An orthostat shown at the E side of the second chamber on an earlier plan (de Valera 1960) seems to be part of a stone-faced earthen bank that joins the gallery at this point, rather than a sidestone (Lacy 1983, 324, no. 1863). The western extremity of this bank is shown on the plan published here.


34. Cloghbolie. OS 103:13:4 (6.1 3.1). Not marked (1907). OD 0–100. G 843 651. Plate 41. Fig. 22.

Court tomb
This monument, almost 5km NW of Ballyshannon, is 1.7km SW of the court tomb in Cool Beg (Dg. 37) and 150m from the coast. It stands on level poorish pasture and commands an extensive outlook N and W across Donegal Bay. The outlook to the S is restricted by a nearby ridge.

The tomb consists of a gallery at least 7.5m long, with a lintelled entrance, preceded at the E by the remains of a court. The gallery is largely concealed by a wide drystone wall built along it. The overlying wall rises well above the orthostats and conceals all but their outer faces. It is clear that the gallery is widest at the entrance and narrows toward the W.

Two courtstones, both incorporated in the field wall, survive to the N of the gallery entrance. The inner one leans outward and is 1.2m high. The outer one is 1m high. Immediately beyond this is a low set stone, 1m long and at least 0.1m thick. It would stand 0.5m high if upright and may be a courtstone. This cannot be confirmed, and so it is not hatched on the plan.

Two well-matched, flat-topped and transversely set entrance jambs, 0.6m apart, stand at the entrance to the gallery and support a large lintel. Both jambs are 0.5m high. The lintel, a large rectangular block, is 2.2m long, 0.85m wide and 0.75m thick. A slab, 1.35m in maximum dimension, rests on the wall between the N end of the lintel and the inner courtstone. It may be a displaced corbel. Another displaced slab, c. 1m in maximum dimension, now built into the field wall lies 0.4m W of the last.

Gallery sidestones are visible to the N and S c. 1.5m W of the entrance jambs. The outer faces of three are to be seen at the N, and five are visible at the S. The easternmost one at the N and that next to it are both 0.5m high. The third orthostat here is 0.8m high. It rises 0.4m above the top of the preceding stone. The heights of the five orthostats at the S side of the gallery from E to W are 0.15m, 0.7m, 0.35m, 0.7m and 0.7m. The last is set inside the line of the others.

Allingham 1879, 108 (‘About half-a-mile north of the O’Clery’s Castle, is another giant’s grave of colossal proportions’); Wakeman 1896, 297 (cromleac of enormous size); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 18, no. 14; SMR 1987, 103:44; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 103:44.

Plate 41. Cloghbolie (Dg. 34). Gallery entrance from east.
35. **Cloghroe.** OS 69:5:4 (5.7 34.8). ‘Standing Stones’ (1906). OD 500–600. C 134 006. Plate 42. Fig. 1.

Plate 42. Cloghroe (Dg. 35), from east.

*Portal tomb*

This monument lies c. 6km N of Ballybofey. It stands on the northern slope of the broad shallow valley of the Cloghroe River, itself a tributary of the River Deele. There is an extensive outlook eastward along the Deele valley, and Liskeran Hill is visible to the S across the Cloghroe valley. Much of the land in the vicinity of the tomb is devoted to pasture, and wettish land on the lower ground to the S and E has been planted with trees.

This single-chambered monument lacks a roofstone. Two portal-stones survive at the NNW, and 2m to the S is a gabled backstone. A single sidestone, half the length of the chamber, leans inward against the eastern end of the backstone. A displaced stone lying in the chamber is partly obscured by field stones. It is at least 1m in maximum dimension.

The portal-stones are 0.6m apart at ground level. The eastern one now leans against the upper part of the western. It would stand 2.3m high if upright. The western one is 2.5m high at its inner face and exposed to a depth of 2.8m at its outer face. The backstone, 1.3m high, leans inward slightly. The adjoining sidestone is 1.9m long and up to 0.4m thick and at its highest rises 0.4m above the top of the backstone.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited the site in 1846, and it is clear from his account that the monument was then as it is now. He noted that ‘in labouring the ground around it in 1843 and at a depth of 2 feet [c. 0.6m] a small earthen urn containing calcined bones and ashes was dug up. The crock and bones mouldered down when exposed to the air.’


36. **Convoy Demesne.** OS 69:3:5 (61.3 48.2). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1906). OD 200–300. C 193 021. Plate 43. Fig. 19.

*Unclassified*

This monument is 2.2km NW of Convoy village on a level patch of ground broken by rock outcrops. It commands an extensive outlook to the E. The site is overlooked from the W by a sharply rising, gorse-grown ridge not more than 30m away. Immediately E of the monument is an abrupt rise in ground level of 0.5m to 0.8m. The lower courses of a ruined masonry building stand immediately to the NE of the site.

The monument is greatly ruined. Two opposed slabs, each aligned NNE–SSW, are in place. They are 0.9m apart at ground level. The eastern one, 1.8m high, leans away from the western, which is 1m high. The latter stone may have been taller. The eastern stone rests against the top of a slight upright stone 0.2m E of its base, which is 0.3m long, 0.15m thick and 0.7m high. It is uncertain whether this is a structural stone, and it is not hatched on the plan. This small stone also supports one end of a displaced slab, 2m by 1.5m by 0.8m thick, which leans against it from the E. Approximately 2m to the N of the set stones are two upright stones (not hatched on
plan) that are not definitely part of the monument and may belong to a ruined field fence, aligned N–S, which is represented by other intermittent large stones beyond the monument. The southern one of these two stones is 1.4m high, and the northern, c. 0.3m to the N, is 1.1m high. Less than 1m W of the southern stone is a prostrate stone, 0.8m by 0.7m by 0.9m. There are a number of other stones lying around the site, some of which seem to have been deliberately smashed.

The two tall uprights appear to be the jambs or portal-stones of a megalithic chamber. However, the monument must remain unclassified. Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited the site in 1846 and described it as the remains of a ‘druidical sepulture called Grania’s Bed’. There were then eight stones at the site, but their arrangement is not clear from Fagan’s account.


Court tomb
This tomb is c. 5km NNW of Ballyshannon in rolling pasture 500m from the coast. It stands c. 1.7km NE of the court tomb in Cloghbolie (Dg. 34). There is a good all-round outlook from the site, most notably westward to the sea. This monument has been incorrectly assigned to the adjoining townland of Cool More in much of the literature.

The monument stands S of and immediately beside the cutting of an abandoned railway line. It consists of a gallery 7m long lying E–W and divided by jambs into two chambers, the inner one covered by a partly dislodged roofstone. There is a considerable fill of stones in the gallery.

Two transversely set jambs, 0.7m apart, mark the E end of the gallery. A set stone outside the southern one may represent a doubling of the jamb. The northern jamb is 1.3m high, and the southern one is 1m high. The stone in front of the latter is 0.6m high.

