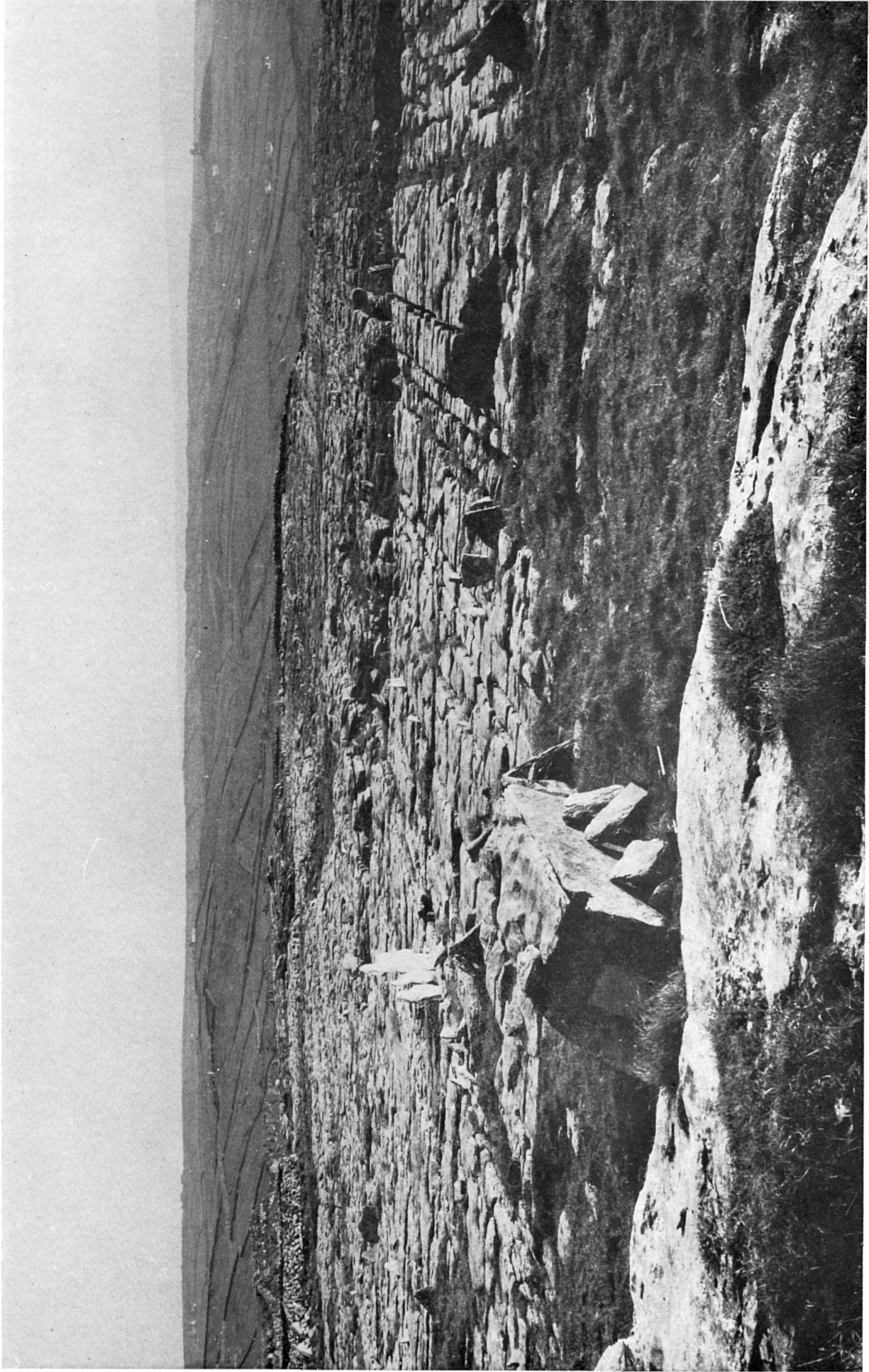


**SURVEY
OF THE
MEGALITHIC TOMBS
OF IRELAND**

**VOLUME I
COUNTY CLARE**



Crag-land in North-West Clare with Megalithic Tomb – Ballynahown (Cl. 47) – in foreground.

SURVEY
OF THE
MEGALITHIC TOMBS
OF IRELAND

VOLUME I
COUNTY CLARE

Ruaidhrí de Valera
and
Seán Ó Nualláin

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FOREWORD

The wealth of the Irish countryside in field antiquities is by any standard remarkable. These demand the attention of the cartographer and since its inception the Ordnance Survey has been concerned to take notice of them. Indeed in the initial years of the Survey the brilliant team headed by O'Donovan, O'Curry and Petrie could justly claim to have laid the foundations of the development of scientific archæology in Ireland. During the century since their passing, though its resources were never adequate for the task, the Ordnance Survey has, as it must, maintained its interest. In our own time the effort to revive archæological work has been intensified and this at last led to the establishment of an archæological section at this Office. The means needed to carry out a comprehensive general survey of field antiquities were not available and a special survey of one important class of monuments was therefore proposed.

The choice fell on megalithic tombs. Not only is Ireland particularly rich in these but, as work in many lands has shown, such surveys are especially instructive and are vital for the understanding of the great neolithic and early bronze age movements which established farming and introduced so many of the basic skills and crafts of civilization. Moreover, the complex nature of the tombs themselves requires from those who would properly record them not only a specialist knowledge but also a wide experience of the sites in the field and for this the Ordnance Survey could provide opportunities not easily otherwise available. The results of the preliminary studies made have in large measure appeared in print and the present volume begins a series designed to cover in detail the megalithic tombs of Ireland. The need for an adequate account of such sites is all the more clear in these days when modern improvements in agriculture threaten so many of the monuments of those early farmers who in their day exploited the soil of Ireland.

The Megalithic Survey was begun under the direction of Dr. de Valera when he was Staff Archæologist here. Since his appointment to the Chair of Archæology in University College, Dublin, this work at the Ordnance Survey has been continued by Mr. Ó Nualláin and has taken on the nature of a co-operative undertaking. In it the Ordnance Survey, through its archæological section, is joined by the College department in a happy partnership to further the common aim of examining and recording the monuments of Ireland's past.

NIALL MACNEILL,
Colonel (R.O.)
Assistant Director of Ordnance Survey

Ordnance Survey Office,
Dublin.
May, 1960

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ALPHABETICAL INDEX TO DESCRIPTIONS, PLANS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF TOMBS

Townland	Number	Description Page	Plan Fig.	Photo- graph(s) Plate(s)	Townland	Number	Description Page	Plan Fig.	Photo- graph(s) Plate(s)
Ardataggle	(Cl. 118)	89	56	20	Cloongaheen				
Ardskeagh	(Cl. 110)	83	54	19	West	(Cl. 109)	82	54	19
Ballinphunta	(Cl. 90)	69	59	—	Cloonyconry				
Ballycasheen	(Cl. 63)	52	34	11	More	(Cl. 113)	85	57	19
Ballycroum	(Cl. 93)	71	47	16	Cloonyconry				
Ballycroum	(Cl. 94)	72	47	16	More	(Cl. 114)	86	56	19
Ballycroum	(Cl. 95)	72	48	16	Commons				
Ballyganner					North	(Cl. 56)	48	30	10
North	(Cl. 34)	29	22	6	Commons				
Ballyganner					North	(Cl. 65)	54	36	13
North	(Cl. 35)	31	16	7	Cooleabeg	(Cl. 7)	6	3	2
Ballyganner					Cooleamore	(Cl. 13)	10	7	3
North	(Cl. 36)	32	15	7	Coolnatullagh	(Cl. 19)	15	10	4
Ballyganner					Corbehagh	(Cl. 91)	69	46	16
South	(Cl. 37)	32	20	7	Cragbally- conoal	(Cl. 17)	14	8	4
Ballyganner					Cragbally- conoal	(Cl. 18)	14	9	4
South	(Cl. 38)	33	21	7	Creevagh	(Cl. 43)	38	24	8 and 22
Ballyhickey	(Cl. 87)	67	44	15	Deerpark	(Cl. 39)	34	22	7 and 22
Ballykelly	(Cl. 112)	84	55	19	Derrynavahagh	(Cl. 1)	1	1	1
Ballymaconna	(Cl. 81)	64	42	14	Drumanure	(Cl. 72)	58	39	12
Ballymihil	(Cl. 16)	13	8	3	Drummin	(Cl. 108)	82	54	18
Ballymurphy	(Cl. 31)	25	18	6	Eantybeg				
Ballynahown	(Cl. 44)	39	25	8	South	(Cl. 29)	24	16	6
Ballynahown	(Cl. 45)	40	25	9	Eanty More	(Cl. 40)	35	17	8
Ballynahown	(Cl. 46)	40	26	9	Elmhill	(Cl. 105)	80	53	18
Ballynahown	(Cl. 47)	41	26	9 and 21	Fahy	(Cl. 92)	70	46	16
Ballyogan	(Cl. 82)	64	43	14	Fanygalvan	(Cl. 33)	27	19	6 and 22
Ballyslattery					Faunarooska	(Cl. 3)	3	2	1
or Newgrove	(Cl. 100)	76	51	17 and 21	Faunarooska	(Cl. 4)	3	2	1
Baur North	(Cl. 25)	20	14	5	Faunarooska	(Cl. 5)	4	2	1
Baur South	(Cl. 26)	21	13	5 and 21	Formoyle More	(Cl. 115)	86	58	20
Bealkelly					Gleninsheen	(Cl. 10)	8	5	2
(Purdon)	(Cl. 106)	80	53	18	Gleninsheen	(Cl. 11)	9	5	3
Berneens	(Cl. 8)	7	4	2	Gleninsheen	(Cl. 15)	12	7	3
Berneens	(Cl. 9)	8	4	2	Glenmore	(Cl. 53)	45	28	10
Bohateh North	(Cl. 119)	90	45	20	Gortlecka	(Cl. 58)	49	31	11
Caheraphuca	(Cl. 80)	63	42	14	Gortlecka	(Cl. 70)	57	37	—
Caherblonick					Gragan East	(Cl. 6)	5	3	2
North	(Cl. 64)	53	34	11	Illaun	(Cl. 51)	44	28	9
Caherbullog	(Cl. 2)	2	1	1	Iskancullin	(Cl. 32)	26	14	6
Caherminnaun					Kilcurrish	(Cl. 74)	59	39	14
West	(Cl. 48)	41	26	—	Kilcurrish	(Cl. 75)	60	40	14
Calluragh					Killokennedy	(Cl. 111)	84	55	19
South	(Cl. 50)	43	27	9	Kilvoydan	(Cl. 83)	65	43	15
Cappaghbaum					Knockalassa	(Cl. 76)	60	40	12
Mountain	(Cl. 96)	73	48	16					
Cappagh- kennedy	(Cl. 42)	37	23	8					
Carncreagh	(Cl. 52)	44	28	10					
Clogher	(Cl. 103)	78	50	18					
Cloghoolia	(Cl. 117)	88	57	20					
Clooneen	(Cl. 49)	42	27	9					

Townland	Number	Description Page	Plan Fig.	Photo- graph(s) Plate(s)	Townland	Number	Description Page	Plan Fig.	Photo- graph(s) Plate(s)
Knockmael					Parknabinnia	(Cl. 67)	55	35	11
East	(Cl. 78)	62	41	12	Parknabinnia	(Cl. 69)	56	37	14
Knockmael					Poulaphuca	(Cl. 20)	15	10	4 and 21
East	(Cl. 79)	63	41	12	Poulbaun	(Cl. 12)	9	6	3
Knocknalappa	(Cl. 89)	68	45	15	Poulnabrone	(Cl. 28)	23	15	5
Knockshanvo	(Cl. 116)	88	58	20 and 22	Poulnabrucky	(Cl. 14)	11	6	3
Knopoge	(Cl. 88)	68	44	15					
Leana	(Cl. 57)	48	29	10	Rannagh East	(Cl. 21)	16	11	4
Leana	(Cl. 68)	55	36	11	Rannagh East	(Cl. 41)	36	20	8
Leckaun	(Cl. 77)	61	40	12	Rosslara	(Cl. 99)	76	49	17
Lismeehan or					Rylane	(Cl. 84)	66	43	15
Maryfort	(Cl. 102)	78	52	17	Rylane	(Cl. 85)	66	42	—
Lissylisheen	(Cl. 24)	19	12	5					
Lissylisheen	(Cl. 27)	22	13	5	Slievenaglasha	(Cl. 55)	47	30	10
Milltown	(Cl. 101)	77	52	17	Termon	(Cl. 22)	17	12	4
Moheramoylan	(Cl. 30)	24	17	6	Termon	(Cl. 23)	18	11	5
Moymore	(Cl. 104)	79	51	18	Toonagh	(Cl. 86)	67	44	15
Moyree					Toormore	(Cl. 73)	59	33	12
Commons	(Cl. 71)	58	38	11	Tullycommon	(Cl. 54)	46	29	10
Parknabinnia	(Cl. 59)	49	31	13	Tyredagh				
Parknabinnia	(Cl. 60)	50	32	13	Lower	(Cl. 98)	75	50	17
Parknabinnia	(Cl. 61)	51	32	13	Tyredagh				
Parknabinnia	(Cl. 62)	51	33	13	Upper	(Cl. 97)	74	49	17
Parknabinnia	(Cl. 66)	54	33	13	Violethill	(Cl. 107)	81	53	18

NUMERICAL LIST OF TOMBS

Number	Townland	Class	Number	Townland	Class
BARONY OF BURREN			BARONY OF IBRICKAN		
(Cl. 1)	Derrynavahagh	Wedge	(Cl. 51)	Illaun	Unclassified
(Cl. 2)	Caherbullog	Wedge	BARONY OF ISLANDS		
(Cl. 3)	Faunarooska	Wedge	(Cl. 52)	Carncreagh	Wedge
(Cl. 4)	Faunarooska	Wedge	BARONY OF CLONDERALAW		
(Cl. 5)	Faunarooska	Unclassified	(Cl. 53)	Glenmore	Unclassified
(Cl. 6)	Gragan East	Wedge	BARONY OF INCHQUIN		
(Cl. 7)	Cooleabeg	Wedge	(Cl. 54)	Tullycommon	Wedge
(Cl. 8)	Berneens	Wedge	(Cl. 55)	Slievenaglasha	Wedge
(Cl. 9)	Berneens	Wedge	(Cl. 56)	Commons North	Wedge
(Cl. 10)	Gleninsheen	Wedge	(Cl. 57)	Leana	Wedge
(Cl. 11)	Gleninsheen	Wedge	(Cl. 58)	Gortlecka	Wedge
(Cl. 12)	Poulbaun	Wedge	(Cl. 59)	Parknabinnia	Wedge
(Cl. 13)	Cooleamore	Wedge	(Cl. 60)	Parknabinnia	Wedge
(Cl. 14)	Poulnabrucky	Unclassified	(Cl. 61)	Parknabinnia	Wedge
(Cl. 15)	Gleninsheen	Wedge	(Cl. 62)	Parknabinnia	Wedge
(Cl. 16)	Ballymihil	Wedge	(Cl. 63)	Ballycasheen	Portal Dolmen
(Cl. 17)	Cragballyconoal	Wedge	(Cl. 64)	Caherblonick North	Wedge
(Cl. 18)	Cragballyconoal	Wedge	(Cl. 65)	Commons North	Wedge
(Cl. 19)	Coolnatullagh	Wedge	(Cl. 66)	Parknabinnia	Wedge
(Cl. 20)	Poulaphuca	Wedge	(Cl. 67)	Parknabinnia	Wedge
(Cl. 21)	Rannagh East	Wedge	(Cl. 68)	Leana	Wedge
(Cl. 22)	Termon	Wedge	(Cl. 69)	Parknabinnia	Wedge
(Cl. 23)	Termon	Wedge	(Cl. 70)	Gortlecka	Unclassified
(Cl. 24)	Lissylisheen	Wedge	(Cl. 71)	Moyree Commons	Portal Dolmen
(Cl. 25)	Baur North	Wedge	(Cl. 72)	Drumanure	Wedge
(Cl. 26)	Baur South	Wedge	(Cl. 73)	Toormore	Unclassified
(Cl. 27)	Lissylisheen	Wedge	(Cl. 74)	Kilcurrish	Wedge
(Cl. 28)	Poulnabrone	Portal Dolmen	(Cl. 75)	Kilcurrish	Unclassified
(Cl. 29)	Eantybeg South	Wedge	(Cl. 76)	Knockalassa	Wedge
(Cl. 30)	Moheramoylan	Wedge	(Cl. 77)	Leckaun	Probable Wedge
(Cl. 31)	Ballymurphy	Wedge	BARONY OF BUNRATTY UPPER		
(Cl. 32)	Iskancullin	Wedge	(Cl. 78)	Knockmael East	Unclassified
(Cl. 33)	Fanygalvan	Wedge	(Cl. 79)	Knockmael East	Wedge
(Cl. 34)	Ballyganner North	Court Cairn	(Cl. 80)	Caheraphuca	Wedge
(Cl. 35)	Ballyganner North	Wedge	(Cl. 81)	Ballymaconna	Probable Wedge
(Cl. 36)	Ballyganner North	Wedge	(Cl. 82)	Ballyogan	Probable Wedge
(Cl. 37)	Ballyganner South	Wedge	(Cl. 83)	Kilvoydan South	Wedge
(Cl. 38)	Ballyganner South	Wedge	(Cl. 84)	Rylane	Unclassified
(Cl. 39)	Deerpark	Wedge	(Cl. 85)	Rylane	Wedge
(Cl. 40)	Eanty More	Wedge	(Cl. 86)	Toonagh	Unclassified
(Cl. 41)	Rannagh East	Probable Wedge	(Cl. 87)	Ballyhickey	Wedge
(Cl. 42)	Cappaghkennedy	Wedge	(Cl. 88)	Knopoge	Wedge
(Cl. 43)	Creevagh	Wedge	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		
(Cl. 44)	Ballynahown	Wedge	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		
(Cl. 45)	Ballynahown	Wedge	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		
(Cl. 46)	Ballynahown	Wedge	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		
(Cl. 47)	Ballynahown	Wedge	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		
(Cl. 48)	Caherminnaun	Wedge	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		
(Cl. 49)	Clooneen	Wedge	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		
(Cl. 50)	Calluragh South	Unclassified	BARONY OF CORCOMROE		

NUMERICAL LIST OF TOMBS (*continued*)

Number	Townland	Class	Number	Townland	Class
BARONY OF BUNRATTY LOWER			BARONY OF TULLA LOWER		
(Cl. 89)	Knocknalappa	Wedge	(Cl. 105)	Elmhill	Unclassified
(Cl. 90)	Ballinphunta	Wedge	(Cl. 106)	Bealkelly (Purdon)	Wedge
BARONY OF TULLA UPPER			(Cl. 107)	Violethill	Wedge
(Cl. 91)	Corbehagh	Wedge	(Cl. 108)	Drummin	Wedge
(Cl. 92)	Fahy	Wedge	(Cl. 109)	Cloongaheen West	Wedge
(Cl. 93)	Ballycroum	Wedge	(Cl. 110)	Ardskeagh	Wedge
(Cl. 94)	Ballycroum	Wedge	(Cl. 111)	Killokennedy	Probable Wedge
(Cl. 95)	Ballycroum	Wedge	(Cl. 112)	Ballykelly	Wedge
(Cl. 96)	Cappaghabaun Mountain	Wedge	(Cl. 113)	Cloonyconry More	Wedge
(Cl. 97)	Tyredagh Upper	Unclassified	(Cl. 114)	Cloonyconry More	Wedge
(Cl. 98)	Tyredagh Lower	Wedge	(Cl. 115)	Formoyle More	Wedge
(Cl. 99)	Rosslara	Probable Wedge	(Cl. 116)	Knockshanvo	Wedge
(Cl. 100)	Ballyslattery or Newgrove	Wedge	(Cl. 117)	Cloghoolia	Wedge
(Cl. 101)	Milltown	Wedge	(Cl. 118)	Ardataggle	Wedge
(Cl. 102)	Lismeehan or Maryfort	Unclassified	BARONY OF LEITRIM		
(Cl. 103)	Clogher	Portal Dolmen	(Cl. 119)	Bohateh North	Probable Wedge
(Cl. 104)	Moymore	Probable Wedge			

ALPHABETICAL INDEX TO SITES IN APPENDIX

Townland	Appendix Number	Page	Townland	Appendix Number	Page
Ardskeagh	38	98	Lackareagh Beg	42	99
Ballycahill	6	92	Lackareagh More	40	98
Ballyea South	19	95	Leana	15	94
Ballyganner South	9	93	Leana	17	94
Ballymacloon East	26	96	Leana	18	95
Ballysheen Beg	30	97	Milltown	2	91
Ballyvaghan	5	92	Milltown	3	92
Brickhill West	31	97	Milltown	4	92
Caherloghan	24	96	Milltown	33	97
Caherloghan	25	96	Milltown	34	97
Cahermacrusheen	1	91	Milltown	35	98
Carrownanelly	10	93	Milltown	36	98
Clooney	21	95	Monanoe	23	95
Clooney	22	95	Moymore	37	98
Cloonyconry More	39	98	Noughavel	7	93
Corracloon Beg	32	97	Noughaval	8	93
Dooneen	20	95	Ross	43	99
Drumullan	27	96	Roughaun	16	94
Drumullan	29	96	Slievenaglasha	13	94
Gortmagy	41	99	Teeskagh	14	94
Kilcornan	28	96	Tullycommon	12	94
Kiltumper	11	93			

INTRODUCTION

The Survey of the Megalithic Tombs of Ireland at present in progress under the Ordnance Survey is designed to provide a corpus of descriptions, plans and photographs of the tombs of the Irish series. Despite the considerable attention given to the study of Irish megalithic tombs during the past hundred and fifty years a reasonably reliable list of sites for the whole country is still wanting and the number of tombs at all adequately described forms but a small fraction of those known to exist. For great numbers of monuments recorded on the maps and mentioned in the literature no details have been published and a considerable number of tombs remain totally unrecorded. Furthermore, very many sites indicated on the maps or in the literature prove on examination not to be megalithic tombs at all.

To say this is not to disparage the achievements of previous workers. Indeed were it not for the painstaking searches made during the Original Ordnance Survey and in the course of subsequent revisions, which led to the marking of many hundreds of sites on the maps, and invaluable regional work by men like Westropp, Wood-Martin, Gray, and H. S. Crawford the undertaking of the present megalithic survey would not be feasible. Borlase's *Dolmens of Ireland*, however it may fail to fulfil present-day requirements, has served megalithic studies in Ireland well and by its scope has made possible significant advances towards a clearer understanding of the content and classification of the Irish series as a whole. Work in more recent years has contributed much. Extensive preliminary surveys, notably *A Preliminary Survey of Northern Ireland* and Powell's work on the megalithic tombs of south-eastern Ireland, together with more detailed surveys of smaller areas, e.g., that of Hartnett in East Muskerry, Co. Cork, have assisted greatly in marshalling material. Finally, the excavation of some fifty megalithic tombs since 1930 has increased our knowledge of details of tomb architecture and furniture.

It was clear from the outset of the present undertaking that nothing short of a fresh survey of all the tombs would be sufficient, for only thus could a uniform standard be achieved. In practice this means that all the sites recorded on the maps or in the literature under the variety of names (Giant's Grave, Cromlech, Dolmen, Druid's Altar, Dermot and Grania's Bed, Cloghogle, Ancient Grave, Stone Circle, etc.) used to denote megalithic structures have to be examined on the ground and all those which prove to be megalithic tombs have to be surveyed, photographed and described. For sites unrecorded on the maps or in the literature it is manifestly impossible, short of a field by field search, to ensure completeness. Such a search cannot be attempted but in the course of the field work local enquiry and search is carried out as far as is practicable. Conditions obviously vary from region to region but it seems reasonably certain that the method adopted will embrace the vast majority of extant sites. There is good reason to hope that the Survey will seldom fall below 80 % of the extant remains and in many areas will much more closely approximate to completeness.

The publication of the present survey will be based on county units. Counties rich in tombs will require separate volumes but in the case of less prolific counties several will appear under one cover. It is intended to include discoveries made subsequent to the publication of the survey of any county in a supplement at the end of the series. The list provided for each county should enable new discoveries to be easily recognized as such and the final work would greatly benefit if these were brought to our notice.

CLASSIFICATION OF IRISH MEGALITHIC TOMBS

During the early stages of the work it became clear that important problems of classification and distribution of the series as a whole required clarification before the detailed work could be satisfactorily published. To this end upwards of 900 megalithic tombs in Ireland were examined by us in the field. The work extended to every county in Ireland but was particularly intensive in regions hitherto most imperfectly known. The information obtained was supplemented by such descriptions as were available in published and unpublished writings. The general conclusions regarding morphology and distribution are thus based on a figure of upwards of 1,000 specimens from an estimated total of about 1,200 for the whole Irish series. It is felt that the classification and the main lines of the distribution of each class can now be claimed to be established with a high degree of reliability. The classes are four, Court Cairns, Portal Dolmens, Wedge-shaped Galleries and Passage Graves. There are, of course, many sites which, owing to destruction and concealment, must remain unclassified, but it can be stated with confidence that the four types cover the whole series without significant remainder. There is no real sign that classes other than these are represented. A certain degree of interaction between some groups is probable and a relatively small number of sites intermediate between court cairns and portal dolmens are present, but otherwise the classification is clear. Most sites are classifiable even without excavation. It is encouraging to note that the classification of Irish megalithic sites based purely on considerations of tomb morphology is signally borne out by the evidence of the grave goods which—though the finds from portal dolmens are still scant—show distinctive assemblages for each class. It might well be said that the close correspondence of the classification with the evidence of the grave goods, while significantly vindicating the classification itself, emphasizes the importance of the tomb types as indicators of cultural groups and thereby stresses more than ever the need for a thorough survey of Irish megalithic tombs.

The classes now set out are, of course, not new—some were recognized by Borlase and even by earlier workers and since 1930, Morris, Evans, Mahr, Powell, Ó Ríordáin, Daniel and others have adopted a division of the tombs more or less on similar lines. However, so much remained uncertain in so many areas and insufficient detail was available to distinguish important features from more or less accidental phenomena that considerable doubt has persisted as to the validity of the classification even in very recent works and many confusions in detail have obscured the picture. It is well, therefore, briefly to summarize the main characteristics of each class to serve as an introduction to the detailed account of the individual sites.

*Court Cairn*¹

The essential features of a court cairn are, a long cairn of more or less trapezoidal or, in certain cases, approximately rectangular shape, with orthostatically defined court or courts varying from oval or circular to U-shaped, semi-circular and perhaps less than semi-circular forms, giving access to a gallery or galleries of two or more chambers segmented by jambs or jambs and sills and placed longitudinally in relation to the cairn. The method of roofing the galleries is normally by corbelling, though slabs laid directly on the orthostats also occur. The cairn is often—perhaps regularly—revetted by a straight-sided revetment. Where, as in the majority of examples, a single court and gallery occurs, this is placed in the broader end of the cairn; in dual-court cairns a court and gallery are placed at each end and the cairn appears sometimes to have been approximately rectangular though markedly wedge-shaped designs are also known. In a rare variant—the central-court cairn—the court is placed centrally in the cairn

1. For this type see *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), p. 9 ff.

with opposing galleries set longitudinally. Sometimes in addition to the main gallery or galleries subsidiary chambers are found opening on to the cairn-edge or into the court. A few sites with transepts opening off the gallery are known. The court in single court cairns is most frequently in the more eastern end of the cairn. Among the grave-goods the plain shouldered neolithic bowl is characteristic, though simple bowls and decorated vessels (both shouldered and unshouldered) are present also. Coarse, flat-bottomed, bucket-shaped pottery is fairly frequent. Among the flints leaf- and lozenge-shaped arrowheads and hollow-scrapers are characteristic.

*Portal Dolmen*¹

The principal characteristics of portal dolmens are, a single chamber of rectilinear design, usually narrowing towards the rear, having an entry between two tall portal stones set inside the line of the sidestones and covered by a capstone often of enormous size, poised high above the entrance and sloping down towards the rear of the chamber. The capstone is frequently raised clear of the sidestones and rests on the portal stones and backstone. Usually each side and the back are formed of single slabs. Frequently beneath the great capstone is a smaller cover resting on the sides and backstone and in this case the rear end of the principal cap rests on the second cover rather than on the backstone. Between the portals a slab closing the entrance is present in many sites, often reaching full height, but sometimes only three-quarters or half the height of the portal jambs. Occasionally, in place of the high slab a sill is found, while in many instances no evidence of closure, partial or full, appears. In a few examples high stones flanking the entrance are present. A bias towards placing the entrance facing eastwards, similar to that found in court cairns, is present also in portal dolmens. The mound shape is rarely clearly defined but both long and round forms are attested. Few grave-goods are available but pottery analogous to the neolithic of the court cairns is found and leaf-shaped arrowheads and hollow-scrapers are also present.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

These tombs consist of a main chamber frequently with a small portico or ante-chamber at the front and occasionally with a small closed end-chamber at the rear. The front consistently faces roughly westwards. The main chamber normally decreases in height and width from front to rear. The division between the portico and main chamber is usually by a slab—often massive—frequently inset at both sides in the gallery walls and reaching roof height. Occasionally jambs occur instead of the closing slab. The roofing is normally by slabs laid directly on the orthostats and very little evidence for corbelling is known. Frequently an outer-walling occurs set about .50 m. to 2 m. distant from the side-walls of the gallery. This outer-walling is sometimes roughly parallel to the gallery sides but often converges towards the rear more sharply. At the rear the outer-wall is sometimes of rectilinear design running straight across behind the backstone of the gallery but U-shaped designs are also attested. At least in tombs where a portico is present the outer-wall may join to a straight facade which flanks either side of the entrance but in a few cases the outer-wall continues straight across the end. The cairn is sometimes round or perhaps short oval and sometimes D-shaped. In a few cases kerbs delimiting the cairn are known. Beaker, barbed and tanged arrowheads and coarse flat-bottomed ware are the characteristic finds.²

*Passage Grave*³

In its classic form, a passage grave consists of a passage leading to a chamber which may be round, oval, polygonal, trapezoidal or rectangular. In Ireland side-chambers and end-chambers opening off the main chamber are common, giving a cruciform plan where an end-chamber and one pair of side-chambers occur and more complex forms where there are more than one pair of opposing side-chambers. Roofing of the larger

1. For this type see *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), p. 64-69.

2. See below, p. 113 ff.

3. For this type see: Coffey: *Newgrange* (Dublin, 1912); Powell: *P.P.S.* IV (1938), 239-248; Powell and Daniel: *P.P.S.* XV (1949), 169-187; Figgott: *The Neolithic Cultures of the British Isles* (Cambridge, 1954).

chambers is normally by corbelling but the passages may be simply lintelled. A simpler form with capstones laid directly on the chamber orthostats is well represented also. In some cases little or no passage is present and the chamber is of simple polygonal or sometimes almost square design. A type of passage grave where there is little differentiation between the passage and chamber is also found. These undifferentiated or V-shaped passage graves sometimes widen from the entrance inwards but sometimes are almost parallel-sided. Unlike other Irish megalithic tombs, passage graves are regularly sited on hill-tops and are frequently grouped in cemeteries. Many Irish passage graves are decorated with designs worked on the stones. The finds form a very distinctive assemblage in which the main items are, round-bottomed Carrowkeel style pottery, hammer-pendants, stone and composition balls, large mushroom- and poppy-headed bone pins and a wide variety of beads.

PREVIOUS ACCOUNTS OF CO. CLARE TOMBS

The present volume deals with the megalithic tombs of County Clare. The county is one of the richest in Ireland and 119 examples—approximately 10 % of the estimated total for the whole country—are known to exist. Early references to Clare megalithic tombs are found in Dutton's *Statistical Survey of the County of Clare* (Dublin, 1808).¹ During the course of the Original Ordnance Survey (published 1840) many sites, some since destroyed, were noted and appear on the maps but the descriptive details concerning them in the Ordnance Survey Letters, Name Books and Memoranda are scant. Lists of tombs were published by Margaret Stokes² and a few tombs are mentioned by others.³ However, it was not until the coming of Thomas Johnson Westropp (1860-1922) that anything like a detailed survey of the tombs of Clare was attempted. Westropp's work on the tombs is part of a great body of material amounting to a general survey of antiquities of all classes in the county. In its scope and detail it remains unrivalled. For their time the descriptions and the numerous plans given are remarkable and compare not unfavourably with much that is more recent. The work on the megalithic tombs is brought together in four articles published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*.⁴ These articles include all the megalithic tombs recorded by Westropp save for a very few which he added in later years. For the Baronies of Tulla (Upper and Lower), Bunratty (Upper and Lower) and Leitrim these articles are self-contained and the comparatively few references to the tombs which occur elsewhere in Westropp's writings add little if anything to them. However, the article dealing with the northern and western baronies published in 1906 is a summary only and the fuller descriptions and larger plans of tombs in this region are scattered widely through a long series of articles mainly in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland* on prehistoric remains of various types. This arose, as Westropp himself points out, largely because, inevitably, new discoveries and added detail disturbed the consistency of arrangement of the publication of the survey and led to frequent repetition and revision.⁵ In the case of the megalithic sites the arrangement is further disturbed because Westropp, having reserved his notes for Borlase's *Dolmens of Ireland* (1897), found it necessary after the publication of that work to insert the tombs once more in his articles.⁶ The chapter on County Clare in *The Dolmens of Ireland* draws very largely on Westropp's notes but compares very unfavourably with Westropp's own publications.

Throughout Westropp's works on the tombs of County Clare he includes with the true megalithic chambers other structures, cists, slab enclosures, pillars and bullaun stones. Though he himself clearly recognized the necessity of distinguishing between

1. p. 317-320. Lewis: *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*, I (1837), 335, lists the eight sites mentioned by Dutton but by mis-reading Dutton, gives a wrong location for two of them.

2. *Early Christian Architecture in Ireland* (London, 1878), 146; *Revue Archeologique*, XLIV (1882), 19-21.

3. Brogan, *P.R.I.A.* X (1869), 440-443; Fergusson, *P.R.I.A.* XV (1879), 265; *Dublin University Magazine*, XXVIII (1846), 404.

4. *P.R.I.A.*, XXII (1900), 85-92; XXIV (1902), 85-106; XXIV (1902), 107-132; XXVI (1907), 447-472. An earlier list for the whole county appeared in *P.R.I.A.* XX (1897), 542-549.

5. *J.R.S.A.I.* XLV (1915), 45-48.

6. *J.R.S.A.I.* XXXV (1905),^f206.

the true megalithic sites and the other remains, the segregation of the megalithic tombs proper is sometimes difficult and not infrequently requires examination in the field. It is, no doubt, partly on account of these difficulties that Westropp's work, which adds up to the fullest survey so far published of megalithic tombs for any area of comparable extent in Ireland, has been so poorly availed of since his time. As an index to Westropp's achievement the following figures may be cited. Of the 119 tombs in the list of extant sites described in the present volume, Borlase does not mention fifty-eight. Westropp mentions, usually with descriptions and often with plans, all save twenty-four. The Ordnance Survey maps, while including several tombs otherwise unrecorded, omits thirty-one. Seventeen tombs are completely unrecorded in the literature and maps.

After Westropp's time scarcely any further descriptive matter has been published though several writers have referred to certain features of the tombs. These references will be found in the discussion of the morphology of the tombs in Part II below.

SCOPE AND PLAN OF PRESENT VOLUME

In the present volume detailed descriptions are given for all the extant megalithic tombs known to us. New plans (with sections where appropriate) reproduced at a uniform scale of 1/100 are given for all sites save Ballinphunta (Cl. 90). The chamber here is now almost entirely obscured by field stones and Westropp's plan and sections and sketch made when the tomb was less encumbered are therefore reproduced. Photographs are given for all sites save Ballinphunta (Cl. 90), Gortlecka (Cl. 70), Rylane (Cl. 85), and Caherminnaun West (Cl. 48), where heavy overgrowth made useful pictures unobtainable.

In the first part of the Appendix four destroyed sites for which sufficient descriptive detail is forthcoming in the literature to show that it is very probable that they were true megalithic tombs are listed. These appear on the maps with a distinctive symbol. Next in the Appendix is a schedule of sites which appear on the Ordnance Survey Maps under names such as Cromlech, etc., but which are not accepted by us as megalithic tombs and the reasons for rejection are noted in each case.

There is a further considerable number of sites in the lists of Westropp and Borlase which are not marked on the maps and which are not accepted by us as megalithic tombs. Most of these were examined in the course of our field work and proved to be small cists, indeterminate slab-structures—some probably huts, standing stones, natural rocks, etc. As in most cases Westropp's descriptions give a reasonably clear indication of their nature, it was deemed unnecessary to list them all in the present work. Only those marked on the maps as "Cromlech," "Dermot and Grania's Bed," etc., are listed in the Appendix. For the rest, almost all of which are to be found in Westropp's four principal articles in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*,¹ omission in the present work can be taken as implying their rejection by us as proven megalithic tombs. It was also considered best not to include cairns save where definite megalithic structure was exposed. Round cairns are numerous in Clare and some may conceal megalithic chambers but others do not.²

The question how far the county can be said to be searched for megalithic tombs must be briefly considered. The method adopted was as follows. The published sources and Ordnance Survey documents were excerpted. The sites on the list thus compiled which included the doubtful and destroyed sites as well as those which proved to be true megalithic tombs were inspected in the field and the genuine sites surveyed. During the course of this inspection and survey local enquiry was made as far as was feasible. Intensive search beyond the areas traversed in the course of the examination of the sites was not normally possible save in the Barony of Burren and the adjoining area of Corcomroe where a search extending over a period of several months had been carried out by one of us in 1943 and 1944. However, taking Westropp's protracted and detailed survey into account, supplemented by the search undertaken in the Burren

1. See footnote 4 above, p. xiv.

2. e.g., Poulawack, *J.R.S.A.I.* LXV (1935), 191-222.

region—a district where tombs could most easily have escaped notice—a reasonably full coverage can be presumed. It is not likely that the new discoveries will be sufficiently numerous seriously to affect the position as now known.

The descriptions which follow are arranged by baronies taken in the general order north to south and west to east. The tombs for the whole country are numbered consecutively throughout. Within each barony the numbers run according to 6 inch Sheet, 1/2500 plan and trace. The heading of each description is arranged as follows. The number of the tomb followed by the townland name is given in black type. After the abbreviation O.S. the number of the 6 inch Sheet, 1/2500 plan and trace are given, e.g., thus: 3: 5: 2. Next, in brackets, follow the co-ordinates in centimetres from the left (west) and bottom (south) edge of the 6 inch sheet. Then comes the map name, if any, as it appears on the current edition of the 6 inch maps. This, unless otherwise stated, is the 1907 edition. Next the height above Ordnance Datum is expressed by the values of the contours which lie above and below the sites, e.g., O.D. 300-400 means that the site lies between 300 and 400 feet above Ordnance Datum. In a few cases where a contour crosses the site the value of this contour only is given. Lastly, the National Grid reference is given, e.g., M 108 206. This grid appears on the current half-inch and quarter-inch maps and its operation is explained on each sheet. It enables very rapid location of a site and is applicable to maps of all scales.

After the heading the general classification of each tomb is noted in italics. In the descriptions the tombs, except where otherwise stated, are described as if orientated due west and east. This convention is adopted to facilitate comparison of features in the wedge-shaped galleries which are consistently aligned with the fronts facing west of the north-south line. Comprehensive references to the published literature are supplied to avoid difficulty of identification and possible duplication of sites, though in many cases the same matter is repeated more than once by Westropp and some references contain but little detail. Where plans and illustrations occur in the accounts this is indicated by abbreviations Pl. Plan; Ph. Photograph; Drg. Drawing. These will normally indicate the principal accounts. The descriptions and plans for the western baronies in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries* are usually fuller than in the paper in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* (1906). Since, however, significant details recorded in the older accounts but not now visible are noted in our descriptions, it is hoped that the present descriptions will be found sufficient in themselves and that consultation of the older accounts will not normally be necessary.

In Part II, which deals with the morphological and distributional factors, tombs in Clare are referred to by the townland name, followed in brackets by the county abbreviation and number, e.g., Baur North (Cl. 25). It is intended to maintain this system in future volumes in the Megalithic Survey of Ireland and new tombs discovered in a county already published will be given numbers continuing the numeration. Thus a new discovery in Clare would be "Name of Townland" (Cl. 120).

CONVENTIONS USED ON PLANS

The plans at a standard uniform scale of 1/100 are grouped at the end of the text and are arranged as far as was possible in the order of the numeration. In the photographs the ranging rods used as scales are marked in feet in plates numbers 1-12 and in 20 cm. intervals in plates numbers 13-20. The orientation diagram and maps are found at the end of the volume.

In the plans the following conventions are adopted. Set structural stones are hatched. Other stones are shown in thin line and are not hatched. Roofstones are shown by chain-dot. Fences are indicated by heavy lines and are marked with the letter F. The outline of cairn remains are shown in pecked line. In the sections all stones cut by the section-lines are hatched.

COUNTY ABBREVIATIONS

Antrim	..	..	An.	Limerick	..	..	Li.
Armagh	..	..	Ar.	Longford	..	..	Lf.
Carlow	..	..	Cw.	Louth	..	..	Lh.
Cavan	..	..	Cv.	Mayo	..	..	Ma.
Clare	..	..	Cl.	Meath	..	..	Me.
Cork	..	..	Co.	Monaghan	..	..	Mo.
Derry	..	..	De.				
Donegal	..	..	Dg.	Offaly	..	..	Of.
Down	..	..	Dw.				
Dublin	..	..	Du.	Roscommon	..	..	Ro.
Fermanagh	..	..	Fe.	Sligo	..	..	Sl.
Galway	..	..	Ga.	Tipperary	..	..	Ti.
Kerry	..	..	Ke.	Tyrone	..	..	Ty.
Kildare	..	..	Kd.				
Kilkenny	..	..	Kk.	Waterford	..	..	Wa.
				Westmeath	..	..	Wm.
Leitrim	..	..	Le.	Wexford	..	..	Wx.
Laoighis	..	..	La.	Wicklow	..	..	Wi.

PART ONE:

DESCRIPTIONS
AND
APPENDIX

BARONY OF BURREN

1. Derrynavahagh. O.S. 5: 1: 6 (16.7 cm., 45.3 cm.). Shown as a small rectangle.
O.D. 700-800. M 180 054. Fig. 1. Plate 1.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument, one of the finest in the Barony of Burren, stands on a fairly level platform high up on the rugged western side of the ridge extending from Gleninagh Mountain on the north to the Corkscrew Hill on the south. To the west and north the hillside falls precipitously in a series of cliffs to the valley floor of the Caher river some 400 feet below. Beyond the valley to the west Slieve Elva dominates the view. South and east of the monument the ground rises sharply confining the view to about 300 yards. The whole mountain-side is bare and very craggy with some grass on the thin soil on the ledges and platforms providing scanty grazing.

The well-preserved chamber is closed at its east end. A large roofstone, the east end of which is broken off, covers the west end of the chamber. The entry at the west is partially closed by a high slab set at right angles to the northern side of the chamber. An outer-wall, running almost parallel to the south side of the chamber, extends considerably beyond it to the west. The two more westerly stones of this line are massive pillar-like slabs which reach above the top of the roofstone. Some low set stones and sharp banking outside the northern side of the chamber seem to indicate the line of an outer-wall. The outer-wall at the east end is represented by one set stone. The space between it and the chamber backstone is filled by a grass-covered mass of earth and stones reaching a maximum height of 1.00 m. at the backstone and sloping down to ground level .60 m. beyond the outer-wall stone. With the exception of a low mound at the south-west of the monument there are no further remains of cairn.

The south side of the chamber consists of one great slab leaning slightly inwards. It measures 3.30 m. long, 1.25 m. high at the west, .65 m. high at the east and varies from .15 m. to .20 m. in thickness. Its straight top edge slopes down to the east. The only indications of dressing noted are along the top outside edge where there appear to be some slight traces of chipping. The roofstone rests on this sidestone towards the west, this being its only support on the southern side of the chamber. Outside the west end of the southern sidestone, set parallel to it and almost touching it, is an erect slab .85 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its top edge almost reaches the cover. It fills the gap left by the receding western edge of the sidestone.

