystone at the ESE is 0.5m high. A single one at the S is 0.2m high. Three contiguous ones at the W are the tallest of the surviving kerbstones. Their heights from S to N are 1.4m, 1m and 1.2m. Immediately inside the northern two of these is a set stone, 0.2m high.

The galleries, set close together, stand between 0.5m and 1.2m apart. The backs of the galleries stand more or less in line c. 3m from the kerb at the N. The front of the western and middle galleries now end just short of the kerb. Whether the front of the galleries originally articulated with the kerb is not known.
The western gallery
The western gallery, now open to the SSW, is 5m in overall length. A septal-stone divides it into a portico and a main chamber. A large roofstone, possibly slightly displaced, covers almost the entire main chamber. There is a considerable amount of grass-grown fill in the gallery.

The portico, 1.15m in maximum width, was at least 1.9m long. Approximately 0.3m S of the outermost of the three orthostats forming the western side of this element of the structure there is a slab, 0.3m high, at right angles to the line of the gallery. This stone is not securely set and cannot be relied on as a structural stone. It is not hatched on the plan. Just N of its western end is a partly buried stone, 0.45m in maximum dimension, which is probably displaced. The middle one of the three orthostats forming the W side of the portico overlaps the other two. The heights of these three stones from S to N are 0.4m, 0.3m and 0.7m. Two orthostats remain on the eastern side of the portico. The outer of these, 0.3m high (like its counterpart opposite), overlaps the inner orthostat, which is 0.55m high. The septal-stone is inset in the gallery sides and extends beyond them. It is 0.25m in exposed height and around half the height of the adjacent sidestones.

The main chamber is 2.7m long. Two opposed orthostats survive at either end. Those immediately behind the septal-stone are only 0.45m apart. That to the W is 0.9m high. It rises 0.4m above that to the E, which may originally have been taller. Next to the N end of the last is a partly buried, displaced stone, at least 0.3m in maximum dimension. The other two orthostats stand immediately inside the backstone. The western one is 0.6m high, and the eastern is 0.45m high. The backstone is 0.6m high measured at its inner face.

The large roofstone covers all but the front 0.5m of the main chamber. The N end of this great slab rests on top of the backstone, on the adjoining sidestone at the W and against the top of the inner face of the E sidestone.
Its SW corner rests on the western sidestone at the S end of the chamber, and its SE corner rests on fill. It measures 2.4m N–S, narrows from 1.5m wide near its S end to 1m at the N end, and is 0.35m thick. Although it is slightly displaced, its disposition clearly indicates a decrease in gallery height from SSW to NNE.

The middle gallery

The middle gallery is 6.1m in overall length. Two orthostats standing end to end and slightly askew to each other divide the gallery in two. The portico, to the SSW, 2.5m long, is represented by two orthostats of its western side. The outer stone is 0.4m high, and the inner, 0.6m to the N, is 0.35m high.

The segmenting stones are both 0.8m high, approximately the same height as the adjacent sidestones. There is a gap of 0.2m between the western one and the W side of the gallery. A displaced slab, 1.2m by 0.45m by 0.15m thick, lies across the gallery immediately N of the last two stones. Its original function is not clear.

The main chamber is 3m long, and it narrows from 1.3m wide at the S to 1m at the N. Five orthostats form each side. The heights of those at the W, from S to N, are 0.7m, 0.9m, 0.8m, 0.7m and 0.7m. Between the third and fourth of these a low stone (not hatched on plan), 0.1m by at least 0.25m by 0.25m high, fills a gap between the orthostats and may be part of the original structure. A slab, 1m by 0.4m by 0.2m thick, lies flat on top of the fourth of these five orthostats. The heights of the five orthostats on the E side of the chamber from S to N are 0.7m, 0.4m, 0.6m, 0.7m and 0.4m. The backstone, which is somewhat lower than the sidestones, is set beyond the ends of the gallery sides. It is 0.7m high at its inner face.