The eastern chamber is c. 3.3m long. Two orthostats, one large and the other small, both leaning inward, form its S side, but none is now visible on the N side, where an irregular drystone wall, 0.2–0.5m high, has been built. The largest stone in this wall, 0.7m long and 0.5m high, is shown on the plan. Outside the wall is a partly concealed prostrate slab, possibly a displaced sidestone. This measures 2m by 1.1m and is at least 0.4m thick. The eastern of the two sidestones at the S is 1.3m high, of similar height to the adjacent entrance jamb. Two thin slabs at its outer face have become detached from this orthostat. The outer one is 0.5m high, and the inner is 0.8m. The second orthostat on this side is set inside the line of the first, and its inner end is concealed. It is 0.4m high. Outside it is a prostrate slab 0.95m in maximum dimension.
Two transversely set segmenting jambs, 0.7m apart, separate the chambers. The southern one, set inside the line of the gallery wall, rises 0.1m above the top of the adjacent large orthostat, which forms the S side of the second chamber. The northern jamb, partly inset in the gallery wall, rises 0.1m above the top of its fellow jamb. The inward-leaning southern sidestone of the western chamber is 1m high. Opposite this is a matching orthostat, 0.65m high. At the outer face of the E end of the last is a slab, apparently displaced, though in an upright position. This measures 1.3m by 0.25m by 0.6m high. The large roofstone overlying much of this chamber has slipped down the inner face of the southern sidestone and rests in a leaning position on top of the northern orthostat. It is 3.6m in overall length, 2.7m wide and 0.5m thick. This chamber was at least 3m long and narrows from 2.2m at the segmenting jambs to 1.85m at its open, western end.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited here in 1847, and his account shows that the monument was then in its present condition. It is clear that the roofstone of the western chamber had by then assumed its present somewhat dislodged position. An account in an OS Revision Name Book, written sometime between 1847 and 1849, mentioned ‘a second covering stone’ lying prostrate at the centre of the structure, but this is not now visible. Wakeman (1876–8a, 105) described this monument as a ‘perfect example’ of its class and claimed that the roof was intact. The earlier OS accounts, just referred to, suggest that Wakeman was mistaken about the roof. Allingham visited the site soon after Wakeman wrote about it and, finding it in its present state, concluded that it had been damaged only recently (Wakeman 1876–8b; Allingham 1879).

There seems to have been a two-chambered gallery here, its front to the E. The narrowing of the western chamber toward the W end supports such an interpretation.

Fagan 1845–8, book 15, 11–13; OS Revision Name Book, sheet 103 (1847–9), 51; Wakeman 1876–8a, 105 ('A

Fig. 23.

Unclassified

This tomb is on a S-facing hillslope in arable land 1.6km W of Lough Swilly and commands an extensive view eastward across the lough. Knockalla Mountain, just over 2km away, limits the outlook to the N and W.

The monument is greatly ruined. Three orthostats, the long axis of each aligned ENE–WSW, are in situ. The northernmost of these is 0.7m NW of, and the southernmost one 0.4m SW of, the third one, which lies between and slightly in front of the others. Another stone leans southward against the western end of this and may also be in situ. Two large displaced slabs lie at the southern end of the structure, and there is a stone, 0.7m in maximum dimension, beside the northern orthostat. The stones stand in a low, grass-grown, stony mound, not more than 0.5m high, measuring 7m NW–SE by 5.2m NE–SW. The site has been used as a dump for field stones.

The set stone at the N end of the monument is 0.8m high. The orthostat set slightly in front of the other two is 0.35m high. The slab leaning against the W end of this is 2.25m long and 0.4m thick and, if upright, would stand 0.6m high. The orthostat at the S, partly concealed by a displaced slab leaning on its western end, is 0.45m high. The displaced slab measures 1.6m by 1.4m and is 0.2m thick. The second displaced slab here adjoins the last at the SE and measures 2.1m by 1.9m by 0.25m thick.

The scant remains may represent two sides of a chamber or gallery with an outer-wall stone to one side (Ó Nualláin 1983a). However, in its present condition the monument must remain unclassified. According to the OS Memoirs (1834), the monument was then ‘in ruins’ and in the process of being broken up to provide material for road-building.

OS Memoirs, Killygarvan parish (1834), 21; Kinahan 1889, 279; Borlase 1897, 231, Kilmacrenan no. 8; Somerville 1909, 201–2 (incorrectly stated to be in Inniskil townland); Killanin and Duignan 1962, 408; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 412; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 41, no. 101; SMR 1987, 28:7; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; RMP 1995, 28:7.
Plate 47. Fig. 44.

Plate 47. Crevary Upper (Dg. 39), from south.

Court tomb (?)
This monument is 1.5km W of Rathmullan and stands on level pasture overlooking Lough Swilly 1km to the E. Crogan Hill, 1.6km to the NW, restricts the outlook in that direction.

The monument consists of two tall longitudinally set jambs, 1.25m apart, with a slab around half their height set transversely between them. Running to the SSE from just beyond the western jamb is the base of a low field fence. In this fence, c. 2m from the jamb, are two large stones beside each other. Although the status of these stones is uncertain, it appears that they are two of a line of four stones that, according to a report in an OS Revision Name Book (1847–9), formed the W side of a grave c. 18 feet (c. 5.5m) long here. The E side of the grave was said to be defaced. De Valera (1960) recorded a local claim that in addition to the two surviving jambs there were formerly two others.

The western jamb is 1.6m high, and the eastern rises 0.3m above it. The intervening slab is 0.9m high. A stone, 0.4m long, 0.3m thick and 0.5m high, at the outer face of the western jamb is not part of the original structure. A partly concealed stone lies prostrate immediately S of the same jamb. The northern of the two slabs in the wall to the S of the western jamb leans westward. It is 1.3m long and 0.5m thick and would stand 1.1m high if upright. It does not appear to be set in the ground. The southern slab is 1.45m long, 0.6m thick and 0.75m high and is somewhat loose.

The two jambs and intervening stone may have formed the segmentation of or entry to a court tomb gallery or, alternatively, may be the portal-stones and doorstone of a portal tomb. In the light of the indications that there was a long gallery here and perhaps a second pair of jambs, as noted above, this tomb is assigned, with caution, to the court tomb class.

OS Memoirs, Killygarvan parish (1834), 22 (sketch); OS Revision Name Book, sheet 37 (1847–9), 15; Kinahan 1889, 282; Borlase 1897, 233, Kilmacrenan no. 22; Somerville 1909, 221–4; de Valera 1960, 106, DG. 12 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 20, no. 17 (plan); SMR 1987, 37:6; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 37:6.


Court tomb
This monument, like the two (Dg. 12 and Dg. 113) nearby in the same coastal valley, has been excavated. It is sited on a low but steep-sided rocky ridge and faces upslope to the head of the valley. Before excavation it was so obscured by collapsed cairn stones that its precise design was unclear (de Valera 1960). The excavation was carried out over five seasons (1969–73), and preliminary accounts have been published (Flanagan 1970; 1971a;
1971b; 1972; 1973; 1974). It consists of a long cairn at the northern end of which is a court leading to a two-chambered gallery. A lintel surmounts the gallery entrance, and there is another above the jambs separating the two chambers. Tiers of corbelling survive along the sides and back of the gallery. A subsidiary chamber opens into the outer end of the W side of the court. Considerable stretches of a dry-wall revetment were revealed along the sides of the cairn. The W arm of the court and the cairn outside it were found to have been removed. Excavation showed that the surviving E arm of the court had been built on several layers of random rubble spread, apparently to secure a level surface.