The greater part of the north side of the chamber consists of one massive slab now cracked through about 1.25 m. from its west end. The smaller western piece is somewhat out of line with the eastern portion and may be slightly displaced. Both pieces lean very slightly outward. The entire stone measures 3.85 m. in maximum length, 3.45 m. long at the base, 1.20 m. high at the west, .60 m. at the east and varies from .15 m. to .25 m. in thickness. Its straight top edge slopes down regularly eastward and disappears into the cairn-mass beyond the backstone. Its top edge is dressed on both sides. The roofstone rests on it for a distance of .20 m. immediately west of the crack.

Parallel to, touching and overlapping the northern sidestone is a large erect slab .75 m. long, 1.25 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. It appears to correspond to the slab opposite it on the southern side, but unlike that slab, supports the roof stone. It closes the gap between the end of the sidestone and the high transverse slab at the entry. The position of this slab increases the width of the chamber at the west by about .20 m.

The stone at the northern corner of the entry is 1.00 m. in maximum length, 1.35 m. high and .12 m. thick. Its top edge almost reaches the cover. As its southern edge is broken it is possible that it may have originally closed a greater portion of the entry. There is now a gap of 1.10 m. between it and the southern sidestone. Set in the middle of this gap is a low sill-like stone .50 m. long, .10 m. high and .12 m. thick. Its top edge may be broken and if so, it may be the base of a larger stone.

The backstone is 1.30 m. long, .70 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its top edge is straight and almost level. It fits tightly between the sidestones and would be difficult to remove, especially if this end of the chamber retained its cover.

The roofstone is 2.70 m. long, 1.95 m. wide at the west, 2.25 m. wide near the east and from .10 m. to .20 m. thick. Its east edge appears to be broken. The top is partially covered by a pile of stone and earth which may possibly be the remains of a covering cairn. A slab, maximum dimension 1.00 m. and .15 m. thick, now lying in the chamber, may have been broken from the east edge of the roofstone and may originally have covered this end of the chamber.

The outer-wall on the south maintains an average distance of .50 m. from the chamber side. The more westerly stone of the line is set about .50 m. in advance of the chamber entry. It is 1.05 m. long, 1.95 m. high and from .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The next stone in the line is set .40 m. east of it. This stone measures 1.20 m. long, 1.60 m. high and .20 m. thick. The top edges of both slabs appear to be in the same plane of slope (i.e., from west down to east). Their opposed edges, though now rubbed smooth by cattle, seem to be broken. The remaining three stones of the wall are considerably lower than the last pair. They measure, from west to east respectively, .40 m., .75 m. and 1.70 m. in length; and .20 m., .10 m. and .60 m. in height. The remaining stone of the outer-wall at the east has been forced outward by the weight of the cairn behind it which rises almost flush with its highest part. It is .90 m. long, .45 m. high and .10 m. thick. Its top edge is broken.

Along the northern side of the tomb, probably indicating the line of an outer-wall, is a low "step" or ledge of earth and prostrate stones, which projects about .75 m. beyond the chamber side. A somewhat similar filling is exposed in the gaps between the orthostats of the southern line of outer-wall. Two small set stones at the west end of this ledge possibly represent a continuation of the outer-wall.

The tomb is of the normal wedge-shaped type, the chamber being broadest and highest at the west and narrowing and lowering to the east. It is 3.45 m. long, 1.70 m. wide inside the entry, 1.50 m. at the west end of the main northern sidestone, and 1.30 m. inside the backstone. The floor is level from the entry to the point where the northern sidestone is broken and then it rises towards the backstone. The eastern end of the chamber is strewn with small loose stones. Ignoring this filling, the chamber would appear to have sloped from about 1.40 m. high at the west to 1.00 m. at the east.

The distance from the backstone to the east end of the outer-wall measures 2.70 m. Because of the filling, however, it is impossible to know, without excavation, whether or not a rear chamber is concealed here.

2. Caherbullog. O.S. 5: 5: 1 (6.2 cm., 38.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. M 169 048. Fig. 1. Plate 1.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated near the centre of the high floor of the valley of the Caher river. Flanking the valley to the east is the high ridge on which stands the Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1) site. Slieve Elva flanks the valley to the west. The tomb lies 6.00 m. east of a bench of rock 3.00 m. high which runs in a north-south direction. The whole valley bottom is crag with small patches of grass and considerable areas of hazel and thorn.

The monument, which is almost completely collapsed, is densely overgrown. One great slab forming the north side of the chamber remains erect. South of it the fallen roofstone overlies another great slab which formed the southern side of the chamber. Set .65 m. west of the east end of the erect sidestone is the backstone now

leaning inwards at an angle of 45° . It is 1.15 m. long, .75 m. high and .15 m. thick. Its top edge is irregular. Leaning against its southern end is a stone, apparently displaced, measuring .90 m. long and .60 m. high. An unusual feature is the presence inside the chamber of two upright slabs set in line; the west end of the more westerly slab touches the northern sidestone and the east end of the second slab is .45 m. distant from it. These stones are both about 1.30 m. long and .70 m. high. Their function is unknown. Several loose moss-covered stones lie about the tomb.

The northern sidestone is 4.60 m. long, 1.40 m. high at the west, 1.30 m. at the east and from .25 m. to .45 m. thick. Its top edge is broad and straight. It leans slightly inwards. The straight top edge of the southern sidestone is 3.65 m. long. Further dimensions are difficult to obtain because of its concealed position. It would, however, appear to have a maximum length of about 4.40 m. and to be at least 1.70 m. wide and .25 m. thick. The roofstone, which is also partly concealed, is 4.50 m. long, at least 1.75 m. wide and about .30 m. thick. It is cracked across near its east end.

In its present condition dimensions of the chamber cannot be accurately ascertained but a length of about 3.75 m. is indicated.

3. **Faunarooska.** O.S. 5: 5: 3 (20.9 cm., 39.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 800-900. M 184 048. Fig. 2. Plate 1.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

Almost $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-east of Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1), and on the ridge above it, lie two of the monuments in Faunarooska townland (Cl. 3 and Cl. 4). They stand 40 yards apart. Slieve Elva is visible to the west and eastwards there is a wide view of the north-east Burren plateau. The land on the ridge top is heathy crag.

This, the more westerly of the two monuments, has completely collapsed. The two sidestones lie flat on the ground and the roofstone now overlies the northern one. A prostrate stone 1.10 m. long is partly covered by the southern sidestone and two large slabs are partly concealed in the ground west of the collapsed chamber. The northern of these is 1.85 m. in maximum dimension and the southern 2.40 m. in maximum dimension. Their function is unknown.

Both sidestones are fine slabs with straight top edges. The northern is 2.90 m. long, 1.20 m. wide at the west and 1.25 m. at the east. The southern, which is 1.30 m. longer than the northern sidestone, narrows from 1.30 m. wide at the west to 1.10 m. at the east. Both stones are from .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The roofstone is a very irregular shaped slab, 3.85 m. long and .10 m. thick. It narrows from 2.25 m. wide near the west to 1.20 m. near the east.

Little can be said of the original dimensions of the chamber. The shape of the roofstone suggests that it would have narrowed from west to east and the dimensions of the southern sidestone indicate that it would have been highest at the west.

4. **Faunarooska.** O.S. 5: 5: 3 (21.1 cm., 39.8 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 800-900. M 185 048. Fig. 2. Plate 1.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies 40 yards east of the site at Faunarooska (Cl. 3). Quite an amount of structure remains but the chamber is largely concealed by several slabs which are probably displaced roofstones. A line of outer-walling runs along the north side of the chamber and a row of stones now leaning outwards at the west belong to a frontal outer-walling. Outer-walling along the southern side is represented by two stones at the south-west corner. The tomb is surrounded by a mound measuring approximately 8.00 m. east-west and 6.50 m. north-south.

Four stones, set in line, about .50 m. inside the northern line of outer-walling, represent the north side of the chamber. The more westerly stone is 1.45 m. long, .65 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. The next two stones in line are partly concealed. The more westerly is .30 m. long and .20 m. high and the next is .20 m. long and .15 m. high. The fourth stone is .75 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick. Three set stones

represent the southern side of the chamber. The more westerly of these is .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick. The other two stones stand in line .95 m. to the east. The western is .55 m. long, .25 m. high and .10 m. thick and the other is 1.10 m. long, .20 m. high and at least .10 m. thick.

Two stones are set in line across the west end of the chamber. The northern is 1.00 m. long, .85 m. high and .15 m. thick and the southern is .40 m. long, .40 m. high and .10 m. thick. Two stones on edge immediately east of these are not set. The eastern is 1.80 m. long, .90 m. high and .15 m. thick, and the western is .55 m. long, .30 m. high and .15 m. thick.

A large displaced slab, 2.40 m. long, 1.60 m. wide and .20 m. thick lying at the western end of the north side of the chamber is probably a roofstone. Two displaced slabs lie under it. The uppermost is 1.60 m. long, 1.30 m. wide and .10 m. thick and the second is 1.00 m. long, .70 m. wide and .15 m. thick. Two displaced slabs, which may also have formed part of the roof, lie at the east end of the tomb. The western measures 1.60 m. by 1.60 m. and .15 m. thick and the eastern 1.00 m. by .80 m. and .10 m. thick.

The northern line of outer-walling consists of seven stones varying from .30 m. to .90 m. in length and averaging .10 m. thick. Beginning at the west the first four stones, which overlap each other, are .10 m. to .15 m. high and the remaining three at the east are .25 m. to .30 m. high. The more westerly of the two remaining stones of the southern line of outer-walling is .20 m. long, .40 m. high and .13 m. thick. The second stone, which leans outwards, is .70 m. long, .60 m. high and .12 m. thick. Three stones of the western line of outer-walling remain. The dimensions of these stones from south to north, respectively, are: 1.35 m. long, .90 m. high, .10 m. thick; .95 m. long, .90 m. high, .10 m. thick; 1.30 m. long, .20 m. high, .15 m. thick. The top edge of the third stone is broken. Overlying it is a large displaced slab, 2.00 m. long, 1.00 m. wide and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Protruding from under the west edge of this slab is a stone, now broken into two pieces, which may be the upper portion of the broken outer-wall stone. It is 1.75 m. long, .65 m. wide and .25 m. thick. Two loose slabs lie between the western outer-walling and the chamber. Both are about 1.25 m. in maximum dimension.

The chamber seems to have been about 2.10 m. wide and narrows towards the east. It seems to be at least 3.50 m. long.

5. **Faunarooka.** O.S. 5: 6: 1 (29.6 cm., 44.0 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 400-500. M 194 053. Fig. 2. Plate 1.

Unclassified

The monument stands on a small grass-grown platform on the eastern slopes of the Gleninagh-Poulacapple ridge. Eastwards stand the bare craggy heights of Ballyallaban with the Berneens plateau further to the south. To the south and west the view is restricted by rising ground. The valley below is grass-grown and cultivated but the land in the vicinity of the monument is wild cragland with some grass on the ledges and platforms providing scant grazing.

The monument,¹ which is very ruined, is strewn with a debris of small stones and is difficult to interpret. While it can be interpreted as a megalithic tomb some uncertainty remains. Several large slabs near the centre seem to belong to a chamber. An outer-wall of pillar-like stones runs along the eastern side and several set stones to the north and west may represent further remains of outer-walling. The tomb is surrounded by a low mound with indefinite edges which measures approximately 11.50 m. in diameter.

One stone, apparently a chamber sidestone, remains in situ on the east side of the chamber. It leans heavily inward and is 1.45 m. long, .80 m. high and .12 m. thick. There is a gap of 1.30 m. between it and the transverse stone to the south. Two stones which may represent part of the west side of the chamber lean heavily inwards and may be somewhat displaced. The more southerly, which stands .50 m. north of the transverse stone at the south, is .65 m. long, .75 m. high and .20 m. thick. The second stone

1. The usual east-west convention is not followed in this description.

is .35 m. further west. It is .70 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. thick. When erect both stones would be less out of line than at present.

The small set stone at the north may be part of the base of a backstone of the chamber. It leans to the south and is .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick. The transverse slab at the south, which may be the end of the chamber, is 1.85 m. long, 1.15 m. high and .20 m. thick. It leans heavily to the north. A small semi-circular hole, .35 m. long and .15 m. high at the centre of the stone at ground level, is probably fortuitous.

A displaced slab resting against the south end of the eastern sidestone and another to the west may be roofstones. They are both approximately 1.75 m. in maximum dimension and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. Under the western slab is a pillar-like stone (not on plan) measuring .90 m. by .25 m. by .25 m. It appears to be displaced. Three other displaced stones varying from 1.00 m. to 1.75 m. in maximum dimension lie beyond the transverse slab taken to be the west end of the chamber.

Six erect pillar-like stones set roughly in line along the east side of the monument seem to belong to an outer-walling. Two prostrate stones, also pillar-shaped, and about .70 m. long, near the south end of the line seem to be fallen members of the row. The six erect stones vary from .25 m. to .80 m. long and .10 m. to .25 m. thick. They decline in height, in general, from south to north, as follows: 1.40 m., 1.40 m., 1.15 m., .80 m., .60 m. and .85 m. At the north end of the row a small stone .40 m. high (unhatched on plan) may belong to the series but this is doubtful. Immediately outside the north end of the row a stone, .80 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick, may act as a doubling. Between the row and the east side of the chamber is a little pillar-like stone, .25 m. by .10 m. and .45 m. high, of uncertain function.

The three set stones north of the chamber may belong to the outer-walling but the exact design here is not clear. They are .35 m. to .75 m. long, .40 m. to .55 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. Near these a low stone (unhatched on plan) .45 m. long, .10 m. high and .10 m. thick, is of uncertain significance.

Two stones, apparently of the outer-wall, remain in situ at the north-west. The southern is .90 m. long, .80 m. high and .10 m. thick and the northern is .75 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. thick. Both lean heavily to the west.

The tomb may be interpreted as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave, but some features, especially the stone taken as the south end of the chamber and the peculiar design of the eastern row of stones taken to be outer-walling, leave considerable doubt. The apparent wedge-shape design of the outer-walling and the position of the chamber structure within it are, however, consistent with an interpretation as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 65, No. 2.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No 3 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 277 (Pl.).

6. **Gragan East.** O.S. 5: 7: 4 (50.4 cm., 30.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. M 215 038. Fig. 3. Plate 2.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated near the head of the V-shaped valley opening north to the sea at Ballyvaghan. The upper end of the valley—known locally as Poll na Sceach—though heavily overgrown with hazel and thorn, contains patches of bare crag and grass-grown glades. The monument, completely enveloped in thorn and hazel, lies near the edge of one of these glades.

Though the tomb has been somewhat disturbed its remaining features are clear. Two slabs, the more northerly leaning heavily outwards, comprise the chamber sides. Between them, at the east, a backstone stands erect. Five stones of an outer-wall, together with two stones representing a facade, encompass the chamber. A stony mound, 8.00 m. in diameter and rising to a height of .50 m., surrounds the tomb. Some large blocks (not on plan) measuring 1.00 m. in maximum dimension lie at the west end of the mound.

The southern sidestone is a fine slab, 2.60 m. long, 1.25 m. high at the west, .80 m. high at the east and .10 m. to .30 m. thick. Its straight flat top slopes sharply down to the east. A small packing stone set near its eastern end is visible in the chamber. A displaced stone .80 in maximum dimension lies south of the west end of this sidestone. The northern sidestone, which is 2.35 m. long, leans outwards at an angle of 45° and is partly concealed. Its base, however, seems to be in original position. The slab measures 1.00 m. high at the west and .75 m. at the east, and when erect the top edge would appear to have sloped as sharply from west to east as that of the southern side. .10 m. beyond the western end of the northern side is a group of four small set stones .20 m. in average height. They continue the line of the chamber side but their function is not clear.

The backstone is 1.25 m. long and .80 m. high. Both its top corners have been removed. There is a gap of .10 m. to .20 m. between it and the southern sidestone. Behind the backstone and leaning on it is a displaced slab 1.25 m. in maximum dimension.

Set 1.10 m. behind the backstone and lying parallel to it is a stone .90 m. long and .35 m. high which forms the east end of the outer-wall. At the north-west corner of the tomb are two stones leaning outward at an angle of 45°. The more westerly is .95 m. long and .50 m. high and the eastern is .55 m. long and .80 m. high. These are the only remains of outer-walling on the north side of the chamber. A stone, .25 m. high and of unknown function is set south of this pair. South of the chamber the outer-wall is represented by two stones. The more easterly of these, 1.00 m. long and .40 m. high, is set .80 m. from the sidestone and is almost parallel to it. The second lies 1.25 m. further west and extends .50 m. beyond the southern stone of the facade. It is 1.15 m. long and .25 m. high. The remains of the facade consist of two irregularly shaped stones set .35 m. apart, 1.00 m. west of the ends of the sidestones. The more northerly is 1.00 m. long and .80 m. high and the southerly .80 m. long and .55 m. high. Slightly west of these is a loose stone .35 m. high which seems to be displaced.

The wedge-shaped chamber measures 2.25 m. long. It would be 1.65 m. wide at the west and 1.25 m. at the east if the northern sidestone were erect. Three blocks (not on plan), .75 m. in maximum dimension, lie prostrate in the chamber. They may be the remains of a roofstone.

7. Cooleabeg. O.S. 5: 9: 4 (2.9 cm., 19.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 600-700.
M 165 027. Fig. 3. Plate 2.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The monument lies some 250 yards east of the road from Formoyle to Toomaghera at a place about 500 yards south of the highest point of the road where it crosses the saddle separating the valley of the Caher river from the valley opening south towards Lisdoonvarna. The tomb stands on the grassy limestone cragland but immediately beyond the road to the west the coal and flagstone of the Slieve Elva ridge commence. The contrast between the good grazing on the limestone and the poor conditions on the coal and flagstones is very marked.

The monument is greatly disturbed. It is surrounded by a low indefinite mound, approximately 8.00 m. in diameter, crossed from west to east by a field wall. Incorporated in this wall is the northern sidestone of the chamber which leans southwards at an angle of 45°. It is 2.45 m. long, .20 m. to .25 m. thick and, if erect, would be 1.60 m. high. Its top edge is straight. Under it lie two large broken slabs. The more westerly of these, measuring 1.70 m. by 1.40 m., seems clearly to be the west end of the southern side of the chamber. Its southern edge, which was probably the original top, is rounded and appears to have been dressed. The second slab, 2.10 m. in maximum dimension, overlies the one just described. It is newly broken along its southern edge and also seems to be part of a broken sidestone. Beneath it is a low set stone 1.15 m. long (hatched on plan). Its top edge is broken. It may perhaps be part of the broken base of the southern sidestone.

Three displaced slabs lie further to the west. The more southerly of these is the largest stone of the monument and appears to be a roofstone. It is 3.40 m. long and narrows from 2.60 m. wide at the west to 1.70 m. near the east. North of it lies another

large flat stone of uncertain function, 2.55 m. in maximum dimension. The third stone is incorporated in the field wall and 1.30 m. of its northern edge only is visible. At the south-east edge of the mound lies a small flat slab, .80 m. in maximum dimension, probably displaced.

Little can be said of the original chamber dimensions. If the broken set stone is accepted as a southern sidestone the chamber would have wedged rather sharply from west to east. The shape of the roofstone would agree.

8. Berneens. O.S. 5: 11: 3 (66.1 cm., 23.0 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 500-600. M 232 030. Fig. 4. Plate 2.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a grassy field on the gentle south-west slope of Ballyallaban Hill and commands an extensive view of the surrounding craglands to the south and west. The tombs in Gleninsheen Td., half a mile to the south, are clearly visible.

The chamber, built of thin slabs some of which are cracked, retains its roofstone. The northern side consists of a single slab. The southern side is much disturbed and has been, in part, replaced by a stone wall reaching almost to the roof. The west end is completely closed by a single slab. A low mound from which the traces of three old fences radiate, surrounds the tomb. It measures approximately 8.00 m. north-south and 10.00 m. east-west and is strewn with stones and slabs of about 1.25 m. maximum dimension. Part of the south side of the mound has been hollowed out near the stonewalling which replaces the chamber side.

The northern sidestone leans slightly outwards and is cracked through from top to bottom at a distance of about 1.50 m. from its east end. It measures 3.75 m. long, 1.95 m. high at the west, .90 m. at the east and is .10 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge, which slopes down sharply to the east, is thin and straight and seems to have been dressed. At the west, a portion of its base, measuring .50 m. long and .35 m. deep, is missing. Several small packing stones are visible at the base of the slab.

At the west end of the southern side of the chamber stands a displaced slab, 1.40 m. long, 1.35 m. high and .25 m. thick, which may have formed part of a sidestone. Its base is not set and it leans heavily outwards. Its top edge is straight and even but the other edges appear to be broken. At the east end of the same side is another slab, 1.65 m. long, 1.15 m. high and .15 m. thick, which may also have formed part of a sidestone. It does not appear to be set and is probably not in situ. An apparently well set stone, .65 m. long, .60 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick, runs partially across the east end of the chamber.

The slab closing the west end of the chamber is cracked across about 1.00 m. from its base. It is 2.10 m. long, 1.85 m. high inside the chamber and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It projects .10 m. north of the west end of the northern sidestone. Though the roofstone now rests upon it, it seems unlikely that this would have been so when the southern side of the chamber was in position.

The massive roofstone, .20 m. thick, is cracked across about .75 m. from its eastern end. It is 4.25 m. long and narrows from 1.95 m. wide at the west to .90 m. at the east. At present it rests unsteadily on the northern sidestone, the west endstone and the inturned slab at the eastern end of the southern side. It covers a wedge-shaped chamber which decreases in height and width from west to east. The chamber is about 4.00 m. long, 2.00 m. high at the west and .90 m. high at the east. It was probably about 1.30 m. wide at the west and .90 m. wide at the east. The floor is raised towards the east and a covering of loose stones reduces the height of the present opening here to about .50 m.

Four well set thin stones, lying north-south, are situated west of the closing stone of the chamber. They vary in length from .40 m. to 1.20 m. and from .10 m. to .50 m. in height. Though the two more westerly may have formed part of a facade or outer-wall, it is more likely that they are all related to the fence which joins the mound at this point.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No. 9 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 286-287 (Pl.).
J.R.S.A.I., XXIX (1899), 381. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 354 (Pl.).

9. **Berneens.** O.S. 5: 11: 4 (50·8 cm., 17·3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 600-700. M 216 024. Fig. 4. Plate 2.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated in a broad shallow hollow on an extensive plateau of wild cragland with patches of grass in places providing some pasturage. The immediate prospect is restricted to a few hundred yards except towards the west. Northwards however the coast of Galway is visible and the heights of Slievecallan and Ballyallaban Hill appear to the south and east.

The monument has been badly damaged. The northern sidestone and the east end of the base of the southern, together with a damaged backstone, remain in situ. Three stones suggest an outer-walling. Apart from the northern sidestone, which measures from ·10 m. to ·20 m. thick, the stones are rather thin slabs, none measuring more than ·10 m. in thickness. The tomb is surrounded by a mound measuring 9·00 m. east-west and about 7·00 m. north-south. Many loose slabs, up to ·75 m. in maximum dimension, lie on the mound and in the chamber. Outside the northern sidestone they form a pile reaching half-way up the slab.

The northern sidestone, which is 3·90 m. long, leans inwards. Its top edge, which shows signs of dressing, is even though somewhat hogbacked in outline. It is 1·15 m. high near its west end and ·70 m. at the east. South of its west end is a stone 1·00 m. high and ·35 m. long. The sidestone leans against the top of this stone which appears to serve as a prop. However, though firmly set, it does not seem to be an original feature of the monument. The fragment of the southern sidestone, ·80 m. long and ·20 m. high, disappears into the ground at its west end and seems to continue further in this direction. A low dry-stone wall of recent origin continues the line of the sidestone. The backstone, at present, fits closely between the sidestones. If, however, the northern sidestone were erect a gap of ·10 m. at the bottom broadening to ·20 m. higher up would exist between it and the backstone. The backstone, the top edge of which is broken, is 1·25 m. long and at present measures ·50 m. high.

About ·35 m. north of the east end of the northern sidestone is a well set stone, ·75 m. long and ·12 m. high. Another stone, ·50 m. long and ·15 m. high, occupies a somewhat corresponding position at the south side of the chamber. A third stone, ·35 m. long and ·13 m. high, is set 3·25 m. west of the last. These stones may have formed part of an outer-wall.

The chamber, which was highest at the west, is approximately 3·25 m. long. It is 1·25 m. wide at the east. While the width at the west is unobtainable the line of the remaining fragment suggests that the chamber was nearly parallel-sided.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No. 7 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 353-354 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 380.

10. **Gleninsheen.** O.S. 5: 11: 6 (65·1 cm., 17·1 cm.). Shown as a small circle. O.D. 500-600. M 231 024. Fig. 5. Plate 2.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument is situated about 300 yards north-north-east of Gleninsheen (Cl. 15).

The chamber, which is of unusually small proportions, is enveloped in an oval grass-grown mound measuring about 10·00 m. east-west, 7·50 m. north-south and 1·20 m. high, which seems to consist largely of stones mixed with reddish clay.

Both sidestones lean heavily towards each other but whether this is due to the thrust of the cairn mass, as seems most probable, or is an original feature is not clear. These stones have straight top edges which curve downwards at their eastern ends. The west ends are partly embedded in a modern dry-stone wall which closes the western end of the chamber. At present the top edges of these stones are ·35 m. apart at the west, and ·25 m. at the east. The northern sidestone is 2·80 m. long, ·85 m. high and ·10 m. thick. The southern measures 2·60 m. long, ·85 m. high and ·10 m. to ·15 m. thick.

Owing to the slant of the sidestones and the uneven nature of the chamber floor which rises to the east, it is difficult to determine the dimensions of the chamber. It measures about 2.50 m. long and is .65 m. high. It is approximately 1.00 m. wide and seems to have narrowed slightly towards the east.

Several stones protruding from the mound are suggestive of kerbing but surface indications are too scant to permit of certainty. On the northern side of the mound is a hole .50 m. deep and seemingly of recent origin.

11. **Gleninsheen.** O.S. 5: 11: 6 (64.6 cm., 16.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. M 230 023. Fig. 5. Plate 3.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument, situated about 150 yards north of Gleninsheen (Cl. 15), is considerably broken and disturbed. The southern sidestone remains intact and in situ but the western end of the base is all that is left of the northern side. Faint traces of a mound are present, mostly on the northern side of the monument. The bases of two slab fences run into the mound at its east and west ends. Recent damage is apparent on the large prostrate slabs which lie on the mound. Westropp noted that the monument was complete in 1862.

The southern sidestone is 4.25 m. long, 1.20 m. high at the west, .95 m. high at the east and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Its straight top edge bears traces of dressing. The east and west edges are fairly straight but do not seem to have been worked. A thin crack runs from top to bottom near the centre of the slab. The remaining portion of the opposite sidestone is .90 m. long, .20 m. high and .25 m. thick.

It is unlikely that the two tall tapering stones at the west end of the chamber are an original feature. They may well be related to the remains of the fence which runs towards the chamber at this end of the monument. Both are heavy blocks of irregular shape measuring .90 m. long and 1.40 m. high (western) and .70 m. long and 1.55 m. high (eastern). They both lean considerably eastwards. Immediately east of these is a low set stone, .85 m. long and .60 m. high, which possibly marks the west end of the chamber. Four large slabs lie on the mound. The edges of the largest of these, which lies on the north side of the mound, have obviously been comparatively recently chipped and the top surface seems to have been dressed smooth. This stone, which is 2.15 m. in maximum dimension, may have been the north sidestone. The irregular prostrate slab, maximum dimension 2.20 m., to the south may be part of a roofstone.

The chamber is 1.80 m. wide at the west and an extension of the line of the northern sidestone indicates that it would have narrowed sharply to about 1.25 m. at the east. The length indicated by the sidestone is about 3.30 m. The floor is covered by many loose stones.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No. 10 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 381. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 354 (Pl.).

12. **Poulbaun.** O.S. 5: 12: 6 (90.0 cm., 22.4 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 700-800. M 257 029. Fig. 6. Plate 3.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument is situated near the eastern edge of the great plateau of central Burren. The ground rises on all sides except to the east where it falls, gently at first and then, about 150 yards from the site, in a sheer precipice into the valley traversed by the Beaclugga-Carran road. To the east across the valley stands the mountain range which extends northwards from Gortaclare Mountain to Abbey Hill. Though the tomb is sited on a natural rise on the crag somewhat more prominent positions are available in the immediate vicinity. The land of the plateau is cragland with a considerable amount of vegetation between the rocks providing good winterage pasture.

The monument¹ is poorly preserved. The chamber sides, though broken, seem

1. The usual east-west convention is not followed in this description.

originally to have consisted of single slabs. A fine backstone stands at the north end of the chamber. The south end of the chamber is represented by two low stones, probably the base of a single slab. Low indefinite traces of a mound, measuring 7.50 m. north-south and 5.50 m. east-west, partially surround the chamber.

The eastern side of the chamber consists of two fragments. The southern part is well preserved and stands in its original position. The northern portion is broken and thrown down outside the chamber to the east. When intact the stone would have measured 4.30 in length. The southern portion, which leans somewhat outwards, is 2.12 m. long, 1.35 m. high at the south, and 1.15 m. high at the north. Its top edge slopes regularly down to the north and shows evidence of dressing. The north edge of the stone appears to be broken while the southern edge, though uneven, seems to be original. The edges of the prostrate portion have obviously been comparatively recently fractured.

The western side of the chamber consists of two pieces of stone, the northern being 2.30 m. long, 1.10 m. high and .10 m. thick, and the southern 1.65 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick. The top edges of both are badly broken. The pieces overlap each other slightly, the northern portion being very slightly inside the line of the southern. It is probable that these stones are the remains of a single sidestone, now slightly displaced, due to the breaking and collapse of the upper portion of the slab. The overall length of the stone would have been about 3.90 m.

The backstone is 1.50 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .20 m. thick. The top and west edges seem to have been dressed. A small piece of the top south corner is broken off. Though the break is not natural and is certainly not of recent origin, it cannot be regarded as an intentional "scoop."

Running across the southern end of the chamber are two low set stones which are probably parts of the base of a single stone. Taken together they measure 1.10 m. long, .12 m. high and .08 m. thick. They may be the remains of a doorstone. Three low stones, .05 m. high, set beyond the south end of the eastern sidestone may be packing stones or possibly the remains of outer-walling. Several partly concealed slabs .75 m. to 1.00 m. in maximum dimension lie outside the chamber.

The chamber is about 3.20 m. long and 1.60 m. broad. It seems to have been almost parallel-sided. The backstone and the erect part of the eastern side indicate a height of 1.35 m. at the south and 1.20 m. towards the north. The floor is somewhat higher than the general ground level outside.

13. Cooleamore. O.S. 5: 13: 2 (10.9 cm., 14.9 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D 600. M 174 022. Fig. 7. Plate 3.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated slightly more than half a mile east of the tomb in Cooleabeg Td. (CL. 7) and is clearly visible from it. It lies on the opposite side of the valley on the lower slopes of the Poulacapple ridge. Through the gap to the south, Lisdoonvarna, Slievecallan and the sea-coast near Doolin are visible. The tomb stands on the brow, though not on the highest point, of a low grassy ridge of somewhat richer soil which interrupts the surrounding crag. Traces of cultivation remain in the field surrounding the tomb.

Though the monument has been partially wrecked its principal remaining features are clear. The northern side consists of a single slab now leaning to the south. The southern sidestone has been badly damaged but fragments of its base remain in situ. South of these and partly concealed lie the remaining parts of the sidestone. At the east end of the chamber a well set backstone remains erect. An unusual feature is the presence of a pillar-like stone, narrowing slightly towards the top, set at the east end of the northern sidestone. Several slabs lie in and around the chamber. At the west are low indefinite traces of a mound.

The northern sidestone is 3.15 m. long, 1.95 m. high at the west, 1.45 m. high near the east and .25 m. thick. Its smooth straight edges seem to be dressed to shape. A gap .50 m. long and .40 m. deep at the top eastern edge is of natural origin. The four

exposed fragments of the base of the southern sidestone indicate that its overall length was 3.70 m. These fragments measure .70 m. long, .20 m. high, .20 m. thick; .35 m. long, .10 m. high, .10 m. thick; 1.05 m. long, .20 m. high, .20 m. thick; 1.25 m. long, .30 m. high and .15 m. thick, respectively from west to east. Lying south of these fragments are five slabs the four larger of which certainly formed part of the sidestone. The corrugated upper surfaces of these stones correspond with the inner surfaces of the broken base. The two more westerly pieces, which would have formed the west end of the sidestone, indicate that when erect this stone would have been 1.70 m. high at its western end. This height compares well with that of the northern sidestone—1.95 m.—as the ground level is somewhat higher at the base of the southern sidestone than at the northern. The height of the eastern end of this stone cannot be ascertained to any degree of certainty. It would seem, however, to have been about 1.30 m., which, again, would correspond with the northern side.

The backstone is 1.60 m. long and 1.50 m. high. The top south corner is broken off to a maximum depth of .30 m., leaving the surface here sharp and flaky. A displaced slab 1.55 m. high, of irregular shape, leans against the outer edge of the backstone.

The pillar-like stone outside the north-east corner of the chamber touches the straight eastern edge of the northern sidestone. It is .30 m. long, .20 m. thick and 1.40 m. high. The exact significance of this stone is not certain but it may merely serve to seal the junction of the backstone with the sidestone. At the east end of the monument lie three displaced stones roughly in line. The more northerly of these, which is 1.15 m. long, is also a pillar-like stone of rectangular cross-section. The others are each .55 m. and .70 m. in maximum dimension. A block, at least 1.00 m. long, .30 m. thick and .20 m. high, lies in line with the northern sidestone, .70 m. to the west. It may be displaced and is not sufficient evidence for Westropp's conclusion that the "cist extended further westward for 8 ft."

The chamber, from the backstone to the west end of the sidestones, is 3.10 m. long and narrows from 2.10 m. wide at the west to 1.90 m. at the east. Several slabs lie in the chamber, the largest of which—1.65 m. in maximum dimension—leans heavily against the northern sidestone. They may possibly be the broken remains of a roofstone.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 65 No. 3.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No. 2 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 14-15 (Pl., Drg.). *O.S.L.*: Clare, 14 B 23, 222.

14. **Poulnabrucky.** O.S. 5: 15: 1 (49.5 cm., 8.5 cm.). Shown as rock outcrop. O.D. 500-600. M 214 015. Fig. 6. Plate 3.

Unclassified

The monument stands in a great shallow basin, one to two miles across, on the extensive craglands south of the Ballyvaghan valley. The prospect is confined to this basin on all sides except to the east where there is a view of the plateau beyond the Ballyvaghan-Corrofin road. Though a great deal of hazel grows on the surrounding crag there are some patches of pasturage and it is upon one of these that the monument stands.

The tomb is heavily overgrown and is deeply embedded in a mound. The chamber is ruined and a displaced roofstone, broken into four pieces, lies at its west end. Two stones, one of exceptional height, stand within the chamber near the east edge of the roofstone. The tomb stands in an irregular mound 14.00 m. long and 14.00 m. wide. A stone, .80 m. long, .45 m. high and .20 m. thick towards its west end may be a kerb stone. The monument is crossed by a stone fence running in a north-south direction.

The southern side of the chamber consists of a single slab 2.40 m. long, 1.20 m. high at the west and .20 m. thick. Its straight top edge is dressed and slopes down from west to east. A displaced slab which appears to be portion of the north side of the chamber is partly concealed by the broken roofstone. It is 1.60 m. long and when erect would be about 1.15 m. high. Two small fragments at its east end may belong to the fence which joins the tomb at this point. A set stone, to the east, is 1.70 m. long, .70 m.

high and $\cdot 10$ m. thick. It is overlapped on the north by a second stone which measures $1\cdot 20$ m. long, $1\cdot 00$ m. high and $\cdot 15$ m. thick. The function of these stones is uncertain. Set at right angles to the last is a stone, $\cdot 80$ m. long, $\cdot 25$ m. high and $\cdot 10$ m. thick, which appears to serve as a buttress.

The roofstone, when intact, would have been $3\cdot 75$ m. to $4\cdot 00$ m. long, $2\cdot 30$ m. wide at the west, $2\cdot 10$ m. wide at the east and $\cdot 10$ m. to $\cdot 20$ m. thick. The large, north-eastern fragment rests on the southern sidestone and is supported near its northern edge by a stone, $\cdot 20$ m. long at the base, $1\cdot 15$ m. high and $\cdot 20$ m. thick, which appears to be a modern prop. Beyond the east end of the roofstone is a tall stone $1\cdot 20$ m. long, $2\cdot 30$ m. high and $\cdot 10$ m. to $\cdot 20$ m. thick. It narrows to about $1\cdot 00$ m. long at the base. Though firmly fixed this stone is difficult to accept as being in original position. The erect stone set at its southern end may likewise not be original. It is $\cdot 45$ m. long, $\cdot 80$ m. high and $\cdot 10$ m. thick.

Three stones of uncertain function stand near the south-east of the mound. The more northerly is $1\cdot 15$ m. long, $\cdot 60$ m. high and $\cdot 10$ m. thick. The stone $\cdot 75$ m. to the south of it leans northwards and may be somewhat out of position. It is $1\cdot 30$ m. long, $\cdot 70$ m. high and $\cdot 15$ m. thick. The west end of the third stone is concealed. It is at least $1\cdot 20$ m. long, $\cdot 55$ m. high and $\cdot 15$ m. thick.

The visible remains of the tomb are insufficient to permit classification. The southern sidestone, with its dressed top edge, sloping down to the east, would be normal in a wedge-shaped gallery but unless great disturbance and reconstruction is allowed for, the north side is difficult to co-ordinate with it. A wedge-shaped tomb facing eastwards would be quite abnormal and so to interpret this tomb does not account for the clear slope, down to the east, of the southern side. The tall stone, in its present position, cannot easily be explained in any interpretation.

15. Gleninsheen. O.S. 5: 15: 3 ($63\cdot 9$ cm., $14\cdot 9$ cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 500-600. M 229 022. Fig. 7. Plate 3.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument, the more southerly of the three megalithic tombs in Gleninsheen Td., is situated 15 yards east of the Ballyvaghan-Corrofin road. It lies on a flat area of rough crag with patches of grass which provide good winter grazing. The site commands a wide view of the surrounding craglands except towards the south where the rising ground restricts the view to about 300 yards. Beyond this the ground drops sharply into the hollows around Glenslade. To the north of the site the land falls, rather gently at first and then precipitously, into the Ballyvaghan valley. Ballyallaban Hill and the ridge extending southward from it closes the view along the east. Westwards the upper slopes of Slieve Elva and the Poulacapple ridge are visible.

The chamber, with the exception of its eastern end which is now open, is well preserved. Two stones almost completely close the west end. Remains of a mound, rising at places to a height of $\cdot 50$ m., surround the chamber save at the south. While these, in general, suggest a round or short oval shape, little reliance can be placed on them as indicating the original perimeter.

The southern sidestone is $3\cdot 40$ m. long, $1\cdot 35$ m. high at the west and $1\cdot 15$ m. high near the east. The northern is $3\cdot 25$ m. long, $1\cdot 30$ m. high at the west and $1\cdot 10$ m. high at the east. A rectangular piece of the top eastern corner of the northern sidestone is broken off and leaves a gap, $\cdot 60$ m. long and $\cdot 45$ m. deep. The straight top edges of both stones are fairly flat and show signs of dressing. Both their top edges slopes down to the east. Both slabs average $\cdot 25$ m. thick. $\cdot 80$ m. from the east end of the northern sidestone is a vertical mark showing signs of abrasion which may, perhaps, indicate the former position of an east endstone. No similar marks are to be seen on the opposite sidestone nor on the roofstone.

The roofstone is of irregular shape but in general it follows the line of the chamber plan. It is $3\cdot 30$ m. long, $\cdot 25$ m. thick and narrows from a maximum width of $2\cdot 25$ m. near the west to $1\cdot 90$ m. near its east end. It rests on the two sidestones and the more southerly of the two stones closing the west end of the chamber.

The more southerly of the two stones closing the west end of the chamber is a firmly set rectangular slab, .95 m. long, 1.25 m. high and .20 m. thick. The second stone, set askew, is .60 m. long at the base, 1.25 m. high and .15 m. thick. The top, which tapers to a point, does not touch the cover. Though the base of this stone reaches to the northern sidestone its north edge recedes leaving a gap .35 m. wide between itself and the sidestone. This stone may well have served as a doorstone.

The chamber is 2.80 m. long, 1.30 m. wide and 1.30 m. high at the west, and .95 m. wide and 1.10 m. high at the east. Inside the chamber three small stones .05 m. to .10 m. high set beside the southern sidestone serve as packing stones. Outside the chamber and at the east end of the northern sidestone is an erect set stone .50 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick which also seems to be a packing stone. Continuing the line of the southern sidestone to the east is a low slab .25 m. high. It would seem unwise on the evidence of this stone alone to postulate the former presence of a second chamber or an extension of the present chamber in this direction.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 65-66, No. 8 (Pl., Drg., wrongly called "Berneens").

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No. 11 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 380-381. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 424.

Ó Ríordáin: *Antiquities of the Irish Countryside* (1953), 63 (Pl.).

16. **Ballymihil.** O.S. 5: 16: 2 (81.6 cm., 11.6 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 700-800. M 248 018. Fig. 8. Plate 3.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on a wide expanse of rather flat cragland near the southern end of the Ballyallaban ridge. The land in general slopes gently towards the south-west. Low ridges about three-quarters of a mile distant limit the view on the eastern flank, while on the opposite side the high ridges from Poulawack to Cappanawalla appear with Slieve Elva visible beyond them. Slievecallan is visible to the south. The land in the vicinity is craggy pasture.

The monument consists of a completely collapsed chamber surrounded by a low mound. A roofstone, apparently entire, lies prostrate on top of the collapsed and broken sides. Over the centre of the roofstone a rude man-like figure, set on a pedestal of slabs, has been erected. Similar slab figures, some more cross-like, have been set up in the crag fissures in nearby fields. There is no reason to suppose that these figures are of any great antiquity. A very small cross has been incised on the roofstone perhaps suggesting its use as an altar in Penal Days.

Because of its present condition the chamber plan cannot be obtained. The shape of the roofstone, however, and a stone which seems to be the remains of an entry element at the west indicate that it is a chamber of the usual type found in the area. The roofstone is 3.45 m. long, .15 m. to .20 m. thick and narrows from 2.30 m. wide near its west end to 1.80 m. near the east end. Four large pieces of slab lying beneath it are, in their present positions, difficult to interpret. The two more northerly fragments, which may perhaps have formed part of a southern sidestone, conceal another slab (not on plan) which may have served as a northern side. The more westerly of these fragments measures 1.80 m. in maximum dimension and the eastern 1.50 m. The function of the fourth (more southerly) slab is not clear. It is 1.55 m. in maximum dimension. The four slabs are from .10 m. to .15 m. thick.

A well set stone at the west end of the chamber, measuring 1.20 m. long, may be the base of a doorstone. Its present exposed height of .30 m. seems too low to have achieved full closure of the chamber entry. Two set stones at the south-west corner of the monument may represent outer-walling, perhaps double, at the west. The more westerly measures .60 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick, and the other .80 m. long, .15 m. high and .10 m. thick. A small set stone, 2.25 m. north of these may be a further indication of such a feature. A stone, 1.20 m. long, .45 m. high and .15 m. thick, set towards the south-eastern end of the mound and another, .35 m. long, .10 m. high and .07 m. thick, set between it and the chamber, may be the remains of an outer-walling, again apparently double.

The grass-grown mound reached a height of .75 m. It is difficult to trace its exact edges owing to the tussocks in the surrounding field. The field wall to the north interferes with it on this side. It seems to be a short oval mound measuring about 8.50 m. east-west and 6.60 m. north-south. The chamber appears to have been centrally placed in it.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 65, No. 5.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 17. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 372-373.