A large roofstone that covers the greater part of the main chamber may have slipped northward somewhat. It is 4m long, 1.8m wide at mid-length, narrowing to either end, and 0.3–0.4m thick. It rests on the two innermost sidestones at the E side of the chamber and on the slab, mentioned above, laid on one of the sidestones of the W side. The disposition of the roofstone indicates a decrease in chamber height toward the N. A hole c. 1m across and 0.4m deep has been dug into the floor at the NE corner of the main chamber.

The eastern gallery

The eastern gallery is 2.5m in overall length and stands alongside the northern half of the middle gallery. It is 0.6m wide at the open SSW end and widens to 0.8m at the back. It is roofed by a single slab. This structure is incomplete, and what survives appears to be the greater part of the main chamber of a gallery similar in design to the other two. The claim in an OS Revision Name Book (1847–9) that the entire structure, i.e. the three galleries, contained six ‘caves’ would support this.

Three sidestones remain at either side of this gallery, and there is a backstone at its northern end. Gaps between the orthostats suggest that there may be sidestones missing. The heights of the orthostats at the W from S to N are 0.15m, 0.25m and 0.25m. The outermost stone at the E side is 0.4m high. The next, 0.3m high, is split vertically into two uprights. This is indicated on the plan with a pecked line. It was 0.3m thick when intact. The innermost stone here is 0.4m high. The backstone, set beyond the W side of the gallery, does not achieve full closure and may be broken. It is 0.35m high. The roofstone is 2.4m long, 1.5m wide and 0.3m thick. It rests on the outer two orthostats on the E side of the gallery and on a small thin stone (not on plan) resting on top of the middle orthostat on the W side. Unlike the roofstones on the other two galleries, this one rises slightly toward the N.

Quite a number of stones lie around the site, and the more prominent of these are shown on the plan. Some are clearly displaced, and others, partly embedded in the ground, are of uncertain status. None exceeds 1.35m in maximum dimension. An entry in an OS Revision Name Book (1847–9) records that human bones of ‘more than ordinary size’ had a short time previously been found in a ‘stone trough’ in one of the ‘caves’ on the E side of the structure. Nothing further is known of this.

This complex monument, the only instance of its kind in Ireland, seems to belong to the wedge tomb tradition. This is suggested by the orientation of the galleries, the mode of segmentation of the two better-preserved ones, the placement of the large roofstones directly on the gallery sides, and the increase in width and height of the two better-surviving galleries to the SSW.


Plate 39. Claggan (Dg. 32). Front of chamber from east.

Portal tomb
The tomb is c. 400m from the sea cliff at the W side of Horn Head peninsula and on the N side of a broad shallow valley. It commands an extensive outlook westward along the N coast of County Donegal and NW to Tory Island, 13km distant. Light grazing is available in the vicinity. The court tomb in the same townland (Dg. 33) lies almost 1km to the SE.

The monument consists of a long cairn, 33.5m E–W, at the E end of which is a narrow roofless chamber. The cairn, its perimeter partly grass grown, is formed of slabs 0.5m in maximum dimension and reaches a height of c. 0.7m. It is 13m wide at the chamber and narrows to c. 5m at the W.

The chamber, in which there is a considerable fill of cairn stones, stands 6m from the rounded E end of the cairn. It faces E, and its N and S sides are both formed by a portal-stone and a single sidestone. The two stones at the N both lean inward, and, as their bases are hidden by cairn fill, their positioning relative to each other is unclear.

The portal-stones are set longitudinally. The northern one is pointed on top, and the southern one is flat topped. The gap between them was originally more than the present measurable 0.6m. That at the N would stand 1.3m high if upright. It leans against the S portal-stone, which is 1.1m high. The sidestone at the S, 1.2m high, leans against the outer edge of the adjoining portal-stone. It appears that a piece may have been broken from the top of the N sidestone, which is at least 0.9m high.

It seems that when intact this chamber would have been at least 2m long and close to 1m wide. It is clear from Thomas Fagan’s (1845–8) account of the monument that it was in its present state when he saw it.

Fagan 1845–8, book 1, 8; OS Revision Name Book, sheet 15 (1847–9), 14; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 290 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 30, no. 50 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983b, 93, Donegal no. 2; SMR 1987, 15:4; Cody 1995, 36–8 (plan); RMP 1995, 15:4.