The finished implements among the finds recovered from the chambers were two heat-shattered flint plano-convex knives, a classic flint hollow scraper and a concave scraper. The 1971 season, devoted to the excavation of the court and the determination of the shape and extent of the cairn, resulted in the recovery of a large number of flint flakelets and a small number of finished implements of flint, namely, two end scrapers, one hollow scraper and two knives.

The plan and sections published here were made in 1990. The cairn, as it now survives, is 36.5m long and narrows from 13.5m wide at the northern end to 10.5m at the southern. The northern end consists of a low bank of earth and stones that lacks any identifiable formal edge. Five stones at the outer face of this bank are shown on the plan. These are somewhat loose and of uncertain status. The largest measures 0.75m by 0.6m by 0.2m high. There is no trace of the expected entrance through the front of the cairn to the court, but a brief reference to such a feature suggests that it was apparent during the excavation (Flanagan 1973). The remainder of the cairn is composed of a mass of stones rising from both ends to reach a maximum height of 2.3m at the back of the gallery. The rear of the cairn as portrayed on the plan represents the present limit of the cairn mass, but it is doubtful that this accords with the original outline, which, though badly eroded, ‘was satisfactorily established’ during the excavation (Flanagan 1973). The dry-wall revetment exposed along the sides of the cairn survives to two layers in places, but for the most part only a single course remains. The stones of the lowest visible layer, some now somewhat displaced, are shown on the plan. These range from 0.15m to 1.5m long and from 0.15m to 1.1m high. Immediately S of the gap in the W side of the cairn are some large slabs at the cairn edge, but it is not clear whether these formed part of the revetment, and they are not shown on the plan. A stone just beyond the rear of the cairn mass may be displaced. It measures 0.8m by 0.75m by 0.3m.

Because of destruction in the court area the excavator encountered some difficulty in ‘the determination of its inner facade’ (Flanagan 1972). The preliminary accounts of the excavation do not contain any elaboration on this matter other than a description of the court as being of the full variety (Flanagan 1972; 1974, 9). The precise relationship of the court to the subsidiary chamber is also unclear, but if, like at two other Donegal court tombs (Dg. 56 and Dg. 95), the front of the subsidiary chamber lay on the court perimeter, a court length of c. 10m would seem likely. The E arm of the court is represented by ten stones. The edge of the cairn mass beside the gallery entrance seems to follow the line of the missing western arm. An original court width of at least 8m appears to be indicated. The outermost courtstone at the E, slightly inside the line of the others, is split vertically. It measures 0.7m by 0.1m by 0.4m high. The heights of the next seven are 0.75m, 0.65m, 0.75m, 1m, 0.6m, 0.8m and 1.05m. The next, the second from the gallery entrance, rises 0.45m above the top of the first. The base of this stone is exposed and is clearly seen to stand on the rubble fill, already mentioned, that was noted on this side of the ridge during the excavation. There is dry-wall filling in the slight gaps between it and the courtstones at either side, and a corbel, 0.5m by 0.9m and 0.5m in maximum thickness, rests on its sloping top. The innermost courtstone is 0.6m high, but two superimposed blocks, so placed that all three present a vertical face, act to increase its effective height to c. 0.5m more than the last-described courtstone and the entrance jamb at its other side. The lower of the two superimposed blocks measures 0.7m by 0.4m by 0.45m high, and the upper 0.8m by 0.45m by 0.5m high. A large slab, 1.2m by 0.45m by 0.5m thick, lying in an almost horizontal position on the last and on the cairn behind it may be a corbel. Just 1m beyond the outer end of the E arm of the court is a displaced slab, 1.25m by 1.2m by 0.45m thick.

The gallery is c. 5.5m long. Entry to it is between two well-matched, transversely set jambs of similar height set 0.8m apart at ground level. The eastern one is 1.2m high, and the western is 1.4m. Wedged between them is a sillstone now no longer set in the ground. This is 0.75m long, 0.08m thick and 0.45m high. The lintel above the entrance rests on the flat-topped jambs. This is a rectangular block of stone and measures 2.2m by 1.25m by 0.9m thick. There is a pad-stone (not on plan), 0.05m by 0.04m, between it and the inner end of the top of the western jamb.
Plate 48. Croaghbeg (Dg. 40). Front of gallery from north some years before site was excavated.

Plate 49. Croaghbeg (Dg. 40). Front of gallery from north some years after site was excavated.

Plate 50. Croaghbeg (Dg. 40). Subsidiary chamber from south.

The segmenting jambs, transversely set, are well-matched, flat-topped stones. They stand inside the gallery walls and are 0.65m apart. The eastern one is 1.3m high, and the western is 1.25m high. A sillstone between them is 0.65m long, 0.08m thick and 0.4m high. The lintel resting above the jambs, a rectangular block, measures 2.1m by 0.9m by 0.8m thick. There is a pad-stone between the top of the western jamb and the lintel.
Beside the E end of the lintel and at the same height is a block of stone, 0.65m by 0.3m by 0.55m high, wedged between it and the gallery side. This rests on the middle orthostat on this side of the gallery and on a pad-stone, 0.15m by 0.08m by 0.08m thick, set on top of the segmenting jamb. Also helping to wedge this block in place is a stone, 0.25m by 0.2m by 0.1m thick, jammed between it and the top of the inner end of the first orthostat of the gallery.

The front chamber, measured from sill to sill, is 2.6m long and 2.7m wide; the rear chamber is 2.7m long and c. 3m wide near the front, narrowing to 2.3m at the back. Three orthostats form each side of the gallery, the middle ones overlapping the adjacent jambs and serving as sidestones to both chambers, the same arrangement as at Shalwy (Dg. 113). The outermost orthostat at the W overlaps the inner end of the adjacent entrance jamb. It is 1.6m high. The middle orthostat on this side is 1.6m high. Immediately outside this and rising c. 0.3m above its highest point is a slab, 1.2m long, 0.25m thick and 0.6m high. This flat-topped slab is positioned so as to raise the height of the gallery here and seems to be supported by the cairn mass alongside the gallery. The third orthostat on this side is 2m in maximum height.

The outermost orthostat at the E side of the gallery rises from 1m high at the front to 1.75m at mid-length. The next one is 1.3m high. Mirroring the arrangement on the W side of the gallery, a slab immediately outside this orthostat rises 0.5m above it. This slab, its base hidden, leans inward slightly and is 1.4m long and 0.15m thick. The innermost orthostat on this side of the gallery is 1.7m high. The backstone of the gallery is partly overlapped by this and by the upper part of the opposite sidestone. It is 1.3m high near its eastern end and slightly lower at the western end. Resting on it is a large block of stone, 1.65m long and 0.4m thick. This raises the height of the back of the gallery by 0.75m.

Heavy slabs have been used to corbel the gallery. The outermost orthostat at the W supports a number of corbels; two are superimposed above its outer end. The lower of these rests on two pad-stones on top of the orthostat. The pad-stone toward the front of the gallery is 0.15m long and 0.1m thick, and the one toward the back is 0.3m long and 0.1m thick. The corbel above them measures 0.5m N–S by 1m by 0.3m thick. The corbel above this measures 0.8m by 1.1m by 0.4m thick. A single corbel rests on the middle part of the orthostat. This measures 0.8m by 1m by 0.4m thick. Next to it are two superimposed corbels above the junction of the outer and middle orthostat. The lower one measures 0.5m by at least 0.65m by 0.2m thick, and the upper 0.8m by at least 0.6m by 0.4m thick. The slab, mentioned above, set outside of and rising above the middle orthostat also carries a corbel, 1.2m by at least 0.7m by 0.3m thick. Next to this corbel and resting on all but the southern third of the inner orthostat is a corbel, 1.1m by at least 0.8m by 0.4m thick.