17. **Cragballyconoal.** O.S. 5: 16: 5 (83.2 cm., 6.2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 600-700. M 250 012. Fig. 8. Plate 4.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument stands in a craggy field on the same ridge as the tomb in Ballymihil (Cl. 16) which lies slightly over $\frac{1}{3}$ mile to the north-north-west. The ground rises gently on all sides except to the west where, some 50 yards distant, it falls in a sheer cliff into a deep gorge. The craglands surrounding the site provide good winter pasturage.

The tomb is fairly well preserved. Two sidestones of the chamber and the roofstone remain. A short oval cairn measuring 9.00 m. east-west, 7.00 m. north-south and 1.00 m. high surrounds the chamber. The structure of the cairn is well exposed at the north-east. It is built up of overlapping stones sloping sharply from the chamber towards the edge of the cairn. The base of a fence runs into the south side of the mound.

The northern sidestone, which leans slightly inwards, is 3.25 m. long, 1.15 m. in maximum height and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. The southern sidestone measures 3.00 m. long, .95 m. in maximum height and .10 m. thick. Part of its upper portion appears to have been broken off. The top edges of both slabs slope slightly down to the east and bear some rather indefinite traces of dressing. The roofstone, which is said to have been pushed northwards about forty years ago, now rests rather precariously with its south edge against the top of the south sidestone and its northern edge protruding about .35 m. beyond the northern sidestone. It measures 2.10 m. long, 1.90 m. broad and is .15 m. thick.

The chamber is broadest and highest at the west and decreases regularly in height and width to the east. It is 1.30 m. wide at the west end of the sidestones and narrows to 1.15 m. wide at the east. The sidestones indicate a length of approximately 3.00 m. but in the absence of endstones exact measurements cannot be ascertained.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 65, No. 6 or 7.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 18 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 372-373 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 355.

18. **Cragballyconoal.** O.S. 5: 16: 5 (81.9 cm., 2.0 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 600-700. M 248 008. Fig. 9. Plate 4.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This, the more southerly of the two monuments in Cragballyconoal townland, lies about 500 yards south-south-west of the last described Cragballyconoal (Cl. 17). It stands in a field of light stony soil bearing traces of former cultivation. In 1953 the adjoining field was under tillage. The site lies 50 to 100 yards off the cragland near the edge of an area of drift soil. There is an extensive view to the south where Slievecallan is visible in the distance.

The chamber, formed of two sidestones and a backstone, stands near the centre of a long, distorted, grass-grown mound which measures about 19.00 m. east-west and 13.00 m. north-south, and reaches a maximum height of 1.50 m. behind the backstone. Much of the present bulk of the mound may be due to dumping of field stones. A fence runs along its eastern end.

The straight top edges of both sidestones are dressed and slope down slightly from west to east. The northern sidestone is 4.20 m. long and from .25 m. to .30 m. thick; the southern is 3.70 m. long and .15 m. to .30 m. thick. Both stones are 1.70 m. high at the west and 1.30 m. at the east. A block .40 m. by .30 m. and .45 m. high outside the east end of the southern sidestone may serve as a packing stone.

The backstone is 1.80 m. wide, 1.05 m. high and .20 m. thick. It fits neatly between the sidestones but is .35 m. lower than them. The top edge is rough but does not show signs of recent fracture.

The chamber, which was highest at its western end, would have been about 3.00 m. long. The west end is 1.75 m. wide and there is a very slight, though perceptible, convergence of the sides towards the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 65, No. 6 or 7.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 19 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 372 (Pl.).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 23, 92.

19. **Coolnatullagh.** O.S. 6: 11: 1 (47.1 cm., 24.4 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 600-700. M 309 030. Fig. 10. Plate 4.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument, which stands on a plateau of grassy cragland, is situated in the valley between the mountains of Gortaclare and Doonmore about 300 yards west of the Kinvarra-Carran road. The valley floor rises from the south-west and, about a quarter of a mile north-east of the monument, falls abruptly over the crest of the rise into Glencolumbkille. Though the surrounding region is bare and craggy, the thin soil in the vicinity of the tomb provides some grazing. Dense hazel thickets flourish in places.

The monument consists of a small chamber surrounded by a low mound measuring approximately 7.00 m. in diameter. The northern side of the chamber has been badly damaged and the southern leans heavily inwards and its base may be somewhat displaced. The roof has been damaged since Westropp planned and sketched it in 1899. His plan shows two roofstones, or as seems probable, the broken parts of a single roofstone, but at present only the eastern part remains.

The southern side of the chamber consists of a single stone 2.05 m. long and .15 m. thick. It is 1.05 m. high and when erect its top edge, which bears traces of dressing, would have sloped down from west to east. A stone at the western end of the northern side of the chamber, measuring .90 m. long, .85 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick, may be the remains of the chamber side. At present, however, though the cover rests on it, it does not seem to be firmly set in the ground.

The backstone is 1.15 m. long, .80 m. high and .15 m. thick. At the west end of the chamber is a stone measuring 1.05 m. long, .75 m. high and .15 m. thick. Its exact function is not clear. A stone, .40 m. west of the last described and set almost parallel to it, extends further to the south. It is .85 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick, and leans outwards. It may be either a displaced doorstone or portion of an outer-wall but its function remains uncertain.

The roofstone now rests on the southern side, the backstone, and the stone at the north-west end of the chamber. It is 1.50 m. long, 1.40 m. broad and .10 m. thick.

The chamber is 1.80 m. long but because of the condition of the chamber sides it is impossible to determine the width. The shape of the southern sidestone indicates that the chamber was probably highest at its west end.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 43 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 382 (Pl. Drg.).

20. **Poulaphuca.** O.S. 6: 13: 1 (4.2 cm., 10.9 cm.). "Dolmen" O.D. 600-700. M 264 017. Fig. 10. Plates 4 and 21.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is conspicuously situated on a flat-topped hill overlooking the central portion of the long Bealaclogga-Carran valley. Though slightly higher ground exists some 200 yards to the east, the position of the tomb may be regarded as hilltop. The ground falls precipitously, except to the south and west where it descends more gently for about 500 yards and then rises into the broad ridges towards Poulbaun and Cragballyconal. The land in the vicinity of the monument is grassy cragland. Some arable land supporting a few trees lies in the valley to the east.

The chamber, which is well preserved, is built of well selected slabs and is among the most regularly constructed in the area. The east end is closed by a single slab

reaching to roof height. A low stone running more than half-way across the west end serves as a sill. The chamber is centrally placed in a mound, approximately 9.50 m. in diameter, apparently constructed of small stones set in the overlapping manner observed at Cragballyconal (Cl. 17) and elsewhere. Some stones forming a curved line south of the chamber vary from .20 m. to .80 m. in length and average .20 m. high. Though the position of this line is, perhaps, suggestive of kerb it is probably merely cairn stones fortuitously exposed. Traces of a fence are visible at the east and west ends of the mound.

The northern sidestone, which leans very slightly outward, is 3.00 m. long, 1.30 m. in maximum exposed height and from .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down from west to east and though of good squarish section shows no signs of dressing. Near the east end this edge is stepped downward in two stages. These "steps" are perfectly smooth and appear to be of natural origin. The first "step" is .40 m. long and .15 m. deep and the second is .50 m. deep. The southern sidestone leans slightly inwards. It is 3.55 m. long, 1.30 m. high at the west, 1.25 m. high near the east, and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge, measuring 2.50 m. long, is somewhat rounded but does not appear to have been dressed.

The inset backstone is 1.20 m. long, 1.30 m. high and .20 m. thick. Its north and south edges almost touch the sidestones. Its top southern corner is broken away leaving a roughly triangular opening .40 m. long and .35 m. in maximum height. The top edge of the stone seems to have been trimmed by chipping and similar chipping continues around the opening. The surface of the top northern corner is worked inwards to a depth of .05 m. This worked area is about .35 m. long and .30 m. in maximum height and in shape approximates to a quadrant of a circle.

The stone at the west end of the chamber is set somewhat skew to the main axis of the chamber. It is firmly set but leans slightly inwards. It is .80 m. long, .45 m. high and .10 m. thick. There is a gap of .35 m. between it and the southern sidestone and a distance of .75 m. between its top edge and the roofstone. The top edge is straight and worn smooth. The stone seems more probably a sill than the base of a closing stone.

The roofstone rests on the sidestones and the backstone. It is 3.25 m. long and narrows from 1.80 m. wide at the west to 1.65 m. at the backstone and 1.45 m. at the extreme east. It varies from .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Its south-east corner seems to have been cut away in comparatively recent times. A straight incised line cut along the south edge in line with the inside surface of the southern sidestone appears to be of recent origin.

The chamber is 2.40 m. long. It narrows slightly from 1.25 m. wide at the west to 1.20 m. at the east, and at the west end of the roofstone is .25 m. higher than at the eastern end.

Two round grass-grown cairns lie north-west of the tomb. The first, which is about 21 m. distant, is 15.00 m. in diameter and from .75 m. to 1.00 m. high. There are traces of a possible cist near the centre. The second cairn lies 50 m. further in the same direction. It is about 9.00 m. in diameter and from .75 m. to 1.00 m. high. No remains of structure are visible in it.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 66, No. 10.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 20 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 373-374 (Pl. Drg.).

21. **Rannagh East.** O.S. 6: 13: 6 (20.6 cm., 1.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 400-500. M 281 007. Fig. 11. Plate 4.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated about one mile north of Carran village near the centre of the valley floor. It stands on a low grassy knoll in a clear grass-grown area about two acres in extent, among an expanse of crag and hazel. Rannagh East (Cl. 41) and Termon (Cl. 22) are visible from it.

The monument consists of a broken and roofless chamber surrounded by a low mound. The chamber has been adapted to form a pen for goats. A modern dry-stone

wall is built across the west end, and the east end and the broken north-east corner are similarly built up. The mound has been disturbed by the wall building and it is difficult to trace its exact perimeter. It appears to be nearly circular in shape and is about 12.00 m. in diameter.

The southern side of the chamber consists of one massive slab 4.55 m. long and .20 m. to .40 m. thick. It is 1.40 m. high at the west and 1.30 m. near its east end. Its fine straight top edge is dressed and is slightly rounded in section. The top of the slab is broken at its east end. The top western corner juts forward in a "prow." The stone, which now leans slightly outwards, is cracked through in three places.

The northern sidestone has been damaged and two small pieces .70 m. and .40 m. long, of its base are all that remain of its eastern portion. The western part, which leans slightly inwards, is well preserved. It is 2.90 m. long, 1.45 m. high at the west and 1.40 m. at its present eastern end. The top edge, except for some apparently accidental chipping, is straight, smooth, and squarish in section. When complete the sidestone would have measured about 4.50 m. long. The west end has a prow-like projection similar to that of the southern sidestone.

Two stones incorporated in the wall, though not certainly in situ, may be the remains of the west end of the chamber. The more northerly measures 1.30 m. long, .95 m. high and .15 m. thick. The southern, set inside and slightly overlapping the northern stone, is .95 m. long, .35 m. high and .15 m. thick. It may possibly be a sill. A large, almost prostrate, slab, 1.70 m. long, .80 m. wide and .15 m. thick lies west of these.

About .70 m. outside the north side of the chamber and perhaps representing an outer-wall is a line of six small set stones, .10 m. to .20 m. high. At the west the line curves in towards the sidestone and the last stone at the east is set at right angles to the remainder.

The chamber decreases regularly in height and width from west to east, being 2.55 m. wide and 1.50 m. high at the west and 1.90 m. wide and 1.30 m. high at the east. It would have been about 4.00 m. long.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 66, No. 11.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 40 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 223-224 (Pl. No. 1).

22. **Termon.** O.S. 6: 14: 4 (23.1 cm., 0.7 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 400-500. M 284 006. Fig. 12. Plate 4.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument, the more westerly of the tombs in Termon townland, is situated low down on the craggy slopes of the eastern side of the valley running northwards from the village of Carran. The tomb at Rannagh East (Cl. 21) is clearly visible 300 yards away to the west-north-west. Between the two monuments is a shallow grassy depression among the wild hazel-grown craglands.

The monument, which compares closely with the next to be described (Cl. 23), consists of a well preserved chamber¹ surrounded by a mound joined at its south end by the base of an old fence. The mound is grass-grown but protruding stones suggest that it may be composed of small overlapping slabs—as noted at Cragballyconal (Cl. 17). The mound measures about 9.00 m. north-south and about 7.00 m. east-west and rises to a maximum height of 1.00 m.

The two sidestones and the roofstone of the chamber are in position. Both sidestones are 2.90 m. long, .25 m. thick and reach a maximum height of .95 m. The western sidestone is erect; the eastern leans slightly inwards. A narrow crack runs through the western sidestone .60 m. from its southern extremity. The top edges of both sidestones are, in general, straight, but the stones flake easily and are chipped down at places, especially at the ends. Touching the outside of the eastern slab at its southern end is a stone, .50 m. long, .15 m. high and .15 m. thick, which may be a packer. A thin, straight incised line occurs along the inside of the eastern sidestone

1. The usual east-west convention is not followed in this description.

·13 m. from its top edge. This cut is modern and was probably an attempt to remove part of the slab.

The irregular roofstone rests at two points on the western sidestone and at one place on the eastern. It is 2·45 m. long and narrows from 1·60 m. wide near the south end to 1·30 m. near the north.

A prostrate stone at the south end of the chamber, ·70 m. by ·70 m. and ·20 m. thick, overlies a smaller stone measuring ·60 m. by ·35 m. and ·10 m. thick. The larger stone would have fitted neatly into the west end of the chamber.

The low narrow wedge-shaped chamber is broadest and highest at the south and decreases in height and width to the north. It is about 2·90 m. long, ·90 m. wide at the south and ·80 m. at the north. The gravel-strewn floor is uneven but the chamber would seem to have been about 1·00 m. high.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 42 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 382, (called "Rannagh East"). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 223-224 (Pl.).

23. Termon. O.S. 6: 14: 5 (33·2 cm., 4·0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 600-700. M. 294 009. Fig. 11. Plate 5.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated near the upper edge of a large hazel wood which covers most of the steep south-eastern slope of the ridge to the south of Gortaclare mountain. The land in the general area is wild crag providing some winter grazing.

This well preserved monument compares closely with the last described (Cl. 22). It consists of a roofed chamber set rather deeply in a mound which serves as a junction point for three fences. Exact definition of the mound's perimeter is difficult due to the interference of these fences. As far as can be judged it measures 7·50 m. east-west and 5·50 m. north-south.

The north side of the chamber consists of a single slab 3·05 m. long and ·15 m. to ·25 m. thick. It is ·60 m. high at the west and ·45 m. at the east. A crack runs right through it about 1·30 m. from its west end. Almost continuing the line of this side to the east is a stone ·65 m. long, ·60 m. high and ·15 m. thick. It is incorporated in a fence which joins the chamber here and thus may not be an original part of the structure. The south side of the chamber, except for a short portion at the east, consists of a slab 2·35 m. long and from ·10 m. to ·15 m. thick. It measures ·60 m. high at the west and ·50 m. at the east. This stone is also cracked at about 1·75 m. from its west end. The top edges of both sidestones are straight and flat and slope down from west to east. The eastern part of the south side of the chamber is completed by a slab, ·60 m. long, ·45 m. high and ·10 m. thick, which may originally have formed part of the main south slab. Two small stones ·40 m. high are set outside the south-east end of the chamber. They rise above the roof of the chamber and are level with a large slab lying on top of the roofstone (see below). A fence runs in at this point and these stones may not be in original position.

A large roofstone covers the greater portion of the chamber. It is 2·35 m. long, ·25 m. thick and narrows from 1·25 m. near its west end to 1·00 m. at the east. Covering the east end of the chamber is a small neat slab measuring ·90 m. north-south, ·45 m. east-west and ·15 m. thick. Some loose slabs (not on plan) lie on top of the main roofstone, the largest being an irregular slab 1·15 m. long. It may, perhaps, have served to cover the gap between the two roofstones.

The north end of the stone crossing the east end of the chamber is concealed and part of its base is exposed. It is ·55 m. high, ·20 m. thick and, at present, ·55 m. long. Jammed between it and the small cover are three stones, the largest of which projects ·25 m. above the roof level and is ·90 m. long, ·75 m. high and ·10 m. to ·20 m. thick. The smaller stones (not on plan) are ·30 m. in maximum dimension.

The low, narrow chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is about 3·00 m. long and narrows from ·95 m. wide at the west to ·75 m. at the east. It is approximately ·65 m. high at the west and ·50 m. high at the east but the chamber is embedded in the mound and obviously contains a good deal of filling.

24. Lissylisheen. O.S. 9: 2: 2 (35.2 cm., 53.1 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. R 199 998. Fig. 12. Plate 5.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on grassy cragland about 250 yards east of the Ballyvaghan-Kilfenora road and some 400 yards south-east of the great stone fort of Cahermacnaghten. Beyond the road the ground rises first gently and then more steeply, to peat-covered ridges on the shales and flagstone extending southwards from Poulacapple across the main Lisdoonvarna-Ballyvaghan road. About 30 yards east of the tomb the ground falls over a low ledge to extensive craglands with many patches of hazel.

The monument is very ruined. The chamber is collapsed and the roofstone now lies at the south-east. The south side of the chamber is broken and displaced but though the northern sidestone leans heavily inwards, its base appears to be almost in situ. A transverse stone remains in situ at the west end of the chamber. Outer-walling is represented north of the chamber by four stones and on the south by two stones. A single stone at the west indicates a continuation of this feature across the front of the tomb. Beyond it are four stones which may be the remains of a kerb. The grass-covered mound surrounding the structure appears to consist of earth and stones. A stone fence crosses the north end of the mound. The uneven nature of the ground and the distortion cause by the fence makes exact definition of the edge difficult. In general the mound appears to be roughly circular and is approximately 11.50 m. in diameter. It rises to a maximum height of 1.25 m. near the west end of the chamber.

The northern sidestone is 2.15 m. long and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. It leans heavily inwards but when erect it would have been 1.30 m. high near its west end and 1.05 m. near the east. Its top edge, though straight, shows no signs of dressing. Two fragments of the southern side of the chamber can be distinguished. They appear to have originally been part of the one stone. The largest piece, the base of which is somewhat out of position, leans outwards at an angle of 45° and overlies the southern outer-wall stones. It is 1.55 m. long, .20 m. thick and would be 1.35 m. high if erect. The east end of the second fragment lies under the displaced roofstone. The length of its original top edge—1.20 m.—combined with that of the western fragment gives a total length of 2.50 m. for the top edge of the stone when intact. The base would have measured somewhat more. A further fragment, .75 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. thick, lying near the east end of the chamber, may have formed part of the lower portion of the southern sidestone.

The roofstone is roughly wedge-shaped, being 2.30 m. long, 1.70 m. wide at its south edge and 1.05 m. at the north. The stone set across the west end of the chamber is .70 m. long, 1.15 m. high and .15 m. thick. South of it lie two loose slabs 1.25 m. and 1.45 m. in maximum dimension respectively.

The more westerly of the two stones of the southern portion of the outer-walling leans outward. It is .90 m. long, .60 m. high and .20 m. thick. The second stone may be broken. It is .85 m. long, .50 m. high and .20 m. thick. The outer-wall stones at the north remain erect. They measure from west to east respectively: .75 m. long, .40 m. high and .10 m. thick; .65 m. long, .40 m. high and .20 m. thick; .70 m. long, .20 m. high and .20 m. thick; .90 m. long, .25 m. high and .15 m. thick. The outer-wall stone set transversely at the west leans outward. It is 1.20 m. long, .65 m. high and .25 m. thick.

The four set stones forming an arc of a circle around the west end of the tomb are .15 m. to .20 m. high and .10 m. thick. Their lengths from north to south respectively are: .80 m., .30 m., .75 m. and .65 m.

The original dimensions of the chamber cannot be ascertained. The shape of the roofstone suggests that it was probably a wedge-shaped chamber and the dimensions of the northern sidestone indicate that the chamber was probably highest at the west.

25. Baur North. O.S. 9: 3: 1 (49.4 cm., 58.8 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. M 214 004. Fig. 14. Plate 5.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on a low grassy ridge in a wide expanse of scrubby cragland overlooking Baur South. The general slope of the ground in the vicinity of the tomb is from west down to east. High mountain ridges form the skyline on all sides with Slieve Elva visible to the west and Slievecallan to the south. The townland boundary wall between Baur North and Cregavockoge crosses the west end of the tomb.

The monument, formed of massive slabs, has been considerably damaged. Both sides of the chamber were each of one great slab. The western portion of the more northerly slab is broken off near ground level and its upper part is thrown down to the north. The southern sidestone has suffered relatively minor damage. It is cracked through 2.00 m. from its east end and a small triangular shaped portion of its top is now missing. Two low set stones cross the east end of the chamber. Four stones lie partly concealed within the chamber; at least one of these—that overlying the broken portion of the northern sidestone—is certainly portion of the collapsed roof. Some set stones west of the chamber entry may perhaps be outer-wall stones. The grass-grown mound surrounding the structure is somewhat distorted by the wall crossing it at the west. At present it measures about 12.00 m. east-west and 9.00 m. north-south.

The southern sidestone stands erect and is 5.00 m. long at the base and .25 m. thick. Its maximum exposed height is 1.35 m. Its straight top edge, which bears traces of dressing, slopes down from west to east. The standing portion of the northern sidestone, which leans slightly outwards, is 2.30 m. long, 1.35 m. high at the west, and 1.30 m. high at the east, and .25 m. thick. Its straight top edge shows traces of dressing. The entire base of the western portion of the sidestone remains in situ. It is almost 3.00 m. long, .25 m. thick, and its jagged top reaches a maximum height of .60 m. The prostrate portion of the slab is approximately 2.75 m. long (east-west) and 1.40 m. broad. Though it seems to fit the base at the west end, the original total height of the stone cannot be ascertained because of the position of the overlying coverstone and the wall. The edge, which was the original top edge of the slab, is straight and perhaps dressed. The total length of the sidestone is about 5.15 m.

The large roofstone overlying the broken portion of the northern sidestone rests against the western edge of the erect portion. Its southern edge rests on the chamber floor and is concealed by the two stones next described. It is 3.45 m. long (east-west) and at least 1.75 m. broad. The more westerly of the slabs lying on it is 2.30 m. in maximum dimension. Its eastern end covers the west edge of the next which is 1.60 m. in maximum dimension. These two are very probably portions of the roof, though it is not certain that they were one with the larger slab. All three slabs are .20 m. thick.

The two stones crossing the east end of the chamber are probably the base of a single slab closing that end of the chamber. The more northerly is .75 m. long, .30 m. high and .15 m. thick, and the southern is .90 m. long, .25 m. high and .20 m. thick. Lying on the chamber floor just east of these stones is a slab of irregular outline measuring 1.50 m. in maximum dimension, and .20 m. thick. Its edges are uneven, some being apparently fairly recently fractured. Its surface differs in appearance from those of the other slabs lying within the chamber and it may perhaps be portion of the east endstone.

About 1.00 m. beyond the western end of the northern sidestone is a set stone .70 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick. In a corresponding position 1.20 m. west of the end of the southern sidestone is another set stone measuring .70 m. long, .30 m. high and .12 m. thick. Both slabs are firm and upright and probably indicate an outer-wall at the west.

The fine wedge-shaped chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 4.70 m. long, from the backstone to the west end of the sidestones, 2.50 m. wide at the west and 1.75 m. at the east and approximately 1.35 m. high at the east and about .25 m. higher at the west.

26. Baur South. O.S. 9: 3: 1 (52.5 cm., 55.2 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 500-600. M 217 000. Fig. 13. Plates 5 and 21.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated above the western end of the Kilcorney valley on the edge of a wide craggy plateau. The general fall of the land on which it stands is from north-west to south-east. The cragland in the vicinity of the tomb is grass-grown and contrasts with the bare wild crag of the plateau.

The monument, which is well preserved, is built of thin slabs and is of unusual construction. Set within the eastern end of a more or less normal chamber and sharing its backstone is a second smaller structure. This arrangement results in a doubling of the eastern portions of the main chamber sidestones and of the roof above the inner structure. Immediately outside the southern sidestone of the chamber two stones are set in line and a third stone stands outside the more westerly of these. A line of four small stones, running along the north side of the chamber and extending beyond it to the west, may be the remains of an outer-walling. The more easterly stone is .65 m. long, .25 m. high and .15 m. thick, and runs at a sharp angle towards the east end of the sidestone. Entry to the chamber is between two groups of three stones each group set transversely across the western ends of the chamber sides. The structure is surrounded by a mound of irregular outline measuring about 12.00 m. east-west and 8.50 m. north-south. It is highest near the east end of the chamber where it reaches to within .15 m. of the roof. Disturbance on the north side of the mound has exposed part of the cairn structure and here the cairn-stones appear to have been laid in a sloping position as at Cragballyconal (Cl. 17).

The northern sidestone of the inner structure is 1.35 m. long and the southern 1.45 m. long. The straight top edges of both stones slope down from west to east and appear to have been worked. The lower roofstone rests on these sidestones but not on the common backstone which rises above it, and is .25 m. higher than the chamber sides. It fits tightly between the main chamber walls and is 1.30 m. long, 1.25 m. broad and .15 m. thick.

The backstone is an almost rectangular-shaped slab measuring 1.15 m. long, 1.05 m. high and .10 m. thick. There is a gap at its top northern corner .25 m. wide and .45 m. deep. This opening is crossed by the lower roofstone which reduces the height of the gap to .25 m. when viewed from inside the chamber. Thus the exposed portion of the opening in the inner structure approximates in shape to a quadrant of a circle as the edge of the opening has been worked by chipping to a regular curve. The general appearance of the opening, its regular shape and the probability of dressing strongly suggest that its presence is intentional rather than accidental. If the gallery ends at this slab the function of the aperture is not apparent. However, the possibility of the presence of a chamber behind it cannot be ignored. The cairn here is relatively high—about 1.00 m.—and could quite easily conceal a second chamber.

The northern sidestone of the principal chamber is 2.50 m. long and extends about 1.00 m. beyond the west end of the inner sidestone. Its top edge slopes down from west to east. The main southern sidestone is 1.90 m. long but reaches only to within .40 m. of the backstone. The resultant gap is closed by the inner sidestone. Both sidestones are somewhat concealed by the mound, the maximum exposed height of the northern being 1.05 m. and of the southern 1.15 m. The more easterly of the stones outside the main southern side is 1.40 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. thick. The stone in line with this to the west is almost concealed. It is about 1.00 m. long and .10 m. thick. The stone outside it is 1.55 m. long, .80 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick.

The gap between the two groups of slabs set transversely across the west end of the chamber is .50 m. wide. These stones, which are well set, vary from .15 m. to .45 m. in height, .10 m. to .15 m. in thickness and are from .40 m. to .85 m. in length.

The upper roofstone is 2.60 m. long, .12 m. thick and narrows from 2.15 m. wide at the west to 1.60 m. near the east beyond which it again narrows to 1.05 m. at its extremity. A space about .20 m. deep is left between it and the interior roofstone.

The two stones about 2.00 m. north-west of the chamber are .45 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick, and .35 m. long, .15 m. high and .07 m. thick respectively. They appear to be well set but their function is uncertain.

While unique in some features the tomb certainly belongs to the Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave class. The overall length of the gallery is 2.35 m. It is 1.40 m. wide at the west. The width at the backstone is 1.15 m. The floor is uneven. The height towards the west to the main roofstone is 1.00 m. and the height to the interior roofstone is .80 m. Though the splay of the main structure is slight, the roof slopes in the manner normal with the tombs of this class.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 15 (Pl. Sec.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 369-70 (Pl. Sec.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 240. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 353 (footnote).

27. **Lissylisheen.** O.S. 9: 3: 4 (46.7 cm., 46.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. R 211 991. Fig. 5. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on the northern slope of the ridge about 400 yards south of the road running westward from Kilcorney to the main Lisdoonvarna-Ballyvaghan road. Cragland with much hazel and some patches of fair grazing extends on all sides and contrasts with the boglands extending southwards from Poulacapple across the main Lisdoonvarna-Ballyvaghan road. The tomb, and a small circular stone fort 20 yards south of it, stand on a little grass-grown knoll.

The chamber is embedded in a grass-covered mound reaching to the lower edges of the roofstone. Both sides of the chamber are broken and partly displaced. The east end is closed by debris and cairn mass. The chamber is placed centrally in the mound which measures 12.00 m. east-west, 10.00 m. north-south and about 1.25 m. high. A stone fence running roughly north-south across the mound and crossing the east end of the chamber causes some distortion to the northern and south-eastern parts of the mound. Set in the fence at the south-east corner of the chamber is a slab 1.20 m. long and .65 m. high which may possibly be the remains of an outer-wall. The body of the mound, visible behind the chamber sides, is composed of stone.

The northern side of the chamber consists of two pieces of stone which may originally have been the one slab. The eastern piece is 1.40 m. long, at least .75 m. high and .20 m. thick. It leans outwards but its base is probably in situ. The western piece, though remaining erect, is twisted out of line with the last and its western end now points outwards to the north-west. It is .80 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. thick. The texture of the stone and its straight top edge, of squarish section, are both similar to the last described. Its eastern end is obviously fractured. The total length of this sidestone when the two pieces are combined is about 2.20 m. The southern side of the chamber also consists of two slabs which originally were probably the one stone. The western slab is displaced and its western end now points to the south-west. It is 1.20 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. thick. The second slab lies almost prostrate in the chamber and appears to have been forced inwards by the cairn mass. It is 1.60 m. long, at least .65 m. broad and .10 m. thick. Both slabs have straight top edges.

Standing at right angles to the displaced portion of the northern sidestone is a slab 1.20 m. long, .70 m. high and .10 m. thick which appears to be somewhat displaced. It may have closed the west end of the chamber.

The roofstone rests on the two pieces of the north side of the chamber and on the stones of the cairn on the south. It is 2.50 m. long, 1.90 m. wide at the west, 1.60 m. at the east and is .15 m. thick.

Chamber dimensions are difficult to ascertain because of the deranged condition of the monument. It appears to have been about 2.50 m. long and about 1.00 m. wide. As far as one can judge from the collapsed sides and roof, it seems probable that the chamber was higher at the west than at the east.

28. Poul nabrone. O.S. 9: 4: 1 (69.9 cm., 58.2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 400-500. M 236 003. Fig. 15. Plate 5.

Portal Dolmen

The monument stands in a craggy field about 150 yards east of the Ballyvaghan-Corrofin road. Beyond the road to the west and north-west the ground falls into the deep hollows of Poulanine and Glensleade and then rises to the high craglands towards Baur and Poul nabrucky townlands. About 60 to 100 yards north-east of the tomb the land rises in a series of rocky terraces and low cliffs. Due east and some 30 yards distant is a steep-sided gully 20 feet deep and 20 yards wide with a marshy floor. The cragland surrounding the monument, though rather bare, provides some pasturage. Beyond the southern wall of the field in which the tomb stands the crag gives way to a ridge of relatively deep soil providing meadow and arable land.

This well preserved monument stands in a low, roughly circular mound, measuring about 10.00 m. in diameter. Two high portal stones, between which is set a low transverse slab, form the entrance. The southern side of the chamber consists of two overlapping stones. The north side is less well preserved and only one sidestone now remains. The gap between its west end and the portal stone is partly closed by an erect unset slab forming portion of a modern dry-stone wall running along the north side of the chamber and across the west end. A heavy slab extending across the west end of the chamber is partly covered by the loose stones of the wall and by a large prostrate slab extending west from it. The chamber is covered by one large roofstone.

The well matched portal stones are set with their long axes more or less parallel with that of the chamber. The southern, measuring 2.05 m. high, .70 m. long and .25 m. thick, is cracked across .65 m. above its base. The roofstone rests on the west end of its flat top surface. The northern portal, which also supports the roofstone at its west end, is 1.90 m. high, 1.30 m. long and from .10 m. to .25 m. thick. It leans inwards. The sill between the portals is .85 m. long, .45 m. high and .15 m. thick. It is set .45 m. inside the east ends of the portals. The north end of the sill touches the portal on that side but a gap of .35 m. remains between its south end and the opposite portal stone.

The eastern stone of the southern side of the chamber, which leans slightly inwards, overlaps the portal on the outside by about .10 m. It is 1.20 m. long, 1.70 m. high and .15 m. to .30 m. thick. The roofstone rests on a point at the west end of its top edge. The second slab on this side is 1.35 m. long, 1.40 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. It overlaps the base of the last on the outside for a distance of .15 m. It is a light slab with a pointed top which does not reach the roof. There is a gap of .50 m. between the east end of the remaining sidestone on the north side of the chamber and the portal stone. This slab is 1.80 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .13 m. thick. Its top edge is broken and a slab, maximum dimension 1.00 m., lying in the chamber is probably broken from it.

The slab crossing the west end of the chamber leans inwards. It is 1.95 m. long, .55 m. high and from .20 to .30 m. thick. Its top edge is straight and flat. The prostrate slab leaning on it is 1.80 m. long, 1.80 m. wide and from .25 m. to .30 m. thick. It may be part of the west end of the chamber which Westropp says was reported to have fallen out early in the last century. It does not appear to have been broken from the stone which remains set at the western end. It may, however, have stood east of this stone in the gap between it and the west ends of the chamber sides. The set stone would then have acted as a reinforcement to the endstone. If erect it would be about 1.80 m. high and would somewhat alter the pitch of the roofstone. By resting on it the roofstone would lie more securely on the portals than it does at present and would not rest on the southern chamber side. The downward slope of the roofstone from east to west, though somewhat reduced, would nevertheless remain.

The roofstone is trapezoidal in shape. It is 3.90 m. long and narrows from 2.85 m. wide at the east to 1.75 m. at the west. It decreases in thickness from east to west being .30 m. thick over the portals and from .15 m. to .20 m. at the west.

The chamber is narrow at the east, broadening to the centre and narrowing again at the west. It is about 2.50 m. long, 1.10 m. wide at the east, 1.40 m. wide near the

centre and 1.10 m. at the west. It is 1.85 m. high at the east and 1.55 m. at the west but if the prostrate slab at the west were erect the height at the west would be somewhat more.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 72, No. 21 or 22.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 13 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 375-378. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 422-423.

29. **Eantybeg South.** O.S. 9: 4: 5 (80.2 cm., 50.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. R 246 995. Fig. 16. Plate 6.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on sloping ground about one mile south of the tombs on the Cragballyconal ridges. The land rises to the north and east but to the west at a distance of about 100 yards falls into a low area of drift soil liable to flooding. The cragland surrounding the site is grass-grown in places and provides some grazing.

The tomb is ruined¹ and is built of unusually coarse limestone slabs. The eastern sidestone, which leans inwards, is 2.80 m. long and about .30 m. thick. Its top edge is flaked and uneven. It is highest at the north where it reaches a height of 1.20 m. The western sidestone is 2.85 m. long, 1.20 m. high at the south, 1.05 m. high at the north and varies from .20 m. to .50 m. thick at the base. Its concave top edge is thin and flaked. Continuing the line of this stone to the north is a block 1.40 m. by .40 m. and .20 m. thick. It may not be in situ.

The original design of the south end of the chamber is not clear. Across this end is a stone, 1.70 m. long, .35 m. high and .20 m. thick. It touches the end of the eastern sidestone but may extend beyond the end of the western. Outside this stone, to the south, are two set slabs, possibly displaced doorstones. The more northerly, which leans inwards, is 1.30 m. long, .80 m. high and .15 m. thick. The second, which leans outwards, is 1.90 m. long, .90 m. high and about .15 m. thick. 1.70 m. south of the last is a stone measuring 1.10 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. thick. Though it appears to be well set its original function is not clear.

To judge from the sidestones the chamber would have been approximately 2.50 m. long. It decreases in height and width from south to north. It is 1.75 m. wide at the south and 1.65 m. wide at the north end of the eastern sidestone. Two blocks lie in the chamber. That at the north is 1.40 m. in maximum dimension and lies prostrate. The more southerly block is 1.05 m. in maximum dimension and though now firmly set it probably not in situ.

The chamber is centrally placed in a mound measuring 11.00 m. north-south, about 10.00 m. east-west and .60 m. in maximum height. The surface is broken and uneven. A stone fence runs along the eastern side of the mound.

30. **Moheramoylan.** O.S. 9: 4: 5 (82.0 cm., 47.5 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 400-500. R 248 992. Fig. 17. Plate 6.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies about 400 yards south-south-east of the last described (Cl. 29). High ground surrounds the site on all sides except to the south where the ground falls in a valley towards Noughaval and the Ballyganner group of tombs. The monument stands on a tract of arable soil which, some two hundred yards distant, gives way to craglands.

The tomb is completely collapsed and is greatly disturbed by fence building. A stone wall crossing it in a north-south direction and a curved line of stones to the south and west form an enclosure incorporating the south and west end of the chamber. The roofstone has slid northward from the southern side and now overlies the northern sidestone, the upper portions of which have been broken from its base. Two fragments of stone represent the broken south side of the chamber. The more westerly of these, which leans inwards, supports the roofstone near its south-west corner. A boulder .50 m.

1. The usual east-west convention is not followed in this description.

high supporting the roofstone at its south-east corner is not an original feature. There are clear indications of a mound surrounding the chamber at the south and east but only faint traces are perceptible inside the enclosure. The mound at present is nearly circular in shape being about 6.00 m. in diameter.

The base of the northern sidestone is broken across in three places. It is 2.10 m. long and varies in height from just above ground level to .50 m. The upper portion of the stone is now in two parts which lie north of the base. The opposed edges of these fragments would fit neatly together if joined and would give a length of 2.65 m. for this part of the stone. The width of the slab at the west end is 1.25 m. If erect and fitted to its base, which is at least .10 m. high at this end, the sidestone would have been at least 1.35 m. high at the west. It would have been about 1.30 m. high at the east. The fragments are from .20 m. to .25 m. thick. Traces of dressing are visible along the original top edge of the slab.

The two stones representing the south side of the chamber may originally have been the one slab. The eastern portion is slightly out of line with the base of the western and this may be due to displacement occurring at the time of the collapse of the roofstone. The western fragment leans heavily to the north. It is 1.25 m. long and if erect would be 1.10 m. high. The eastern remains erect and is 1.00 m. long, and .80 m. high. Under the western fragment is a stone, .20 m. high, which is probably not in original position. The roofstone is 4.50 m. long, .25 m. thick and narrows from 2.70 m. wide at the west to 2.40 m. at the east.

The tomb obviously belongs to the normal wedge-shaped type common in the region but in its present collapsed state exact chamber dimensions cannot be given.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 71, No. 20.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 22. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 366.

31. **Ballymurphy.** O.S. 9: 6: 6 (41.5 cm., 31.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. R 205 975. Fig. 18. Plate 6.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated some 400 yards east of the Ballyvaghan-Kilfenora road about half a mile north of the village of Noughaval. The land in the vicinity is clean and grass-grown with occasional dumps of loose stones standing in some of the fields. It was stated locally that the area had been cleared of surface crag. Beyond the road to the west the limestone land gives way to the poor wet land on the shales and flagstones.

The chamber is deeply embedded in a grass-grown mound rising to about 1.80 m. high. Only the upper portions of the sides, which appear to consist of single slabs, are visible. Two set stones north of the east end of the northern sidestone represent outwalling and a similar stone 1.25 m. west of the end of the southern sidestone indicates the continuation of this feature at the western end. Interpretation of the mound is difficult on account of the extensive field clearance. Three more or less concentric perimeters can be distinguished. The outermost, measuring about 15.50 m. in diameter, seems to be due to an accumulation of cleared field stones. The central, 13.00 m. in diameter, may represent the limit of crag clearance but a small set stone, .40 m. long and .40 m. high, near the south-east of this perimeter perhaps indicates the extent of the original cairn. The inner mound, 7.50 m. in maximum diameter, is probably due to spoil from the chamber or perhaps dumping of field stones.

The sidestones are well-matched slabs with flat top edges sloping evenly down from west to east. The northern stone is 2.00 m. and the southern 1.90 m. long but their east ends remain concealed in the mound. Both are exposed to a height of .30 m. at the west and .20 m. at the east. The two stones of the outer-wall are about .40 m. distant from the chamber side. The western is .40 m. and the eastern .50 m. long. They rise .10 m. above the surface of the mound but are about .30 m. higher than the chamber sides. The set stone west of the chamber is .60 m. long and .20 m. high. All the slabs described are from .10 m. to .15 m. in thickness.

The wedge-shaped chamber is certainly considerably deeper than it appears at present and seems also to have been somewhat longer. As at present exposed, it is

1.90 m. long and narrows from 1.05 m. wide at the west to .90 m. at the east and is .20 m. to .30 m. deep.

32. *Iskancullin*. O.S. 9: 11: 3 (64.5 cm., 26.8 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. R 229 970. Fig. 14. Plate 6.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated near the south edge of the central Burren plateau $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Noughaval and about a mile north-east of the Ballyganner group of tombs. The land in general slopes gently to the south. Northwards from the tomb the view is restricted by fences and rising ground but to the south the site commands a wide view across wild hazel-grown craglands to the distant uplands of the Slievecallan district. The pasturage on the craglands around the tomb is sparse.

The chamber is surrounded on all sides by an outer-walling. The northern side of the outer-walling, consisting of eight stones, is reasonably well preserved but the southern side has been damaged and only four stones remain in situ. The east end consists of a single slab and one large stone is certainly in situ at the west end. There are very faint traces of a surrounding mound but interference by the bases of three fences makes definition impossible. There are some slight indications that the cairn stones were set slantwise and overlapping each other as at Cragballyconal (Cl. 17).

Both sides of the chamber consist of single slabs. The fine northern sidestone is 3.10 m. long and .20 m. thick. It is 1.60 m. high at the west and .85 m. at the east. Its top edge is flakey and appears to have been dressed. The southern sidestone is 2.60 m. long and varies from .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It is 1.10 m. high at the west and 1.05 m. at the east. The top edge, which is .45 m. shorter than the base, bears definite traces of dressing. Set slightly inside the west end of the northern side slab and extending south from it is a stone .75 m. long and .10 m. thick. It is .45 m. high but may be broken. It may have served as a sill or, if originally higher, as a doorstone. There is a gap of .60 m. between it and the southern sidestone. About .80 m. beyond the east end of the northern side slab and almost in line with it is a well set stone .65 m. long, .25 m. high and .06 m. thick. The original function of this stone is not clear. It may indicate a continuation of the gallery or the presence of an end-chamber but this possibility cannot be stressed.

A slab resting on the eastern ends of the sidestones is probably part of the roof. It is 2.05 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. thick. A stone, maximum dimension 1.80 m., lying in the chamber and leaning against the northern sidestone may be a fragment of the roof. Beneath it is another displaced slab (not on plan) maximum dimension 1.50 m. A prostrate slab, 1.40 m. in maximum dimension, lying just beyond the west end of the south side of the chamber may also be part of the roof.

The outer-wall extends about 2.00 m. beyond the west end of the chamber. The stones comprising the northern side of the outer-wall run in an almost continuous line which converges eastwards towards the line of the chamber side. The stones vary considerably in height—the three stones set opposite the sidestone being the highest in the line. Two stones stand at the north-west corner of the wall. The more northerly is .15 m. high and though standing erect, is loosely set in the ground. The southern, which leans slightly outwards, has a pointed top and is .40 m. high. Though it appears to be an original feature of the monument its function is not clear. The next two stones are set overlapping each other and lean slightly inwards. The more northerly is 1.20 m. long and .40 m. high and a small fragment at its east end seems originally to have been part of it. The southern is .75 m. long and .25 m. high. Their top edges appear to be unbroken. Next in line come the three highest stones in the row. They are from west to east, respectively, 1.40 m. long and 1.35 m. high, 1.40 m. long and 1.40 m. high, and 1.20 m. long and 1.25 m. high. Three stones, measuring .45 m. long and .35 m. high, .40 m. long and .30 m. high, and .70 m. long and .25 m. high, respectively, from west to east, complete the line. The top edges of these stones appear to be intact. The stones vary from .05 m. to .20 m. in thickness.