33. Claggan. OS 15:7:3 (66.9 44.2). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1905). OD 300–400. C 002 400. Plate 40. Fig. 25.

Court tomb
This monument, 1km SE of the last described, is on a level patch of ground on the lower S-facing slopes of Crocknabuckan Hill, toward the N end of Horn Head peninsula. The mountains of Muckish and Errigal dominate the skyline to the S. The sea is visible at Pollaguill Bay, 1.6km to the SW, along the valley of the Pollaguill Burn. Rock outcrops in the immediate vicinity of the site indicate shallow soil cover, which today provides fair pasture and a little tillage. Fagan (1845–8) recorded that within local memory this monument had lain concealed and
unrecognised under soil and heather until rabbit-hunters 'tore up the cairn and disfigured many of the graves beneath'.

The monument consists of the remains of a court at the NNW, leading to a ruined gallery now 8.5m long divided into an ante-chamber and two main chambers. It is likely that there was at least one further main chamber here. Part of the W side of the gallery has been incorporated in a field wall that crosses the court. The remains of a cairn are traceable to the W of this wall. This is visible as a low, poorly defined, grass-grown spread of stones measuring 20m N–S and extending a maximum of 8m westward from the gallery side. There is no identifiable trace of the cairn to the E of the gallery, but two set stones 2m beyond the eastern arm of the court and parallel to it may be kerbstones. The southern one is 0.4m high, and the northern is 0.2m high. A stone next to the last, 0.55m long, 0.3m thick and 0.15m high, is not definitely in situ.

The court is c. 4.5m wide and was at least 5m long. Four stones of its eastern arm are in place. A fifth stone at the northern extremity of this arm has fallen. The fallen stone, not hatched on the plan, would be 0.7m high if upright. The courtstone next to it, a substantial block, is 1.05m high. This stone rises 0.15m above the top of the next one to the S. Next to the last is a large round block 1m high. Between this and the gallery entrance is a pillar-like courtstone also 1m high. A scatter of cairn stones hinders identification of the W arm of the court, but one large rounded stone at the wall edge and close to the gallery entrance seems to be a courtstone. It is exposed to a depth of 0.4m in a hole in the cairn. Approximately 1m NW of the last is a stone 0.6m high, which may also be a courtstone. The status of three other set stones, two just S of the last and one to the N, is unclear. From S to N, these measure 0.1m, 0.3m and 0.15m high.

The jambs at the entrance to the gallery are transversely set and stand 0.8m apart. That to the W is 0.8m in exposed height. A thin slab at its inner edge is 0.35m high. The eastern jamb is 0.65m high. Approximately 0.5m S of the last and rising 0.1m above it is another jamb. This stone seems intended to divide an ante-chamber c. 1m long from the rest of the gallery.

The third chamber of the gallery extends for 3.2m behind the inner of the eastern pair of entrance jambs and is 2.3m wide. A single orthostat survives on either side of the outer half of this chamber. That at the E rises 0.25m above the top of the adjoining jamb. The orthostat at the W is 1m high. Between this stone and the entrance jamb is a set stone, 1m high, at right angles to the line of the gallery. Its status is uncertain. Toward the back of the E side of the chamber is a leaning slab that would stand c. 1m high if upright. It is uncertain whether it is in situ.

A sillstone with a longitudinally placed jamb at its W end marks the division between the first and second chambers. The sillstone is 0.35m in exposed height. The jamb is 0.95m high. The sides of the second chamber are missing, but another jamb and sill arrangement, similar to the last, marks its southern end and shows that it was c. 3m long. The flat-topped sillstone is 0.6m high. The jamb, at its western end, is 1.1m high. This would seem to be a segmenting feature, and so it appears that at least one further chamber existed at this end of the structure. Approximately 1m W of the present end of the gallery and between it and the field wall crossing the site are two set stones, the northern one 0.6m high and the southern 0.2m high. It is not clear whether these form part of the original structure.

Plate 40. Claggan (Dg. 33), from east.