The first orthostat on the E side of the gallery supports a corbel, 1m by 0.35m by 0.35m in maximum thickness, on its outer end. The inner end of this corbel is overlain by another corbel. This measures 1.3m by 1.4m by 0.3m thick. Beside this is a corbel, 0.9m by at least 0.6m by 0.3m thick, supported on the adjacent ends of the first orthostat and on the slab, mentioned above, set outside and rising above the middle orthostat. Above the inner end of this slab is a corbel, 0.9m by 1.2m by 0.2m thick. Resting on the innermost orthostat on this side are three corbels. Two of these lie one above the other on the outer half of the orthostat. The lower one measures 0.9m by at least 0.8m by 0.25m thick, and the upper one, possibly slightly displaced, measures 0.8m by at least 0.8m by 0.15m thick. The corbel on the inner end of the orthostat measures 0.95m by at least 1.1m by 0.25m thick. Beyond this side of the gallery and on top of the cairn are a number of large loose slabs, possibly displaced corbels.

At the back of the gallery and resting on the large block of stone on the backstone are three corbels side by side. These measure from W to E: 0.9m by at least 0.5m by 0.2m thick; 0.75m by at least 0.6m by 0.2m thick; and 0.85m by 1.5m by 0.15m thick.

The subsidiary chamber opening into the NW section of the court measures, internally, 1.8m long and 1.6m wide. Entry to this chamber is between two jambs, 0.4m apart. The eastern one is 1.4m high, and the western is 1.35m high. During the excavation a sillstone was found between them and may be the stone now lying loose at the entrance. This measures 0.5m by 0.4m by 0.15m thick. A single orthostat forms each side of the chamber, and it is closed by a gabled backstone. Both orthostats lean inward against the backstone, and the upper part of the western one also leans against the jamb. This orthostat is 1.75m high. The base of the eastern orthostat was exposed during the excavation. It slopes from 1.35m high at the front to c. 0.9m at the back. The backstone is 1.45m high. The excavator noted that around half of the floor area of the chamber was neatly paved (Flanagan 1971a).


Plate 51. Fig. 23.

Unclassified
The monument lies just N of the road between Teelin and Bunglass in steeply undulating land c. 600m from the coast. It stands on a reasonably level patch of bog-grown ground close to the base of a steep rock face. An outlook southward over Donegal Bay is restricted by two low hills, one to the SE and the other to the SW.

This damaged structure consists of what appears to be the remains of a segmented gallery, now 3.5m long and c. 2m wide, aligned ENE–WSW. A large flat-topped stone, 2.15m long (E–W), representing the N side of the gallery, is supported in a leaning position by a low set stone, the northern one of two running to the S from its eastern end. These two stones appear to divide the gallery. The large leaning slab, 0.25–0.35m thick, measures 0.7m high at its outer face and, because of the lowering of ground level in the chamber area, c. 1.30m high at its inner face. It rises 0.5m above the top of the northern of the two segmenting stones, which is 0.6m in exposed height. The southern segmenting stone is of similar height. Just 0.9m SE of this, two stones next to each other seem to represent the S side of the gallery. The western one is 0.35m in exposed height, and the eastern is 0.3m high. The W end of the last stone is damaged, and it appears as if an attempt was made to smash it.

According to Fagan (1845–8), there was a further stone on the S side of the gallery. It stood opposite the northern orthostat, was of similar size and also leaned inward. Local information confirms that this stone stood until the 1920s or 1930s.

Immediately beside the E end of the leaning slab at the N side of the gallery a stone projects at an angle from the ground. Its W end is jammed between a slight prow of the leaning slab and the northern of the two stones marking the segmentation. It measures 0.4m long (E–W) by at least 0.45m in sloping height and is 0.15m thick. This may be a corbel.

Two displaced stones lie partly buried in the gallery area. One, just E of the segmenting stones, measures at least 0.5m in maximum dimension, and the other, at the W end of the structure, at least 0.8m in maximum dimension. There is a considerable number of slabs, some quite sizeable, around the site and especially to the N, toward the nearby rock face from which they may have been quarried.

The two stones forming the possible segmentation may be a jamb, to the N, with an adjoining sillstone pointing, perhaps, to the remains being those of a court tomb of at least two chambers. Nevertheless, more

Plate 51. Croaghlin (Dg. 41), from west.
compelling evidence would be required to establish that this is the case, and the monument must remain unclassified.


Fig. 28.

Unclassified

This monument, 250m WSW of and slightly uphill from the last, is partly concealed by a road built over it. It is on a level patch of wet, boggy ground where rock exposures are frequent. Lough Meenaviller, 230m to the NE, is just visible from the tomb. A rocky ridge to the S and rising ground to the N and E restrict the outlook in those directions. Toward the W is an uninterrupted view of the sea. The monument is described as it appeared when surveyed in 1982.

The visible remains consist of an upright stone still in its original position and four slabs that appear to be displaced, all close together c. 5m from the W end of a lightly grass-grown cairn. The original extent and outline of the cairn are uncertain owing to concealment by the road. This road has existed in some form since at least 1835, the date of the original OS six-inch survey of the area. It is claimed locally that the monument was damaged when road improvements were undertaken in 1929. It seems that the long axis of the cairn lay approximately E–W, in which direction it now measures 16m, and it extends 6.3m northward from the road edge.

The set stone, aligned NW–SE, projects from the face of the metalled bed of the unfenced road, the surface of which rises 0.4m above it. This stone, at least 0.5m long, is 0.15m thick and is exposed to a depth of 0.8m in gaps among the cairn stones.

Three of the four displaced slabs lie one after another to the W of the set stone, and the fourth lies immediately N of the others. The southern end of the one beside the set stone is overlain by the road. It measures 0.75m by at least 0.3m and is 0.2m thick. The southern end of the next is also overlain by the road. This measures 0.7m by at least 0.8m and is 0.2m thick. The next one leans markedly to the NW, its base hidden by cairn stones. Although it is possible that it stood upright here, the likelihood is that it too is displaced. As exposed, it measures 0.85m by 0.8m and is 0.3m thick. The fourth displaced stone, the northernmost at the site, rests in a sloping position on the uneven surface of the cairn, its southern end partly concealed. This measures 1.9m by 0.7m and is 0.15m thick.

When Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited here in 1847 he noted that the monument was damaged. Toward the western end of the cairn one ‘grave’, which he considered to have been part of a larger structure, then survived. This measured 10 feet by 5 feet (c. 3.05m by 1.5m) and was enclosed by flags 1–3 feet (c. 0.3–0.9m) high. It

Plate 52. Crowthlin (Dg. 42), from west.
was partly covered by a flag measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet (c. 1.7m by 0.75m) and 1 foot (c. 0.3m) thick.

There can be little doubt that the remains are those of a megalithic tomb, but it cannot be classified in its present state.