Four outer-wall stones remain erect on the south side of the chamber. Two, set at the west end of the monument, are separated by a gap of about 3.00 m. from two set at the east. The more westerly stone, which is 1.10 m. long and .15 m. high, is covered by a loose prostrate slab 2.00 m. in maximum dimension. The second stone is set .40 m. east of the last. It is .60 m. long and .40 m. high. A large prostrate slab, 1.60 m. in maximum dimension lies immediately east of it. This slab may be a collapsed outer-wall stone. The remaining two stones of the outer-wall are somewhat out of line with the pair at the west. The more westerly, which leans outwards, is 1.20 m. long and 1.60 m. high and the eastern is 1.30 m. long and 1.15 m. high. A leaning slab, .65 m. long and .80 m. high set south of, and at an angle to the more westerly stone, is probably not an original feature.

A single slab, 1.40 m. long and .10 m. high, set slightly inside the ends of the north and south sides of the outer-walling, forms the east end. A stone 1.75 m. long and .90 m. high extends southwards from the north-west corner of the outer-wall. There is a gap of about 1.60 m. between its south end and the more westerly stone of the outer-wall on the south. Running through this stone from top to bottom is a crack which seems to be of relatively recent origin. Set at an angle to the line of this slab and extending eastwards from its south end is a stone, 1.15 m. long and .60 m. high, which leans to the south-west at an angle of 45°. If in situ its function is not apparent. It may be displaced from the west end of the outer-walling.

The chamber, which would appear to have been about 2.60 m. long, decreases markedly in height and width from west to east. It is 1.20 m. high and 1.40 m. wide at the west end and is .75 m. high and 1.20 m. wide at the east end of the southern sidestone.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 24 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 285-286 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 291.

33. Fanygalvan. O.S. 9: 12: 3 (87.4 cm., 27.7 cm.). "Cromlechs." O.D. 400-500. R 254 971. Fig. 19. Plates 6 and 22.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (and two other burial structures)

The monument is situated five to six miles east of the Ballyvaghan-Corrofin road close to the boundary fence between Fanygalvan and Cahermackirilla townlands. It stands near the south end of a ridge overlooking the hazel-grown craglands of the Ballyganner area which lie to the south-west.

The monument consists of three structures set roughly in line and apparently incorporated in an elongated mound. The more easterly structure is a large, partly collapsed, Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave divided into two chambers by a segmenting slab set towards its east end. The larger portion of a broken roofstone, thrown somewhat out of position, covers the central portion of the gallery. Remains of outer-walling are present on both sides. The collapsed remains of a smaller megalithic chamber lie about 2.50 m. to the west. The third structure, which appears to be the remains of a cist, is about the same distance west of the second. Several small cairns, one at least of which contains a cist, are present in the immediate vicinity (see below).

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The sides of the large western chamber consist of single slabs. The northern sidestone has collapsed inwards but its base appears to be approximately in situ. Near the west end its top edge rests against the stone set across the entry to the gallery. It is 3.25 m. long and if erect it would stand 1.20 m. high at the west and .90 m. at the east. The southern sidestone is a massive slab 4.35 m. long, 1.40 m. high at the west and .80 m. at the east. Both stones, which vary from .20 m. to .25 m. in thickness, are dressed along their western and top edges.

The gallery sides continue eastwards to form a small end chamber. One stone, set in line with the large southern sidestone, measures 1.30 m. long, .80 m. high and .15 m. thick. The two stones continuing the north side are not quite in line with the main northern sidestone, the base of which may not be exactly in original position. The

more westerly of these measures .80 m. long, .85 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick and the other, 1.30 m. long, .70 m. high and .15 m. thick.

The part of the roofstone still resting on the sidestones slopes sharply down from south to north but its north edge remains free of the ground. It rests on the large southern sidestone, part of the collapsed north side and on the north end of the segmenting slab. It is 3.15 m. long and narrows from 3.00 m. wide at its broken west edge to 2.30 m. near its east end. The other portion lies on the ground west of the gallery entry. This piece is 1.35 m. long (east-west) and 3.05 m. wide. When complete the roofstone would have been about 4.50 m. long and .15 m. to .25 m. thick.

The stone crossing the west end of the gallery is set .40 m. inside the west ends of the sidestones. It is 1.40 m. long, 1.05 m. high and .10 m. thick. Its top and southern edges are dressed and there are somewhat less definite traces of working on the north edge. A gap .70 m. wide remains between its north end and the northern sidestone. Two set stones stand about .75 m. west of this gap. The more westerly leans slightly outwards and measures .60 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick. The eastern is .35 m. long, .20 m. high and .12 m. thick. Their function is uncertain.

Though extending almost completely across the gallery the segmenting slab does not quite touch the sides. It is 1.50 m. long at the base and 1.00 m. high and has an irregularly-shaped gap, .90 m. long and .50 m. to .70 m. deep at its top southern end. The part of the top edge which remains and the north edge are both worked. Because the edges of the opening are now much worn, apparently from the passage of animals seeking shelter, it cannot be ascertained if they have been artificially chipped. The partial collapse of the chamber suggests the possibility of accidental breakage.

The outer-walling is best represented south of the chamber where five stones remain in situ. Here the line of the outer-walling converges on that of the chamber side towards the east. The more westerly stone of the wall is .50 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. The next stone in line is .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .12 m. thick. Between it and the third stone, which lies 1.40 m. to the east, is a prostrate slab 1.75 m. long, .95 m. wide and .10 m. thick which may originally have formed part of the wall. The third set stone is .75 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick. A distance of 1.10 m. separates it from the next stone of the line which is the tallest in the series, being 1.40 m. high, 1.20 m. long and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. A prostrate slab, 1.40 m. long, .70 m. wide and .15 m. thick, lying south-west of it may be a displaced stone of the outer-walling. The more easterly stone of the row is .95 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .12 m. thick. Leaning against its north side is a stone 1.10 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. thick, which appears to be displaced.

North of the gallery only two stones of the outer-wall survive. The western stone is .95 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick. A gap of 1.80 m. separates it from the second stone which is 1.00 m. long, .25 m. high and .15 m. thick. North of the last is a flat stone .80 m. long, .20 m. broad and .10 m. thick. Continuing the line of this stone to the east is a second stone, .80 m. long, .25 m. high and .10 m. thick which leans slightly outwards. These two stones may indicate some doubling of the outer-walling.

The gallery decreases in height and width from west to east. The western chamber is 2.85 m. long and narrows from about 2.10 m. wide at the west to 1.65 m. at the east. The rear chamber is 1.90 m. long, and narrows from 1.60 m. at the segmenting slab to .80 m. at its open east end. The height, as indicated by the southern side, is 1.40 m. at the west and .65 m. at the east.

In its present state the long mound is difficult to interpret. It does, however, narrow beyond the west end of the main structure suggesting that the western end may be additional.

Second Structure

This structure has completely collapsed and is difficult to interpret. A roofstone measuring 2.55 m. long (east-west), 2.00 m. broad and .15 m. thick conceals much of the underlying structure. Visible under its southern edge is a large slab which may be the collapsed south side of a chamber. It is 2.10 m. long, 1.05 m. broad and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its straight southern edge may have been the top of the stone when erect.

North of this slab is an erect stone which may be the east end of the chamber. It leans to the east and is .90 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. A set stone, 1.40 m. long, .45 m. high and .10 m. thick, north of the last and leaning to the south-east, may be the north side of the chamber. A second stone (not on plan) may also be part of this side of the chamber. A prostrate slab, .90 m. in maximum dimension, at the south-west corner of the roofstone is displaced and of unknown function.

The proportions of the slabs forming the structure indicate that it should probably be regarded as a small megalithic chamber rather than a cist. Its exact nature cannot, however, be determined without excavation.

Third Structure

The remains of this structure lie in a roughly wedge-shaped hollow measuring .25 m. deep, 2.60 m. long and narrowing from 1.20 m. wide at the west to .80 m. at the east. Two prostrate slabs are visible. The more southerly is 1.30 m. long, .30 m. wide and .12 m. thick. The second measures 1.85 m. long, .50 m. wide and .10 m. thick. Under it is a partly concealed stone which appears to be well set. It is 1.10 m. long, .15 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Though the individual function of these three stones cannot be determined they do seem to represent the remains of a long cist. The function of the set stone, west of the hollow, measuring .60 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick, is uncertain.

Cairns

Three small cairns stand in the immediate vicinity of the monument. The first stands 60 yards to the north-east. It is about 8.00 m. in diameter and appears to contain the remains of a short cist set high up in the mound. Dimensions are difficult to obtain due to concealment. It would seem, however, to have been about 1.00 m. wide and about .55 m. long. The second cairn lies 70 yards north-east of the first. It is very low, and measures about 5.00 m. in diameter. Both these cairns are in the townland of Fanygalvan. A third stands in the townland of Cahermackirilla and is about 50 yards north of the first cairn.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 71, Nos. 17, 18, 19.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 37 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 359-360 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 421. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 362.

Nos. 34, 35, 36, 37, 38. Townlands of Ballyganner North and Ballyganner South. O.S. Sheet 9.

Though the Ordnance Survey map shows many "Carns" and "Cromlechs" in Ballyganner North and South, and in Noughaval, there are, in fact, only five known megalithic tombs in the area—three in Ballyganner North (Cl. 34, Cl. 35, and Cl. 36) and two in Ballyganner South (Cl. 37 and Cl. 38). Sites not accepted as megalithic tombs are listed in the Appendix.

The entire region is a wide expanse of rolling cragland falling in general from north to south. The ground in the central and southern part of the area is relatively flat with low ridges and small hillocks seldom rising more than 100 ft. above the surrounding land. Though the land is poor, the thin soil on the crags and in the fissures supports some grass and vegetation which provides winter pasturage. Low hazel scrub covers wide areas.

34. Ballyganner North. O.S. 9: 15: 2 (54.9 cm., 13.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 200-300. R 219 956. Fig. 22. Plate 6.

Court Cairn

The tomb which consists of a two-chambered gallery segmented by high jambs is entered at its more northerly¹ end through a narrow court. A gable-shaped backstone

1. The usual east-west convention is not followed in this description.

closes the south end of the gallery. Fence building has damaged and, in places, concealed portion of the structure. The western side of the tomb is incorporated in a wall and a second wall runs westwards from the south-western corner of the gallery. Though some mound is present, the fences, together with the fact that the monument stands on a low natural knoll, make definition of the perimeter impossible. Kerbing may be represented west of the chamber by four stones set roughly in line, 3.00 m. to 3.50 m. distant from the main structure. Loose stones, many much broken, lie in and around the tomb.

The entry to the gallery is formed by two tall jambs set slightly less than 1.00 m. apart. The eastern jamb, which is split longitudinally, measures .50 m. by .40 m. and is 1.25 m. high. The western jamb measures .40 m. by .35 m. and is 1.60 m. high. North of it is the butt of a pillar-like stone the upper portion of which now lies prostrate to the east. When intact and erect this stone would have measured about 1.65 m. high and would have served as a doubling of the jamb. A low flat slab between the jambs forms a threshold, but may not be original.

The overall length of the gallery is 4.20 m. The northern chamber is about 1.50 m. long and 1.80 m. wide. The eastern side consists of a single slab leaning somewhat outward and slightly overlapping the side of the second chamber. It is 1.50 m. long, 1.05 m. in maximum height and from .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its top edge is uneven and slopes down sharply from south to north. The western side of the chamber also consists of a single slab which stands erect and measures 1.20 m. long, 1.40 m. high and .20 m. thick. A gap of .40 m. remains between its south end and the end of the second chamber. Two well set stones stand west of it. The more southerly, which leans outwards and is set parallel to the chamber side, is 1.15 m. long, .95 m. high and .15 m. thick. It may be a slipped corbel or, more likely, an overlapping sidestone employed to close the gap in the chamber wall. The second stone, which is set at an angle to the chamber side, is 1.15 m. long, .60 m. high and .15 m. thick. Its function is not clear.

The first chamber is separated from the second by two pillar-like jambs set 1.00 m. apart. The eastern, which rises above the chamber side, measures .35 m. by .25 m. and is 1.05 m. high and the western is .40 m. by .30 m. and is 1.00 m. high. A stone 1.60 m. long, .60 m. wide and .20 m. thick lying immediately east of the jambs may be a collapsed lintel.

The second chamber is 2.25 m. long and 1.70 m. wide. Its east and west sides each consist of single slabs. That on the east is 2.70 m. long, 1.00 m. in maximum height and from .20 m. to .40 m. thick. Its top edge is broken and uneven and slopes down from north to south. Outside it are several low set stones, none exceeding .25 m. in height, which seem to be packing stones. The western sidestone is 2.45 m. long, .75 m. in maximum height and .15 to .20 m. thick. Its south end is partly concealed and it falls short of the backstone by .40 m. Its top edge is rough and uneven. West of this stone and roughly parallel to it are two slabs in line, both of which lean inward and rise above the top of the sidestone. The northern is 1.20 m. long, 1.10 m. high and .10 m. thick, and the southern is 1.45 m. long, .90 m. high and .10 m. thick. Though the bases of these stones appear to be set they are, perhaps, best regarded as high-pitched slab corbels.

The backstone, which now leans slightly inwards, is 1.40 m. long, 1.25 m. high and from .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its east and west edges are admirably suited to bear sloping corbels. A pillar-like stone, measuring .25 m. by .20 m. and 1.00 m. high, stands in the south-east corner of the chamber. Its function is not clear. It seems to correspond to the entry and segmenting jambs but a dummy jamb at the backstone is unusual. A large slab, 1.80 m. in maximum dimension, lying tilted in the chamber was probably part of the roof. Its western end is supported on the corbels already mentioned and its east end lies on the chamber floor. A fragment, .85 m. in maximum dimension, lying south of it may also be part of a roofstone.

The eastern side of the court is delimited by four rather low stones. A fifth well set stone, .35 m. high, seems intended to reinforce the court wall. The most southerly court stone overlaps the chamber side for a distance of .40 m. It is .90 m. long and .40 m. high. The second court stone is set close to, and overlapping, the last. It is .75 m. long and .35 m. thick. The remaining stones continue the line of the last. The more south-

erly is .70 m. long and .45 m. high; the northern is .50 m. long and .25 m. high. Two stones incorporated in the fence probably form part of the western arm of the court. That nearest to the entry, though splaying slightly outward, more or less continues the line of the gallery side and is about .50 m. distant from it. It is 1.00 m. long, .60 m. high and .05 m. to .10 m. thick. The second is set inside the line of the last. It is .70 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. thick. West of this stone are two slabs, the more northerly standing erect and the other leaning heavily inwards. They are probably fence stones. The court is about 2.00 m. deep. If the two stones on the west side are accepted it would seem to have been about 2.20 m. wide.

The line of stones west of the gallery curves slightly inwards towards the north end of the court. The stone at the northern end of the row is 2.30 m. long, .70 m. high and .10 m. thick. The next stone, which is 1.35 m. to the south, leans outwards. It is 1.10 m. long, .40 m. high and .20 m. thick. The remaining two stones are set in line somewhat outside the line of the last. The northern is .65 m. long, .25 m. high and .15 m. thick; the southern 1.35 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick. A large slab in the fence running into the south-western corner of the gallery is 1.80 m. long, .40 m. high and .20 m. thick. It is inside the general line of the kerb and is probably part of the fence.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 28 (Pl.). *P.R.I.A.*, XX (1896-8), 544 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 119. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 287-290 (Pl. (c)). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 402 (Pl., Drg.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1915), 258-259 (Pl.). *R.S.A.I. Guide* No. V, 56 (Pl., Drg.). *J.N.M.A.S.*, I, No. 1 (1909), 17 (Pl. (c)).

Mahr: *P.P.S.*, III (1937), 346, footnote (citing Evans).

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 129 (Cl. 1).

N.B.—The numeration of Court Cairns used in de Valera, "The Court Cairns of Ireland," *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 9-140, applies to that paper only and will be superseded by the numeration used in the present series.

35. **Ballyganner North.** O.S. 9: 15: 2 (55.9 cm., 11.6 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 200-300. R 220 954. Fig. 16. Plate 7.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is in a ruined condition. The northern sidestone of the chamber remains in situ. The displaced roofstone now overlies several broken slabs, some of which are probably part of the collapsed southern side of the chamber. There are some traces of mound surrounding the tomb, but the uneven nature of the ground prohibits definition.

The northern sidestone is 2.85 m. long, 1.37 m. high at the west and .80 m. at the east, and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. Its straight top edge is dressed and slopes down regularly from west to east. The east and west edges drop almost vertically to the ground. A block, .85 m. long, .30 m. wide and .30 m. high, set north of this slab and near to its east end, may be a packing stone. The roofstone now lies prostrate immediately south of the sidestone. It is 3.20 m. long and narrows from 1.70 m. wide near its west end to 1.25 m. at the east. It is .12 m. thick.

Protruding from under the southern edge of the roofstone are two large fragments both measuring 1.60 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. thick. They are probably fragments of the southern sidestone. The south edge of the more easterly portion is straight for a length of 1.15 m. and shows clear signs of dressing. This probably represents part of the original top edge of the stone. Two stones lying north of these fragments are completely covered by the roofstone. They appear to be broken and displaced and their original function cannot be ascertained. Near the west end of the roofstone are two small set stones. The more northerly, which is totally covered by the roofstone, is at least .40 m. long. The southern protrudes from under the cover and is .30 m. long. Both are .20 m. high. They may have formed part of the west end of the chamber. A stone, .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick, set 1.00 m. south of the edge of the roofstone, may be the remains of an outer-walling.

The monument appears to have been a normal example of its class. The length of the northern sidestone suggests that the chamber was about 2.80 m. long and the slope

of its top edge indicates that it was highest at the west. The dimensions of the roof-stone suggest that the chamber was also widest at the west.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 29. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 288-290 (Pl. (A)). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 119. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1915), 257. *J.N.M.A.S.*, I, No. 1 (1909), 17 (Pl. (A)). *P.R.I.A.*, XX (1896-1898), 544.

36. **Ballyganner North.** O.S. 9: 15: 2 (58.7 cm., 10.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400. R 223 953. Fig. 15. Plate 7.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument consists of a large chamber which now stands in the north-west quadrant of a circular stone fort. From its west end, which is embedded in spill from the wall of the fort, extends a low souterrain running for a distance of at least 2.25 m. into the wall of the fort. It is .35 m. high, 1.00 m. wide, and is built of small dry-stone work roofed with slabs measuring about 1.50 m. in maximum dimension. The interior is filled with small stones. The internal diameter of the fort is about 25.00 m. and the wall varies from 2.00 m. to 3.00 m. in thickness.

The north side of the chamber is built of two slightly overlapping slabs. The southern side consists of one great slab. A massive roofstone, now broken into several pieces, has collapsed into the chamber. Though there are some traces of mound surrounding the structure, the fort wall, which has partly collapsed at this point, precludes any attempt at reliable definition.

The southern sidestone is 4.30 m. long, 1.65 m. high at the west, 1.00 m. high at the east and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Its straight top edge slopes down from west to east and appears to have been roughly dressed. The vertical west edge has also been worked. The more westerly stone of the north side of the chamber measures 3.00 m. long, 1.35 m. high at the west, 1.15 m. high at the east and is .20 m. thick. Its east end appears to be broken. The top edge has been dressed. The second stone, which overlaps the last to a distance of .25 m. on its northern side, does not continue the line of that stone but cuts in rather sharply to the east end of the chamber. It is 1.90 m. long and measures 1.35 m. in maximum height. Its vertical west end is also worked and the east end bears marks of chipping. The top edge is dressed along 1.00 m. of its length. This stone may be a later insertion—possibly when the tomb was interfered with by the souterrain builders.

The roofstone has split in a more or less even line down its centre and is now broken into five pieces—two lean against the north side of the chamber and two against the south. The largest fragment is at the south-west end of the chamber and is 3.00 m. long. Beside it, to the east, is a fragment 1.20 m. long and beside this lies a portion 1.30 m. long. On the north side of the chamber the more westerly piece is 2.00 m. and the eastern 2.30 m. long. The fragments are .15 m. to .20 m. thick.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 2.00 m. wide at the west, 1.45 m. at the junction of the sidestones on the north side and at present .85 m. wide at its extreme east end. It is about 4.25 m. long.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 69, No. 14.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 30 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 119-129 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 288-290 (Pl. (B)). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 348. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 402. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1915), 253. *J.N.M.A.S.*, I, No. 1 (1909), 17, (Pl. (B)).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 23, 202.

37. **Ballyganner South.** O.S. 9: 15: 3 (62.5 cm., 11.1 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400. R 227 954. Fig. 20. Plate 7.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is well preserved. The chamber sides, built of single slabs, support a roofstone which completely covers the chamber. The roofstone rests also on a slab which partly closes the west end of the chamber. The base of a backstone remains in situ at the east end of the chamber. The chamber is centrally placed in a grass-grown mound measuring approximately 12.00 m. east-west and 10.00 m. north-south. A stone,

·90 m. long and ·40 m. high, set in the north-west part of the mound, is of unknown function.

The northern sidestone is 3·70 m. long, 1·90 m. high at the west, 1·30 m. high at the east and ·20 m. to ·30 m. thick. Its straight top edge is 3·20 m. long. A crack runs from top to bottom of the slab at a distance of about 1·25 m. from its west end. The southern sidestone is 4·10 m. long, 1·60 m. high at the west, 1·25 m. high at the east and ·20 m. to ·25 m. thick. The line of its straight top edge, which measures 3·85 m. long, is broken near the west by a natural cavity, ·40 m. deep. The top edges of both stones bear evidence of dressing.

The backstone is 1·10 m. long, ·15 m. thick and, at present, ·35 m. high. Its top edge appears to be broken and is now covered by a dry-stone wall. Though it may originally have crossed the full width of the chamber there is now a gap of ·12 m. between it and the northern side. The slab across the west end of the chamber is 1·10 m. long, 1·95 m. high and ·15 m. thick. Its top edge, which supports the roofstone, is dressed. The south edge is straight and unbroken. A triangular fragment is missing from its top north-west corner but the break here appears to be of comparatively recent origin. The roofstone is 4·00 m. long, ·15 m. to ·20 m. thick and narrows from 2·50 m. wide at the west to 2·00 m. near the east.

The chamber is 2·75 m. long and decreases in height and width from west to east, being 1·75 m. wide and 1·95 m. high inside the western closing stone and 1·35 m. wide and 1·30 m. high at the backstone.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 66-67, No. 12 or 13.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 34 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 120. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 288-290 (Pl. (E)). *J.N.M.A.S.*, I, No. 1 (1909), 17 (Pl. (E)).

Raftery: *Prehistoric Ireland*, 85, Figs. 86 and 87.

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 23, 202.

38. **Ballyganner South.** O.S. 9: 15: 5 (56·2 cm., 2·1 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400. R 220 944. Fig. 21. Plate 7.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This well preserved monument consists of a partly roofed chamber surrounded by a low mound now somewhat distorted by fence building. The chamber is the largest known in the area. The north and south sides are each of one great slab. A slab set slightly inside the east ends of the sidestones completely closes that end of the chamber. The west end is partially closed by a stone, touching the southern side and reaching to roof level. A low set stone crosses the gap between it and the northern sidestone. The roof has been badly damaged. Over the west end of the chamber are two slabs, obviously broken. Several slabs, inside the chamber, seem certainly to have formed part of the roof and a large fragment lying east of the backstone and two smaller slabs west of the chamber may also belong to it. The surrounding mound is difficult to define. Its north edge is reasonably clear but the base of an old fence merging with the south side leaves the evidence here somewhat ambiguous. The mound measures 14·50 m. approximately in diameter. A stone fence crossing the mound in a north-south direction incorporates the west end of the chamber.

The top of the great southern sidestone juts forward like a prow. The length of the slab is 5·80 m. at the top and 5·45 m. at the base. It is 1·70 m. high at the west, 1·00 m. high at the east and ·20 m. to ·25 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down from west to east and bears definite traces of dressing. The northern sidestone has a maximum length of 5·40 m. and is ·25 m. to ·30 m. thick. It is 1·60 m. high at the west and 1·00 m. at the east. The top edge, measuring 5·10 m. long, is worked both inside and outside.

The backstone fits neatly between the sidestones. It is 1·95 m. long at the base and ·15 m. to ·20 m. thick. It is 1·00 m. high, and its top edge, which is dressed, reaches the level of the sidestones. A gap ·30 m. long and ·40 m. deep at its top southern corner is probably due to accidental breakage. The slab partly blocking the west end of the chamber is 2·40 m. long, 1·60 m. high and ·20 m. thick. Its top and sides are straight and finely dressed. The gap between it and the sidestone is ·60 m. wide. Across

this gap runs a low set stone .95 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick, which overlaps the larger end slab by .50 m. Its top edge, though somewhat worn, appears to be broken, indicating that Westropp's treatment of this stone as the base of a larger slab closing the gap is probably correct.

Borlase considered that the chamber was covered by two slabs. Westropp, however, took the roof to have been of one great slab which he estimated to have been approximately 6.10 m. long and 3.35 m. broad. Though the slab would have been of very great dimensions this latter interpretation is probably the more likely. To judge from the two fragments remaining above the west end of the chamber it would seem that this end of the cover was 4.20 m. wide. The more northern fragment rests on the northern sidestone and on the blocking stone; the southern also rests on the blocking stone and on the opposite sidestone. Two large fragments lie prostrate in the chamber and a third rests on edge. Their maximum dimensions are 3.40 m., 1.30 m. and 1.65 m. The large fragment lying outside the chamber to the east measures 1.90 m. in maximum dimension. All these pieces are .25 m. to .30 m. thick. The two smaller fragments west of the chamber are each 1.20 m. in maximum dimension. The more southerly is .30 m. thick and may be part of the roof. The northern is .15 m. thick, which suggests that it may be part of the broken doorstone.

The chamber decreases regularly in height and width from west to east. It is 4.20 m. long, 2.95 m. wide and 1.60 m. high at the west, and 2.00 m. wide and 1.00 m. high at the east. Two small set stones north-west of the chamber entry are each about .40 m. long, .15 m. high and .10 m. thick.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 66 ff., No. 12 or 13 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 35 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 117 and 120. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 288-291 (Pl. (D)). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 402. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1905), 265. *J.N.M.A.S.*, I, No. 1 (1909), 17 (Pl. (D)).

Dutton: *Statistical Survey of the County of Clare*, 318.

39. **Deerpark.** O.S. 9: 16: 2 (82.4 cm., 8.1 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 200-300. R 248 950. Fig. 22. Plates 7 and 22.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on the top of a small rounded hill about 200 yards south of the bye-road passing the southern shore of Lough Aleenaun. The hill occupies the centre of a depression in the wild, broken craglands which rise on all sides to broad ridges. Considerable areas are covered with dense hazel and thorn. The pasturage is rough, with much bracken.

The tomb is well preserved. It consists of a fine wedge-shaped gallery which was covered by one great slab. The major portion of this stone covers the greater part of the gallery but a piece broken from its west end now leans against the north side. The north and south sides of the gallery each consists of single slabs. A transverse slab, reaching almost to the roof, is set .60 m. inside their east ends and a second transverse slab stands about 2.00 m. further to the east. Three small stones continue the line of the northern sidestone to meet the north end of the second transverse slab. A set stone north of the gallery and another to the south are outer-wall stones and several displaced stones may also be the remains of further outer-walling along the north and south sides of the gallery. The tomb is surrounded by a grass-grown mound but, owing to the uneven nature of the ground and the slope of the hill, exact delineation of its limits is difficult. It appears to be 13.00 m. long (east-west), 9.00 m. wide near the west and 5.50 m. wide at the east.

The southern sidestone is 4.30 m. long, 1.35 m. high at the west, .55 m. high at the east and .30 m. thick. The main northern sidestone is 3.65 m. long, 1.40 m. high at the west, .75 m. high at the east and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The straight top edges of both stones are dressed and slope regularly down to the east.

The transverse slab between the sidestones leans slightly inwards. It is 1.45 m. long at the base, 1.05 m. high and from .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its top edge is dressed for a distance of .85 m. along the outside. The southern corner is broken off, leaving a jagged edge .60 m. long. The other sides of the resultant triangular gap are approxi-

mately .40 m. long. Midway down the northern edge of the stone is a second opening. This is somewhat curved in shape being .60 m. high and .20 m. in maximum width. With the exception of a short portion towards the bottom which is smooth and somewhat worn, the edges are jagged. Both openings are chipped along the outside (eastern edges) and the upper parts of the second opening appear to have been flaked along the inside edge. Though both openings appear to be artificial it is uncertain whether or not they are original features of the monument.

The portion of the roof remaining in position is 3.30 m. long, 2.70 m. wide at its broken west edge, 1.70 m. wide at the east and .20 m. thick. The broken fragment, at the west, is 1.65 m. long (i.e., east-west), 1.75 m. wide and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. When complete the total length of the stone would have been about 4.30 m.

The more westerly of the three stones continuing the north side of the gallery is jammed tightly under the roofstone and is probably in situ. It is .35 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. thick. The other two stones are both loose and may not be original. The western is .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick, and the eastern is .60 m. long, .40 m. high and .10 m. thick. The transverse stone east of these leans inwards. It is 1.50 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. thick. Two loose stones, each about .50 m. in maximum dimension, lean against its western face.

The outer-wall stone remaining in situ at the south runs more or less parallel to the gallery and is set .55 m. from it. It is 1.10 m. long, .35 m. high and .12 m. thick. East of it are two stones which seem to have been forced outwards and are now partly buried. They appear to be displaced outer-wall stones. The western is .55 m. long, and the eastern 1.05 m. long. Both are about .50 m. high and .10 m. thick. The outer-wall stone on the north is set .65 m. from the gallery side. It is 1.40 m. long, .60 m. high and .10 m. thick. It leans heavily to the north. West of it are three stones leaning heavily inwards which may be displaced outer-wall stones. They average .55 m. long and their heights from east to west respectively are .90 m., .60 m. and .55 m. West of these and lying at the end of the sidestone are three displaced slabs which average .65 m. in maximum dimension. At the west end of the southern sidestone is another displaced slab 1.10 m. long and .65 m. wide.

The chamber, which decreases regularly in height and width from west to east, measures 3.30 m. long to the transverse slab set between the sidestones. It is 2.10 m. wide and 1.55 m. high near the west, and 1.50 m. wide and 1.05 m. high at the transverse slab set between the sidestones. There may have been a second chamber at the east end of the gallery but the evidence for this is rather scant and is somewhat ambiguous. The two loose stones continuing the north side of the gallery are, perhaps, best disregarded and the transverse stone at the east may represent the east end of the outer-walling.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 70-71, No. 16 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 36 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 256. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357.

Dutton: *Statistical Survey of the County of Clare*, 317.

Leask and Price: *P.R.I.A.*, XLIII (1936-7), 83.

40. **Eanty More.** O.S. 10: 1: 1 (4.2 cm., 59.2 cm.). "Ancient Grave." O.D. 600-700. M 264 004. Fig. 17. Plate 8.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on a wide expanse of bare and fissured crag. About 150 yards distant, and to the north-east, the ground rises in a sharp shelf some 20 feet high. To the west the land falls into a broad, shallow, hazel-covered depression beyond which it rises to the ridges of Cragballyconal. Southward the land continues level.

The chamber, which is reasonably well preserved, consists of two sidestones, a western blocking stone and a broken roofstone. Loose blocks of stone surround the chamber but, owing to the fragmented nature of the surrounding crag, it is impossible to decide which, if any, formed part of the original cairn. Though in general averaging .20 m. to .50 m. in maximum dimension, some reach a length of 1.50 m. This stony

area, which measures about 7.50 m. in diameter, is grass-grown in places. The base of a stone wall runs up to the north-west corner of the chamber.

The southern sidestone is set in a fissure in the crag. It is a very neat slab 1.90 m. long, .15 m. thick, 1.00 m. high at the west and .90 m. at the east. Its edges are straight and even but there are no certain signs of dressing. Its top edge slopes down from west to east. The northern sidestone is 1.95 m. long, .90 m. high at the west, .85 m. at the east and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. Its worked top edge slopes down from west to east. A small packing stone outside its western end measures .30 m. long and .40 m. high. A rectangular slab, measuring 1.20 m. long, .90 m. high and .10 m. thick, is set across the west end of the chamber. It almost touches the sidestones on either side and its top edge is flush with their top edges. A small break .10 m. long and .10 m. deep at its top northern corner appears to be accidental.

The large portion of the roofstone remaining above the west end of the chamber appears to be almost in original position. The west edge and a short portion of the north edge of this cover slab seem to be original. Its east edge is broken. It is 1.30 m. in maximum length, 1.65 m. wide along its western edge and from .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It rests on the sidestones and the western blocking stone. However, as it can now be rocked slightly up and down, the weight of its eastern end, when complete, may have kept the west end free of the blocking stone. Even if this were so it would still be difficult to remove the blocking stone without considerably disturbing the structure.

Two slabs, probably portions of the roof, lie at the east end of the chamber. The largest, measuring 1.60 m. in maximum dimension, leans against the east end of the northern sidestone. It partly overlies the second slab which slants outwards over the east end of the southern sidestone. This stone is 1.35 m. in maximum dimension. A block, not shown on the plan, measuring 1.00 m. long and .50 m. broad, lies in the chamber.

The chamber, which is unusually small, decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.60 m. long and narrows from 1.20 m. wide at the west to .75 m. at the east. It is .95 m. high at the west and .85 m. at the east. The chamber floor which is strewn with small stones, is somewhat lower than the level of the crag outside.

41. **Rannagh East.** O.S. 10: 1: 3 (19.1 cm., 57.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. M 279 002. Fig. 20. Plate 8.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The monument is situated about 300 yards east of the Bealaclugga-Carran road two-thirds of a mile north of Carran church. The ground rises gently to the road and beyond it to the west. The surrounding region is rough cragland with much hazel, but deeper soil in the immediate vicinity of the tomb provides pasture and a little tillage.

The tomb is ruined. The two sidestones lie prostrate. West of these are two low set stones of uncertain function. A small flat stone is partly concealed by the west end of the more northerly sidestone. A mound reaching a height of .75 m. surrounds the collapsed chamber but its shape cannot be traced with any certainty owing to the uneven nature of the field surface. It is approximately 6.50 m. in diameter.

The southern edges of the sidestones are straight and are probably the original top edges. The west edges of both stones are also straight. The more northerly stone has been broken at its east end. It is 2.00 m. long, 1.55 m. wide, and .15 m. to .35 m. thick. The southern sidestone is 2.55 m. long, 1.50 m. wide and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. The stone protruding from under the west end of the northern sidestone is .80 m. square and .15 m. thick. The more westerly of the two set slabs is .95 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick. The second set stone is 1.80 m. east of the last. It is .75 m. long, .15 m. high and .05 m. to .10 m. thick.

Though the evidence is meagre the remains suggest that the monument was a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave of the type normal in the area.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 41 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 381. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 224 (Pl. No. 2).

42. Cappaghkennedy. O.S. 10: 6: 6 (44.9 cm., 35.3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 700-800. R 306 978. Fig. 23. Plate 8.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Castletown and some 400 yards south-west of a cairn crowning the summit of the ridge running north-eastwards from Glasgeivnagh Hill. It commands extensive views. The flat surrounding land produces a heavy growth of grass and provides ample winter grazing. A number of low cairns lie to the east of the tomb.

The tomb is well preserved. The chamber sides, which consist of single slabs, support two overlapping slabs which may originally have been a single roofstone. A transverse slab almost closes the west end of the chamber. Running westwards from its north end is a well set stone. There are double rows of outer-walling along the north side and east end of the tomb and the meagre remains of a single row along the south side. A low slab-built wall, apparently the remains of an enclosure, is built on to the west end of the tomb. The chamber is surrounded by an oval mound measuring approximately 12.50 m. east-west and 8.50 m. north-south. The low remains of fences run into the mound at the north-west and south-east. Westropp states that the tomb "was recently inhabited."

The southern sidestone is 3.50 m. long at the base, 1.40 m. high at the west, 1.35 m. high at the east and .20 m. thick. Part of the top of its east end is broken away and only 2.20 m. of the original top edge, which is dressed, remains. The northern sidestone is 3.05 m. long at the base, 1.30 m. high at the west, 1.10 m. high at the east and .20 m. thick. Its top edge, which is 3.55 m. long, is dressed.

The western portion of the roof rests on the sidestones but not on the transverse stone at the west end of the chamber. It is 2.00 m. long and 2.75 m. wide. The eastern roofstone also rests on the sidestones but is tilted towards the back. Its east end rises above the end of the western roofstone and overlaps it by about .20 m. near the centre. It is 3.00 m. long and 2.65 m. wide. Both slabs are about .20 m. thick.

The transverse slab at the west end of the chamber is set outside the end of the northern sidestone. It is 2.15 m. long, 1.35 m. high and .15 m. thick. Its top is worked to a straight edge. The north edge is also straight but bears no definite traces of dressing. Chipping along its south edge may not be ancient. There is a gap .60 m. wide, decreasing to .35 m. at ground level between it and the southern sidestone. The stone running westwards from its north end may indicate the presence of a portico or may, perhaps, be a continuation of the outer-walling. It is 1.80 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick.

The inner line of outer-walling north of the chamber consists of three stones set in line. The western stone of the row is .95 m. long, .65 m. high and .12 m. thick. The next stone, which is almost concealed, is .10 m. to .15 m. thick and at least .45 m. long. The third stone is .80 m. long, .70 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. This walling converges on the east end of the chamber. The second line of outer-walling on this side of the chamber is somewhat curved. It consists of six stones varying from .30 m. to .80 m. in length and averaging .25 m. high and .10 m. thick.

Two lines of outer-walling are represented east of the gallery but the exact design here is not clear. The stones vary from .45 m. to 1.20 m. in length and average .25 m. high and .10 m. thick. One stone, .75 m. long and .10 m. high, near the edge of the mound may, perhaps, be a kerb-stone. The outer-wall along the south side of the chamber consists of three stones. The two stones at the west are .50 m. and .30 m. long, .10 m. to .15 m. high and .05 m. thick. That at the east is .75 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick. This line of walling also converges on the east end of the chamber.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east, being 2.05 m. wide and 1.35 m. high at the west, and 1.50 m. wide and about 1.20 m. high at the east. It measures 3.10 m. long to the east ends of the sidestones. The chamber floor, of black earth, is strewn with stones and the east end is partly blocked with stones.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 72, No. 23 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 462, No. 44 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVI (1896), 364. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 223. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 247.

43. **Creevagh.** O.S. 10: 9: 5 (13.1 cm., 15.3 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 300-400. R 273 957. Fig. 24. Plates 8 and 22.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on fairly level ground 100 yards west of the Carran-Killinaboy road and about two-thirds of a mile south-west of Cahercommaun. Glasgeivnagh Hill lies to the north-east and the Parknabinnia ridge to the south. The ground falls to the south-west into a hazel-grown valley. Though the land in the vicinity is cragland it bears a remarkably heavy growth of grass. We were informed locally that the area is considered to provide exceptionally good grazing and similar pasture was said to be available in the adjoining townland of Tullycommon. The tomb stands in the north-east quadrant of an irregularly-shaped enclosure about 30.00 m. across, which is bounded by the low remains of a wall 2.00 m. to 3.00 m. thick.

The tomb is well preserved. The chamber sides consist of single slabs. The roofstone rests on these and also on a transverse slab crossing the east end of the chamber. Remains of outer-walling are present along both sides and perhaps at the east end of the chamber. Two stones beyond the west end of the chamber appear to represent a frontal outer-walling. The more southerly of these is of unusual height and gives a monumental appearance to the west end of the tomb. The tomb is surrounded by an irregular mound measuring roughly 11.00 m. east-west and 8.50 m. north-south. Its perimeter is difficult to trace at the south-west where it is obscured by fence building. Several low set stones near the edges of the mound, in particular a group set at the north-east, may indicate the remains of kerbing.

The sidestones of the chamber are ill-matched slabs. The southern is 4.00 m. long, 1.35 m. high at the west, 1.20 m. at east and .15 m. to .30 m. thick. Its straight top edge is 3.60 m. long and bears traces of dressing. The northern sidestone has a maximum length of 2.80 m. but its east end is broken and it is now only 2.30 m. long at ground level. It is 1.35 m. high at the west, 1.25 m. high at the east and .15 m. to .30 m. thick. Its top edge is dressed. The top edges of both stones slope down from west to east. The present east edge of the northern sidestone falls .70 m. short of the backstone. A stone, .50 m. long, 1.10 m. high and .10 m. thick, extends .30 m. beyond the backstone. Its western end is fractured and it narrows sharply towards its base. It fits closely with the backstone and the roof and is probably the east end of the chamber side forced slightly out of line. West of it is a very low set stone, .40 m. long. Immediately north of these two stones is another set stone, .35 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick. While certainty is impossible it is, on the whole, not unlikely that the northern side was originally one stone which was broken through near its east end leaving this end detached. Alternatively the two low stones may be parts of the base or packing stones. A set stone, .80 m. long, .60 m. high and .10 m. thick, running northwards from this corner of the chamber, may be a form of buttress.

The roofstone, which is of irregular outline, is 3.55 m. long, 2.30 m. wide and .15 m. thick. The stone closing the east end of the chamber is set skew to the main axis of the chamber. It is 1.20 m. long, 1.25 m. high and .12 m. thick. The top and south sides are worked to straight edges by flaking, this being heaviest at the top corners. Midway down the northern side of the slab is an opening measuring .45 m. high and .25 m. wide. The edges of the opening are flaked but may not be intentionally dressed. This opening may, in fact, be accidental breakage consequent on the damage to the northern side of the chamber.

Set about .75 m. east of the chamber and crossing its main axis at right angles is a fine slab, 2.00 m. long, 1.40 m. high and .12 m. thick. Faint traces of dressing are present along its top edge. Though the possibility of the existence of a second chamber at this end of the gallery cannot be discounted this slab is, perhaps, better regarded as the endstone of an outer-wall than as the backstone of a second chamber. 1.00 m. east of this slab is a prostrate stone, 1.50 m. in maximum dimension.

The high stone of the western outer-walling is 1.45 m. long, 2.00 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge is dressed. The long slab to the north turns sharply inwards. It is 2.10 m. long, .70 m. high and .10 m. thick. A prostrate flag 1.10 m. in maximum dimension lies north of it.

Three outer-wall stones remain north of the chamber. The two more westerly are erect and in situ but the third leans heavily inwards and may be somewhat displaced. The western stone is .80 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick. Its top seems to be broken. The next stone is a fine slab measuring 1.05 m. in maximum length near its top and .80 m. long at the base, and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It is 1.55 m. high and reaches about .25 m. above the level of the roofstone. Its straight top and east edges appear to be dressed. The displaced stone, which lies .85 m. to the east, leans heavily to the south. It is 1.35 m. long, .70 m. high and .10 m. thick. One outer-wall stone remains in situ south of the chamber. It is .95 m. distant from the chamber side and measures 1.20 m. long, .30 m. high and .12 m. thick. Leaning against its west end is a set slab, 1.10 m. long, .10 m. thick and .70 m. high. A slab .70 m. long, .45 m. high and .10 m. thick set 2.65 m. west of the last and incorporated in a fence, may belong to the outer-wall.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 2.80 m. long, 1.35 m. wide and 1.30 m. high at the west, and 1.20 m. wide and 1.00 m. high at the east.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 462, No. 45 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357-359 (Pl., Drg.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 407. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 217-218 (Pl.).

BARONY OF CORCOMROE

44. **Ballynahown.** O.S. 4: 10: 6 (45.3 cm., 21.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 600-700. M 112 030. Fig. 25. Plate 8.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The four megalithic tombs in Ballynahown townland are situated on a limestone plateau running west from the base of Knockauns Mountain to the craggy terraces above the sea, slightly over a mile distant. The craglands of the plateau are grass-grown and provide considerable pasture. This, the more northerly tomb of the group, is sited close to the townland boundary in a natural hollow 2.00 m. deep and about 26.00 m. N.W.-S.E. and 15.00 m. N.E.-S.W. Though the outlook from the tomb is restricted by the edges of the hollow, the Cliffs of Moher and the Aran Islands are visible to the south and west.

The tomb is ruined and has been interfered with by later building. The base of a stone wall, averaging .40 m. high, surrounds the chamber on all sides except towards the east where a segment of the cairn edge may be traced. Two set slabs in the wall to the north-west may be an entry to the walled enclosure. Running west, to the side of the hollow, are the remains of further collapsed wall.

The north side of the chamber consists of a single slab 3.45 m. long at the base, 1.25 m. high at the west, 1.10 m. high at the east and .15 m. thick. Its straight top edge is dressed. A displaced slab, 2.40 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. to .15 m. thick, at the east end of the chamber, overlies some broken slabs (not on plan) which may be fragments of the southern side of the chamber. West of this lies a second displaced slab, 2.25 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Both of these large slabs may have formed part of the roof. Two transverse stones .40 m. apart cross the east end of the chamber. The outer, which leans slightly eastwards, is 2.30 m. long, .10 m. thick and 1.05 m. high. Its top edge is broken and uneven. The other, which is largely concealed under the cover fragment, is at least 1.25 m. long. A stone, .45 m. long, .12 m. high and .10 m. thick, set behind the outer east endstone and at right angles to it, may be a buttress. A stone set more or less erect at the north-west end of the chamber, .75 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick, is probably not an original feature.

There are some remains of outer-walling along the north side of the chamber. One stone, 1.45 m. long, .12 m. high and .05 m. thick, is set .55 m. from the sidestone and runs parallel to it. Continuing the line of this stone to the east is a second stone, .30 m. long, .10 m. high and .05 m. thick. Three small stones, protruding .10 m. to .20 m.,

close to the last, may be connected with the outer-walling, or may be cairn stones. Incorporated in the fence to the south and acting as a facing to it is a stone .30 m. high and .65 m. long which, if it is part of the tomb structure, may have been an outer-wall stone. Several other set stones are incorporated in the walls of the enclosure but they can scarcely be accepted as part of the tomb.

The chamber would seem to have been about 3.40 m. long. The slope of the top edge of the sidestone indicates that it was highest at the west.

45. **Ballynahown.** O.S. 4: 10: 6 (40.5 cm., 19.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. M 107 028. Fig. 25. Plate 9.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This site lies slightly more than one-third of a mile to the south-west of Cl. 44 and 500 yards south of Caherdoon stone fort. The site commands extensive views of the Clare coast and across Galway Bay.

The tomb is very ruined. One stone, apparently the southern sidestone of the chamber, remains in situ. It is a thin slab, 3.50 m. long, 1.30 m. high near the west, 1.15 m. high at the east and .10 m. thick. Its top edge is broken but the original portions remaining bear traces of dressing. The stone is cracked through towards its centre. A slab, probably the broken roofstone, leans against the sidestone. It is 3.00 m. long, at least 1.90 m. wide and .10 m. thick. Its northern edge is concealed. Remains of a mound, 9.50 m. long and rising to a height of .75 m., is traceable around the chamber save at the east.

Though the original dimensions of the chamber cannot be given the sidestone indicates a length of about 3.00 m. The slope of the top edge of the sidestone indicates that it was highest at the west.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 462, No. 1. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 351.

46. **Ballynahown.** O.S. 4: 10: 6 (40.5 cm., 19.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. M 107 028. Fig. 26. Plate 9.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb stands some 40 yards to the south of Cl. 45 in the same field. It is very ruined. The northern sidestone of the chamber remains erect. It is a fine slab, 3.60 m. long, 1.55 m. high at the west, 1.45 m. high at the east and .15 m. thick. Its straight top edge, which is 2.10 m. long, slopes down from west to east and bears faint traces of dressing. A small set stone, .45 m. long, .25 m. high and .10 m. thick, standing 1.75 m. south of the sidestone, may be a fragment of the base of the southern side.

Set at right angles to the line of the northern sidestone and .30 m. beyond its east end are two stones standing end to end. The northern is 1.20 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick, and the southern is 1.00 m. long, .30 m. high and .15 m. thick. As these stones are set outside the end of the sidestone it seems that they are more likely to represent the east end of an outer-walling than the end of the chamber. Two outer-wall stones remain in situ north of the chamber. The more easterly is 1.10 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick and the second is .80 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick. 1.00 m. outside these is a little irregular upright .25 m. long, .45 m. high and .10 m. thick. A second line of outer-walling may be represented by a set stone standing 1.00 m. beyond the two stones crossing the east end of the chamber. It is 1.85 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick. Two small stones at the west, each .40 m. long, .10 m. high and .05 m. thick, may indicate an outer-walling at the west.

The original dimensions of the chamber cannot be ascertained but it would probably have been about 3.00 m. long. The slope of the top edge of the sidestone indicates that it was highest at the west. There are some traces of a low mound surrounding the tomb but its edges are not easy to define. It would seem to be approximately 7.50 m. in diameter. A stone fence crosses the southern end of the mound.

47. **Ballynahown.** O.S. 4: 10: 6 (43·4 cm., 17·5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. M 110 026. Fig. 26. Plates 9 and 21.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This, the most southerly of the Ballynahown group, lies 400 yards S.E. of Cl. 46 and stands on a small grass-grown patch of crag overlooking the bare fissured terraces above the sea. A shelf of rock rises immediately east of the tomb.

This is the best preserved tomb in the group. The chamber sides and the backstone remain in situ and support a broken roofstone. The chamber sides have tilted to the north and have thrown the roofstone somewhat out of position. A stone, ·40 m. long, ·20 m. high and ·10 m. thick, set outside the south side of the chamber, may be an outer-wall stone. Modern dry-walling partially closes the western end.

Both the chamber sides consist of single slabs with straight dressed top edges. The northern is 3·10 m. long, 1·30 m. high near the west, 1·20 m. high near the east and ·10 m. thick. The southern sidestone is 3·45 m. long, 1·15 m. high at the west, 1·05 m. high at the east and ·10 m. thick. The northern sidestone, and probably the southern, are fitted into the natural fissures of the bedrock. The backstone is ·95 m. long, 1·10 m. high and ·12 m. thick. All the edges of this slab have been neatly dressed on the inside but the chipping is heaviest at its southern corner where the edge curves downwards. The backstone now supports the roof at one point, though this may not have been the case when the chamber sides were erect. The roofstone is 2·00 m. long, 1·85 m. wide at the east, and 1·80 m. wide at the west and ·10 m. to ·15 m. thick. Its west edge appears to be broken.

The chamber, which is about 2·50 m. long, decreases regularly in height and width from west to east. It is 1·30 m. wide and 1·25 m. high near the west, and 1·10 m. wide and 1·15 m. high at the east. Natural bedrock is exposed in the chamber floor. There are indefinite traces of mound at the west.

48. **Caherminnaun West.** O.S. 9: 14: 5 (32·4 cm., 6·5 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 200-300. R 195 949. Fig. 26.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This tomb, which stands about half a mile north-west of Caherballykinvarga, lies on good pasture land capable of tillage. A short distance to the north the limestone gives way to the shales while across the road, to the south, stretches an extensive area of bare crag.

The tomb is ruined. The chamber sides consist of single slabs. The northern side remains erect but the southern now leans heavily outwards. The backstone remains in situ at the east. At the west end lies a collapsed stone which probably stood across the southern side of the entry. The chamber is now partly filled with rubble. Some slight traces of mound are present at the east end of the chamber.

The southern sidestone is 4·05 m. long, 1·25 m. high at the west, ·85 m. high at the east and ·20 m. to ·25 m. thick. Its straight top edge, which measures 3·00 m. long, bears some traces of dressing and slopes down from west to east. When erect the base of this stone would have been closer to, if not actually touching, the south end of the backstone, which is now ·60 m. distant from it. The northern sidestone is 3·80 m. long, 1·30 m. high at the west, ·65 m. high at the east and ·25 m. to ·30 m. thick. The eastern part of its top edge seems to be broken away but the remaining portion, which is 1·80 m. long, slopes down from west to east.

The backstone is 1·60 m. long, ·70 m. high and ·15 m. thick. Its straight top edge is dressed. The prostrate slab at the east would, when erect, have only partly closed the chamber entry and there would have been a gap of approximately ·70 m. between it and the northern sidestone. It is 1·40 m. long, 1·15 m. wide (i.e., height when erect) and ·20 m. to ·25 m. thick. Its south-west corner is broken.

The chamber, which is about 3·00 m. long, decreases in height and width from west to east. It would seem to have narrowed from 2·00 m.—2·50 m. wide at the west to 1·70 m. wide at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 69, No. 15 (Pl., Drg.), wrongly called "Kiltennan".

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 462, No. 7 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 126.

49. Clooneen. O.S. 9: 15: 6 (66.3 cm., 2.1 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 200-300. R 231 944. Fig. 27. Plate 9.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is situated on a low flat ridge about two-thirds of a mile south-east of the tombs in Ballyganner. The Clifden ridge forms the skyline along the south and Slievecallan is visible in the distance to the south-west. The land in the immediate vicinity is grass-grown crag and the pasturage is rather better than that in the Ballyganner area, though extensive patches of hazel occur nearby.

Though the tomb has been somewhat damaged it still remains an imposing monument. The massive southern sidestone is intact but the northern sidestone is broken and part of its central portion is missing. An enormous roofstone, broken into two pieces, covers the chamber. There are remains of outer-walling along both sides of the chamber. Traces of a mound, 12.00 m. long east-west, 8.00 m. north-south and reaching .70 m. high, partly surround the tomb. The edges are difficult to determine at the north and east. A stone fence crosses the east end of the chamber.

The southern sidestone is a fine slab, 5.05 m. long, 1.65 m. high near the west, 1.25 m. high at the east and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Its straight top edge, which is 4.50 m. long, is dressed and slopes down from west to east. A thin crack runs down the middle of the stone.

Two large fragments of the northern sidestone remain erect. That at the west is .90 m. long, 1.65 m. high, and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It leans slightly inwards and may, perhaps, be a trifle displaced. A small stone, .35 m. long, .15 m. high and .12 m. thick continuing its line eastward, is part of the base of the missing portion. The erect eastern portion is 2.50 m. long, 1.50 m. high and .10 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge is dressed. The original length of the base of the sidestone was about 4.55 m. At the chamber entry, and set skew to the line of the northern side, is an erect stone, .70 m. long, .35 m. high and .15 m. thick, whose function is not clear. It may have formed part of an entry feature. The east end of the chamber is now open but a stone, apparently displaced and almost in line with the north side, is in appearance suggestive of a backstone. It leans heavily to the south and is 1.75 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .12 m. thick. Part of the side edges appear to be dressed and its top western corner is chipped down to a curve leaving a gap .60 m. long and .80 m. deep. Though its present position is difficult to explain, the dressing, together with the "scoop," suggests that it may well be a displaced backstone.

The massive roofstone is fractured across the middle and a triangular piece at the north end of the break is missing. It is 5.50 m. long, 2.85 m. wide at the west, 2.35 m. wide at the east and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. It rests on the southern sidestone and on both pieces of the broken northern sidestone. A low pile of earth and stones lies upon it.

Three clear outer-wall stones north of the chamber remain in situ. The more westerly of these, which leans outwards, is 1.65 m. long, and .12 m. to .20 m. thick. If erect it would be 1.80 m. high and would be somewhat higher than the sidestone. There is a gap of 1.45 m. between this stone and the next stone, which is .90 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. thick. Between this stone and the sidestone is a stone, 1.20 m. long, .30 m. high and .15 m. thick, which may be a doubling of the outer-walling. It leans outwards and is not certainly in situ. The third outer-wall stone is 1.25 m. long, .55 m. high and from .10 m. to .15 m. thick. .70 m. east of it, and somewhat inside the line of the outer-walling, is a further well set stone, .85 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick, which leans heavily inwards. It may also be related to the outer-walling.

Three outer-wall stones remain in situ south of the chamber. The more westerly, which is almost hidden in the ground, is .85 m. long and .10 m. thick. In line with it and 1.60 m. further to the east is the next stone, which is .55 m. long, .15 m. high and .10 m. thick. The third stone continues the line and is .35 m. long, .05 m. high and .05 m. thick. A stone, .50 m. long, .70 m. high and .20 m. thick, set in the fence and in line with the outer-walling may be a fourth outer-wall stone but the presence of the fence leaves this somewhat uncertain.

Four well set stones standing west of the chamber entry are probably the remains of a frontal outer-walling. The more easterly is 1.10 m. long, .10 m. high and .10 m.

thick. About .40 m. west of it is a small stone, .50 m. long, .10 m. high and .12 m. thick, now leaning outwards. The remaining two stones are set in line about 1.00 m. north of the last. They appear to be the broken bases of larger stones. The more northerly, which leans outwards, is 1.20 m. long, .40 m. high and .20 m. thick. The second is .50 m. long, .10 m. high and .10 m. thick. A stone, .75 m. long and .20 m. high, set in the south-western edge of the mound, may be a kerb-stone.

The chamber, which seems to have been about 4.50 m. long, decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 2.10 m. wide and 1.60 m. high at the west, and 1.10 m. wide and 1.45 m. high at the east.

To the north-east of the monument and at a distance of 13.00 m. from it is a short oval mound measuring 6.00 m. by 3.80 m. and about 1.00 m. high. A divided cist set east and west, 2.70 m. long, .90 m. wide at the west, and .80 m. at the east, stands in the centre of the mound. Both sides consist of two stones set end to end. The western stone of the north side is 1.30 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick, and the eastern is 1.40 m. long, .60 m. high and .20 m. thick. The western stone of the south side is .60 m. long, .10 m. high and .10 m. thick and the eastern is 1.25 m. long, .20 m. high and .05 m. thick. A transverse slab, .70 m. long, .25 m. high and .10 m. thick, is set across the middle of the chamber. A block .15 m. by .10 m. and .10 m. high stands at its southern end.

Though the structure may well show influence of true megalithic chambers it seems preferable to regard it as a double cist.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 80-81, No. 2.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 9 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 291. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 257 (Fig. 11).

50. **Calluragh South.** O.S. 23: 6: 2 (36.8 cm., 41.7 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 100-200. R 101 860. Fig. 27. Plate 9.

Unclassified

This monument is situated one mile south-south-east of Lehinch town, in a small cultivated valley opening west towards the sea. The tomb stands in a clean grassy field surrounded by stone fences which obscure the view, except towards the north-east where the ground rises to a stony summit. The land in the valley is used for pasture and tillage. The higher ground is gorse-grown.

The tomb is very ruined. Six stones only remain. Three of these form a jamb and sill arrangement. The sillstone is 1.40 m. long, .55 m. high and .20 m. thick. The stone north of it measures .70 m. long, 1.15 m. high and .35 m. thick, and that to the south is .95 m. long, .85 m. high and .35 m. thick. A fourth stone, 1.30 m. long, .75 m. high and .15 m. thick, stands beside the northern jamb. The stone to the east of it leans to the north and is 1.30 m. long, .90 m. high and .25 m. thick. Its function is not clear but if erect it would be more in line with the north side of the chamber and thus may be a displaced chamber sidestone. A pointed stone of triangular outline set 3.00 m. west of the jambs and sill measures 2.35 m. long, .80 m. high and .15 m. thick. It may have formed the back of a gallery extending westward from the jambs and sill.

Though the northern jamb is considerably higher than that to the south, the jambs and sill are convincing. The stones east of it can well be chamber sidestones and the large stone to the west could be a backstone. The jambs and sill are suggestive of a Court Cairn and the stone at the west, both in its shape and position, would be normal in such a tomb. However, the remains are not sufficient to allow classification with any confidence.

Westropp: *J.L.F.C.*, III, No. 12 (1907-8), 200. *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 10.

Parkinson: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 437 (Drg.).

BARONY OF IBRICKAN

51. Illaun. O.S. 31: 1: 5 (10.2 cm., 52.4 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 200-300. R 072 807. Fig. 28. Plate 9.

Unclassified

The monument lies about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-east of Milltown Malbay and is situated in a low valley opening westward to the sea. It stands on a gentle slope at the foot of which flows a small stream some 40 yards distant to the south. The surrounding land is mostly pasture but small areas are tilled. Some low windswept trees grow close to a nearby farmstead.

The tomb is very ruined. One stone remains erect and in situ. It is 2.35 m. long, .95 m. high at the west, .30 m. high at the east and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down sharply from west to east in three "steps" or stages. A partly concealed prostrate slab lies to the north and another at the east. That at the north may be a collapsed sidestone. It is 2.05 m. long, .90 m. in exposed width, and .25 m. thick. Its south edge is straight; its north edge concealed. The second slab may be a roofstone. It is 1.65 m. long, .90 m. in exposed width and .20 m. thick. Its eastern edge is concealed.

The monument is very probably a megalithic tomb but the remains are insufficient to permit classification. The sidestone, with its sharp decline from west to east, would suggest that it belonged to the Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave class.

BARONY OF ISLANDS

52. Carncreagh. O.S. 39: 8: 6 (86.8 cm., 34.4 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Remains of)." O.D. 300-400. R 152 723. Fig. 28. Plate 10.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on a wide expanse of marshland $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles east of Doo Lough. It is situated on a somewhat elevated portion of the moor and overlooks a deep river valley to the north. Beyond the valley the heights of Slievecallan are visible. The surrounding land is very poor and the occasional patches of grazing near the few houses in the vicinity are obviously due to land improvement. The remainder of the valley is uncultivated.

The monument is deeply embedded in the peat. The north side of the chamber is complete and consists of four stones. Three stones remain on the south. The east end of the chamber is closed by an inset backstone. Transverse stones cross the west ends of the chamber sides. A displaced roofstone lies across the chamber towards its western end. One outer-wall stone stands at the north-east corner of the chamber. The area within the chamber, which is slightly lower than the surrounding ground, is partly flooded and grown with rushes.

The more westerly stone of the north side of the chamber is .60 m. long and .85 m. high. The next, which leans to the north, is 1.05 m. long and .50 m. high. The third stone measures .90 m. long and .55 m. high and the fourth is 1.05 m. long and .35 m. high. The four stones are each about .10 m. thick.

The more easterly stone of the south side of the chamber is .80 m. long and .45 m. high. The second stone leans inwards and is 1.10 m. long, .50 m. high and .20 m. thick. The third stone, which is set somewhat skew to the line of the chamber side and may be displaced, is .90 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick. Within the chamber area and west of the last described, is a displaced block, .50 m. long, which protrudes .20 m. above the surface of the chamber floor.

The two pairs of stones at the west end of the chamber form an entry, .50 m. wide. Each pair consists of a tall stone and a lower one. The outer stone of the southern pair,

which is 1.00 m. long, .20 m. high and .05 m. thick, may serve as a prop to the higher stone beside it which measures .70 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. thick. On the opposite side the outer stone is the taller of the pair. It is .70 m. long, .95 m. high and .20 m. thick. The other stone is .40 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick. It may be a prop, or filling stone, between the tall stone and the chamber side. A stone south of the southern pair and in line with the higher stone may be the remains of a facade. It is .45 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick. West of the northern pair is a displaced slab, maximum dimension .80 m., which is now partly concealed in the peat. The backstone is .70 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick.

The displaced roofstone rests on the two more westerly stones of the north side of the chamber and on the western stone of the south side. Its south-east corner is concealed in the ground. It measures 2.45 m. wide (north-south), .95 m. long (east-west) and .20 m. thick.

The outer-wall stone is .90 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. thick. A set stone beyond the east end of the chamber and more or less in line with its north side leans heavily to the south. It is .70 m. long, .30 m. high and .12 m. thick and may represent an extension of the gallery beyond the backstone, or more likely, a continuation of the outer-wall.

The chamber, which is about 3.50 m. long, decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.90 m. wide near the west and .90 m. wide at the east.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 3 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 110-111 (Pl.). *J.L.F.C.* II, No. 8 (1903-4), 253-254 (Pl.).

BARONY OF CLONDERALAW

53. **Glenmore.** O.S. 39: 16: 3 (89.6 cm., 13.2 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 500-600. R 155 701. Fig. 28. Plate 10.

Unclassified

The monument is situated about 2 miles south-east of Doo Lough close to a small group of houses called Toorenthomas. It is prominently situated on a small ridge in a pasture field. Some of the land in the vicinity is cultivated but the surrounding area is boggy moorland.

The monument consists of a damaged chamber closed at its west and east ends by single slabs. A low grass-grown mound is present but its edges are ill-defined and difficult to trace. It measures about 15.00 m. north-south and 10.00 m. east-west. The owner of the land informed us that stones had been removed from the mound during land clearance.

The southern side of the chamber consists of three stones. That at the west is completely prostrate and is partly concealed. Its greatest exposed dimension is 1.30 m. and its thickness .30 m. The next in line leans heavily inwards and its base may not now be in original position. It is 1.15 m. long, .30 m. thick and would be .80 m. high if erect. The third stone remains erect. It is .80 m. long, .55 m. high and .10 m. thick. Opposite it stands the one remaining stone of the north side of the chamber. The base only of this stone remains and it is .50 m. long, .10 m. high and .10 m. thick.

The slab crossing the west end of the chamber is 1.60 m. long, .80 m. high and .20 m. thick. It leans slightly to the west. The stone at the east end is set outside the ends of the chamber sides. It leans inwards against the erect stone of the south side but there is a gap of .30 m. between it and the remaining stone on that side. It is 1.50 m. long, .85 m. high and from .20 m. to .30 m. thick. A set stone, more or less in line with the south side of the chamber, stands about .80 m. to the east. It is .60 m. long, .10 m. high and .05 m. thick.

In its present condition the monument cannot, with certainty, be classified but it may well be a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave. The chamber measures 3.20 m. long and is .85 m. wide at the east. The length of the stone crossing the west end suggests that the chamber may have been broader at that end. The set stone east of the chamber might suggest a continuation of the gallery but this is uncertain.

BARONY OF INCHQUIN

54. Tullycommon. O.S. 10: 6: 4 (29.5 cm., 33.7 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 600-700. R 290 977. Fig. 29. Plate 10.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on the western slopes of the long ridge which lies east of Castletown. It stands about 25 yards outside the west wall of the great rectangular enclosure known as Knockaun Fort. The position commands a wide view—northwards along the Carran valley and westwards to Slieve Elva. Slievacallan is visible to the south. The surrounding area is grass-grown crag and is noted locally for providing excellent winter grazing.

The tomb is very ruined and broken. The north side remains in situ and three stones set parallel to each other run across the east end. Three further set stones around the north-east corner of the chamber may represent outer-walling. Beyond these the roofstone lies prostrate in two pieces. The tomb is surrounded by a mound varying from .75 m. to 1.25 m. in height. Its perimeter is difficult to define but as far as can be traced it would seem to measure approximately 11.50 m. east-west and 12.50 m. north-south.

The northern sidestone leans inwards. Its top edge is very broken. A crack towards its west end divides the stone into two pieces. The western piece is 1.40 m. long and 1.00 m. high, and the eastern 1.80 m. long and 1.10 m. high. When complete the slab would have had a total length of 3.30 m. Both pieces are .15 m. thick.

The innermost of the three set stones at the east end of the chamber is 1.70 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .15 m. thick. The next measures 1.15 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. thick, and the outermost .85 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .10 m. thick. The innermost may be the backstone and the others may act as a reinforcing. However, a backstone set outside the end of the sidestones is unusual and the inward slant of the northern sidestone makes it difficult to determine the original arrangement exactly.

Immediately beyond the three stones crossing the east end of the chamber is a stone 1.40 m. long, .90 m. high and .10 m. thick, which seems firmly fixed. .50 m. further to the east is an erect stone, .70 m. long, .25 m. high and .10 m. thick. The well set stone outside the northern sidestone and converging sharply on the east end of the chamber is 1.25 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .15 m. thick. These three stones may represent outer-walling around the east end of the chamber. A fourth slab, 1.70 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .15 m. thick, which leans against the northern sidestone, may be a displaced outer wall-stone.

The two pieces of cover seem originally to have been the one stone. The western piece measures 2.30 m. square and the eastern 2.15 m. by 1.70 m. Both are from .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Two other prostrate slabs lie near the broken cover. One, to the south-east, is partially concealed and measures 1.15 m. long and .10 m. thick. The other (not on plan), lying to the north-east, is obviously displaced. It measures 1.55 m. by .95 m. and is .10 m. thick.

Though few features of the original structure survive, the remains are sufficient to indicate that the tomb was very probably of the Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave class. Because of its ruined condition exact chamber dimensions cannot now be ascertained. It would seem, however, to have been at least 3.10 m. long and about 1.20 m. wide at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 73, No. 2. (Note—The location given is that of the monument under consideration, but the plan (Fig. 76) and description are those of some unidentified site.)

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 5 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 218 and 221 (Pl. Fig. (1)). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVI (1896), 363.

55. **Slievenaglasha.** O.S. 10: 10: 2 (33.8 cm., 25.2 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 600-700. R 295 968. Fig. 30. Plate 10.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies about 1,000 yards south-east of the last, Tullycommon (Cl. 54) on the south-eastern slopes of the same ridge overlooking the Inchiquin lakelands. Slieve Elva is visible to the west and Slievecallan towards the south. The soil on the ridge is thin but supports a heavy growth of grass which conceals much of the underlying crag.

Though the monument is considerably broken its main features are clear. The north and south sides of the chamber consist of single slabs. The west end is closed by two erect slabs set inside the ends of the chamber sides. A stone fence crossing the east end of the chamber conceals any evidence that may exist for closure of that end. Many loose and broken slabs of all sizes, some of which may be the remains of the cover, lie in the chamber. The largest is 1.75 m. in maximum dimension and .15 m. thick. There are some remains of a low mound around the west end of the chamber. Debris from the ruins of a dry-stone hut standing immediately east of the tomb confuses the evidence of mound at this end. A low grass-grown heap of stones outside the north side of the chamber may be due to spill from the ruined hut.

The northern sidestone is a very fine slab but is cracked through 1.65 m. from its west end. It is 4.50 m. in maximum length, 4.35 m. at the base and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge, measuring 4.20 m. long, is clearly worked on both sides and slopes sharply down from west to east. The slab is 1.37 m. high at the west and 1.00 m. at the east. The southern sidestone is broken and most of its top portion is missing. Its east end is concealed by the wall. It is 3.25 m. long, .90 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick.

The two stones crossing the west end of the chamber do not reach to the height of the unbroken northern sidestone. The more northerly is set obliquely in the gap, .50 m. wide, between the second closing stone and the chamber side. It is of rectangular outline and measures .75 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The second stone crosses the main axis of the chamber, more or less at right angles, and fits closely against the south side. It is 1.05 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its top edge appears to be broken.

The chamber decreases regularly in height and width from west to east. It is 1.60 m. wide at the west and 1.30 m. wide at the wall crossing its east end. The original length of the chamber cannot be ascertained but it would seem to have been at least 2.70 m. long.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 74, No. 4 (Pl.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 7 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVI (1896), 365. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 247.

Dutton: *Statistical Survey of the County of Clare*, 317.

O.S.L., Co. Clare, 14 B 23, 68 *et seq.*

- Nos. 56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 62, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69. Townlands of Commons North, Leana, Parknabinnia. O.S. Sheets: 10, 16, 17.

The townlands of Commons North, Leana and Parknabinnia contain eleven megalithic tombs. They are situated on the north-western slopes of a low ridge, rising at its highest point to somewhat over 500 feet, and crossing the Carran-Killinaboy road from north-east to south-west. The ridge stands on the south-eastern edge of the great central plateau of north-western Clare. To the north it is separated from the higher lands of Glasgeivnagh Hill by the hazel-covered hollow of Teeskagh. West and north-west the ground falls gently on to the rolling craglands towards Lough Aleunaun and beyond. To the south-east and south it falls precipitously to the River Fergus and the Inchiquin lakelands. The land on the ridge is cragland but provides good grazing and is superior to the lower hazel-covered crag which surrounds it, parts of which are particularly rough and poor.

The O.S. maps of the area do not indicate all the megalithic sites and include, under the names "Cromlech" and "Dermot and Grania's Bed," monuments which cannot be classed as megalithic tombs. These are listed in the Appendix.

We may note here the large slabs, rather like heavy covers or sidestones of megalithic chambers, which lie on the crag near the four Parknabinnia tombs, Cl. 59, Cl. 60, Cl. 61 and Cl. 62. These are raised on small boulders with one side still resting on the ground. They do not seem to have been transported but merely raised from their natural bedding and may possibly have been intended for use in the construction of tombs.

56. **Commons North.** O.S. 10: 13: 5 (11.2 cm., 4.4 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. R 270 946. Fig. 30. Plate 10.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This, the more northerly of the two monuments in Commons North townland, is very ruined. One slab, apparently the south side of a chamber, leans slightly to the north. It is 3.00 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. thick. The west end of its top edge is broken and only 1.25 m. of the original edge remains. This edge, which appears to have been dressed, slopes down slightly from west to east. Set .70 m. south of the west end of the sidestone is a stone, measuring .55 m. long, .10 m. thick and .25 m. high, which may be an outer-wall stone. A prostrate slab lying north of the sidestone is probably a roofstone. It is 2.50 m. long, 1.70 m. broad and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Beneath it the edge of a stone (not on plan) is visible. It is at least .85 m. long and .10 m. thick.

Traces of a low banking, possibly the base of a wall, enclose an area measuring 10.00 m. by 8.00 m. around the monument. Inside this, and almost entirely surrounding the sidestone, is a mound 7.50 m. long by 5.00 m. wide which reaches a maximum height of 1.25 m.

Though only the sidestone remains its dimensions and the typical slope of its top edge from west to east permit classification as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 74-76 (Pl., Fig. 79), wrongly called "Leana".

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 10. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 217.

57. **Leana.** O.S. 10: 13: 5 (10.6 cm., 1.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. R 270 942. Fig. 29. Plate 10.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument is the more northerly of the two tombs in Leana townland. It is very ruined. The southern sidestone of the chamber and two prostrate slabs remain. Some ill-defined traces of a mound are present around the west end of the chamber.

Though the base of the sidestone remains in situ the slab leans heavily to the north. It is 2.95 m. long, 1.15 m. high at the west, .90 m. high at the east and .25 m. thick. Its straight top is dressed along its inside edge. South of its west end is a small stone .65 m. long and .10 m. thick. Its top surface is flush with the ground. This may be a packing stone or perhaps an outer-wall stone.

The two prostrate slabs north of the sidestone lie one above the other. The upper slab, which is 2.90 m. long, 1.90 m. broad and .25 m. thick, is probably the roofstone. Under this lies the collapsed northern sidestone which is cracked .75 m. from its west end. It is 3.25 m. long and .15 m. to .40 m. thick. If erect, it would be 1.40 m. high at the west and 1.10 m. high at the east. Its present north edge appears to have been the top edge of the slab when erect.

Though the chamber is collapsed it can certainly be regarded as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave of the type normal in the area. The position of the fallen north side in relation to the south side suggests that the chamber was wedge-shaped, being broadest at the west and narrowing to the east. It would appear, also, likely that the top of the northern sidestone sloped down from west to east like that of its counterpart on the south.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 12. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXV (1895), 216 (f).

58. **Gortlecka.** O.S. 10: 15: 6 (65.7 cm., 1.1 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 0-100. R 328 942. Fig. 31. Plate 11.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies at the south-east edge of the great limestone massif of north-west Clare. It is sited on a low hill some 200 yards south-south-west of Coolreash Lake. Northwards, beyond an expanse of bare crag, stands the isolated hill of Mullagh More. Towards the west the crag gives way to drift soil supporting grass and some tillage. South and east lies the low lake-studded region between Corrofin and Gort. The monument stands in a boulder-strewn field bearing marks of former tillage. Westropp noted that the tomb "was inhabited till recent times" and that the "dolmen formed the bedroom of a small cabin."

The tomb is well preserved. The chamber sides consist of single slabs. The roofstone, which completely covers the chamber, rests on the sidestones and on the slab closing the east end of the chamber. A large displaced slab, .75 m. long, 1.85 m. high and from .10 m. to .20 m. thick, leaning against the end of the northern sidestone, partly closes the west end of the chamber. The chamber is more or less centrally placed in a roughly oval mound measuring approximately 11.00 m. east-west and 8.00 m. north-south. Many stones lie exposed on the surface of the mound. Some of these may be due to field clearance. The perimeter of the mound is easily traced on the north but its south edge is obscured by a stone wall forming a small enclosure. A short piece of walling runs from the west end of the south side of the chamber. Some small trees and rough scrub grow on and around the mound.

Both sidestones lean slightly inwards. Their top edges, which bear traces of dressing, slope down from west to east. The base of the northern measures 2.30 m. long but its upper part protrudes beyond the base at both ends giving a maximum length of 3.05 m. to the stone. The base falls short of the backstone by .12 m. but higher up protrudes .20 m. beyond it to the east. The stone varies from .10 m. to .20 m. in thickness.

The west end of the southern sidestone appears to have been broken away in recent times. At present the slab measures 1.45 m. long at its base and is from .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The construction of the south-east corner of the chamber is somewhat similar to that at the opposite corner. The base of the sidestone falls short of the backstone by 30 m. but higher up the slab reaches half-way across the south edge of the backstone.

The backstone leans slightly inwards and its base is exposed. It is a fine rectangular slab measuring 1.10 m. long, 1.15 m. high and .15 m. thick. Its top edge and both sides appear to have been dressed. The roofstone is 3.25 m. long, .15 m. thick and narrows from 2.00 m. wide at the west to 1.40 m. near the east.

The chamber, which is 2.40 m. long, decreases regularly in height and width from west to east. It is 1.45 m. wide and about 1.60 m. high at the west and 1.20 m. wide and 1.20 m. high at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 78, No. 13 or No. 14.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 28 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 212 and 218 (Pl.).

59. **Parknabinnia.** O.S. 16: 4: 3 (91.6 cm., 53.2 cm.). "Cromlechs." (applies also to three nearby sites). O.D. 300-400. R 258 934. Fig. 31. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This is the most northerly of the group of four monuments collectively named "Cromlechs" on O.S. 6: Sheet 16. It is very ruined and only the southern sidestone remains in situ. A large displaced slab, leaning against its west end, may be part of a roofstone. Several prostrate slabs of uncertain function lie to the north. Low indefinite remains of a mound, measuring approximately 8.50 m. east-west and 6.00 m. north-south, surround the tomb.

The massive sidestone is 4.70 m. long at the base, 1.75 m. high at the west, 1.00 m. at the east and .30 m. thick. It is cracked through .55 m. from its east end. Its straight top edge, which measures 4.40 m. long, slopes down sharply from west to east. Outside

its east end are two stones, the more easterly of which is well set and may be a packing stone. It is .75 m. long, .10 m. high and .15 m. thick. The second, which is not set, is .80 m. long, .45 m. high and from .05 m. to .25 m. thick. Two displaced pieces of stone, each 1.25 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. thick, lean against the inner side of the sidestone at its eastern end.

The slab leaning against the west end of the sidestone is 1.45 m. long, 1.80 m. high and .20 m. thick. Its general appearance suggests that it is probably part of a roofstone. Immediately north of this is an almost prostrate slab, 1.70 m. long, 1.30 m. wide and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Beside it and overlapped by its eastern edge is a slab of somewhat similar appearance, 1.10 m. long, 1.10 m. in exposed width and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. The southern edges of both stones are straight and smooth and square in section. These two stones may be pieces of a single slab, perhaps of the northern side of the chamber.

Lying at the north-western edge of the mound is a slab which may also be part of the north side of the chamber. It is 2.25 m. long, 1.50 m. in maximum exposed width and .15 m. thick. Its southern edge is buried, its northern sharp and broken. .40 m. beyond its east end is a set stone of unknown function which leans heavily to the east. It is 1.00 m. long, .90 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. Two stones lying close together on the southern edge of the mound may be the remains of a single slab now cracked into two pieces. Together they measure 2.15 m. long, .60 m. in exposed width and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. They are obviously displaced and their original function is unknown.

The tomb is a very large example of the type of Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave common in the vicinity. The erect sidestone indicates that it was highest at the west and sloped down regularly and sharply to the east.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 17. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 214.

60. **Parknabinnia.** O.S. 16: 4: 3 (91.5 cm., 53.0 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to three nearby sites). O.D. 300-400. R 257 933. Fig. 32. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This is the more northerly of the central pair of monuments in the group of four, collectively named "Cromlechs," on the O.S. map. The tomb is very wrecked and difficult to examine. The two broken sides of a chamber remain erect. Several displaced slabs lie in, and close to, the chamber. The tomb is surrounded by an oval mound measuring approximately 7.00 m. east-west and 5.00 m. north-south. A stone fence runs into the north and south sides of the mound and may have curved around its western edge where there is some banking outside the edges of the mound.

The eastern end of the northern sidestone is broken off but the west end appears to be original. The slab which is 1.50 m. long, 1.30 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick, leans slightly outwards. Its top edge, which measures .95 m. long, is dressed. A slab lying to the north-east may be part of the missing east end. The north edge of this piece, which measures .95 m. long, is dressed and would seem to have been the original top edge. Its south edge is .70 m. long. When erect the stone would have been about 1.55 m. high.

The southern sidestone leans inwards and its west end has been broken away. It is 2.55 m. long, 1.40 m. high at the west, 1.30 m. at the east and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge, which measures 2.10 m. long, is dressed.

A large slab, 1.70 m. long, 1.75 m. broad and .25 m. thick, now prostrate in the chamber, may be portion of a roofstone. Lying west of it is a slab, measuring 1.80 m. by 1.20 m. and .20 m. to .25 m. thick, which may also have been part of the roof. A stone of uncertain function lying beneath it is 1.30 m. long by .80 m. wide and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. It may have served to close the west end of the chamber. Lying near the east edge of the mound is a stone which may have been the top part of a slab closing the east end of the chamber. Its north, south and east edges are dressed. It is 1.20 m. long, .80 m. wide and .10 m. thick.

The chamber would seem to have been about 3.30 m. long and 1.50 m. high and 1.40 m. wide at the west. The taper appears to have been slight. The top edges of the sidestones show a slight but observable slope from west down to east.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464 (No. 18). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357.

61. **Parknabinnia.** O.S. 16: 4: 6 (91.7 cm., 52.6 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to three nearby sites). O.D. 300-400. R 258 933. Fig. 32. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This is the more southerly of the central pair of monuments in the group of four collectively named "Cromlechs" on the O.S. map. The monument is well preserved but only portion of the roof remains. The north and south sides are each of a single heavy slab. Towards the west they support the remains of the roofstone, which also rests on a slab partly closing the west end of the chamber. A small stone, .15 m. in maximum dimension and .05 m. thick, jammed between the roofstone and the top of the northern sidestone, takes the full weight of the roof on that side. The east end is partly closed by a single slab. The tomb is surrounded by a mound measuring 9.50 m. east-west and 7.00 m. north-south.

The northern sidestone leans slightly inwards. It is 4.50 m. long, 1.10 m. high near the west, .85 m. high near the east, and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. Its top eastern corner appears to have been broken away. The remainder of its original top edge, which measures 3.60 m. long, bears marks of deep flaking along the outside. The southern sidestone is 4.20 m. long, 1.20 m. high at the west, .90 m. high at the east and .15 m. thick. Its top edge, measuring 3.40 m. long, has also been flaked but in neither case can the flaking be with certainty accepted as intentional dressing.

The closing stone at the west is 1.40 m. long, 1.05 m. high and .15 m. thick. It fits closely against the south side but a gap of .45 m. remains between its north edge and the opposite sidestone. The south edge and the entire top, including the sloping edge at the north corner, is flaked. The stone at the east end of the chamber is 1.15 m. long, .95 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. Its top edge reaches the level of the sidestones. The top corner is broken off, probably fortuitously. There is a gap of .40 m. between the north edge of the slab and the sidestone.

The fragment of the roofstone remaining in position is 1.60 m. long, 2.85 m. wide at the west, 3.00 m. at the east and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Its eastern edge is broken. Some small slabs, .75 m. in maximum dimension, lying in the chamber, may be further fragments of the roof.

The chamber is 2.95 m. long. It decreases regularly in height and width from west to east, being 2.00 m. wide and 1.20 m. high at the west, and 1.70 m. wide and .85 m. high at the east.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 19 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357-58 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 384. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 214.

62. **Parknabinnia.** O.S. 16: 4: 6 (91.6 cm., 52.00 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to three nearby sites). O.D. 400-500. R 258 932. Fig. 33. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This is the more southerly of the group of four sites collectively named "Cromlechs" on the O.S. map. The chamber has partly collapsed and is difficult to examine. The north sidestone of the chamber remains erect; the southern has collapsed inwards and lies prostrate beneath the displaced roofstone. At the west a closing stone remains in situ but leans slightly outward. An erect slab crosses the east end of the chamber. Considerable remains of outer-walling surround the chamber. The tomb stands near the centre of a mound measuring 10.00 m. east-west and 9.00 m. north-south.

The northern sidestone is 2.00 m. long, .90 m. high at the west, .70 m. high near the east and .15 m. thick. Its straight top edge is dressed. The southern sidestone is 1.95 m. long. Its top edge is straight. The stone crossing the west end of the chamber is 1.80 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. It is set outside the end of the

northern sidestone and protrudes .10 m. beyond it. The stone at the east end of the chamber is .75 m. long, .55 m. high and .10 m. thick. Though this slab might be a backstone it is, perhaps, more likely that it may belong to the outer-walling.

The roofstone is 2.10 m. long, 1.75 m. wide near the west, 1.30 m. wide near the east and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. It rests on the northern sidestone and slopes down to the south, where its edge is partly concealed by the mound.

The outer-walling is best represented south of the chamber where three stones remain in situ. The more easterly is .80 m. long, .70 m. high and .15 m. thick; the second is .85 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. thick; the third, at the west, is .60 m. long, .65 m. high and .15 m. thick. The three stones lean outward. The line of the outer-walling, consisting of three stones beyond the west end of the chamber, seems to have been somewhat curved. The more southerly stone is .60 m. long, .80 m. high, and .10 m. thick. The centre stone of the line leans heavily outward and is almost prostrate. It is 1.15 m. long and if erect would be about .70 m. high. The third stone is erect and measures .95 m. long, .90 m. high and .15 m. thick. The more westerly of the two stones north of the chamber is a loose stone measuring .55 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick. The other leans heavily outward and may be somewhat displaced. It is 1.05 m. long, .10 m. thick and, if erect, would be .90 m. high.

The chamber was obviously small—about 2.00 m. long—but in its present condition precise dimensions cannot be given.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 20 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357-358 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 214.

63. Ballycasheen. O.S. 16: 8: 2 (84.2 cm., 43.7 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 100-200. R 250 924. Fig. 34. Plate 11.

Portal Dolmen

The monument stands on gently sloping ground near the southern end of the Parknabinnia ridge. To the south, beyond the valley of the River Fergus, Clifden Hill forms the skyline. The tomb is sited on grassy crag, surrounded on all sides except the north-east, by drift soil producing summer pasture. Trees grow in the river valley.

The monument is damaged. The entry is across a high sill set between a tall portal stone on the south and another portal, apparently broken into two parts, on the north. The west end of the chamber is closed by a slab set outside the ends of the chamber sides. Several displaced and broken slabs are probably the remains of the roof. The tomb is surrounded by a stony mound of irregular outline which is distorted by the base of an old fence at its south-west edge and a modern stone fence crossing it at the east. It measures roughly 9.50 m. east-west and 13.00 m. north-south. Protruding from the mound at the south and west are some set slabs which may be the remains of a kerb. They average .50 m. in length and are from .15 m. to .20 m. high.

The southern portal stone is 2.25 m. long and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. It is 1.40 m. high on the inside but it is exposed on the outside to a height of 1.85 m. The eastern portion of the northern portal is .50 m. long, .45 m. high and .25 m. thick. The western part is .90 m. long, .80 m. high and .20 m. thick. Its top edge may have been broken but, if so, the break would not seem to have taken place in recent times. The sillstone is 1.95 m. long, .10 m. to .15 m. thick, and reaches a maximum height of .95 m. Its top edge, which is difficult to examine, may be broken.

The main south sidestone of the chamber, which overlaps the portal stone to a distance of .60 m., is 2.30 m. long and .15 m. thick. Its top edge slopes very sharply downward to ground level from a height of 1.25 m. at its east end. The north side of the chamber consists of two slightly overlapping slabs. The more easterly stone projects .40 m. beyond the side of the portal. It is 1.80 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. The western stone is 1.30 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick. The top edges of both stones are uneven and may be broken. The backstone, which projects slightly beyond the ends of the chamber sides, leans very slightly inwards. It is 2.05 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. Its top edge is partly concealed and may be broken. Touching the backstone and leaning against the southern sidestone is a

slab 1.55 m. by 1.20 m. and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. It may be part of the roof. Three displaced and broken slabs are almost certainly part of the roof. Two of these, now leaning on the backstone, seem originally to have been the one stone. The northern slab measures 1.65 m. by .95 m. and is .15 m. to .20 m. thick. A portion of its north-east corner is detached. The southern slab is 1.40 m. square and .30 m. thick. The third slab lies prostrate in the chamber. It is 1.75 m. by 1.65 m. and .30 m. thick. A stone lying north of it, .80 m. in maximum dimension, is displaced and of unknown function.