H 078 901. Plate 53. Fig. 26.

Unclassified

This monument is c. 30m NE of Lough Mourne on a slight rise in a large tract of bog, 7.5km SW of Ballybofey. There is an extensive view to the SW as far as Barnesmore Gap, 3km distant.

Two separate elements are identified here on the various editions of the OS six-inch maps. On these the name ‘Giant’s Bed’ is applied to a small rectangle. The second element, closeby to the SW, is named ‘Stones’ on the original OS six-inch map (1836) and ‘Standing Stones’ on the later editions. Thomas Fagan’s account (1845–8), which includes a rudimentary sketch, describes a large disturbed cairn, at the NE end of which a pit 12 feet by 8 feet (c. 3.65m by 2.4m) and a ‘few’ feet deep had been dug ‘in search of supposed hidden treasure’ sometime before his visit there in 1846. At one end of the pit Fagan noted an upright ‘grave-stone’ 3 feet (c. 0.9m) high, 4 feet (c. 1.2m) long and 1 foot (c. 0.9m) thick. Approximately 7 yards (c. 6.4m) SW of the cairn he noted a row of three upright stones. These averaged $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet (c. 0.75m) long, 1 foot (c. 0.3m) thick and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet (c. 1.05m) high and stood a $\frac{3}{4}$ foot to 1$\frac{1}{4}$ feet (c. 0.15m to 0.35m) apart.

The monument now consists of a long low mound rising 0.5–1m above the surrounding boggy ground. Generally trapezoidal in outline, it measures 25.5m NE–SW and narrows from c. 15m near the eastern end to c. 8m at the western end. Peat, c. 0.2m deep, covers much of the mound but has been largely removed from the central area, within the inner pecked line on the plan. Soft, bright green grass covers the uneven surface here and contrasts in colour and texture with the rough grass growing on the surrounding bog. Occasional exposures of stones and others felt underfoot indicate that the mound was of stone construction. A low upright stone, 0.5m long, 0.25m thick and 0.2m high, now visible toward the S end of the mound does not appear to be a structural feature and is not hatched on the plan. The pit and exposed ‘grave-stone’ noted by Fagan are not visible.

The tops of four stones are visible at the surface of the bog to the S of the mound. Their status is unclear, and they are not hatched on the plan. One of these, 2.5m from the mound edge, is 0.35m long, 0.1m thick and 0.1m high. Approximately 2m S of the last is the middle stone of three aligned NE–SW. The other two are 1.7m to the NE and 1.9m to the SW of it. These three stones are 0.6–0.7m long and 0.15–0.25m thick and rise 0.1m above the surface of the bog. The middle one is exposed to a depth of 0.3m in a hole in the bog beside it. There is no
trace of the larger upright stones that according to Fagan lay to the SW of the cairn. It seems that this may have been a megalithic tomb. The survival of the remains of what seems to be a long cairn with its broader end to the E, features common to court tombs and some portal tombs, indicates that one or other of these types may originally have stood here. The treasure-hunters mentioned by Fagan had directed their attentions to the E and broader end of the cairn, perhaps attracted by visible tomb structure there. The ‘grave-stone’ described by Fagan may have formed part of any such structure.


44. Crocam. OS 66:8:1 (73.7 39.8). ‘Giant’s Grave’ (1906). OD 700–800. B 913 011. Plate 54. Fig. 23.

Unclassified
This monument stands in rough pasture on the boggy saddle between Aghla Mountain to the SW and Scraigs Mountain to the E. The site overlooks Lough Finn to the N and Lough Muck to the S.

The monument, deeply embedded in the bog, consists of a narrow gallery, 5m long, orientated SSW–NNE. It is described as if it lay W–E. The present floor of the gallery is somewhat below the level of the surrounding ground. There is a set stone, 0.55m high, N of and at right angles to the western end of the gallery. A slab covering the W end of the gallery may not be an original feature.

There are six stones along the N side of the gallery and six along the S side. Only those definitely in situ are hatched on the plan. The westernmost stone at the S side is 0.5m high. The next, 0.5m to the E, is 0.3m high. The third stone, 0.3m beyond this, is outside the line of the first two and is 0.45m high. Approximately 2m beyond the last is a stone 0.3m high. Approximately 0.4m beyond this is a set stone 0.25m high. Immediately beside it to the E the top of another stone rises just above the boggy surface. The westernmost stone at the N side of the gallery, 0.4m high, is loose in the ground. The second is 0.15m high. There is a gap of 0.2m to the third stone, which leans outward. It is 0.4m high. The fourth is slightly outside the line of the other three and is 0.1m high. There is a gap of 0.35m to the fifth stone, 0.25m high, the eastern end of which is concealed in the bog. From the point where the E end of the last disappears into the bog there is a gap of 0.6m to the last stone on this side. This is 0.3m high.

The slab covering the western end of the gallery measures 1.3m by 1.15m and is 0.2m thick. It rests on the westernmost stone on the northern side of the gallery, on a stone (not on plan) measuring 0.35m by 0.15m by 0.1m on top of the third stone at the same side, and on a displaced slab (not on plan) c. 0.5m in maximum dimension that leans against the eastern end of the second sidestone on the S side of the gallery. It is also wedged against the eastern edge of the westernmost sidestone at the S. As the two supporting stones at the N are not

Plate 54. Crocam (Dg. 44), from north-east.
definitely in situ and the main supporting stone at the S is clearly displaced, there is reason to doubt that this slab is in situ.

The gallery may originally have been somewhat longer, according to a report in an OS Name Book (1835) that states that the grave was then 21 feet (c. 6.4m) long. According to Thomas Fagan (1845–8), there was a ‘massive oblong flag’ at the site that had originally rested on the gallery sides but had been toppled long before his visit there in 1848.

The remains are those of a megalithic tomb, but it cannot reliably be classified in its present state. However, the stone at right angles to the western end of the gallery could be interpreted as a facade-stone, which would suggest that this may be a wedge tomb (Ó Nualláin 1983a).

OS Name Book, Inishkeel parish (1835), book 1, 26, and book 3, 138; Fagan 1845–8, book 23, 18; OS Revision Name Book, sheet 66 (1848–51), 31 (a traditional story associated with the site is recorded here, but there are no details of the monument); Borlase 1897, 239, Boylagh no. 2; Crozier 1957, 65–6 and photograph (no. 8) opposite p. 120; Killanin and Duignan 1962, 295; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 297; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 41, no. 102; SMR 1987, 66:2; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; RMP 1995, 66:2.


**Court tomb**

The monument is 2.1km E of Ardara on level pasture c. 100m N of and overlooking the westward-flowing Owentocker River. Now considerably ruined, it consists of the unroofed inner half of a gallery, apparently a two-chambered one, preceded at the NE by the remains of a court. The structure stands in a grass-grown mound that flanks both its sides and extends 5m E of the S arm of the court. The gallery is partially filled by grass-grown cairn material. The mound measures 11.5m N–S by 15m E–W and is c. 1m in maximum height. There are a number of displaced stones scattered on the cairn surface, some partly buried.

A single courtstone, 0.5m high, survives at the outer end of the N side of the court. Its outer face is hidden by the cairn. Approximately 3m S of this is an arc of three contiguous courtstones. The northernmost is 0.4m high. The next is 0.75m high, and the southernmost is 0.45m high. The precise design of the court and its relationship to the gallery are not apparent.