The chamber is 2.60 m. long and narrows from 2.30 m. wide at the east to 1.40 m. at the west. The portal space outside the sill is 1.10 m. long and 2.00 m. wide. The height at the portal in relation to the remainder indicates a sharply tilted roof.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 78, No. 12 (Pl.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 25 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 223 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 407.

Dutton: *Statistical Survey of the County of Clare*, 317.

64. **Caherblonick North.** O.S. 16: 8: 5 (78.8 cm., 33.0 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. R 244 912. Fig. 34. Plate 11.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies about 50 yards to the west of the stone fort of Caherblonick on the southern slope of the shallow basin of the River Fergus. It stands in a partly cleared field of grass-grown crag near the western edge of the limestone region of north Clare. The view is restricted, except to the north-east, where the distant hills of East Burren are visible.

Though the tomb is rather damaged its principal features are clear. The north side of the chamber, which apparently consisted of a single slab, has collapsed outward and now lies prostrate in two pieces. The southern sidestone is also broken into two pieces. The western portion remains more or less erect but the eastern leans heavily to the south. The west end of the chamber is closed by a single slab. At the east a backstone has collapsed outwards. The base of a stone fence runs into the south-east corner of the chamber.

The western portion of the southern sidestone leans slightly outward. It is 3.15 m. long, 1.35 m. high at the west, 1.15 m. at the east and .15 m. thick. Its top edge, measuring 2.80 m. long, is chipped but this may be fortuitous. A hole, piercing the slab towards its west end, seems to be of natural origin. The eastern portion of the sidestone is forced slightly out of line. It is 2.10 m. long, .90 m. in maximum height and .15 m. thick. A stone .90 m. long, .30 m. high and .20 m. thick, set outside the western portion of this side, if structural at all, may be a packing stone, or, perhaps less likely, an outer-wall stone.

When intact the northern sidestone was about 5.00 m. in maximum length. Its east end slopes sharply inwards reducing its length at the base to 3.80 m. Its straight top edge, measuring 3.40 m. long, is chipped but again it is doubtful if this is intentional. When erect the slab would have a maximum height of about 1.50 m. It is from .20 m. to .25 m. thick.

The stone at the west end of the chamber leans slightly outward. It is 1.50 m. long, 1.35 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. Its top edge is more or less level with the west end of the southern sidestone. Its north and south sides are straight and regular. The present gap of .40 m. between its southern edge and the west endstone would be considerably reduced if the sidestone were fully erect, and it would appear that the endstone fully closed the west end of the chamber. A broken slab lying in the chamber immediately east of the closing stone may be portion of a roofstone.

The backstone at the east is 1.30 m. long and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. If erect it would be about 1.00 m. high. A broken slab sloping against it may be another piece of the cover. It is 2.05 m. long, at least .75 m. wide and .15 m. thick. Two stones set about 1.70 m. east of the backstone may be the remains of an outer-wall. Both lean heavily to the east. The more northerly is .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick, and the southern .95 m. long, .40 m. high and .20 m. thick.

The chamber, which is about 3.75 m. long, is filled with debris. The dimensions of the southern side indicate that it was highest at the west and sloped down to the east. Though precise measurements cannot be given it seems probable that the chamber was broadest at the west.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 26 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 210 (Pl.) and 229 (Drg.).

65. **Commons North.** O.S. 17: 1: 1 (6.4 cm., 59.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 400-500. R 265 940. Fig. 36. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This well preserved monument is incorporated in a series of stone fences. The chamber sides are each of single slabs. About 1.50 m. from the west the sides and roof are cracked through and the eastern end of the chamber now leans slightly to the north. A single slab, fitting closely between the sides and the roof, closes the east end of the chamber. The chamber was used as a human habitation in the last century and, east of the cracks, the spaces between the sidestones, backstone and roof are now filled with mortar. Outer-walling is represented south of the chamber by a line of three stones.

The northern sidestone is 4.50 m. long, 1.60 m. high near the west, 1.10 high at the backstone and .25 m. thick. Its top edge is dressed and slopes regularly down to the east. The southern sidestone is 3.60 m. long, 1.60 m. high near the west, 1.35 m. high at the backstone, and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge is also dressed and slopes down to the east. The backstone is 1.30 m. long, 1.45 m. high and .15 m. thick. A gap, .40 m. high and .45 m. wide, at the base of its southern edge, is probably the result of comparatively recent breakage. The roofstone is 3.75 m. long and 2.50 m. wide.

The more easterly stone of the outer-walling is set slightly outside the line of the other two. It is a fine rectangular slab measuring 1.35 m. long, 1.30 m. high and .15 m. thick. It rises slightly above the level of the chamber roof. The centre stone of the walling is 1.40 m. long and .55 m. high. Its inside edge is concealed by a field wall. The more westerly stone continues the line of the outer-wall beyond the west end of the chamber. It is .60 m. long, .10 m. high and .12 m. thick.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It measures 3.50 m. long from the backstone to the end of the northern sidestone and narrows from 1.90 m. wide at west to 1.30 m. at the east. The floor is uneven but the chamber averages 1.50 m. in height.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 76, No. 9 (Pl.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 9 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 217-218 (Pl.).

Dutton: *Statistical Survey of the County of Clare*, 317.

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 23, 67.

66. **Parknabinnia.** O.S. 17: 1: 1 (5.6 cm., 56.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 400-500. R 264 937. Fig. 33. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is well preserved. The chamber sides are each of single slabs. The east end is closed by a slab fitted neatly between the sidestones. The roofstone is displaced and lies prostrate outside the north-east corner of the chamber. The chamber stands near the centre of an oval mound measuring about 7.30 m. east-west and .500 m. north-south.

The northern sidestone is cracked through 1.50 m. from its west end. It is 2.30 m. long, .75 m. high at the west, .65 m. at the east and .15 m. thick. The southern side is 1.85 m. long, .70 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The top edges of both slabs slope regularly down from west to east. The backstone is .70 m. long, .60 m. high and .07 m. thick. Its top edge, which appears to have been recently broken, is .30 m. below the level of the sidestones. A vertical crack runs down the centre of the slab. The displaced roofstone measures 1.85 m. by 1.60 m. and is .15 m. thick. A slab, maximum dimension 1.30 m. and .15 m. thick, lying immediately east of the roofstone may have been broken from it.

The chamber, which is about 1.80 m. long, is highest at the west and slopes down regularly to east. It is .75 m. wide and is practically parallel-sided. The floor is paved with slabs about .50 m. in maximum dimension. The paving appears to be of comparatively recent origin and is probably not an original feature.

While the chamber could be described as a cist, the large roofstone and the height and slope of the sidestones clearly relate it to the larger wedge-shaped megalithic tombs.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 23 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 214 (Pl. (No. 6)).

67. **Parknabinnia.** O.S. 17: 1: 1 (6.0 cm., 55.1 cm.). "Cromlech and Carn." O.D. 400-500. R 265 935. Fig. 35. Plate 11.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is very well preserved and retains its roofstone. The chamber sides, consisting of single slabs, remain erect. A slab, fitting closely between the sides, completely closes the east end of the chamber. The west end is partially closed by a set stone, reaching to roof level and running more than half-way across the entry. Set just outside this stone and crossing the gap left between it and the sidestone is a second slab which leans heavily outwards. If erect this slab would reach almost to the level of the roof. The chamber is surrounded by considerable remains of a round mound averaging 16.00 m. in diameter. Part of the stone core of this mound is exposed and disturbed along the north side and east end of the chamber. Westropp notes that the chamber was covered by a cairn which was removed during the last century. A pile of stones and earth presumably part of the original cairn, still rests on the roofstone.

The northern sidestone is 4.30 m. long, 1.20 m. high at the west, .90 m. high at the backstone and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. The southern sidestone is 3.55 m. long, 1.30 m. high at the west, 1.10 m. high at the backstone and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. The top edges of both slabs are dressed and slope regularly from west down to east.

The more northerly slab at the west end of the chamber is set .70 m. inside the sidestone and fits closely against it. It is 1.25 m. long, 1.35 m. high and .10 m. thick. Dressing is evident along its straight north side and top edges. The base of the second slab at this end of the chamber overlaps the last to a distance of .50 m. This stone is .85 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It appears to serve as a door to the chamber. The backstone is 1.20 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .15 m. thick. Its sides and top edge are worked.

The roofstone rests on the backstone, the northern sidestone and the blocking stone at the west. At no point does it rest on the southern side. It is of irregular shape and measures 3.15 m. long and decreases in width from 2.70 m. near the west to 1.80 m. near the east. It varies from .15 m. to .25 m. in thickness. Its south edge is almost flush with the outer surface of the sidestone while its north edge protrudes to a maximum distance of .75 m. beyond the opposite side.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 2.30 m. long, and narrows from 1.60 m. wide at the west to 1.30 m. at the east. As the chamber floor is strewn with a debris of small stones measurements of the height, averaging 1.25 m., give no indication of the slope of the roof which slants considerably from west down to east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 77, No. 10 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 22 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 214.

68. **Leana.** O.S. 17: 1: 2 (9.4 cm., 59.3 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to App. Nos. 17 and 18). O.D. 500-600. R 268 940. Fig. 36. Plate 11.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is conspicuously sited on a hill-top. The chamber is damaged and is embedded in a cairn. The tops of the sidestones and the displaced cover are broken. A slab, set outside the ends of the sidestones, closes the east end of the chamber. Another stone partly closes the west end. The limits of the surrounding mound, which

is about 1.00 m. high, are difficult to define as the monument appears to have been built on a low natural knoll. Remains of a stone wall, crossing the mound, and incorporating the east end of the chamber, add to the difficulty of definition. In general a round of some 8.00 m. to 10.00 m. diameter seems indicated.

The southern sidestone is 2.90 m. long and .12 m. thick. The upper portion of the slab has been broken away, except at the east, where .85 m. of its original top edge remains. This edge bears traces of dressing on both sides. The upper part of the west end of the northern sidestone is also broken off. This slab is 2.50 m. long, .90 m. in maximum height and .12 m. thick. The remaining portion of its original top edge is .90 m. long. The surviving parts of the top edges of both sidestones slope down to the east. Outside the west end of the northern sidestone is a small well set pillar-like stone, .30 m. by .20 m. and .35 m. high, of unknown function.

The backstone is 1.40 m. long, .65 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. A gap at its top north-east corner measures .35 m. long by .25 m. deep. The entire top edge of the stone, including the edges of the gap, are dressed. This gap may be fortuitous. It is outside the line of the chamber side and would not give access to the chamber. The closing stone at the west fits closely against the northern sidestone but is .35 m. distant from the southern. It is 1.05 m. long, 1.10 m. high and .12 m. thick. Part of its top edge, measuring .50 m. long, and its north side, bear traces of dressing. Its top edge is .45 m. above the level of the top of the backstone.

The roofstone rests on the unbroken edge of the northern sidestone. It is 1.20 m. long, 1.40 m. wide and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Its south edge is partly concealed in the debris of the small stones lying in the chamber. A slab, 1.50 m. long, .70 m. high and .12 m. thick, stands almost erect inside the closing stone at the west end of the chamber. It is probably not in situ.

Three slabs, leaning to the north, protrude from the mound about 2.00 m. south of the chamber side. The furthest west of these is .80 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick. The more northerly of the two slabs to the east of it is 1.45 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick and the southern, .55 m. long, .10 m. high and .05 m. thick. A fourth stone, also leaning towards the chamber, stands about 2.00 m. west of the chamber entry. It is 1.10 m. long, .45 m. high and .10 m. thick. These stones may represent a kerbing but as the cairn appears to be built of small overlapping slabs (cf. Cragballyconal (Cl. 17)) they cannot with certainty be accepted as such.

Though the chamber is small, and of rather light construction, it must certainly be classed with the wedge-shaped galleries common in the area. The chamber is 2.00 m. long and narrows from 1.30 m. wide at the west to .85 m. at the east. The relative heights of the closing stone at the west, and the backstone, together with the slope of the top edges of the sidestones, indicate that it was also highest at the west.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 75 (Fig. 78 (a) Pl.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 16 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 214 and 216 (Pl. 214, No. 1).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 23, 66.

69. **Parknabinnia.** O.S. 17: 1: 4 (2.3 cm., 52.2 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 400-500. R 261 932. Fig. 37. Plate 14.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is well preserved. The chamber sides, each consisting of single slabs, support a roofstone now broken into two pieces. The north end of the entry, at the west, is closed by a transverse slab which extends beyond the sidestone to a distance of .45 m. A modern dry-stone wall, .60 m. thick, beneath which are two low overlapping stones, closes the gap between this slab and the opposite sidestone. An outer-walling runs outside the long sides of the chamber and at the west a single stone suggests that it may have continued across this end. The tomb is surrounded by a grass-grown mound of stone measuring about 1.00 m. high and approximately 12.00 m. east-west and 9.50 m. north-south. It is crossed from west to east by a stone wall which incorporates the chamber, and the base of a second runs into it at the north.

The southern sidestone is 4.10 m. long and .30 m. thick. The northern sidestone is 3.20 m. long and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. The top edges of both slabs are dressed, and slope down to the east. The transverse slab at the north end of the entry is 1.40 m. long and .12 m. thick. Its top edge reaches the level of the sidestones. The two low slabs crossing the gap between it and the sidestone may be the remains of some form of closure. The more southerly is a set stone measuring .80 m. long and .40 m. high. Its inner edge is concealed in the dry-stone walling. The second stone may not be an original feature. It is .60 m. long, .25 m. high and .10 m. thick.

The large, eastern portion of the roofstone is 2.60 m. long, 2.40 m. wide and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. It rests on both sidestones. The second fragment seems to have been broken from the south-west corner of the last. It measures 1.40 m. by 1.30 m. and is .15 m. thick. It rests on the southern sidestone and on the south edge of the blocking stone at the chamber entry.

The outer-walling outside the north and south sides converges on the east end of the chamber. The walling is best represented on the north by three well set stones leaning slightly outwards. The more westerly, which extends beyond the line of the chamber entry, measures 1.05 m. long, .40 m. high and .10 m. thick. The middle stone is 1.35 m. long, .60 m. high and .12 m. thick. The more easterly stone is .90 m. long, .90 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. A set slab extends north from the east end of the northern sidestone and crosses the line of the outer-walling. It is 1.45 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. thick. Two stones of the outer-wall are present on the south side. The more westerly is 1.05 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick; the other .90 m. .45 m. high and .10 m. thick. The stone west of the chamber is .50 m. long, .45 m. high and .12 m. thick.

The chamber is broadest and highest at the west. It measures 3.00 m. from the entry to the east end of the northern sidestone and narrows from 1.35 m. wide at the west to 1.15 m. wide at the end of the same sidestone. It is 1.40 m. high near the west and 1.05 m. high at the east. The chamber floor is of earth but is covered by some loose stones.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 77, No. 11.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 21 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 357-358, No. 5. (Pl.).

70. **Gortlecka.** O.S. 17: 3: 2 (59.7 cm., 58.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. R 321 938. Fig. 37.

Unclassified

The site lies less than $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile south-west of the more northerly monument in the same townland (Cl. 58). It stands on a ridge of drift soil at the southern edge of a bare craggy waste stretching north to Mullagh More mountain. The land on the ridge is mostly under pasture but some tillage is undertaken.

The monument is very overgrown and is difficult to examine. As far as can be seen, only one stone, aligned roughly north-north-west—south-south-east, remains erect. It measures 2.70 m. long, 1.40 m. high and .25 m. thick. Heavy overgrowth of ivy conceals its top edge. Lying at its south-east corner is a prostrate slab measuring 1.60 m. by 1.40 m. and .20 m. thick. Several other prostrate slabs lie around but are much concealed and cannot be examined.

Some mound remains are present but the limits are difficult to define owing to the vegetation and the dumping of field stones. It appears to be roughly oval in shape and measures approximately 13.50 east-west and 9.50 north-south.

Though in its present state certainty is not possible the monument is probably a megalithic tomb and may well belong to the wedge-shaped class. The erect slab could be regarded as a sidestone of a chamber orientated north-north-west—south-south-east and indeed its west end is quite like the ends of many sidestones among the wedge-shaped galleries of north-west Clare.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 78, No. 13 or No. 14.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 27. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 212.

71. **Moyree Commons.** O.S. 18: 13: 1 (6.8 cm., 14.3 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 0-100. R 363 891. Fig. 38. Plate 11.

Portal Dolmen

The monument lies near the centre of the lake-studded lowlands between the Burren massif and the east Clare mountains. It stands on a small patch of grazing land immediately west of the road leading south from Tubber to Ruan. Across the road to the east is a tract of bare crag beyond which flows the Moyree river.

The chamber is reasonably well preserved but is unroofed. The north side, consisting of a high portal stone and a slightly overlapping sidestone, remains intact. The southern side has been damaged. The top of the portal has been broken away. A sidestone appears to be missing from the west where there is a gap of .70 m. The west end of the chamber is closed by a backstone set slightly inside the end of the northern sidestone. The base of a wall running into the south-east corner of the chamber incorporates a stone set in front of the broken portal. The chamber, which measures about 2.65 m. long, stands at the east end of a long stony mound. A stone wall runs the full length of the mound and it cannot be decided how much of the mound is original. Some of the material at least is due to spill from the fence. The mound, which is irregular in shape, measures 18.50 m. long and narrows from about 8.00 m. wide at the west to 3.50 m. near the east.

The north portal stone is 1.20 m. long, 2.70 m. high and .40 m. thick. Its top is somewhat pointed. A distance of 1.15 m. separates it from the opposite portal which is 1.70 m. long, .35 m. thick, and at present 1.50 m. high. A fragment which appears to be its original top lies across it. If this were in place the portal would be about 2.20 m. high. The stone set in front of it is .70 m. long, 1.05 m. high and .25 m. thick.

The northern sidestone is set .35 m. outside the end of the portal stone and overlaps it to a like distance. It is 2.10 m. long and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top edge is .70 m. lower than that of the portal. The backstone, measuring 1.60 m. long, .75 m. high and .25 m. thick, is set .25 m. inside its west end. The top of the backstone may be broken. A displaced slab, now almost erect, stands in the west end of the chamber. Its original function is not clear. A prostrate slab lying at the south-east edge of the mound may be part of a broken roofstone. It is 1.45 m. in maximum dimension and .40 m. thick.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 31 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 236. *P.R.I.A.*, XX (1896-8), 545 (Drg., Plate IX).

72. **Drumanure.** O.S. 24: 11: 1 (52.6 cm., 29.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400. R 215 846. Fig. 39. Plate 12.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies about 300 yards north of Drumanure Lake on flagstone land near the edge of an area of bog and alluvial soil. It stands in a rather damp meadow surrounded on all sides by higher ground. Gorse and rushes grow in the vicinity. Some tillage is undertaken nearby.

The tomb is well preserved and retains its roofstone. Remains of outer-walling are present along the north side and beyond the west end of the chamber. The chamber stands in a mound of irregular outline about 7.00 m. across. A drain, cut along the south-east edge of the mound, passes close to the chamber.

The south side of the chamber consists of two slabs set end to end. The more westerly is 2.40 m. long and .20 m. thick. Its top edge is straight and slopes down to the east. The second slab is 1.30 m. long and .15 m. thick. Its top edge continues the slope of the last.

The north side of the chamber consists of a single slab, 2.85 m. long and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down to the east. A hole, .60 m. wide and .40 m. deep, broken through the middle of the stone is not an original feature. A slab, 1.00 m. long and .15 m. thick, lies .60 m. east of the last. It leans heavily to the south and is almost prostrate. It may indicate a continuation of the chamber side. The roofstone is of irregular outline and measures 2.80 m. long, 1.95 m. wide and .25 m. thick.

Two stones of an outer-walling survive on the north side of the chamber. Both lean inwards. That at the east is .70 m. long, .75 m. high and .10 m. thick. The other is .80 m. long, .65 m. high and .15 m. thick. A slab, .60 m. long and .05 m. thick, leaning very heavily outwards and lying outside the south side of the chamber, may be an outer-wall stone. If erect it would be about .75 m. high. A further outer-wall stone is set .35 m. west of the end of the northern sidestone. It is 1.05 m. long, .65 m. high and .15 m. thick and leans inwards against the end of the sidestone. A partly concealed slab, 1.30 m. long, lying south of it may have continued the line of the outer-wall.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is .60 m. high at the west, .40 m. high at the east end of the northern sidestone, and narrows from 1.00 m. wide at the west to .90 m. wide at the end of the north sidestone. Its original length seems to have been at least 2.80 m. but it may well have extended further eastwards.

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 110 and 112-113 (Pl.).

73. **Toormore.** O.S. 25: 3: 6 (68.3 cm., 50.3 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 0-100.
R 330 865. Fig. 33. Plate 12.

Unclassified

The monument lies near the middle of the low lake-studded region stretching northwards from the estuary of the River Fergus into Co. Galway. It stands in a gently sloping meadow about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile south-west of the village of Ruan. Heavy timber grows in the area and some tillage is undertaken.

The monument is very ruined and the scant remains are not sufficient to permit of classification. Four set stones and a prostrate flag remain. The more easterly of the two stones at the south of the structure is a fine erect stone measuring .85 m. long, .40 m. thick and 1.40 m. high. The second stone is also erect and is .70 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It may be the base of a larger stone. The stone beyond the east end of the prostrate flag is a heavy erect stone .70 m. long, .40 m. high and .25 m. thick. The low stone to the north is .70 m. long, .10 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. It leans inwards. The prostrate slab is of irregular shape and measures 1.75 m. long and 1.40 m. in greatest width. It may have served as a roofstone. Faint traces of a low mound are visible around the north end of the structure.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 29 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 212-214 (Pl. No. 4). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 238.

74. **Kilcurrish.** O.S. 25: 14: 6 (39.2 cm., 5.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200.
R 298 819. Fig. 39. Plate 14.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This, the more northerly of the two monuments in Kilcurrish townland, stands in a craggy valley some 150 yards north of the next to be described (Cl. 75). The view is restricted on all sides except towards the east. Numerous thickets of hazel and scrub limit the available pasture.

The tomb, which was heavily overgrown, is somewhat damaged and is now unroofed. The north side of the chamber, consisting of two stones, remains intact. One stone remains in situ at the east end of the southern side. Both the east and west ends are closed by single stones. Resting on the backstone is a slab which seems to be a displaced roofstone. A low mound, roughly 6.50 m. in diameter, surrounds the tomb.

The western stone on the north side of the chamber is 1.00 m. long, .75 m. high and .30 m. thick. It leans inwards. The second stone, which leans slightly outward, is 1.85 m. long, .85 m. in maximum height and .30 m. to .50 m. thick. Both stones have flat top edges. The stone remaining on the south side of the chamber leans slightly inwards. It is 1.60 m. long, .80 m. high at the west, .60 m. high at the east, and .15 m. to .30 m. thick. Its top edge is weathered and uneven. A gap of 1.90 m. remains between the end of this stone and the closing stone at the west. This gap may have been closed by a stone measuring 1.60 m. long and .25 m. thick, which now lies to the south.

The western endstone, which leans slightly inwards, is 1.30 m. long at the base, 1.00 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The top southern corner is broken away, probably fortuitously, leaving a gap .30 m. wide and .40 m. deep. The backstone is .90 m. long, .70 m. high and .50 m. in maximum thickness. The displaced roofstone leaning on it measures 1.90 m. long, 1.65 m. in maximum width and .20 m. to .30 m. thick.

Three stones may suggest the presence of outer-walling. Two of these are displaced slabs and lie outside the south side of the chamber. The more westerly is 1.00 m. in maximum dimension and .25 m. thick, and the eastern .65 m. in maximum length and .15 m. thick. The third stone stands 1.30 m. behind the backstone. It is loosely set and leans heavily to the east. It is .60 m. long, .15 m. thick and if erect would be .45 m. high.

The chamber is 2.90 m. long and 1.10 m. wide at the east. It seems to have been almost parallel-sided, but the line of the remaining stone of the south side of the chamber suggests a slight increase in width towards the west. The relative heights of the closing stone at the west, and the backstone, suggest that the chamber was highest at the west.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465 and 467, No. 32 (Pl.). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 244-245.

75. **Kilcurrish.** O.S. 25: 14: 6 (39.2 cm., 4.4 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. R 298 817. Fig. 40. Plate 14.

Unclassified

This is the more southerly of the two monuments in Kilcurrish townland. It lies about 200 yards north-west of the ruined church of Kilcross and stands in a pasture field high up on the north-east slope of a ridge overlooking the lowlands of central Clare. The view is extensive in all directions. Hazel and scrub grow on the lower lands around the ridge and on the higher ground overlooking it to the north-west. In the same field, and some 70 yards distant to the west, stands the ruins of a stone fort.

The monument, which lies beneath an old hawthorn tree, is very wrecked and the interpretation is somewhat tentative. Two slabs, apparently sidestones of a chamber, and a prostrate slab, which may have been a roofstone, are all that survive. The southern sidestone is partly buried and only .45 m. of its height is exposed. It is 2.05 m. long and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. When erect the straight top edge of the stone would have sloped down from west to east. The northern sidestone has collapsed outward. Its south edge is concealed. It is 2.15 m. long and .25 m. to .30 m. thick. .65 m. of its height is exposed. It would appear that, when erect, the top edge of this stone would also have sloped down to the east. The prostrate slab measures 2.20 m. by 1.85 m. and is .30 m. to .35 m. thick. No definite traces of a surrounding mound are visible.

The original dimensions of the chamber cannot be obtained. It would seem to have been rather narrow and the present positions of the sidestones suggest that it may have been widest at the west. The slope of the top of the sidestones indicate that the west would also have been the higher end.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465 and 467, No. 33. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIII (1913), 244-245.

76. **Knockalassa.** O.S. 31: 16: 4 (72.7 cm., 3.1 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 700-800. R 138 754. Fig. 40. Plate 12.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on a boggy platform on the lower southern slopes of Slievecallan. The site commands extensive views to the south and south-east across the rolling boglands to the west and to the Atlantic Ocean. The wet boggy land in the vicinity provides some poor pasture.

The monument, built of regularly shaped slabs with lightly corrugated surfaces, presents a very neat appearance. The north and south sides of the chamber, each consisting of single slabs, support the roofstone. Two prostrate slabs at the west end of the chamber may originally have closed the entry. The chamber, which is partly filled with water, stands in an oval-shaped hollow measuring 7.00 m. east-west, 5.00 m. north-south and .50 m. deep. Shaley clay, exposed in a cutting 1.00 m. to 2.00 m. deep,

within 25 yards of the site, indicates that the tomb may have been built on the underlying floor of the bog.

The northern sidestone leans slightly inwards. It is 3.10 m. long and .25 m. to .30 m. thick. At the west it is 1.20 m. high and at the east 1.10 m. high. Its straight top edge is interrupted at the east by a low "step" .10 m. high and .60 m. long. The southern sidestone is 2.10 m. long and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. It is 1.12 m. high at the west and 1.08 m. at the east. Its top edge is straight and broad. The roofstone is 3.00 m. long, 2.25 m. wide and .25 m. thick. The two prostrate slabs at the west end of the chamber are partially concealed in the peat. The more southerly measures 1.30 m. by .60 m. and the northern .90 m. by .70 m.

The tomb decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.80 m. wide and 1.20 m. high at the west, and 1.55 m. wide and 1.10 m. high at the east. The length indicated by the sidestones would be about 2.00 m.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 79-80, No. 17 (Pl. Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 1 (Pl). *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 108-110 (Pl., Drg., Plate XI). *J.L.F.C.*, II, No. 8 (1903-4), 250-254.

Westropp, working on the information supplied by Ferguson from O'Looney, accepts a second site on Slievecallan which he says "has long been demolished." The monument is described as "of six grey slabs with a heavy cover. The four side blocks stood upright, fixed in the ground, with another to each end, the sides about four feet apart, and a great flag resting on them. Two upright flags were fixed behind, at the west end, rising 18 inches and 2 feet above the table stone. There were other stones of various shapes and sizes around it at the back and ends and an elevation or mound of clay and small stones." While O'Looney's description does seem to apply to a megalithic tomb, perhaps with outer-walling, the evidence as a whole leaves considerable doubt as to whether a monument distinct from the extant site did, in fact, exist. It is true that O'Looney's description of the situation of the site: "(It lay) south-west from Leaba Chonain, and looked south-west across the lake to Crag na Sean Ean" does not fit the extant example. However, as O'Looney's account is based on recollection, too much reliance cannot be placed on his vague description of the situation. The absence of apparent outer-wall features on the existing tomb could well be due to denudation. The position for the site described by O'Looney would approximate to that of "Conan's Monument" on the O.S. 6: (1840) and the whole question is bedevilled by the infamous controversy relating to this monument whose position is altered on later maps. Lewis mentions three cromlechs, together with Conan's monument on Slievecallan.

While, therefore, the evidence on its face does suggest a second tomb on Slievecallan, it is felt that too many uncertainties exist to warrant its inclusion.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 2. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 107-109. *J.L.F.C.*, Vol. II, No. 8 (1904), 252.

Ferguson: *P.R.I.A.*, I, 2nd series (1872) 269 and 315.

Lewis: *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (London, 1838), Vol. I, p. 90.

77. Leckaun. O.S. 32: 8: 3 (85.7 cm., 42.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400. R 249 795. Fig. 40. Plate 12.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The monument is situated in a pasture field on gently sloping ground some 500 yds. north-west of Rushaun Lough. To the west stands Slievecallan while eastward the distant mountains of East Clare are visible. The land in the vicinity is mostly under pasture and meadow.

The tomb is very ruined. Beneath the roof are the remains of the chamber sides and a backstone. A stone at the north may be the remains of outer-walling. Four set stones to the west of the chamber are probably not related to the monument. Three of these, at the south, may be the remains of a fence. The largest is 1.10 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. The other two are .25 m. and .30 m. long, .10 m. thick and .10 m. to .20 m. high. The stone at the north is .30 m. long, .10 m. thick and .10 m. high.

Two stones of the south side of the chamber remain. The more westerly is .70 m. long, .85 m. high and .15 m. thick. It leans inwards and its top edge rests against the top of the remaining stone on the north side of the chamber which, itself, leans inwards. The second stone on the south side of the chamber is almost hidden. It is .40 m. long, .10 m. high and .10 m. thick. The stone on the north side of the chamber is 1.20 m. long, .90 m. high and .15 m. thick. A stone .70 m. long, .40 m. high and .10 m. thick set .35 m. north of the sidestone may be an outer-wall stone. The backstone leans slightly inwards. Its size and position indicate that it was set outside the ends of the chamber sides. It is 1.45 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick. The roofstone is 2.45 m. long, 2.10 m. wide at the west, 1.75 m. wide near the east and .25 m. thick.

The tomb cannot, in its present condition, be classified with certainty. The shape of the roofstone suggests that the chamber would have been broadest at the west and the relative heights of the sidestones and the backstone indicate that it would also have been highest at the west. An interpretation as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave is, on the whole, probable.

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 112.

BARONY OF BUNRATTY UPPER

78. **Knockmael East.** O.S. 18: 11: 6 (63.9 cm., 21.2 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. R 423 898. Fig. 41. Plate 12.

Unclassified

The two monuments in Knockmael East townland are situated about 1 mile north-east of Crusheen near the north-east end of the central low lakelands of Co. Clare. They stand on a tract of rough rock-strewn limestone land overlooking, to the west and north-west, an expanse of flat, marshy ground. The higher drumlin-like lands towards the east are under meadow and pasture. There are numerous ruined enclosures and fences in the vicinity of the tombs.

This, the more northerly of the two tombs, is deranged and is difficult to interpret. It consists of a large roofstone, measuring 3.00 m. by 2.50 m. and .35 m. thick, raised about .85 m. above ground level and resting above five stones set on edge. To the north, where an old fence runs into the tomb, is a heavy prostrate slab .60 m. thick which may be an erratic of the type which abounds in the vicinity. Set with its base parallel to the more southerly edge of the roofstone is a stone, 1.95 m. long and .20 m. thick, which slopes inwards to support the south edge of the roof. Roughly at right angles to this, and running approximately in a north-south direction under the roof, is a stone 2.00 m. long and .15 m. thick. It leans to the west and does not reach the roof but would do so if erect. At its north end, and running at right angles in an east-west direction under the roof, is a set stone leaning to the south and measuring 1.60 m. long and .20 m. thick. The roofstone rests on it. Two other stones run beside each other under the north-west portion of the roof. The roof rests on the more northerly which is 1.00 m. long and .20 m. thick. The other is 1.70 m. long and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. It does not reach the roof but would do so if erect. Neither of these stones are certainly in situ. Outside the eastern edge of the roofstone is a set stone 1.10 m. long, .40 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick. Lying in a low raised area along the south are some prostrate blocks which may be displaced from the structure or may be naturally deposited.

In its present condition classification of the monument is not possible. It appears to be a much disturbed chamber, perhaps wedge-shaped, orientated south-west—north-east.

79. **Knockmael East.** O.S. 18: 11: 6 (63.9 cm., 21.2 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. R 422 895. Fig. 41. Plate 12.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This, the more southerly of the two tombs in Knockmael East townland, stands about 250 yards south of the last (Cl. 78). Two sidestones and a transverse slab crossing the west end of the chamber remain in situ. A large displaced slab, possibly a roofstone, leans against the northern sidestone. As the tomb seems to have been built on one of the many natural hillocks in the area it is difficult to decide how much of the surrounding mound is artificial. To judge from the ill-defined outline it measures about 9.00 m. in diameter. It is strewn with loose stones varying from 1.00 m. to 2.50 m. in maximum dimension and .15 m. to .25 m. thick.

The northern sidestone stands erect and is 2.55 m. long, 1.25 m. high at the west, .75 m. high at the east and .50 m. thick. The southern sidestone leans outwards. It is 2.10 m. long, 1.00 m. high at the west, .55 m. high at the east and .25 m. thick. The top edges of both sidestones are straight and slope sharply down from west to east. The transverse stone at the west leans inwards. It is 2.00 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .30 m. thick. The stone leaning against the north side is 3.00 m. long, .25 m. thick and 1.15 m. high.

The chamber, which is highest at the west, seems to have been at least 2.00 m. long. Its original width cannot be accurately ascertained because of the sloping position of the southern sidestone but it would seem to have been about 2.00 m. wide at the west.

80. **Caheraphuca.** O.S. 26: 2: 2 (34.9 cm., 59.2 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 100-200. R 392 874. Fig. 42. Plate 14.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is situated less than $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile south-west of Crusheen and stands close to a farmhouse immediately west of the main Ennis-Crusheen road. The gently rolling land in the vicinity of the tomb is under pasture, meadow and tillage. The underlying limestone outcrops on a low ridge some 300 yards to the west.

The tomb is well preserved but is built of very rough limestone blocks and the roof is of poor muddy texture. The west end of the chamber is completely closed by a transverse stone reaching to roof height. Two slightly overlapping roofstones cover the chamber. They may have been originally a single slab but the poor texture of the stone makes it difficult to decide this point. The more easterly is somewhat displaced and has slipped off the north side of the chamber. The "slight traces" of a surrounding mound noted by Westropp are no longer apparent.

The north side of the chamber consists of two stones now separated by the stump of a tree. The more westerly stone is 2.60 m. long, 1.25 m. high at the west, 1.00 m. high at the east and .45 m. thick. It leans inwards. Immediately to the north lies a displaced block, 1.30 m. in maximum dimension, of unknown function. The second sidestone is 1.45 m. long, .85 m. high at the west, .45 m. high at the east and .35 m. thick. At its eastern end the edge of a partly concealed slab .85 m. long, .15 m. high and .20 m. thick is visible. Its function is uncertain.

The south side of the chamber consists of two stones which may well originally have been a single slab. The more westerly stone remains erect. It is 2.30 m. long, .90 m. high at the west, .60 m. high at the east and .35 m. thick. The second stone leans outwards. It is 1.10 m. long, .45 m. high and .30 m. thick. Continuing the line of the last, the edge of a stone, measuring .45 m. long and .15 m. thick, protrudes scarcely .05 m. above the ground. The stone closing the west end of the chamber leans inwards. It is 1.70 m. long, 1.50 m. high and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Its bevelled top edge is straight.

The western roofstone rests on the two western sidestones and on the closing stone. It is 2.45 m. long (east-west), 2.15 m. wide and .45 m. thick. The second roofstone is 1.40 m. long (east-west), 1.70 m. wide and .35 m. thick. Protruding from under its

eastern end is a small set stone measuring .35 m. by .30 m. and .20 m. high. Its function is unknown.

The chamber is 3.70 m. long to the east ends of the sidestones. It decreases in height and width from west to east being 1.55 m. wide and 1.12 m. high at the west and 1.25 m. wide at its present east end and .75 m. high at the east end of the western roofstone.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 81, No. 2 (Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 89, No. 1 (Pl., Elvs.).

81. Ballymaconna. O.S. 26: 10: 4 (25.5 cm., 15.4 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. R 381 828. Fig. 42. Plate 14.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The tomb, standing in a meadow immediately north of the bye-road leading eastward from Barfield school, is about 280 yards north of the ruined church of Kiltaghis. It is situated in an area of low rounded hills which lie on all sides except towards the south. The land in the area is mostly under meadow but some tillage is undertaken.

The tomb is very ruined and is much overgrown. The chamber is partly concealed by the remains of a cairn of irregular outline, about 6.00 m. across, defaced by the dumping of field stones. The southern sidestone, the west end of the northern sidestone and a partly concealed roofstone are visible. A prostrate stone 2.15 m. by 1.05 m. and .30 m. thick lies east of the chamber.

The southern sidestone is erect. It is 2.00 m. long, .75 m. high at the west, .60 m. high at the east and .45 m. thick. The northern sidestone leans heavily inwards. Only its western end could be planned but it runs for at least 1.40 m. beneath the roofstone. The roofstone, the northern side of which is concealed, is 2.50 in maximum length, 2.15 m. wide and .30 m. to .40 m. thick. It rests on both sidestones but is partly displaced by the collapse of the northern side.

Original dimensions of the chamber cannot be obtained. It would seem to have been at least 2.00 m. long and to have been about 1.45 m. wide at the west. Though the remains are not sufficient to permit of classification with absolute certainty the tomb was probably a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 81, No. 3.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 90, No. 3 (Pl.).

82. Ballyogan. O.S. 26: 10: 5 (32.3 cm., 15.5 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 100-200. R 389 828. Fig. 43. Plate 14.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The tomb lies less than half a mile east of the last (Cl. 81). It stands on the western side of a low narrow valley which opens out to the south. To the west the ground rises to a rounded pasture hill with some outcropping rock and to the east falls to the stream running through the valley. Beyond the stream the ground again rises to a scrub-covered hill with some pasture land on top. There are some huge outcrops of rock on the eastern side of the valley. The land in the vicinity is under meadow and tillage.

The tomb is buried in a pear-shaped mound rising to a height of 1.30 m. The chamber area is filled but both sides of the long gallery are exposed on the outside. One stone, at the east, outside the line of the north side of the chamber, may be an outer-wall stone. Two displaced stones lie south of the west end of the chamber. The more northerly is .70 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. thick and the second .60 m. in maximum dimension and .15 m. thick. The surrounding mound is 11.00 m. long (east-west) and 7.00 m. in maximum width.

The inner faces of the five stones comprising the north side of the chamber are concealed. The more westerly sidestone is .90 m. long, .55 m. high and at least .50 m. thick. There is a gap of .70 m. between it and the remainder of the sidestones which are set more or less in line. The dimensions of these stones from west to east respectively

are: .25 m. long and .20 m. high; .30 m. long and .15 m. high; 1.25 m. long and .40 m. high; .50 m. long and .15 m. high. The apparent outer-wall stone outside the north-east end of the gallery is 1.10 m. long and .40 m. high. Its southern edge is concealed. Immediately east of it is a small set stone .15 m. long, .20 m. thick and .10 m. high.

The western stone of the south side of the chamber is .70 m. long, .30 m. thick and .70 m. high. The inner edges of the other three stones of this side are concealed. They measure, from west to east respectively, 1.15 m. long and .74 m. high; 1.05 m. long and .70 m. high; 2.30 m. long and .90 m. high. Two stones to the east of the last may continue the side of the gallery but their function is not certain. The more westerly is .30 m. long and .45 m. high and the eastern .45 m. long and .40 m. high. Their inner edges are hidden but both seem to be about .20 m. thick.

In its present condition the tomb cannot be classified with certainty but it is very probably a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave. The gallery would seem to have been at least 5.50 m. long. It seems to have narrowed towards the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 85, No. 13.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 91, No. 4 (b), (Pl.).

83. **Kilvoydan South.** O.S. 26: 14: 6 (41.0 cm., 0.8 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 200-300. R 398 812. Fig. 43. Plate 15.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument occupies a commanding position on the top of a ridge about three-quarters of a mile south-west of O'Brien's Big Lake. The surrounding land, which consists of small rounded hills, is mostly under pasture but some tillage is undertaken on the higher ground. Gorse grows in the fences on the hills and in patches in the valleys. The site commands extensive views in all directions. The Burren hills and Slievacallan are visible to the north and west and the Slieve Bernagh to the east. The Shannon and the estuary of the River Fergus can be seen to the south.

The tomb is ruined. The north and south sidestones of the chamber remain in situ but lean heavily inwards. A displaced roofstone rests against the outer face of the northern sidestone. A large stone is set upright beyond the east end of the chamber. Some remains of outer-walling are present at the north and south. There are no traces of a surrounding mound but the chamber is filled to a level of about 1.00 m. above the ground outside.

The southern sidestone is 1.90 m. long at the base, 1.40 m. along its top straight edge and .40 m. thick. If erect it would be about 1.25 m. high. The east end of the northern sidestone is concealed. It is at least 2.30 m. long, .45 m. thick and if erect would be about 1.10 m. high. The top edges of both sidestones are straight. The roofstone is 3.25 m. long, 1.70 m. in maximum width towards the west and .40 m. thick.

The function of the stone beyond the east end of the chamber is not clear. It may be the backstone of the chamber or, perhaps less likely, the east end of the outer-walling. If it is the backstone a considerable length of the chamber sides must be either missing or concealed. The stone is 1.50 m. long at ground level, .85 m. high at the north, 1.00 m. high at the south and .55 m. thick. A prow-like projection at its top southern corner increases the length of its top edge to 1.90 m.

Two outer-wall stones remain in situ at the north-east end of the chamber. The more westerly leans outwards. It is .50 m. long, .15 m. thick and if erect would be .40 m. high. The second is .40 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick. One outer-wall stone remains in situ at the east end of the southern sidestone. It is .65 m. long, .65 m. high and .45 m. thick. Further west is a stone, now leaning heavily to the south, which is very probably a continuation of the outer-wall. Its base is partially exposed. It is 1.00 m. long at the top, .35 m. thick and if erect would be .70 m. high.

Reliable dimensions of the chamber cannot be ascertained but the length of the roofstone suggests that it was about 3.00 m. long. The top edges of the sidestones indicate that the height declined from west to east. The position of the sides and outer-walling suggest that the chamber narrowed from west to east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 81, No. 1.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 90, No. 2 (Pl., Sec.).

84. **Rylane.** O.S. 26: 16: 2 (78.5 cm., 7.9 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." (This name also applies to the adjacent tomb.) O.D. 200-300. R 437 819. Fig. 43. Plate 15.

Unclassified

The two tombs in Rylane townland stand within 20 yards of each other in a low flat meadow somewhat less than half a mile south-east of Rylane Bridge. Rising ground on all sides, except to the north, restricts the outlook from the tombs. The land in the vicinity is under pasture and meadow.