The gallery was c. 5.5m long, and the surviving section is up to 1.9m wide. Four stones are visible on its N side, and three on the S side, and it is closed by a large flat-topped backstone with a small set stone beside it at the N. Approximately 1.1m W of the northernmost of the arc of three courtstones described above are two sidestones next to each other inside the line of the rest of the northern side of the gallery. That to the E is 0.3m high, and that to the W is 0.3m high. Opposite the last and set askew to the S side of the gallery is a stone 0.7m high. The three stones just described narrow the gallery and seem to represent a division between two chambers.

**Plate 55.** Doochill North (Dg. 45), from south-west. Ranging-pole on backstone.
The sides of the gallery beyond the possible segmentation each comprise two stones. Both stones on the S side are 0.65m high. The eastern one at the N side of the gallery is 0.6m high, and the western is 0.65m high. The backstone, 0.7m high, is set with its inner face in line with the ends of both sides of the gallery. It is flat topped with slightly sloping sides. The small stone at its northern end measures 0.35m by at least 0.15m and is 0.65m high. Its inner face is concealed.

The largest of the displaced stones at the site lies in the court area. It measures 1.35m by 1.35m and is 0.45m thick. Another displaced stone, 0.8m by 0.7m and 0.45m thick, lies at the inner end of the gallery. The rest vary from 0.55m to 1.1m in maximum dimension.


46. Dooey. OS 65:2:1 (25.3 57.0). Not marked (1907). OD 100–200. B 764 028. Plate 56. Fig. 23.

Unclassified
This monument, which is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, is on poor pasture broken by outcropping rock near Dooey Point, which is around midway along the W coast of County Donegal. From the site the ground falls gently toward Trawenagh Bay, itself an inlet of Gweebarra Bay, c. 400m to the N. The outlook to the S is limited by rising ground.

The remains are scant and difficult to interpret. Two tall opposed stones at the W seem to mark the entrance to a chamber, the only other certain surviving stone of which is a sidestone leaning against the outer face of the northern entrance stone. On the line of the S side of the chamber and 1.7m E of the sidestone is another set stone, but it is not clear whether it represents a continuation of the structure. There is a partly concealed stone S of and at right angles to the E end of this and another 3m N of it, neither of which is definitely a set stone. There is another largely concealed stone just S of the entrance to the chamber, which measures at least 0.35m in maximum dimension.

The two opposed stones at the W are 0.4m apart at ground level. That at the S is 1.4m high, and that at the N, which leans against it, would stand 1.4m high if upright. The base of the sidestone at the N is 0.4m E of and slightly outside the line of this. It leans to the S, and a prow-like extension of its outer end rests against the outer face of the northern entrance stone. If upright it would stand 1m high at its W end. Toward the E it slopes to ground level.

The set stone at the E, which presents a flat face to the N, is 0.6m high. The partly concealed stone at right angles to it measures 1.05m by c. 0.6m and is 0.3m high at its exposed E face. The partly concealed stone 3m N of the orthostat here measures 0.8m by over 0.7m and rises 0.3m above ground level.

Plate 56. Dooey (Dg. 46), from west.
The poor preservation of the monument leaves some uncertainty about its original form, but clearly its affinities lie with court tombs and portal tombs. The presence of what appear to be two tall longitudinally set entrance stones, one of them supporting a leaning sidestone, would favour its identification as a portal tomb, but, if the orthostat at the E end of the structure can be relied on, it would suggest that there may have been a long gallery here. The monument has been tentatively classified as a court tomb (Ó Nualláin 1983a) but in its present state is best left unclassified.

Approximately 6m N of the tomb is a feature (not on plan) consisting of three low set stones. They stand beside each other with their long axes parallel, and each is aligned E–W. The middle one is set partly forward, to the W, of the other two, both of which lean against it. The stones are 0.45–0.6m long, 0.1–0.2m thick and 0.45–0.7m high. The nature and age of this arrangement are not known.


47. Dooish. OS 54:11:3 (68.4 28.2). ‘Standing Stones’ (1905). OD 300–400. C 297 128. Plate 57. Fig. 30.

Unclassified

This monument, named ‘Standing Stones’ on the various editions of the OS six-inch map, appears as ‘Remains of Druid’s Altar’ on the pre-publication map of 1846–8. It stands on a ridge in pasture c. 5.5km E of the inner end of Lough Swilly, across which there is an extensive outlook. Just outside the western edge of the monument the ground falls sharply, and to the E, beyond a gentle decline, there is a rise to the summit of the Dooish Mountain range, 1.5km distant.

The monument, of which only a single orthostat survives in its original position, has been incorporated in a grass-grown field bank. The extant orthostat is gabled in outline and aligned NW–SE. It is 1m high. To the E, along the wide grassy field bank, is a considerable scatter of small field stones, as well as four larger, displaced stones, which are shown on the plan. Three of these are partly embedded in the ground. The largest, 2.5m E of the surviving orthostat, measures 1.5m by 1.3m and is 0.6m thick, and the smallest, a loose boulder next to the orthostat, is 0.7m by 0.5m by 0.25m.

According to Thomas Fagan (1845–8), who visited the site in 1846, two upright stones 7 feet (c. 2.15m) apart then survived, the remains, he suggested, of ‘a pagan altar or sepulture’. Apparently the second stone was still standing at the beginning of the 20th century, as the site is named ‘Standing Stones’ on the 1905 edition of the OS six-inch map.

The nature of the depiction of the site on the original OS six-inch map (1834–5) and on the revision of 1846–8 indicates that there was a considerable cairn at this spot in those years. On both maps a shaded space, approximating to a long oval in outline and representing an area c. 40m long (NE–SW) by 15m in maximum width, is shown here and seems intended to represent a cairn or mound. Cairn remains cannot now reliably be

Plate 57. Dooish (Dg. 47), from north-east. Vertical ranging-pole is next to surviving orthostat.
identified but may have been incorporated in the field bank crossing the site. The surviving orthostat is set transversely to the long axis of the supposed cairn. This circumstance, and the fact that the stone is gabled in outline, strongly indicates that it is the backstone of a gallery. It stands near what was the NE end of the cairn.

The monument must remain unclassified, but the presence of a possible gabled backstone and the likelihood that there was a long cairn here suggest that this was probably a court tomb or, less likely, a portal tomb.


Plate 58. Fig. 44.

Court tomb

This monument, 450m from the western shore of the outer end of Killybegs Harbour, stands on a knoll in rough hilly country and commands an extensive outlook across Donegal Bay. There are frequent occurrences of outcropping rock in the immediate vicinity.

The monument consists of a gallery, 5m in overall length, facing ENE. A low stone, 0.4m in front of the N side of the gallery entrance, seems to be a courtstone. An upright stone, 0.3m beyond the S side of the gallery, does not appear to be in situ, and the status of a set stone 2.6m N of the gallery is unclear, although it may be a kerbstone. A fence has been built close to the S side and front of the gallery. It is possible that some of the large slabs in this fence originally formed part of the monument. There are faint traces of mound to the N and W of the gallery, but these are too indefinite for accurate survey.

The single courtstone is 0.2m high. The top of it seems chipped, and it may have been taller. The entrance to the gallery is between two jambs set 0.45m apart. The northern is set longitudinally inside the gallery wall and leans inward. It is 0.8m high and may originally have been taller. The southern one, set transversely, is partly overlapped by the gallery side. This stone is 1.2m high.

Two orthostats form each side of the gallery, which reaches a maximum internal width of c. 2.3m at mid-length, from where it narrows to 1.5m at either end. The outer of the two orthostats at the N side is 1.4m in maximum height. The outwardly bevelled top of this stone presents a suitably inclined surface on which to lay corbels. There is a gap of 0.8m between this and the second orthostat here, which is 0.55m high at its outer face. The outer orthostat at the opposite side of the gallery is 0.85m high. Its top is 0.35m lower than that of the adjacent entrance jamb. The second orthostat on this side leans inward slightly and is 0.8m high at its outer face. The gallery is closed by a tall, inset, gabled backstone, 1.2m high, which leans inward slightly. The slab outside the S side of the gallery is 1.7m long, 0.45m thick and 0.75m high. The stone beyond its N side is 1.4m long, 0.45m thick and 0.35m high.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited this monument in 1847, and it is clear from his account that it was then much

Plate 58. Drumanoo (Dg. 48), from west.
as it is now. However, he did note an additional upright stone. This stood 9 feet (c. 2.75m) from the SE angle of the gallery and was 4 feet (c. 1.2m) broad, 10 inches (c. 0.25m) thick and 5 feet (c. 1.5m) high. This may have been a courtstone. According to Borlase (1897, 250), a stone 7 feet (c. 2.15m) long lay ‘a few feet’ NW of the monument, and another, 4 feet (c. 1.2m) long, lay to the SE.

The employment of two well-matched pairs of opposed orthostats in the construction of this gallery suggests that it may have been divided into two chambers.


Plate 59. Fig. 31.

Unclassified
This monument stands on a flat patch of rough pasture partly overgrown by furze bushes and is adjacent to outcropping rock. A short distance to the W is a sharp fall to the valley of the Lurgybeg River. There is little outlook from the site except to the N, where the Loughsalt Mountain ridge, almost 3km distant, forms the skyline.

The monument is ruined and difficult to interpret. Four substantial orthostats seem to represent agallery. There are other stones at the site, four of them forming a broad curve to the NE of the orthostats. The gallery-like feature, orientated NNE–SSW, is c. 4.5m long and 2m wide. Three stones remain on its western side, and one on the eastern. On the western side the southernmost stone, possibly a jamb, is set transversely to the other two. It is 0.9m high. The second stone is 1m high. The third on this side, 2.15m N of the second, is also 1m high. The single stone to the E stands opposite the gap between the last two and is 0.7m high. Approximately 0.6m outside this is a low stone, 0.65m long, 0.15m thick and 0.2m high, the status of which is uncertain.

Approximately 3m E of the last is the westernmost of the curved line of four stones. This leans markedly northward; it is 0.8m long and 0.25m thick and would stand 0.8m high if upright. The second, 4.5m to the E, is 0.55m long, 0.35m thick and 0.4m high. The third, 2.7m NE of the second, is 0.9m long, 0.5m thick and 0.55m high. The fourth and outermost stone of the arc, 3.7m NE of the third, is 0.65m long, 0.4m thick and 0.8m high. There are three other stones to the N and NW of the possible gallery. Two of these are lying flat, and the top of the other, the southernmost, is flush with the ground. The largest of the three measures 1.15m in maximum dimension.

Plate 59. Drumbrick (Dg. 49). Gallery from south.
Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited this monument in 1846, and it is clear from his account that the gallery-like feature was then as it is now. He made no reference to the other stones at the site. Although the gallery-like feature seems to be the remains of a megalithic tomb, the status of the arc of stones to the NE is uncertain.


Court tomb
The tomb is on a level patch of ground 2.9km from the W side of Lough Swilly and lies between two small river valleys, one 500m to the N and the other 400m to the S. To the E is an extensive outlook over Lough Swilly. Northward, beyond a gentle fall, a low hill restricts the outlook. An arc of hills stretching northward from Croaghan Hill to Knockalla Mountain forms the western skyline. The area provides rough pasture broken by patches of outcropping rock in the immediate vicinity of the site.

The structure consists of a roofless but otherwise well-preserved gallery facing NE. The gallery is 7m long and divided into two chambers by tall jambs set longitudinally at either side of a tall septal-stone. A considerable number of sizeable stones lie prostrate at the site, many of them wholly or partly covered by vegetation creep, and the tops of others, possibly set stones, protrude above ground level. Most but not all of these are shown on the plan. A line of stones running forward from either side of the gallery entrance may be displaced courtstones. However, they provide no reliable indication of the design of the court. The largest of these is up to 2m in maximum dimension, and all are prostrate except one, the second from the N side of the gallery entrance. This leans southward and would stand 0.35m high if upright. Some low stones beyond the sides and end of the gallery may be kerbstones, although there is now no definite trace of a mound at the site. Two prostrate slabs, perhaps fallen facade-stones, link the front of the N side of the putative kerb to the line of possible courtstones.

Two well-matched, transversely set jambs, 0.7m apart, mark the entrance to the front chamber. This chamber is 3.6m long and 1.8m wide at the front, narrowing toward the segmentation. The northern entrance jamb has fallen forward and is now almost prostrate. It would stand 1.2m high if upright. The southern jamb is 1.35m high. Two stones remain on the S side of the front chamber. The outer one, next to the entrance jamb, is a low stone, 0.2m high. An accumulation of earth hides its inner face so that it does not show on the section accompanying the plan. The inner orthostat is 1.35m high. Beyond this is a gap in the chamber wall. A single orthostat, 1.25m high, survives on the N side of the chamber. At the W end of this stone is a small stone lying transversely to the line of the gallery side. This is 0.6m high. It is not firmly set and may not be in situ.

Plate 60. Drumhallagh Upper (Dg. 50), from south-west.
COUNTY DONEGAL

Plate 61. Drumhallagh Upper (Dg. 50), from south-east.

The segmenting jambs are set inside the ends of the slabs forming the sides of the second chamber. The northern jamb is 1.15m high. A piece may have been broken from the top of this stone. The southern one is 2.1m high. The septal-stone runs transversely between the jambs, the southern of which rises 0.9m above it.

The second chamber is 3.1m long and narrows from 2.1m wide just inside the segmentation to 1.6m near the backstone. Single slabs form each side of this chamber. The northern sidestone is 0.95m high. The southern sidestone decreases in height from 1.1m at the segmentation to 0.7m at the other end. The slab forming the back of the gallery leans markedly outward. It would stand 1.5m high if upright. This is a flat-topped stone with sloping ends that broadens toward the base. It is set with its inner face in line with the end of the southern sidestone and 0.4m beyond the end of the northern one. A displaced slab resting on the backstone measures 1.5m by 0.8m by 0.2m thick, and another, lying in the second chamber, measures 1.4m by at least 1.3m by 0.4m thick. The resemblance of this chamber to a portal tomb has been noted elsewhere (de Valera 1960).

A sketch plan of the gallery and an elevation of its S side in the OS Memoirs (1834) show that it was then in its present state except that the outwardly pitched northern entrance jamb and backstone were then upright.