This, the more northerly of the two, stands some 15 yards south-east of an almost levelled ringfort. It is very ruined and the remains are scant. A sidestone, now leaning inwards, remains in situ at the west end of the south side of the gallery. It is 2.00 m. long, 1.40 m. high and .40 m. thick. Set .40 m. inside its west end is a low transverse slab which appears to serve as a sill. It is about .75 m. lower than the sidestone and measures 1.40 m. long and .40 m. high. Its eastern edge is concealed but it seems to be about .15 m. thick. To the north lies a prostrate slab, 1.30 m. long, at least .65 m. wide and about .10 m. thick. Its southern edge is concealed. It appears to have collapsed outwards and may be either a sidestone of the north side of the gallery or an outer-wall stone. About 1.50 m. east of the southern sidestone is a set stone leaning to the south. It is 1.85 m. long, .75 m. high and .15 m. to .40 m. thick. It may be a continuation of the south side of the gallery or an outer-wall stone. A collapsed backstone lies 2.00 m. east of the last. It is a very fine stone, trapezoidal in outline and measuring 1.45 m. long at the base and .90 m. along its top edge. It now leans heavily to the east but when erect would be about 1.55 m. high. The tomb is surrounded by a low ill-defined mound measuring 10.50 m. east-west and 7.50 m. north-south.

The gallery would seem to have been about 7.00 m. long. In its present condition the tomb cannot be classified.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 82, No. 6 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 93, No. 5 (b).

85. **Rylane.** O.S. 26: 16: 2 (78.3 cm., 7.7 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." (Applies also to the adjacent tomb.) O.D. 200-300. R 437 819. Fig. 42.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This, the more southerly of the two tombs in Rylane townland, lies about 16.00 m. south of the last (Cl. 84). The tomb is ruined and is very densely overgrown. The north and south sidestones remain in situ. A short stone, at the east, appears to be a backstone. Set inside the west end of the northern sidestone and more or less parallel to it is an upright stone, 1.20 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick, of uncertain function. Overlying this is a displaced slab 1.20 m. in maximum dimension and .25 m. thick. A prostrate stone, 1.40 m. in maximum dimension and .25 m. thick, lies beside it to the west. The original function of both these stones is unknown. A displaced roofstone covers the greater part of the chamber. Beyond the chamber to the west is a set stone 1.35 m. long, .45 m. high and .15 m. thick which leans slightly westwards. It is probably the remains of a western outer-wall. A mound reaching a height of at least .50 m. surrounds the tomb but its perimeter cannot be defined because of the dense overgrowth.

The northern sidestone leans slightly to the north. It is 2.20 m. long, .15 m. thick and .90 m. high at the east. The height of its western end cannot be ascertained. Its east end falls about .60 m. short of the line of the backstone. The southern sidestone is 2.20 m. long, .35 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down from west to east. The backstone is .70 m. long, .60 m. high and .15 m. thick. It is about .25 m. higher than the southern sidestone. The roofstone has collapsed into the chamber and its west end and part of its north side are concealed. It is at least 2.30 m. long (east-west), at least 1.40 m. wide and .20 m. to .30 m. thick.

Exact dimensions of the chamber cannot be ascertained, but it would seem to have been at least 2.00 m. long, and to have decreased in height and width from west to east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 82, No. 7 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 93, No. 5 (a), (Pl.).

86. **Toonagh.** O.S. 34: 8: 6 (85.6 cm., 32.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200.
R 444 781. Fig. 44. Plate 15.

Unclassified

The tomb stands close to the eastern bank of a small stream flowing through a densely overgrown hollow some 300 yards south of the Ennis-Tulla road. The ground in the hollow is very marshy and is heavily overgrown with gorse and briar. The heavy growth restricts the outlook to the immediate vicinity of the tomb.

The tomb is very ruined and the remains are scant. A stone, 2.40 m. long, 1.65 m. high and .20 m. to .35 m. thick, which remains in situ, may be the north side of a chamber. Its top edge is very irregular. Immediately south of it lies a prostrate stone 1.85 m. long, about 1.80 m. in maximum width and at least .15 m. thick, which may be the collapsed south side of the chamber, or perhaps a roofstone. Its northern edge is concealed. West of the erect sidestone is a low set stone which leans to the north. It is .75 m. long and .15 m. high. Its northern edge is concealed.

The meagre remains are probably those of a megalithic tomb but are insufficient to permit of classification.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 99, No. 9 (a), (Pl.).

87. **Ballyhickey.** O.S. 34: 15: 3 (66.3 cm., 14.4 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200.
R 424 762. Fig. 44. Plate 15.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is inconspicuously situated in a cleared plantation close to Hazelwood House in a tract of gently rolling pasture land. There is a plantation of coniferous trees within 100 yards of the tomb to the north-west and patches of hazel to the south.

The tomb is well preserved. The north side of the chamber, which consists of a single stone, and the south side, which is of two stones, remain in situ. The chamber is covered by a single roofstone now broken into two pieces. A transverse slab, reaching to roof height, completely closes the west end of the chamber. Beyond the southern end of the closing stone is a low set stone, .55 m. long, .15 m. high and .15 m. thick, which may indicate the presence of a portico. South of this stone is a prostrate slab measuring 2.20 m. long, 1.20 m. wide and .25 m. to .40 m. thick. An outer-wall stone stands beyond the south-east end of the tomb. It leans heavily to the south and is 1.15 m. long, .30 m. thick and if erect would be at least .75 m. high. A low ill-defined mound of irregular outline about 7.00 m. across surrounds the tomb.

The northern sidestone leans slightly inwards. It is 2.00 m. long, .85 m. high at the west, .60 m. high at the east and .45 m. thick. Its west edge has a prow-shaped top. The western stone of the south side of the chamber is 1.15 m. long, .75 m. high and .35 m. thick. There is a gap of .40 m. between it and the second sidestone which leans inwards and is .95 m. long, .70 m. high and .45 m. thick. The stone closing the west end of the chamber is 2.30 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .20 m. to .30 m. thick.

The broken roofstone rests on top of the three sidestones but not on the closing stone at the west which bears against it. The western piece is 1.00 m. long, 1.95 m. wide and .15 m. thick. It overlaps the eastern by about .20 m. A small pile of grass-grown earth lies upon them.

The chamber, which at present is between 2.20 m. and 2.40 m. long, decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.65 m. wide and .85 m. high at the west and 1.40 m. wide and .60 m. high at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 84, No. 9.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 101, No. 11 (Pl.).

88. **Knopoge.** O.S. 42: 8: 6 (88.7 cm., 31.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. R 447 716. Fig. 44. Plate 15.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a large meadow about 200 yards south of the Quin-Kilkisheen road. Beyond the tomb, to the east, the meadow rises to a low ridge which forms the skyline and towards the south falls away to a sedgy hollow liable to floods. The land in the region is under meadow and pasture and supports some heavy timber.

The tomb is very ruined and is said by Westropp to have been blasted and partly removed. The north sidestone of the chamber and a slab crossing its west end remain in situ. The southern sidestone appears to have been forced outwards. A broken roofstone rests on the sidestones and bears against the stone crossing the west end of the chamber. A stone set close to the west end of the northern sidestone and running parallel to it may be a doubling of the sidestone or even a piece split from it.

The northern sidestone leans heavily outwards. It is 1.85 m. long, .70 m. high at the west, .55 m. high at the east and .35 m. thick. It is split across .80 m. from its east end. The stone north of it also leans outwards. It is .90 m. long, .20 m. thick and if erect would be .50 m. high. The west end of the southern sidestone is concealed. This slab is at least 1.50 m. long and .20 m. thick. It leans very heavily to the north and its base is probably not in situ. The stone crossing the west end of the chamber seems to have been somewhat higher than the sidestones. It is 1.65 m. long, .90 m. high and .40 m. to .50 m. thick. The roofstone is 1.60 m. long, 2.10 m. wide and .35 m. thick. Its south-east corner is broken away. Two partly concealed and probably displaced stones lie at the east end of the chamber. They are .80 m. and .60 m. in maximum dimension, respectively, and are both .20 m. thick.

The tomb stands in a low irregular mound measuring about 7.50 m. east-west and 4.00 m. north-south. Much of the mound consists of a debris of fractured slabs. Some of the larger stones, varying from 1.10 m. to 1.25 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. to .35 m. thick, are shown on the plan. One stone at the south-west edge of the mound may be set. It leans heavily to the north and is 1.25 m. long, .30 m. thick and if erect would be about 1.00 m. high. It may be an outer-wall stone.

The chamber is highest and was probably widest at the west. Original dimensions cannot be ascertained but it would seem to have been at least 1.70 m. long.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 84-85, No. 11 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 102, No. 15. *R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Handbook Series*, No. VII (The Antiquities of Limerick and its Neighbourhood), 1916, 40.

BARONY OF BUNRATTY LOWER

89. **Knocknalappa.** O.S. 43: 13: 1 (0.2 cm. 8.3 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 200-300. R 450 691. Fig. 45. Plate 15.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is situated on a ridge immediately east of Rosroe Lough. It stands in a sloping cultivated field on the north end of the ridge and commands an extensive view to the north. Gorse grows in the nearby hedges and small trees on the lower ground.

Westropp states that the tomb was damaged by blasting before he planned it and it seems to have suffered further damage since. The northern sidestone, the more westerly of the two southern sidestones, and the stone crossing the west end of the chamber, remain in situ. The eastern stone of the southern side has collapsed. The roofstone which, from Westropp's plan and sketch, seems to have rested on the three sidestones is now displaced and rests only on the northern sidestone and the collapsed stone of the southern side.

The northern sidestone is 1.80 m. long, 1.10 m. high at the west, .85 m. high at east and .50 m. thick. The southern sidestone remaining in situ, is 2.00 m. long, .95 m.

high at the west and .40 m. thick. Both stones lean to the north. The prostrate side-stone measures .90 m. by .70 m. and is .35 m. thick. The transverse slab at the west end of the chamber leans inwards. It would reach somewhat higher than the sidestones even if these were erect. It is 1.80 m. long, 1.40 m. high and .35 m. to .50 m. thick. The western end of the displaced roofstone is concealed in the chamber. It is a heavy irregular block measuring at least 2.70 m. long and .50 m. to .75 m. thick.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It measures 2.80 m. long to the end of the collapsed southern sidestone, 1.60 m. wide at the west and 1.20 m. wide at the end of the sidestones remaining in situ.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 85, No. 4.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 103, No. 16 (Pl., Drg.).

90. **Ballinphunta.** O.S. 62: 2: 1 (28.3 cm., 58.5 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 50-100. R 479 616. Fig. 59.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb, which lies west of the railway from Cratloe to Collooney, stands in a pasture field about 50 yards south of the ruins of Crughaun Church. Towards the north-north-west, the ground rises to a low bracken-covered hill and some 50 yards westward from the site falls into a hollow. The limestone outcrops to the south. The land in the vicinity of the tomb is mostly under pasture and meadow but some tillage is undertaken.

The tomb, which is almost completely enveloped in a dump of field stones, is heavily overgrown and it was not possible to obtain a plan. Parts of the cover only are visible. Westropp states: "It was (so far as I could find when making its plan in 1887) unopened." His plan and elevations show that it is a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave, completely closed at its west end by a single transverse slab and covered by two overlapping roofstones. The measurements of the roofstones are given as 6 ft. 7 ins. by 5 ft. 6 ins. by 10 to 13 ins. (western), and 4 ft. 8 ins. by 4 ft. 2 ins. (eastern). His plan shows three stones beyond the west end of the chamber and two stones at the east and these appear to be outer-walling.

To judge from the parts of the cover which are exposed the gallery seems to be about 5.00 m. long. It is highest at the west. Westropp "notes that this cist is double . . ." but apart from the presence of the two roofstones there is no clear evidence to support this assumption. The mound which at present envelops the tomb is about 7.00 m. in diameter and about 2.00 m. high.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 86, No. 6 (Pl. Elvs., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 104, No. (21) (Pl. Elvs.). *R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Handbook Series*, No. VII (The Antiquities of Limerick and its Neighbourhood), 1916, 38.

BARONY OF TULLA UPPER

91. **Corbehagh.** O.S. 19: 3: 2 (58.5 cm., 60.4 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 400-500. R 515 938. Fig. 46. Plate 16.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a meadow on the lower southern slopes of the mountains west of Lough Graney. To the south there is a wide view of the rising ground which consists mostly of rough pasture and bracken. To the north the ground falls gently to the Drumandoora River. The land in the vicinity supports some trees.

The monument is well preserved. The south side of the chamber, which consists of two stones, remains intact. A stone appears to be missing from the north side of the chamber where there is a gap of .80 m. between the two remaining sidestones. Two slabs set in line cross the west end of the chamber and the east end is closed by a stone

set between the chamber sides. A fine roofstone, with its heavier end to the west, covers the chamber. Outer-walling is represented by two stones on the south. Low indefinite traces of a mound are present, principally on the south side.

The more easterly stone of the north side of the chamber is 1.85 m. long, .90 m. high and .30 m. to .40 m. thick. The stone at the west is .60 m. long, .95 m. high and .20 m. thick. It is set outside the line of the other stone but articulates neatly with the more northerly of the stones closing the chamber entry. The two stones of the south side of the chamber are set end to end and at a slight angle to each other. That at the west is 2.25 m. long, 1.05 m. high near the west, .80 m. high near the east and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. The second is .80 m. long, .90 m. high and .15 m. thick.

The two stones closing the west end of the chamber are about .15 m. apart. The southern is a fine rectangular slab measuring 1.00 m. long, 1.10 m. high and .20 m. thick. The second stone is .95 m. long, .85 m. high and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. A gap of .20 m. to .25 m. remains between its top edge and the roofstone. The backstone is set .50 m. inside the end of the north side of the chamber and is slightly overlapped by the top of the eastern stone of the south side. It is a fine stone with a straight top edge. It is .90 m. long, .85 m. high and .20 m. thick.

The roofstone is 3.55 m. long, 2.65 m. wide at the west, .75 m. wide at the east and .30 m. to .45 m. thick. Above the backstone the cover is supported on small packing stones, .25 m. in maximum dimension.

The eastern stone of the outer-walling is .80 m. long and .20 m. high. Its inner side is concealed. The second stone is set inside the line of the last. It is .65 m. long, .40 m. high and .30 m. to .35 m. thick.

The chamber, which is 2.50 m. long, decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.10 m. high and 1.90 m. wide at the west, and .95 m. high and .90 m. wide at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 95, No. 20 or 21 (called Drumadora).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 118, No. 32 ("Lower"), (Pl.). *P.R.I.A.*, XX (1896-8), 546.

Brogan: *P.R.I.A.*, X (1866-9), 441 ("Leabhadh Granu").

92. Fahy. O.S. 19: 3: 4 (51.7 cm., 49.6 cm.). Shown as two boulders on 1917 edition. O.D. 700-800. R 508 926. Fig. 46. Plate 16.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on a platform of good grass-land on the slopes of the mountains west of Lough Graney. Some 50 yards up the hill the pasture gives way to rough mountain land with outcropping rock. Below the site to the north beyond the road is a tract of cultivated land. The situation commands extensive views, northwards beyond Lough Cutra to the Galway coast and to the west where the eastern flanks of the Burren hills are visible.

The tomb is partially ruined. Three stones remain in situ on the north side of the chamber and two at the south. Single slabs close the east and west ends of the chamber. A large roofstone remains in position at the west and a stone leaning against the east end of the north side of the chamber is probably a displaced roofstone. Beneath it is a set stone which may be an outer-wall stone.

The eastern stone of the north side of the chamber is 1.40 m. long, .50 m. high and .15 m. to .30 m. thick. Its west end touches the next stone on this side which measures .40 m. long, .50 m. high and .25 m. thick. Both these stones lean slightly outward. The third stone is 1.20 m. further west. It is a fine erect slab measuring 1.00 m. long, .85 m. high at the west, .65 m. high at the east and .30 m. to .35 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down to the east. There is a gap of 1.25 m. between it and the slab closing the west end of the chamber.

The eastern stone of the south side of the chamber leans outward. It is 1.55 m. long, .60 m. high and .25 m. thick. West of it is a stone .90 m. long, .60 m. high and .30 m. thick which may be a displaced sidestone. It leans heavily to the west. The second stone remaining in situ on this side of the chamber fits closely against the western closing stone and leans slightly inwards. It is .60 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .30 m. thick.

The stone at the west end of the chamber is 2.15 m. long, 1.05 m. high and .20 m. to .45 m. thick. The backstone measures 1.35 m. long, .50 m. high and .25 m. to .30 m. thick. Both stones have straight flat top edges.

The slab covering the west end of the chamber is 2.60 m. long, 2.05 m. wide and .40 m. thick. It rests on the closing stone and on the two more westerly sidestones. The displaced roofstone outside the north-east corner of the chamber is 2.00 m. long, 1.10 m. broad and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. It rests on a tiny round stone jammed between it and the sidestone. The outer-wall stone leans heavily to the north and may be slightly displaced. It is .80 m. long, .90 m. high and .20 m. thick.

The chamber is 5.30 m. long and decreases in height from west to east. It is 1.20 m. wide at the east and would seem to have been about 1.50 m. wide at the west.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 95, No. 20 or 21 (called Drumadora).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 118, No. 32 ("Upper"). *P.R.I.A.*, XX (1896-8), 546.

Brogan: *P.R.I.A.*, X (1866-9), 441, ("Leabhadh Diarmaid").

93. **Ballycroum.** O.S. 19: 16: 3 (85.8 cm., 10.4 cm.). "Altoir Ultach." O.D. 800-900. R 543 884. Fig. 47. Plate 16.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The three tombs in Ballycroum townland stand within sight of each other on a broad mountain plateau south of Lough Graney. The view is restricted to the higher ground which surrounds the plateau on all sides except to the south-east where Lough Derg appears in the distance and towards the south-west where there is a break in the hills. The plateau, which is studded with many minor hillocks, is mostly rough, heather-covered bog with occasional patches of rushes and grass. The monument named "Altoir Ultach" and the unmarked tomb are situated on a low platform overlooking the tomb called "Tobergrania."

The tomb named Altoir Ultach is the more westerly of the three monuments. It is in fair preservation. Three stones of the north side of the chamber and two of the south remain in situ. A single transverse slab stands at the west end of the chamber. Outside its north end and closing the gap of .50 m. between it and the chamber side is a tall pillar-like stone. A stone of similar appearance lying at the south end of the closing stone may have occupied a corresponding position at this side. A prostrate slab, maximum dimension 2.00 m. and .25 m. to .40 m. thick, lying south of the chamber may be displaced from the gap in the chamber side or may, perhaps, be a roofstone. North of the chamber is a set stone, .65 m. long, .30 m. high and .20 m. thick, which may be an outer-wall stone.

The more westerly stone of the north side of the chamber leans slightly inwards. It is 1.45 m. long, 1.20 m. high and .55 m. thick. A loose stone, maximum dimension .80 m., lies in the gap between it and the next sidestone which measures 1.60 m. long, .80 m. high and .20 m. to .40 m. thick. This stone leans outwards and part of its base is exposed. The third stone on this side is set inside the line of the last. It is 1.35 m. long, .70 m. high at the west, .30 m. high at the east and .30 m. to .40 m. thick. Part of its top east end may be broken away. A loose stone, .60 m. in maximum dimension, stands outside its western end.

The more westerly stone of the south side of the chamber leans slightly inwards. It is 1.30 m. long, .70 m. high and .20 m. to .35 m. thick. The second stone is .50 m. long, .65 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick.

The transverse slab at the west end of the chamber is 2.15 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .20 m. to .40 m. thick. There is a gap, .50 m. wide and .50 m. high, at its bottom northern corner. The tall stone at its north end, which is .80 m. long, 1.55 m. high and .45 m. thick, rises about .25 m. above the top of the adjoining sidestone and .50 m. above the closing stone. A displaced stone of unknown function, maximum dimension .80 m., and .20 m. thick, lies to the west. The pillar-like stone lying south of the entry would be 1.30 m. high if erect and would more or less match the opposite stone. It is .40 m. wide and .25 m. thick. A stone, maximum dimension .45 m., set outside its southern end is probably a packing stone.

Original dimensions cannot be given but the chamber appears to be highest and was probably widest at the west. It measures 4.20 m. long from the transverse slab at the west to the present east end. It is .70 m. wide at its present east end. The two pillar-like stones at the west suggest the presence of a short portico.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 95, No. 18 ("Altoir Ultach").

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 119, No. 33 ("Altoir Ultach"), (Pl.). *P.R.I.A.*, XXII (1900), 85 ff., (Pl.).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 24, 158.

94. **Ballycroum.** O.S. 19: 16: 3 (86.1 cm., 10.3 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 800-900. R 544 886. Fig. 47. Plate 16.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument, which lies some 30 yards east-north-east of Cl. 93, is deeply embedded in the bog. The chamber is well preserved but lacks a roof. The north side, consisting of two stones, appears to be complete. Two stones of the south side remain but a third may be missing at the east. The west end is crossed by a single transverse slab. A partly concealed stone at the east, which seems to have been forced outwards, may have closed that end of the chamber. Two outer-wall stones remain on the south side. Four displaced stones lie east of the chamber. Faint traces of a mound, measuring 7.50 m. east-west and 4.00 m. north-south, are present on the north.

The western stone of the north side of the chamber is 2.20 m. long and .20 m. high at its west end. Its top edge slopes down to the east. The second stone on this side is .70 m. long and .25 m. high. The western stone of the south side of the chamber is 1.75 m. long, .60 m. high at the west, .40 m. high at the east and .25 m. thick. Its straight flat top edge slopes down to the east. The top edge of the second sidestone continues the slope of the last. This stone is .65 m. long, .35 m. high at the west, .20 m. high at the east and .10 m. thick.

The slab crossing the west end of the chamber leans outwards. It is 1.35 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. When erect it would be as high as the west ends of the chamber sides. The stone at the east end of the chamber, which is probably the displaced backstone, is partly concealed and is at least 1.20 m. long and .30 m. high.

The more westerly stone of the outer-wall leans to the north and is .60 m. long and .10 m. thick. Though only .30 m. of its height is exposed it reaches .15 m. above the chamber side. The second outer-wall stone is .85 m. long, .50 m. high and .15 m. thick.

Beyond the east end of the chamber is a stone, .80 m. long and .15 m. thick, which leans heavily to the east. When erect it would be .55 m. high. It may have formed the east end of the outer-walling but is not certainly in situ. Three displaced and partly concealed stones lie further to the east. The more southerly measures at least 1.00 m. long and .35 m. wide. The other two are 1.50 m. and .85 m. in maximum dimension.

The chamber decreases regularly in height and width from west to east. It is about 2.80 m. long, 1.50 m. wide at the west and 1.10 m. wide at the east end of the south side.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 119, No. 33 ("long cist"), (Pl.). *P.R.I.A.*, XXII (1900), 85 ("Dermot and Grania's Bed").

95. **Ballycroum.** O.S. 19: 16: 3 (86.9 cm., 10.5 cm.). "Tobergrania. Holy Well." O.D. 800-900. R 545 885. Fig. 48. Plate 16.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is very well preserved. The sides of the main chamber each consist of two stones. It is covered by two slightly overlapping roofstones. The west end is closed by a single slab reaching almost to the roof. Two pillar-like stones set west of this slab form a short portico, and two stones at the east continue the line of the chamber sides beyond the roof. One large outer-wall stone remains in situ close to the south side of the chamber. Traces of a mound measuring approximately 7.00 m. in diameter partly surround the tomb. Two prostrate slabs .80 m. and .65 m. in maximum dimen-

sion lie near the edge of the mound. A third slab, maximum dimension .80 m., lies beyond the mound to the west.

The more westerly stone of the south side of the main chamber is 1.85 m. long, .60 m. high and .25 m. to .40 m. thick. The stone adjoining it is 1.15 m. long, .40 m. high and .25 m. to .40 m. thick. The top edges of both stones are straight and flat. A slab, .70 m. long and .15 m. thick, laid flat on top of these two stones, spans the gap between them and supports the western roofstone. Several spalls of stone are jammed between it and the roofstone. The roofstone also rests on the outer-wall stone which measures 1.75 m. long, .55 m. high and .40 m. thick.

The western stone of the south side of the chamber is 1.80 m. long, .75 m. high and .30 m. to .50 m. thick. Two small slabs resting on its broad flat top surface support the western roofstone. The more westerly of these is .50 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. thick, and the eastern 1.10 m. long and .15 m. thick. The second stone on this side is 1.30 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. to .40 m. thick.

The large western roofstone is 2.35 m. long, 2.60 m. wide and .30 m. to .50 m. thick. It overlaps the lower roofstone to a maximum distance of .40 m. This slab is 1.10 m. long, 1.95 m. in greatest width and .20 m. thick. It rests on the sidestones.

The closing slab at the west is 1.25 m. long, .80 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. A "scoop" on its top edge is probably natural. The two well-matched stones at its north and south ends form a portico 1.90 m. wide and 1.00 m. deep. The northern stone is .80 m. long, .90 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick, and the southern is .70 m. long, .75 m. high and .25 m. thick. The two stones continuing the line of the chamber walls eastwards are each .60 m. long, .50 m. high and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. These stones suggest the possibility of a rear chamber.

The main chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.50 m. wide at the west, .95 m. wide at the east end of the roof, .80 m. high at the west and .45 m. high at the east edge of the roof. It measures 3.80 m. long to the end of the northern side.

The floor of the chamber is covered with a deposit of mud. The tomb is locally considered to be a holy well and offerings of coins, some quite recent, medals, broken glass, etc., lie on the lower roofstone. The interior of the chamber is littered with broken glass.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 95, No. 19.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 119, No. 33 ("Tobergrania"), (Pl.). *P.R.I.A.*, XXII (1900), 85 ff. (Pl., Drg.).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 24, 156.

96. **Cappaghbaun Mountain.** O.S. 21: 9: 2 (12.1 cm., 30.0 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 800-900. R 661 904. Fig. 48. Plate 16.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands near the south-east end of the Slieve Aughty mountains on the western slopes of the valley of the Bow River. The view is confined to the valley sides except towards the south and south-east where there are extensive views over Lough Derg. The land in the vicinity is rough heather-covered bog with occasional patches of grass and rushes.

The tomb is exceptionally neat in construction. It is well preserved except for the roofstone, which is displaced. The chamber, consisting of two sidestones and a backstone, is surrounded on all sides except the west by outer-walling. Low traces of a mound extending to a distance of 3.00 m. are visible to the south and east of the tomb. Loose stones up to .75 m. in maximum dimension lie on and around the mound.

Both sidestones have flat inner faces and rounded outer sides. The northern is 2.20 m. long and .20 m. to .50 m. thick. It is 1.05 m. high near the west and its top edge slopes down to the east where only .40 m. of its height is exposed. The southern sidestone leans outward. It is 1.95 m. long, 1.00 m. high near the west, .60 m. high near the east and .30 m. to .55 m. thick. Its fairly straight top edge slopes down to the east. The inner portion of the backstone fits neatly between the sidestones. It is 1.10 m.

long, .80 m. high and .35 m. thick. The roofstone rests on the southern sidestone, the backstone and against the northern sidestone. Its western edge is buried in the chamber. It measures 2.20 m. long, 1.10 m. wide and .40 m. thick.

The three outer-wall stones on the north are set end to end and close to the chamber side. Their heights from west to east respectively are 1.40 m., .40 m. and .50 m. The more westerly is a pillar-like stone, .70 m. long and .35 m. to .45 m. thick. It rises .75 m. above the west end of the sidestone. The remaining stones are both .80 m. long. The eastern is .25 m. to .30 m. thick; the back of the middle stone is hidden but it is at least .15 m. thick. The outer-wall stone at the east is set .60 m. behind the backstone of the chamber. It is 1.40 m. long, .85 m. high and .35 m. thick. It leans outwards.

The more westerly of the three outer-wall stones at the south is somewhat displaced and leans heavily outward. It is .75 m. long, .30 m. thick and, if erect, would be about .75 m. high. The remaining two stones are set in line. The western is .50 m. long, .50 m. high and .20 m. thick, and the eastern is .75 m. long, .70 m. high and .35 m. thick. Lying prostrate outside the entry to the chamber is a stone 1.65 m. long, .45 m. wide and .50 m. thick. It could be portion of the roof or perhaps a displaced outer-wall stone matching the high stone opposite it.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is approximately 2.00 m. long and narrows from 1.30 m. wide at the west to .85 m. at the east. The side-stones rise 1.00 m. above the floor at the west. The east end of the chamber is largely filled with debris.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 94, No. 17.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 120, No. 36 (Pl., Ph.).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 24, 251.

97. **Tyredagh Upper.** O.S. 27: 13: 1 (1.2 cm., 12.3 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. R 453 824. Fig. 49. Plate 17.

Unclassified

The monument stands on the eastern bank of a streamlet which flows through a flat-bottomed valley about 100 yards wide. The valley is flanked to east and west by limestone ledges covered with scrub. The view is confined except towards the north where a low rounded hill stands at the head of the valley. The land in the valley is wet rushy pasture.

The monument is much disturbed. The remains consist of a gallery, aligned almost due north-south.¹ The north end is closed by two slabs. The chamber, from these slabs to a distance of 1.75 m. towards the south, is dug out to a depth of 1.00 m. and the bases of the sidestones are exposed. A mound, measuring about 11.50 m. east-west and 10.50 m. north-south, surrounds the tomb. Its edges are easily traced except towards the west where the ground slopes down to the stream. At the south-west the slope to the stream is especially sharp. Several large prostrate slabs lie west of the gallery and some loose blocks (not on plan), maximum dimension .50 m. to 1.00 m., lie scattered elsewhere on the surface of the mound.

The east side of the gallery is slightly curved, being built of two slabs set end to end and at a slight angle to each other. The more southerly is 2.65 m. long, .75 m. in maximum height and .20 m. to .35 m. thick. The second slab is 2.30 m. long, .85 m. in maximum height and .20 m. thick. Both stones lean inwards. Small stones, probably packing stones, are visible beneath the exposed parts of their bases.

The west wall of the gallery is also slightly curved. It consists of four stones. The more northerly is 2.20 m. long, 1.60 m. in maximum height and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. Its base is exposed. Its top edge is .60 m. higher than the sidestone on the opposite side of the chamber. The second stone on this side overlaps the last and is set skew to the general line of the gallery side. It measures .80 m. long, .90 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. Its top is pointed. There is a gap of .45 m. between it and the remaining two stones of the gallery side. The more northerly of these is 1.00 m. long, .30 m. high and .15 m. thick, and the southern 1.30 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick.

1. The usual east-west convention is not followed in this description.

The north end of the chamber is closed by two transverse slabs set inside the ends of the gallery walls. They stand end to end and are a maximum distance of .15 m. apart. The eastern measures .80 m. long, 1.45 m. high and .25 m. thick and the western 1.10 m. long, 1.10 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. The eastern stone leans inwards. Its top edge reaches the same level as the adjoining sidestone. The bases of these stones reach about .50 m. deeper than those of the sidestones.

Two stones partially exposed in the southern face of the hollow dug in the chamber seem to run transversely across the chamber. The more easterly measures 1.00 m. long and .70 m. high and the other .60 m. long and .50 m. high. Their bases seem to be approximately at the same level as that of the backstone. Their tops reach to the height of the bases of the sidestones. The significance of these stones cannot be determined without excavation.

Two stones stand immediately outside the western side of the gallery near its centre. That nearest the gallery is .80 m. long, .70 m. high and .40 m. thick. It is not set. The other, measuring 1.10 m. long, .35 m. wide and .20 m. thick, is firmly set but may not be structural. Two large prostrate slabs, each 1.70 m. in maximum dimension, lie at the north-west. Other large slabs to the north-east may be natural.

The gallery measures 4.75 m. long from the backstones to the end of the southern stone of the west side, and is about 2.30 m. in average width.

In its present condition the tomb cannot be definitely classified. It would be possible to treat the inturned stone in the centre of the western side as a form of jamb. The curve in the walls might likewise suggest a segmentation at this point. The partially concealed stones in the hole cannot be interpreted with any confidence but might suggest supports for a dividing stone or stones. Westropp's plan, though obviously inaccurate, was made when the tomb was better preserved. It does suggest interpretation as a Court Cairn and this would be consistent with the remains.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 87, No. 2 (Pl. Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 108, No. 22 (Pl.). *P.R.I.A.*, XX (1896-8), 546.

Mahr: *P.P.S.*, III (1937), 346.

98. **Tyredagh Lower.** O.S. 27: 13: 1 (5.1 cm., 10.3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 200-300. R 457 822. Fig. 50. Plate 17.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a small potato garden adjoining a farmyard. The view is at present restricted by the high garden walls except towards the west. Here the ground falls gently for some 200 or 300 yards and then rises to an undulating plain. The land in the vicinity is mostly under pasture and meadow. Trees grow around the farm and along the road fence to the north.

The tomb is fairly well preserved. The north side of the chamber consists of three stones set in line. Two stones only of the south side remain. A single large block closing the east end of the chamber has collapsed outward. Across the west end of the north side of the chamber is a transverse slab which appears to have formed part of an entry feature. A large slab covers the east end of the chamber. To the east, and resting on the chamber sides, are three large displaced slabs. Some traces of mound surround the tomb but its perimeter is difficult to trace because of a dump of field stones around the east end of the chamber.

The more westerly stone of the north side of the chamber is 1.30 m. long, .80 m. high and .20 m. thick. Its top edge is rough and somewhat curved and may be broken. It is .50 m. lower than the adjoining stone to the east, which is 1.30 m. long, 1.20 m. high at the west, 1.10 m. high at the east and .20 m. thick. Its straight top edge slopes down to the east. The top edge of the third stone on this side slopes rather more sharply. This stone is 1.65 m. long, .90 m. high at the west, .60 m. high at the east and .30 m. to .40 m. thick. A small packing stone, .40 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick, is set outside the junction of this stone and the last.

At least one stone appears to be missing from the west end of the south side of the chamber. The more westerly of the two remaining stones measures 1.45 m. long,

·70 m. high at the west, ·55 m. high at the east and ·35 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down from west to east. There is a gap of ·85 m. between it and the second stone which is 1·15 m. long, ·50 m. high and ·30 m. thick. Its top is pointed.

The western edge of the backstone, which seems to have been its original base, is 1·00 m. long. If erect, the stone would be about ·80 m. high. It is at least ·35 m. thick. The stone at the north-west corner of the entry is 1·00 m. long, ·85 m. high and ·30 m. thick. Its top edge is rough and uneven. South of it lies a prostrate stone of unknown function measuring ·75 m. in maximum dimension and ·15 m. thick.

The portion of the roof covering the east end of the chamber is triangular in shape and is 2·40 m. long and 2·60 m. wide across its west end. The slab leaning on the north side of the chamber measures 2·40 m. by 1·40 m. The slab resting on the opposite side is 1·70 m. by 1·60 m. These three slabs are each ·25 m. to ·30 m. thick. They may be fragments of a single stone.

The chamber measures 4·40 m. long from the west edge of the backstone to the transverse slab at the entry. It narrows from 1·70 m. wide at the west end of the south side to 1·25 m. wide at the backstone. It is lowest at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 87, No. 1 (Pl. Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 110, No. 22 (Pl.). *P.R.I.A.*, XX (1896-8), 547.

99. **Rosslara.** O.S. 27: 16: 1 (75·2 cm., 8·7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. R 531 819. Fig. 49. Plate 17.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The monument stands close to a fence on the brow of a ridge of meadow land overlooking Maryfort and Castle Loughs. Beyond these small lakes the ground rises to a round wooded hill. Northwards the mountains west of Lough Graney are visible. The land in the vicinity is mostly under meadow and pasture and supports some trees.

The tomb, which is very ruined, is said by Westropp to have collapsed in the spring of 1898. Three stones of the north side of the chamber remain. The two at the west now lie prostrate and are partly concealed by the roofstone. Two of the three stones on the south side of the chamber are certainly sidestones. Three loose boulder-like stones (not on plan), maximum dimension ·70 m., lie nearby.

The western stone of the north side of the chamber measures 1·70 m. long, ·90 m. wide at the west, ·80 m. wide at the east and ·30 m. thick. Its north edge appears to have been the original top edge. Two stones, ·50 m. and ·15 m. in maximum dimension, respectively, are jammed between it and the overlying roofstone. The roof also rests on the second prostrate stone on this side, which measures ·90 m. by ·90 m. and ·25 m. thick. The set stone at the east is ·85 m. long, ·40 m. high and ·20 m. to ·30 m. thick. The eastern stone of the south side of the chamber is erect and is ·65 m. long, ·30 m. high and ·10 m. thick. The second stone on this side leans heavily to the north. It is ·75 m. long, ·25 m. thick and if erect would be ·65 m. high. West of this, a prostrate stone, maximum dimension ·65 m., may be a displaced sidestone. The roofstone measures 2·80 m. long east-west, and 2·40 m. wide north-south.

Chamber dimensions cannot be given. However, the dimensions of the prostrate sidestone at the west of the north side of the chamber suggest that it was probably highest at the west. The remains, taken in conjunction with Westropp's account,¹ leave little doubt that the tomb belonged to the Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave class.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 93, No. 14 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 116, No. 30 (Pl.).

100. **Ballyslattery or Newgrove.** O.S. 35: 1: 1 (1·2 cm., 53·1 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 100-200. R 453 803. Fig. 51. Plates 17 and 21.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated in gently undulating country about one-third of a mile north-west of Newgrove Bridge. From the tomb the ground falls gently to the north-

1. The orientation in *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 109, seems to be incorrect.

north-west, and then rises to a low rounded hill overlooking the site. The fields in the area are mostly meadows but some tillage is undertaken. The lower ground and hollows are somewhat marshy.

The tomb is well preserved and retains its roof. The north and south sidestones of the chamber and a slab closing its west end remain in situ. Two stones, which appear to be a single stone split into two pieces, continue the line of the north side of the chamber beyond the closing stone at the west. Outer-walling is present at the north and south sides of the chamber. Four stones north-west of the chamber may be the remains of a kerb. A loose block, measuring .60 m. by .60 m. by .60 m. lying at the east end of the chamber, has a round depression, .27 m. wide and .09 m. deep, in its eastern face. This hollow appears to be artificial. The stone is apparently a sandstone, differing from the limestone of the tomb. It may well be of the bullaun type with no original connection with the grave. The mound which partly surrounds the tomb is cut at the south by a ditch and fence which runs close to the chamber. The dimensions of the portion remaining are 13.50 m. east-west and 7.50 m. north-south. The original mound would seem to have been approximately circular in shape.

The northern sidestone is 3.00 m. long, 1.10 m. high at the west, .95 m. high near the east and .20 m. to .35 m. thick. Its top edge is flaked and may be dressed. Its west end is flush with the outer face of the closing stone. The southern sidestone leans slightly outward. It is 1.80 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Its prow-like west end touches the upper portion of the closing stone but recedes .20 m. inwards from it at ground level. The western closing stone measures 1.95 m. long, 1.10 m. high and .20 m. thick. An area, approximating in shape to a quadrant of a circle, on the inner face of its northern corner is shallowly flaked. Its top southern corner is broken off and the surface here is also flaked. The split stone continuing the line of the north side of the chamber may be the sidestone of a portico. The southern piece is 1.05 m. long, .50 m. high and .25 m. thick, and the northern .80 m. long, .55 m. high and .15 m. thick.

The roofstone rests on the two sidestones and on a small boulder .35 m. in maximum dimension resting on the north corner of the closing stone at the west. It is 2.50 m. long and narrows from 2.20 m. wide at the west to 1.60 m. wide near the east.

The three stones of outer-walling at the south lean outwards. The eastern is 1.30 m. long, .70 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick. It overlaps the next which is .45 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. thick. The third stone is somewhat closer to the chamber. It is .95 m. long, .60 m. high and .15 m. thick.

Four outer-wall stones remain north of the chamber. The more westerly has collapsed outwards and is now almost prostrate. It is .90 m. long, .30 m. thick and if erect would be 1.65 m. high. The next stone leans very heavily to the north. It is .85 m. long, .25 m. to .30 m. thick and, if erect, would be 1.50 m. high. The third stone is 1.10 m. long, 1.05 m. high and .20 m. thick, and the fourth is .95 m. long, .20 m. high and .10 m. thick. These two stones are nearly erect. Outside the more easterly stone of the row is a small well set stone measuring .35 m. long, .15 m. high and .07 m. thick.

The four stones in the north-west of the mound are moss-covered. The three more westerly of these are probably kerb stones. They are from .50 m. to .60 m. long and are from .25 m. to .45 m. in height. The fourth stone, at the east, appears to be pitched inwards. It is .85 m. long and .30 m. thick.

The chamber is about 2.50 m. long and decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.65 m. wide at the west and 1.25 m. wide at the east end of the south side. It is about 1.15 m. high at the west and 1.00 m. high at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 89, No. 3 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 114, No. 26 (Pl.).

101. Milltown. O.S. 35: 1: 6 (15.6 cm., 49.4 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 100-200. R 468 799. Fig. 52. Plate 17.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on level pasture land south of the road from Newgrove to Tulla. The soil in the area is thin and the underlying crag is exposed in places. Large patches are covered in scrub.

The tomb is well preserved. The chamber sides and the east and west ends are formed of single slabs all about .45 m. thick. The roofstone, which varies from .20 m. to .40 m. in thickness, rests on the sidestones.

The northern sidestone leans inwards and the upper part of its prow-like west end touches the slab closing the west end of the chamber. It is 2.45 m. long, .90 m. high at the west and .75 m. high at the east. The southern sidestone is 1.50 m. long, .85 m. high at the west and .75 m. high at the east. There is a gap of .50 m. between it and the backstone. Outside its east end is a set stone, .40 m. long, .15 m. thick and .10 m. high, which may be a packing stone. The slab closing the west end of the chamber is 1.85 m. long and 1.00 m. high. A gap of .15 m. remains between its top edge and the roof. The backstone leans inwards. It is 1.60 m. long and .65 m. high. The space between its top edge and the roof varies from .15 m. to .50 m. in depth. The roofstone is 2.70 m. long and varies from 1.50 m. to 2.50 m. in width. A low pile of grass-grown earth and stones lies on the roof.

The chamber is 2.40 m. long. It decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.55 m. wide at the west and 1.50 m. wide at the east end of the southern sidestone and is 1.05 m. high at the west and .75 m. high at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90, Nos. 4-10, last of group described p. 92 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 113, No. 25 (K), (Pl.).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 24 (mentions seven "Giants Graves" in Milltown Townland).

102. Lismeehan or Maryfort. O.S. 35: 4: 1 (69.6 cm., 58.5 cm.). "Cromlech."
O.D. 100-200. R 525 807. Fig. 52. Plate 17.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on a low hill some 500 yards south of Maryfort House. It stands in a tilled field surrounded by gently rolling parkland with occasional groves of heavy timber.

The tomb is very ruined. The remains consist of the northern sidestone of a chamber and a displaced roofstone resting against it. The sidestone is 1.25 m. long, .95 m. high at the west, .55 m. high at the east and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. Its uneven top edge slopes down from west to east. The north side of the roofstone rests against the top edge of the sidestone. Its southern edge is concealed. The slab measures 2.40 m. long, 1.55 m. wide and .25 m. to .30 m. thick. Two low set stones at the east and west ends of the chamber may be the bases of larger stones. The western is .45 m. long, .15 m. high and .05 m. to .15 m. thick, and that at the east is .45 m. long, .30 m. high and .10 m. thick. An almost circular mound, approximately 4.50 m. in diameter and 1.00 m. high, surrounds the tomb. As the monument has been used as a dump for field stones the greater part of this mound is probably not original.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 94, No. 15 (Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 115, No. 29 (Pl.).

103. Clogher. O.S. 35: 4: 6 (89.6 cm., 51.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200.
R 546 800. Fig. 50. Plate 18.

Portal Dolmen

The monument is inconspicuously sited on rough boulder-strewn ground in a grove of trees immediately south of the first bend on the northern avenue leading to Derrymore House. Some 200 yards distant to the south-east the ground falls sharply towards Coolbaun Lough. A pile of large natural boulders lies close to the tomb.

The tomb is ruined. A massive roofstone overlies the collapsed and broken chamber. The entry is formed by a transverse slab set behind two portal stones. The upper parts of the portal stones have been broken from their bases and two large slabs protruding from beneath the west end of the roofstone may be the detached parts. Two other large slabs protrude from under the east end of the roofstone. The base of a broken backstone remains in situ at the east end of the chamber. Some low indefinite traces of a mound are visible around the west end of the tomb.