OS Memoir, Killygarvan parish (1834), 21 (plan and elevation); Hill 1847, 13; Batt 1889, 42; Kinahan 1889, 280; Borlase 1897, 231–2; Kilmacrenan no. 9; Somerville 1909, 215–18; Davies 1942, 82, fn. 8; H. Morris 1947, 41, no. B13; Corcoran 1960, 146, no. 113; de Valera 1960, 106, DG. 11 (plan); Killanin and Duignan 1962, 408; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 412; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 20–21, no. 23 (plan); SMR 1987, 28:17; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 28:17.

51. Drumrat. OS 94:13:5 (12.0 16.3). Not marked (1904). OD 0–100. G 946 783. Plate 62. Fig. 44.

Court tomb

The tomb is described as it was in 1994, when the plan published here was made. Since then it has been excavated before a road construction project. After the excavation the structural stones were removed to storage and the site of the tomb was buried under the new road. The monument, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, first came to notice in 1993. It lay c. 1.5km E of Donegal town and c. 30m N of the Drummenny River, a tributary of the River Eske, which reaches the sea just W of the town. It stood at the foot of a drumlin-like hill in heavy, wettish land. This hill severely curtailed the outlook northward from the site, and a similar hill, c. 100m to the S and beyond the river, restricted the outlook in that direction. There were limited views to the NE and SW along the river valley.

In 1994 the tomb was represented by a ruined gallery, 5.5m long, aligned NNE–SSW, with the scant remains of a court at its northern end. The surface of an ill-defined area around the structure, c. 20m N–S by 10m E–W, was quite stony, with small stones, some of quartz, visible at the surface. These stones seemed to be the remains of a cairn. However, it was not amenable to accurate survey. Bushes and scrub recently cleared from the environs of the site lay in scattered heaps closely. A tree had been left standing at the S end of the gallery.
The gallery was represented by two transversely set jambs at the N, behind the eastern of which were three sidestones, and the top of what appeared to be another sidestone was just visible 3.5m beyond the western jamb. The western side of the gallery was all but buried.

The two jambs stood 0.55m apart. Only the top of the western one was exposed, and it appeared as if it may have been damaged. It rose only a few centimetres above ground level. The eastern jamb, a flat-topped stone, rose c. 0.2m above the top of the western one. The northernmost of the three sidestones at the E was 0.15m lower than the adjacent jamb and measured 0.4m in exposed height at its outer face. The second sidestone, a large one, was 0.65m high at its outer face. This stone had a more or less straight inner face and an outwardly bevelled top well suited to carrying corbels. The third sidestone was skewed from the line of the second, and their junction marked a waisting of the gallery, possibly indicating a point of segmentation. This flat-topped stone was 0.4m high at its outer face. None of the three sidestones just referred to rose more than 0.3m above ground level at its inner face. The orthostat at the W side of the gallery rose only a few centimetres above the ground. It stood opposite and 2.35m from the middle one of the three sidestones at the E.

The court was represented by two stones to the W and one to the E. The tops only of the former two stones were exposed and are shown in pecked outline on the plan. Beside the eastern entrance jamb was a tall, northward-leaning, gable-shaped stone. This may have been twisted somewhat from its original position. It measured 1.4m long and 0.4m thick at mid-height and, if upright, would have stood 1.55m high. The juxtaposition of the entrance jambs and the presumed courtstones indicated a clear flattening of the court perimeter across the front of the gallery.

Immediately N of the tall courtstone was a displaced stone, 1.25m by 1m by 0.45m thick, and SE of this was another, 1.25m by 1m by 0.65m thick. At these, and in front of the courtstone, there was a small heap of earth and stones, 2m across and 0.4m high, at least some of which seemed to be relatively modern in origin.

Although the visible remains were scant, the presence of two transversely set jambs behind the indications of a court, along with the obvious waisting of the gallery side, indicated that the remains were those of a court tomb. Subsequent excavation confirmed this (Channing and King 1997, 124–5). Excavation revealed a full court of subcircular outline. The orthostats visible before excavation were shown to have formed the outer part of the gallery. Their counterparts at the inner end of the gallery were found to have been removed at some stage. However, the sockets in which they had stood were identified. The entire structure had stood in a kerbed cairn. A large number of artifacts were recovered at the site. Among the finds referred to by the excavators in the preliminary account cited above are two intact pots and the sherds of a third found in the court area. Several flint artifacts and traces of cremated bone also came from this part of the monument. The gallery area produced several stone artifacts including a polished stone axe, eighteen flint hollow scrapers, flint knives, and a chert bead, as well as at least four pots. There was also evidence of ironworking at the site, which it is suggested may date to the Early Christian period.

Plate 63. Fig. 32.

*Court tomb*

The name ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’, intended to identify this monument on the OS six-inch map, was mistakenly applied to a spot c. 100m to the W (see Appendix 2, No. 23). The tomb stands at the edge of a flat tract of heather-grown bog c. 4.5km NE of Falcarragh on the coastal strip between Ballyness Bay and Horn Head and overlooks lower ground to the S. Further to the S the mountains of NW Donegal form the skyline.

The tomb, which lacks a court, consists of an unroofed gallery, c. 5m long, entered between a doubled pair of jambs, the remains of an antechamber, at the SE. It stands toward the SE end of a slight, heather-grown mound, 19.5m long and up to 0.5m high. A stone wall, running E–W, marks the N side of the mound, which narrows from c. 12m wide at the SE to c. 6m wide at the NW, where its outline is rather indefinite. A stone wall runs up to the N side of the front of the gallery.

The outer two of the four jambs at the SE are both set transversely and stand 0.9m apart. The southern one is now 0.4m high. It is clear that a piece has been broken from the top of this stone. The northern jamb, a substantial stone, stands slightly forward of this. It is 1.1m high. A loose slab, 1m by 0.6m by 0.4m, lies against the inner face of the last. The inner jambs are 0.55m apart. The southern one is transversely set and stands 0.6m from the outer jamb at that side. The top of this too has been broken. The surviving part is 0.65m high. The northern jamb is a small stone. It is longitudinally set and measures 0.2m high. The top of this may also have been broken. The antechamber represented by the four jambs appears to have been c. 1m long.

That part of the gallery beyond the antechamber is 4m long and c. 2m wide, narrowing to 1.25m at the back. Two orthostats survive on the northern side. That to the front is 1.05m high, and that to the back is 0.7m high. Two orthostats and a small stone form the southern side. The front orthostat on this side is 0.8m high. Between it and the adjacent jamb is a thin set stone, 0.3m high. The second orthostat on this side, skewed so as to narrow the back of the gallery, is 0.55m high. A fine gabled backstone closes the gallery. It is 1.3m high and rises 0.6–0.75m above the tops of the adjacent side stones.

The antechamber identifies the front of the gallery, which may have been divided into two small main chambers, but the possibility that a single long chamber existed here beyond the antechamber cannot be ruled out.

OS documents of the mid-19th century indicate that this tomb was then in much the same condition as now. However, Fagan (1845–8) claimed that in addition to the existing gallery there were a number of ‘disfigured’ smaller graves in the mound and that nearby there were ‘the ruins of other graves’. There is now no trace of any of these.


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**Plate 63.** Errarooey Beg (Dg. 52). Back of gallery from north-north-west.