The base of the northern portal stone is broken into two parts and the top edges of these are fractured. Together these measure 1.25 m. long, .25 m. thick and vary from .40 m. to .55 m. in height. The large almost prostrate slab at the north-west corner of the tomb is probably the original top part of this portal stone. It measures 2.00 m. long (east-west), 1.40 m. wide and .25 m. to .30 m. thick. Its eastern edge is concealed. On the opposite side the roofstone is supported on a stone leaning to the north and measuring .85 m. long, .50 m. high and .15 m. thick. This slab is not certainly in situ. Immediately to the south is a stone also leaning inwards and measuring .60 m. long, .25 m. high and .20 m. thick. East of it is a block .50 m. long, .25 m. high and .25 m. thick, firmly embedded, but of unknown function. A great prostrate slab 2.40 m. long (east-west), 1.75 m. wide and .20 m. thick lies at the south-west corner of the tomb. This slab may well be the top portion of a southern portal stone. The base of the southern portal would then be represented by one or other of the two larger set stones under the south-west part of the roofstone, more probably the more southerly of the pair.

The transverse slab at the entry leans heavily to the east, and is broken into two pieces. It is 1.80 m. long, .10 m. to .30 m. thick and, if erect, would be 1.10 m. high. Two stones of uncertain function are embedded in the ground at its north end. The more westerly of these is .65 m. long, .20 m. thick and .10 m. high, and the eastern .55 m. long, .20 m. thick and .10 m. high.

The two large slabs lying prostrate under the roofstone towards the east appear to be the displaced north and south sidestones of the chamber. The northern measures 2.00 m. east-west, 1.90 m. north-south and .25 m. thick, and the southern 2.70 m. long, 1.40 m. in maximum width and .35 m. thick. Under the east end of the roofstone the broken base of the backstone, .80 m. long, .35 m. high and .20 m. thick, remains apparently in situ. East of it is a small stone, .35 m. long, .20 m. thick and .25 m. high, embedded in the ground.

The roofstone is an enormous block measuring 4.75 m. long and 4.30 m. in maximum width. It varies in thickness from 1.20 m. at the west to 1.50 m. near the centre and 1.15 m. at the east. It rests on the two collapsed sidestones, the transverse slab at the west, the northern portal and the more northerly of the stones at the south-west corner of the tomb.

A reconstruction as a Portal Dolmen appears very likely and accounts well for the remains. In particular the portal arrangement and the huge roofstone are typical features of the class. If the prostrate slabs to the west are, indeed, the top portions of the portals the entry would have been about 2.50 m. high. The chamber would seem to have been about 1.50 m. long.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 117, No. 31 (Pl., Drg., called Derrymore on Plan).

104. **Moymore.** O.S. 35: 5: 2 (14.5 cm., 39.5 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 100-200. R 467 788. Fig. 51. Plate 18.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The monument is situated in a meadow on level pasture land some 600 yards east of the Toomen River.

The tomb, which is very ruined and overgrown, is used as a dump for field stones. Two stones of the south side of the chamber remain. The more easterly of these is 2.15 m. long, .80 m. high at the west, .45 m. high at the east and .30 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down from west to east. The second stone leans inwards and its northern face is concealed. It is 1.25 m. long and .65 m. high. West of it lies a prostrate and partly concealed slab measuring 1.10 m. long, .60 m. broad and .30 m. thick.

One stone of the north side of the chamber appears to remain in situ. It is .80 m. long, .40 m. high and .15 m. thick. It leans inwards and its southern face is concealed. Two stones to the north of it are probably displaced. The more southerly is .60 m. long, .25 m. high and .20 m. thick, and the northern is .75 m. long, .35 m. wide and .25 m. high.

A slab, 1.60 m. long, 1.20 m. wide and .25 m. thick, which lies over the stone taken to be the northern sidestone, may be a roofstone. Towards the north-east end of the

tomb is a prostrate slab which may also be a roofstone. It is 1.80 m. in maximum dimension and .25 m. thick.

Two small set stones at the north-east corner of the monument may be outer-wall stones. The more easterly is .50 m. long, .30 m. high and .15 m. thick, and the western .30 m. long, .30 m. high and .25 m. thick.

The original dimensions of the chamber cannot be given. The slope of the top edge of the larger sidestone on the south side of the chamber suggests that the chamber was probably highest at the west. The low mound around the structure is largely due to the accumulation of field stones. Though certainty is impossible the most likely interpretation is as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

(Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 92, Nos. 11, 12 and 13. The "cists" described are in Caherloghan Townland.)

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 115, No. 28 (Pl.).

BARONY OF TULLA LOWER

105. **Elmhill.** O.S. 36: 9: 5 (7.8 cm., 16.3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200.
R 557 762. Fig. 53. Plate 18.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on the top of a ridge in rolling country about two-thirds of a mile north of Doon Lough. The land in the vicinity provides good pasture but the lower ground between the hills is damp and boggy. The site occupies a commanding position with extensive views eastward towards the Slieve Bernagh mountains.

The tomb is very ruined. One stone, apparently the sidestone of a chamber, remains erect. It is 2.25 m. long and .40 m. thick. Part of the upper western portion of the slab may be missing as the present top edge of this end of the stone is now rough and uneven. The remaining portion of the top edge slopes down from west to east. The stone is .65 m. high at the west, .95 m. high at the west end of the surviving straight edge and .70 m. high at the east. A slab, perhaps a displaced roofstone, which measures 1.70 m. high, 1.50 m. long and .50 m. thick leans against the east end of the sidestone. Two prostrate slabs lie at the east end of the tomb. That at the south is 1.50 m. by 1.00 m. and .35 m. thick, and that at the north .60 m. by .50 m. and .20 m. thick.

The slope of the top edge of the sidestone indicates that it was originally highest at the west and suggests that the tomb may have been a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 96, No. 1.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 122, No. 37 (Pl.).

106. **Bealkelly (Purdon).** O.S. 37: 1: 2 (14.2 cm., 57.3 cm.). "Cromlech (Remains of)."
O.D. 800-900. R 662 804. Fig. 53. Plate 18.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on a north-eastern spur of the Slieve Bernagh mountains overlooking Lough Derg. The land in the vicinity is very wet and boggy but provides some rough pasture.

The monument is ruined and is heavily overgrown with gorse and rushes. The tomb consists of a long chamber with outer-walling along both sides. The west end of the chamber is closed by a single transverse slab 1.95 m. long, .80 m. high and .25 m. thick, and one stone 1.15 m. long, .80 m. high and .25 m. thick, set west of this suggests the presence of a portico. There are some traces of a surrounding mound but definition of its perimeter is impossible because of the overgrowth.

The main chamber is partly filled. Three stones of the south side remain. The more westerly of these articulates neatly with the segmenting slab. It is 1.50 m. long, .85 m. high at the west, .60 m. high at the east and .30 m. to .40 m. thick. Its top edge slopes

down from west to east. The second stone is 1.00 m. long, .20 m. high and .25 m. thick. It is partly concealed. The remaining stone, which is 1.20 m. further to the east, is .70 m. long, .50 m. high at the west and .35 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down sharply to the east and disappears into the ground.

The more westerly of the five remaining stones of the north side of the chamber is 1.80 m. distant from the west end. It is .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .12 m. thick. The next stone in line is .70 m. long, .35 m. high and .20 m. to .40 m. thick. The third stone is .85 m. long, .20 m. high and .15 m. thick. These three stones form a somewhat irregular line and are largely concealed. The fourth stone is 1.00 m. long, .45 m. high and .20 m. thick and the last stone, at the east, is 1.60 m. long, .40 m. wide and .12 m. high. Its east end is concealed.

The outer-walling on the south consists of four stones set about .50 m. distant from the chamber side. The dimensions of these stones, from west to east respectively, are: .75 m. long, .45 m. high and .15 m. thick; .75 m. long, .35 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick; 1.10 m. long, .45 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick; .80 m. long, .45 m. high and .20 m. thick.

Four outer-wall stones remain north of the chamber. The more westerly stone leans heavily to the north but its base is probably in situ. It is 1.00 m. long, .75 m. high and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. The next stone, which leans slightly outward, is .80 m. long, .40 m. high and .20 m. thick. The third stone is set inside the general line of the wall. It is .65 m. long, .30 m. high and .12 m. thick. The last stone of the walling, at the east, leans outwards and is .80 m. long, .60 m. high and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. Two prostrate slabs lying north of the walling measure respectively 1.00 m. in maximum dimension and .50 m. in maximum dimension and are both .30 m. thick. These may be displaced outer-wall stones.

The tomb decreases in height and width from west to east. The main chamber is 6.00 m. long from the west endstone to the end of the north side. It is approximately 1.40 m. to 1.50 m. wide at the west and 1.30 m. wide at the present east end of the south side.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 123, No. 38.

107. **Violethill.** O.S. 44: 2: 1 (25.2 cm., 54.5 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 500-600. R 575 739. Fig. 53. Plate 18.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on the south-western slope of the Slieve Bernagh mountains commanding a wide view of the Broadford valley and the lake-studded lowlands to the west. It stands on rough pasture somewhat above the limit of the arable land. Much of the mountain slope is covered with ferns and gorse. A narrow belt of coniferous trees grows along the boundary of an estate some 50 yards to the south.

The tomb has partly collapsed and the east end of the chamber is concealed in the surrounding mound. The mound, which appears to have been used as a dump for field stones, is more or less circular in shape but its perimeter is difficult to trace at the south. It is about 10.00 m. in diameter.

Two stones of the north side of the chamber and two of the south are visible. The more westerly stone of the southern side leans outwards. It is 1.40 m. long, .85 m. high at the west, .35 m. high at the east and .30 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down sharply from west to east. The second stone on this side has collapsed inwards and its east end is concealed. It is at least .80 m. long, .15 m. thick, and would seem to have been at least .45 m. high when erect. Its top edge is straight. The stone at the west end of the north side of the chamber leans inwards and is 1.00 m. long, .50 m. high and .25 m. to .30 m. thick. The second stone on this side is partly concealed. It is at least 1.35 m. long, .40 m. thick and .40 m. high. A roofstone rests rather precariously on the western part of the chamber. It is 1.85 m. long, 1.55 m. in maximum width and .35 m. to .40 m. thick.

One outer-wall stone remains south of the chamber and another some 3.00 m. eastwards from it. The first of these leans heavily outward, and is .75 m. long, .65 m.

high and .30 m. thick. The second is .85 m. long, .60 m. high and .30 m. thick. A slab set in front of the chamber entry leans heavily to the west. It may have originally closed the chamber entry or may be, possibly, an outer-wall stone. It is 1.20 m. long, .50 m. high and .20 m. to .50 m. thick. Three displaced slabs lying on the mound each measure 1.00 m. in maximum dimension.

The chamber is highest and was probably widest at the west. It is 1.20 m. wide at the west and seems to be at least 2.50 m. long.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 124, No. 40 (Pl.).

108. **Drummin.** O.S. 44: 2: 1 (30.2 cm., 57.8 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 600-700. R 580 742. Fig. 54. Plate 18.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on level ground at the head of a narrow valley on the south-western slopes of the Slieve Bernagh mountains. To the east the land rises to a mountain ridge which overlooks the site and restricts the view. Westward the land first rises and then falls to the lake-studded lowlands of central Clare. To the north there is an extensive view across rolling plains and low hills. The pasture land in the vicinity of the tomb gives way to bracken and gorse on the higher ground and in the valley to the south.

The tomb is fairly well preserved but has been used as a dump for field stones. Two stones of the north side of the chamber and two of the south remain in situ. A single slab closes the west end of the chamber. The remains of a surrounding mound can be traced to the south but elsewhere its perimeter is ill-defined. The mound measures about 10.00 m. east-west and rises to a height of .40 m. near the chamber.

The western stone of the north side of the chamber is .60 m. long, .65 m. high at the west, .50 m. high at the east and about .25 m. thick. Its inner face is hidden. Its top edge slopes down from west to east. There is a gap of 1.00 m. between it and the next sidestone which is .85 m. long, .45 m. high at the west, .20 m. high at east and .20 m. thick. Its top edge continues the slope of the last. The western stone of the south side of the chamber is 1.00 m. long, .80 m. high at the west, .75 m. high at the east and .40 m. thick. Its top edge slopes down from west to east. The second stone on this side stands .65 m. to the east. It is 1.00 m. long, .90 in maximum height and .25 m. thick. Its western end is slightly lower than its east end.

The stone crossing the west end of the chamber is set outside the ends of the chamber sides. It is .75 m. long, .85 m. in maximum height and .25 m. thick. It is between .15 m. to .20 m. lower than the west end of the adjoining southern sidestone and about the same amount higher than the west end of the opposite side.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It measures 2.90 m. long to the present east end of the chamber sides and narrows from 1.60 m. wide at the west to 1.25 m. wide at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 97, No. 3.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 123, No. 39 (Pl.).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 24, 309.

109. **Cloongaheen West.** O.S. 44: 2: 3 (40.5 cm., 58.2 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 700-800. R 591 742. Fig. 54. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a sloping field situated high up on the south-western spur of the Slieve Bernagh mountains. The ground falls sharply to the south-east where there is an extensive view across the Broadford valley towards the Galty Mountains. The land in the vicinity provides fair pasture which some 300 yards northwards gives way to heather and gorse-covered mountain. Some coniferous trees grow around a nearby farmstead.

The remains are scant. The chamber, which is filled almost to the level of the sides, is surrounded by a grass-grown mound measuring about 6.50 m. east-west, 5.00 m. north-south and reaching a height of 1.00 m.

Two stones of the south side of the chamber remain. The western is .95 m. long and .25 m. thick. The second stone is .80 m. long and .30 m. thick. The stone of the north side of the chamber is 1.05 m. long, .25 m. in exposed height and .20 m. thick. The sidestones are all largely concealed and protrude only .15 m. to .35 m. above the filling in the chamber. Their top edges are flat and show a distinct slope from west down to east. There is a gap of 1.60 m. between the northern sidestone and the stone set across the west end of the chamber. This stone is 1.55 m. long, .90 m. high where it is exposed outside the chamber, and .25 m. thick. Its top edge reaches about .20 m. above the top of the western stone of the south side of the chamber.

The chamber measured to the east end of the sidestones is 2.65 m. long. It is 1.00 m. wide at the east and would seem to have been somewhat wider at the west. The height of the transverse slab at the west and the slope of the sidestones show that the chamber was highest at the west.

110. **Ardskeagh.** O.S. 44: 2: 5 (31.1 cm., 51.1 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 600-700. R 581 735. Fig. 54. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on the south-western slopes of the Slieve Bernagh mountains above the Ardskeagh slate quarries. Much of the land in the area is covered with gorse but there is some fair pasture in the vicinity of the tomb.

The tomb is partly concealed by a fence which runs along the north side of the chamber. Two stones of the north side and four of the south side remain in situ. The fence covers the north-west end of the gallery and the stone crossing the west end of the chamber is partly concealed. In the fence, to the north-east, the faces of two stones, probably of an outer-wall, are exposed. Another stone, similarly exposed in the face of the fence, west of the closing stone, may be the side of a portico. Resting on the chamber floor and leaning against the south side is a displaced slab, apparently a roofstone, which measures 1.30 m. by 1.25 m. and is .35 m. thick. Some low indefinite traces of a mound are visible south of the chamber.

The western stone of the south side of the chamber is 1.50 m. long, .90 m. in maximum height and .25 m. thick. Its flat top surface slopes down from west to east. The next stone in line is 1.35 m. long, .60 m. in maximum height and .25 m. to .40 m. thick. Its top edge continues the slope down to the east. The third stone is .50 m. long, .40 m. high and .20 m. thick. The remaining stone, which leans outwards, is .65 m. long, .40 m. high and .10 m. to .15 m. thick.

The more westerly stone of the north side of the chamber is 1.15 m. long, .50 m. high and at least .20 m. thick, and the eastern is .70 m. long, .40 m. high and .30 m. thick. The more westerly of the two probable outer-wall stones is .80 m. long and .50 m. high and the eastern .55 m. long and .60 m. high. The base of the western stone is exposed.

The transverse slab at the west end of the chamber is 1.00 m. high, .35 m. to .50 m. thick and 1.30 m. of its length is exposed. It is about .20 m. higher than the west end of the adjoining sidestone. A small set stone, .35 m. long, .55 m. high and .15 m. to .20 m. thick, which may be an outer-wall stone, stands near its southern end. A prostrate slab 1.00 m. in maximum dimension and .30 m. thick lies about 1.50 m. to the west. Another prostrate stone .75 m. in maximum dimension and .30 m. thick lies near the edge of the mound to the east of the chamber.

The chamber, which is highest at the west, measures 4.50 m. long to the present east end of the south side. It is .75 m. wide at the east end of the north side and seems to have broadened towards the west.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 97, No. 2.

(Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 124, No. 41 (his description refers to the site marked "Giants Grave (site of)" in Ardskeagh Td. See Appendix, No. 38.))

111. **Killokennedy.** O.S. 44: 3: 2 (59·8 cm., 59·8 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 800-900. R 612 744. Fig. 55. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The monument stands on steeply sloping ground high up on the southern slope of the Slieve Bernagh mountains. There is a fine view to the south-east down the valley of the Glenomra River to the Galty mountains. To the north the ground rises, gently at first and then more sharply, to the top of the mountain. The land in the vicinity provides rough pasture but there is much bracken and the underlying rock is exposed in places.

The tomb has pitched sharply to the south and is now a confused mass of semi-prostrate slabs. Three stones, which appear to represent the south side of the chamber, have fallen outwards and above these lie four other slabs which appear to be roofstones. At the north-east corner of the tomb the stone wall of a ruined house built along the northern side of the chamber probably conceals any remains that may exist here, but one set stone may be a sidestone of the northern side. The west end of the chamber is crossed by a single transverse stone. A pillar-like stone at its southern end, perhaps belonging to the outer-walling, has collapsed to the south. Beyond the transverse stone at the west are two stones set more or less in line and leaning heavily to the south. A large natural outcropping rock surface, over which a streamlet trickles, is exposed at the south-east corner of the tomb. A low ledge along the south side of the chamber and a grass-grown hummock at the west may represent the remains of a surrounding mound.

The northern edges of the three slabs, which appear to be the southern side of the chamber, are concealed. That at the west is 1·70 m. long and ·50 m. thick and when erect would have stood at least 1·00 m. high. The next stone, to the east, is 2·30 m. long, ·25 m. to ·30 m. thick and when erect would have been about 1·40 m. high. The third sidestone is 1·50 m. long, ·20 m. to ·35 m. thick and would have been at least ·65 m. high when erect. The stone, which may be part of the north side of the chamber, leans heavily to the south and is 1·05 m. long, ·15 m. thick and ·40 m. high.

The roofstones are all about ·25 m. thick. Their maximum dimensions from west to east respectively are: 2·15 m., 1·85 m., 1·50 m. and 1·40 m. The inner edges of the three more easterly of these are concealed.

The north end of the stone crossing the west end of the chamber is concealed. This slab is ·90 m. high and ·15 m. thick. 1·55 m. of its length is exposed. The base of the collapsed pillar-like stone to the south is probably in situ. It is ·70 m. long and ·40 m. thick and, if erect, would be 1·25 m. high. It may be an outer-wall stone. The more easterly of the two leaning stones to the west of the transverse slab is 1·10 m. long, ·15 m. to ·20 m. thick and, if erect, would be ·80 m. high, and the second is 2·00 m. long, ·15 m. to ·25 m. thick and when erect would be ·75 m. high. Their function is uncertain.

Apart from the stone at the extreme west end of the monument the whole can readily be reconstructed as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave, probably with a portico at the west represented by one stone. The main chamber would have been about 5·00 m. long. Certainty of classification is not, however, possible in its present state.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 100, No. 9.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 126, No. 44 (Pl.).

112. **Ballykelly.** O.S. 44: 5: 4 (0·8 cm., 36·2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 500-600. R 549 720. Fig. 55. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a sloping field on pasture land on the western side of Knockside Hill. Higher up the hill to the south and east the pasture gives way to rough mountain land. Gorse grows on the lower slopes of the hill. From the site there is an extensive view to north and west across the lakelands of central Clare.

The monument is ruined. The north side of the chamber and a displaced roofstone remain. The two other roofstones planned by Westropp and Borlase have since dis-

appeared. A low irregular and ill-defined mound measuring 8.50 m. east-west and a maximum of 5.50 m. north-south surrounds the tomb.

The chamber side consists of seven stones decreasing irregularly in height from west down to east. The more westerly stone is 1.00 m. long, 1.75 m. high and .30 m. to .40 m. thick. Immediately south of it is a stone 1.00 m. long, .70 m. high and .30 m. thick which seems to be a packing stone. The second stone of the chamber side is .65 m. long, 1.35 m. high and .55 m. thick. The remaining stones of the chamber side are somewhat inside the line of the first pair. Their dimensions from west to east, respectively, are: 1.00 m. long, .95 m. high and .20 m. thick; .75 m. long, 1.00 m. high and .30 m. thick; .70 m. long, .30 m. high and .25 m. thick; .60 m. long, .15 m. high and .12 m. thick.

The displaced roofstone rests against the third sidestone from the west. It measures 2.00 m. by 1.50 m. and is .25 m. to .35 m. thick. Beneath it is a prostrate stone, maximum dimension .85 m. and .25 m. thick. A small stone .30 m. long, protruding .15 m. above the ground, may be the base of a set stone perhaps belonging to the southern side of the chamber. A prostrate slab, .70 m. in maximum dimension and .30 m. thick, lies to the west of the chamber.

The extant side is so typical of a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave as to warrant the assignment of the tomb with confidence to that class. The chamber would seem to have been at least 4.50 m. long. The sidestones indicate that it was highest at the west and sloped down to the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 97, No. 4 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 124, No. 42 (Pl., Ph.).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 24, 309.

113. Cloonyconry More. O.S. 44: 7: 4 (51.8 cm., 36.2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 500-600. R 603 719. Fig. 57. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is conspicuously sited on a ridge of arable land and meadow overlooking the Broadford valley to the north. Rising ground to the south restricts the outlook in that direction. The arable land in this district extends far up the ridges before giving way to gorse and bracken-covered mountain.

The tomb is well preserved but its east end is damaged. It consists of a main chamber preceded by a short portico. The portico is separated from the remainder of the gallery by a transverse slab reaching above the chamber sides. One roofstone remains over the chamber but appears to have slipped towards the east. There are remains of outer-walling on the north and south sides of the tomb. The chamber stands towards the east end of an oval mound measuring 13.00 m. east-west and 7.00 m. north-south. The present shape of the mound does not appear to be original and may be partly due to field clearance.

The sides of the portico consist of single heavy blocks. The northern leans heavily inwards but its base may be almost in situ. It is .90 m. long, .50 m. thick and when erect would be about 1.00 m. high. The southern side of the portico remains erect. It is .90 m. long, .60 m. thick and 1.00 m. high. The segmenting stone is 1.80 m. long, .50 m. thick and .50 m. high. It is about .20 m. lower than the southern side of the portico.

One stone of the southern side of the chamber remains in situ, at the west. It is 1.60 m. long, .50 m. thick and .50 m. in maximum height. Its flat top edge slopes down from west to east. Its west end is .20 m. lower than the segmenting slab. To the east is a slab, collapsed to the north, which seems to have continued this side of the chamber. It is 1.35 m. long, .40 m. thick and, if erect, would be about .75 m. high. Further to the east is a third stone 1.00 m. long, .60 m. wide and .30 m. thick which leans heavily to the south. It may be a fallen sidestone. Beyond this again to the north-east is a stone 1.45 m. long, .80 m. high and .30 m. thick, which leans heavily to the north. Its function is uncertain. It may continue the chamber side or it may be an outer-wall stone. A prostrate stone .80 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. thick lies at its eastern end.

Two thin stones, running more or less parallel and standing .30 m. apart, form the west end of the north side of the chamber. These are shown as a single stone on both Borlase's and Westropp's plans. The southern is 1.50 m. long, .50 m. high and .15 m. thick, and the northern 1.65 m. long, .50 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. The side is continued by a stone 1.35 m. long, .40 m. high and .25 m. to 1.50 m. thick. Its top surface is broad and smooth.

The roofstone is 2.30 m. long, 2.20 m. in maximum width, near the west, 1.20 m. wide at the east and .25 m. to .40 m. thick. It rests directly on the west end of the north side of the chamber and on two pieces of stone .20 m. in maximum dimension on top of the other sidestone.

Two outer-wall stones remain in situ. One, set erect close to the south side of the chamber, is .85 m. long, .70 m. high and .20 m. thick. The second stands .60 m. beyond the north side of the chamber. It leans somewhat outwards and is .75 m. long, .40 m. high and .25 m. thick. Lying beside it is a large prostrate slab which may be a displaced outer-wall stone. It is 2.05 m. long, .80 m. wide and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. A stone of uncertain function, 1.75 m. long, .50 m. wide and .40 m. thick, lies at the south-west corner of the tomb. It may possibly be a displaced outer-wall stone.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. The original length of the gallery cannot be ascertained. The portico is about 1.00 m. long and the main chamber would seem to have been at least 2.70 m. long. The main chamber is 1.30 m. wide at the west and 1.10 m. wide at the east end of the erect southern sidestone.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 99, No. 7 or 8 (Pl., Drg.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 127, No. 46, "first" (Pl.).

114. **Clonyconry More.** O.S. 44: 7: 4 (52.0 cm., 35.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. R 603 718. Fig. 56. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument, which lies about 150 yards south-east of the last (Cl. 113), stands on a lower part of the same ridge.

The tomb is ruined. Two stones of the north side of the chamber and one of the south side remain in situ. A transverse stone crosses the west end. West of this lies a displaced stone, 1.00 m. in maximum dimension and .50 m. thick, of unknown function.

The southern sidestone leans slightly inwards. It is 1.70 m. long, .75 m. high and .55 m. thick. Its top surface is broad and uneven. The western stone of the north side of the chamber is 1.30 m. long, .35 m. high and .45 m. thick. The second stone is 1.50 m. long, .35 m. high and .45 m. thick. The stone crossing the west end of the chamber is slightly higher than the sidestones. It is 1.50 m. long, .60 m. high and .50 m. thick. Its top edge is flat.

The chamber decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 2.60 m. long to the end of the north side, 1.15 m. wide at the west and 1.05 m. wide at the east.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 99, No. 7 or 8.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 127, No. 46, "second" (Pl.).

115. **Formoyle More.** O.S. 44: 10: 3 (41.2 cm., 25.1 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 500-600. R 591 707. Fig. 58. Plate 20.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on a bracken and gorse covered hill-side some 150 yards east of the Broadford-Limerick road. The ground falls to the north-west into the Broadford valley beyond which the low lakelands of central Clare can be seen. Northwards beyond the valley the western end of the Slieve Bernagh mountains are visible. The land in the vicinity of the tomb provides some grazing.

The monument is well preserved but the ruins of a rectangular hut abut on the southern side of the tomb. This hut, which is open at its eastern end, measures internally 4.50 m. long and about 1.70 m. wide. The walls average 1.00 m. thick and are faced with slabs set upright and varying from .45 m. to 1.00 m. long and .20 m. to .70 m. high.

The backs of most of these are concealed. In several places gaps between the slabs are filled with dry-stone walling composed of stones varying from .20 m. to 1.00 m. in maximum dimension. Two stones in the southern face of the northern hut-wall may be original outer-wall stones of the tomb utilized by the hut-builders. An outhouse of somewhat similar construction adjoins the ruins of a house about fifty yards east of the tomb.

The tomb consists of a main chamber preceded by a short portico. Two roofstones, which appear to be in original position, cover the greater portion of the main chamber. One outer-wall stone remains in situ close to the north side of the chamber. Some stones on the south side may also be outer-wall stones but the presence of the hut wall leaves their interpretation somewhat ambiguous. Some meagre remains of a surrounding mound are present but the uneven nature of the ground makes definition impossible.

The southern side of the portico, consisting of a single stone, remains in situ. It is a pillar-like stone reaching above the level of the main chamber roof and measuring .75 m. long, .50 m. thick and 1.35 m. high. The north side of the portico is missing but either or both of the two prostrate stones at the north-west corner of the tomb may be the missing side. The more westerly of these is 1.40 m. long, .75 m. wide and .30 m. thick. The second stone is partly concealed beneath the last. It is 1.45 m. long, .75 m. wide and .30 m. thick. The stone separating the ante-chamber from the main chamber has collapsed outwards. It is 1.45 m. long, .20 m. to .25 m. thick and, if erect, would be at least .75 m. high. A displaced stone 1.00 m. in maximum dimension lies prostrate 1.30 m. beyond the gallery to the west.

The south side of the chamber consists of five stones. The backs of these stones, with the exception of the most easterly, are concealed in the wall of the hut but they all seem to be at least .25 m. thick. Their dimensions from west to east, respectively, are: .95 m. long, .75 m. high; .60 m. long, .65 m. high; .75 m. long, .80 m. high; .70 m. long, .60 m. high; 1.30 m. long, .60 m. high. Leaning against the last is a stone, possibly displaced from the northern side of the chamber, which measures 1.20 m. long, .60 m. wide and .25 m. thick.

The dimensions of the four stones remaining in situ on the north side of the chamber are, from west to east, respectively: .95 m. long, .65 m. high and .30 m. thick; .60 m. long, .70 m. high, .20 m. to .30 m. thick; .75 m. long, .60 m. high, .40 m. thick; .65 m. long, .70 m. high and .25 m. thick. There is some dry-stone work between the two more westerly stones of this side but it is very loose and may not be original.

The western roofstone is 1.30 m. long, 1.70 m. in maximum width and .25 m. to .35 m. thick. It rests on the western stone of the south side of the chamber and on three small stones, .10 m. to .30 m. in maximum dimension lying on top of the western stone of the north side of the chamber. The eastern roofstone is 1.30 m. long, 1.65 m. in maximum width and .20 m. to .30 m. thick. It rests on the middle stone of the south side of the chamber and on the middle pair of the north side.

The outer-wall stone on the north is set .30 m. from the chamber side. It is .90 m. long, .25 m. thick, .90 m. high at the east and .75 m. high at the west. A pillar-like stone standing beside the southern sidestone of the portico is almost certainly an outer-wall stone. It is .60 m. long, .35 m. thick and is .25 m. higher than the side of the portico. The two stones incorporated in the southern face of the north wall of the hut measure .90 m. long, .80 m. high at the west, .30 m. high at the east and at least .30 m. thick (western) and .65 m. long, .90 m. high and .20 m. to .25 m. thick (eastern). Their position strongly suggests that they are outer-wall stones.

The tomb decreases in height and width from west to east. The main chamber is 4.35 m. long to the present end of the south side, 1.00 m. wide at the west and .85 m. wide at the present east end of the north side. The portico would seem to have been about 1.00 m. long.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 98, No. 6 (Pl.).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 127, No. 45 (Pl.).

116. **Knockshanvo.** O.S. 44: 13: 3 (17.2 cm., 11.2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 600-700. R 566 693. Fig. 58. Plates 20 and 22.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated high up on the south-eastern slopes of Knockaphunta between the upper reaches of the Sruffaunnageeragh and Mountrice rivers. The rising ground limits the view to the north and west but elsewhere the outlook is extensive. The Slieve Bernagh mountains to the north-east, Keeper Hill to the east and the Galty mountains to the south-east are all visible. The tomb stands on an expanse of wet rushy mountain land. There is some rough pasture on the higher ridges.

The chamber is well preserved but leans slightly to the south. The north and south sides and the east end consist of single slabs. A fine roofstone covers the greater part of the chamber. About 1.00 m. west of the chamber entry is a stone 1.20 m. long, .60 m. high and .10 m. to .20 m. thick, which leans heavily to the west. It may be part of an outer-wall but its function is uncertain. Two displaced stones lie at this end of the tomb, and a third lies outside the opposite end. These stones are about 1.00 m. in maximum dimension. Their function is unknown.

The northern sidestone is 3.15 m. long, 1.10 m. high near the west, .80 m. high at the east and .40 m. to .55 m. thick. Its straight flat top surface slopes down from west to east. The southern sidestone is 2.20 m. in maximum length, 1.15 m. high at the west, 1.05 m. high at the east and .35 m. to .40 m. thick. There is a prow-like projection at its upper western end. Its top surface is curved and dips to the east. There is a gap of .50 m. between its eastern end and the backstone.

The backstone is set outside the end of the northern sidestone. It is 1.30 m. long, .80 m. high and .25 m. to .40 m. thick. The regular outline of the stone is broken by a gap .55 m. deep and .45 m. in maximum width at its top northern corner. As there is no evidence of working along the edges of this gap it is best regarded as a natural feature of the stone.

The roofstone is 2.35 m. long, 1.35 m. wide near the west, 1.10 m. wide near the east and .35 m. to .50 m. thick. Its west edge falls .80 m. short of the west end of the chamber. It rests on both sidestones and on the backstone. A small wedge-shaped stone, .40 m. by .30 m. and .10 m. in maximum thickness, is jammed between the roofstone and the middle of the top edge of the northern sidestone.

The chamber is about 3.00 m. long and decreases in height and width from west to east. It is 1.05 m. wide at the west and .95 m. wide at the east end of the southern sidestone. The floor is uneven but the chamber reaches a maximum height of 1.17 m. near the west.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 98, No. 5.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 125, No. 43 (Pl., Ph.).

117. **Cloghoolia.** O.S. 52: 4: 1 (74.7 cm., 55.6 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 500-600. R 529 676. Fig. 57. Plate 20.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument, situated in a meadow on the south-western slopes of the Knockaphunta ridge, is about 140 yards north of the Sixmilebridge-Cloonlara road. From the site the ground falls southward to Coolmeen Lake beyond which it again rises to Woodcock Hill. The land in the vicinity of the tomb is mostly rushy meadow and fair pasture and supports some trees.

The monument is very ruined. The south side and west end of the chamber remain in situ. A small stone at the north-east end of the chamber may be the remains of the north side. Two prostrate stones deeply embedded in the ground lie to the south. The more westerly is 1.15 m. by .40 m. and the second 1.40 m. by .80 m. There are some remains of a surrounding mound but its edges are difficult to trace, particularly to the north. It appears to be round or short oval in shape. It is about 12 m. long (east-west) and extends to a maximum distance of 4.50 m. beyond the south side of the chamber.

The south side of the chamber consists of a single stone now split into two parts—the more easterly of which leans inwards. The stone has an overall length of 2.05 m. and is .30 m. thick. It is .70 m. high at the west and its top edge slopes sharply down to the east where it disappears in the ground. The transverse slab at the west is set outside the end of the sidestone. It is 1.35 m. long at the base, 1.15 m. long at the top, .70 m. high and .15 m. to .25 m. thick. It leans inwards. It is slightly lower than the west end of the sidestone. The stone at the north-east end of the chamber is .50 m. long, .20 m. high and .20 m. thick. It leans heavily inwards.

The chamber measures 1.90 m. long to the end of the sidestone. It was highest, and probably widest, at the west.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 101, No. 11.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 129, No. 49 (Pl.).

118. **Ardataggle.** O.S. 53: 4: 5 (81.9 cm., 51.1 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 300-400. R 634 670. Fig. 56. Plate 20.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands on the north-western slopes of a long round-topped ridge about one mile south-west of Bridgetown. The ground falls sharply to the west into a valley which curves around the north end of the ridge and opens to the basin of the Shannon. The site commands a fine view of the hills beyond the valley to the north and west. The land on the ridge is used for pasture and a little tillage. Trees grow in the valley.

The monument is fairly well preserved but is heavily overgrown with gorse and heather. It consists of a long gallery closed at its west end by a single transverse slab. A large roofstone covers the west end of the chamber and beside it to the east a displaced roofstone rests against the northern side. Several prostrate stones of uncertain function lie around the tomb. There are some indefinite traces of a surrounding mound but the nature of the ground makes definition difficult.

The north side of the chamber consists of five stones set in a rather irregular line. The dimensions of these stones, from west to east respectively, are: .90 m. long, .40 m. thick and .65 m. high; .85 m. long, .30 m. thick and .60 m. high; .60 m. long, at least .30 m. thick and .30 m. high; .60 m. long, .30 m. thick and .20 m. high; .50 m. long, .15 m. thick and .40 m. high. .70 m. east of the last is a stone which has collapsed outwards and which may have continued the line of the chamber side. It is .60 m. long, .30 m. wide and .20 m. thick. A set stone, .45 m. long, .30 m. wide and .45 m. thick, standing north of the more westerly stone of this side of the chamber, may be an outer-wall stone.

The south side of the chamber is poorly preserved. Two stones remain in situ. The more westerly is set 1.30 m. east of the western closing stone. It is .40 m. long, .35 m. thick and .45 m. high. The second sidestone is 1.00 m. distant from the last. It is .35 m. long, .25 m. wide and .40 m. high. Between these sidestones and slightly to the south is a stone .40 m. long, .30 m. thick and .30 m. high, which may be an outer-wall stone. A prostrate slab, 1.00 m. long, .55 m. wide and .50 m. thick, lying .70 m. south of the last, seems to be displaced. Two low set stones continuing the line of the chamber to the east are of uncertain function but may indicate the extension of the southern side of the gallery. The more westerly is .45 m. long, .25 m. wide and .25 m. high. The second stone, which leans inwards, is .70 m. long and .10 m. thick. South of these two stones and at right angles to them is a set stone .60 m. long and .30 m. high. Its eastern edge is hidden.

The stone closing the west end of the chamber is 2.00 m. long, .80 m. high and increases from .30 m. thick at the top to .70 m. thick at the base. Close to its southern end is a set stone, 1.15 m. long, .35 m. high and .25 m. thick, which leans to the south. It may be an outer-wall stone or a sidestone forced outwards.

The roofstone remaining in position, rests on the western closing stone, the two more westerly stones of the north side of the chamber and the western stone of the south side. It is 2.40 m. long, 1.30 m. wide near the west, 1.60 m. wide near the east and .25 m. to

·50 m. thick. The displaced roofstone is 1·80 m. long, ·30 m. thick and at least 1·20 m. wide.

Four prostrate stones of unknown function lie beyond the western closing stone. That at the northern corner of the closing stone is ·75 m. long, ·60 m. wide and ·30 m. thick. The large stone lying immediately in front of the closing stone is 2·20 m. long, 1·00 m. wide and ·30 m. to ·50 m. thick. The more northerly of the two stones lying west of it is 1·20 m. long, ·50 m. wide and ·40 m. thick, and the other is 1·50 m. long, ·90 m. wide and ·40 m. thick.

The chamber measures 3·90 m. long from the western closing stone to the present end of the north side. It is highest, and was probably widest, at the west.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 101, No. 12.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 128, No. 48 (Pl.).

BARONY OF LEITRIM

119. **Bohateh North.** O.S. 21: 6: 4 (27·7 cm., 32·5 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 800-900. R 677 906. Fig. 45. Plate 20.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave (?)

The tomb, which stands on a little knoll on the boggy south-eastern slopes of the Slieve Aughty mountains, is situated about fifty yards north of a new forestry plantation road. The site commands an extensive view across Lough Derg to the Tipperary mountains. The heather-covered bog in the vicinity of the tomb provides rough grazing.

The tomb is ruined. The north and south sidestones of the chamber have collapsed and now lie prostrate. The stone crossing the west end of the chamber remains in situ but leans inwards. The roofstone rests on this stone, on the northern sidestone and on a stone ·30 m. in maximum dimension lying on the southern sidestone. East of the northern sidestone is a small pillar-like stone, measuring ·45 m. by ·25 m. and ·65 m. high, which may be a continuation of the chamber side or perhaps an outer-wall stone. A low, ill-defined mound, 10·00 m. east-west, 7·50 m. north-south and reaching a height of ·50 m. surrounds the tomb. Lying at its western end is a loose slab 1·70 m. long, ·60 m. wide and ·25 m. thick. A partly concealed block, ·70 m. in maximum dimension, lies at the south-west edge of the mound. Beyond it to the south is a loose stone ·90 m. long and ·40 m. thick.

The entire outlines of both sidestones are exposed. The northern is 1·90 m. long, 1·10 m. wide at the west, ·85 m. wide at the east and ·35 m. thick and the southern is 1·65 m. long, ·90 m. wide at the west, ·75 m. wide at the east and ·30 m. thick. The transverse slab at the west is 2·10 m. long, 1·15 m. high and ·30 m. to ·40 m. thick. The roofstone is 1·75 m. long (east-west), 2·00 m. wide (north-south) and ·25 m. to ·50 m. thick.

While the remains do not permit classification with absolute certainty the tomb is very probably a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave. The original dimensions of the chamber cannot be given but it would seem to have been at least 1·80 m. long. The measurements of the collapsed sidestone suggest that it was probably highest at the west.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 469 ("Chief Dolmen").

Hibbert: *J.L.F.C.*, I, No. 2 (1898), 47.

APPENDIX

(a) *Destroyed Sites Accepted as Genuine Megalithic Tombs*

BARONY OF CORCOMROE

1. **Cahermacrusheen.** O.S. 8: 1: 6 (22.4 cm., 49.5 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 200-300. R 088 996.

No trace of this monument remained in 1952. Ordnance Survey Name Book (1840) refers to the monument as: "A stone altar." A later Ordnance Survey Name Book (1913) describes the site thus: "... several stones which, owing to action of the weather, etc., are levelled to the ground; they are supposed to mark an ancient place of burial. ...". The monument is described as follows by Borlase: "This is a dolmen which has suffered complete collapse only within the last few years. It seems to have lain E. and W., and to have been partly enveloped in a cairn. Two slabs, each 10 feet long, and each broken in the centre, lie side by side. They probably formed the sides of a vault about 4 feet high. A third slab, 10 feet long by from 8 feet 2 ins. to 6 feet broad, and 7 inches thick resting on the N. one, was the roofing-stone, while two stones 4 or 5 feet wide lying at each end under the others may have been the terminal stones."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 80, No. 1.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1909), 462, No. 3. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXV (1905), 355. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1915), 55. *J.L.F.C.*, III, No. 2 (1907), 150.

BARONY OF TULLA UPPER

2. **Milltown.** O.S. 35: 1: 2 (13.5 cm., 53.8 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Site of)."
O.D. 100-200. R 446 803.

The site is marked "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on O.S. 6" 1840. Westropp gives the following account of the monument. 'In the Kennedy's farms, to the west of the side road, stood in my recollection a fine dolmen. It has been described to me by a farmer, who remembered it as "the tallest labba in the place; a great table of a rock on top of four other stones as high as your shoulder" (say over 5 feet high). "It was open below; the top slab was very thick and it stood on the highest point of the field some distance from the fence." My sister, Mrs. O'Callaghan, says that it closely resembled the perfect one on Mr. Sheehan's farm, and was of four thick blocks, with a large cover, being over 5 feet high, and partly covered with thick ivy. These descriptions are independent of each other and, as will be seen, closely correspond. My own recollections of this monument are very vague. It is called "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on the map. Unfortunately, I cannot find that any sketch or measurement is preserved; and it is only shown as a cist on the O.S. map, and lies E.N.E. and W.S.W. It was removed about twenty years ago.'

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90, one of Nos. 4-10.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 112, No. 25 (b).

O.S.L.: Clare, 14 B 24, 285 (mentions seven "Giants Graves" in Milltown townland).

3. Milltown. O.S. 35: 1: 2 (13.5 cm., 53.1 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200.
R 466 803.

This monument is not marked on O.S. 6" 1840. Westropp, who gives a plan of the tomb, describes it as follows: ". . . a defaced little cist, 12 feet long and 4 feet 9 inches wide. The sides and ends remain; and a cover-slab, now partly buried, lies on the north-west slab. The south side lies E.N.E. and W.S.W."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90, one of Nos. 4-10.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 112, No. 25 (d) (Pl.).

4. Milltown. O.S. 35: 1: 6 (17.7 cm., 50.1 cm.). "Giants Grave (Site of)." O.D. 100-200. R 470 799.

The monument is marked "Giants Grave" on O.S. 6" 1840. Westropp saw no trace of the tomb. Perhaps a dark patch of grass in a small depression marks the site. O'Curry* describes the monument as follows: (It was in) "the form of an ordinary grave (coffin) measuring 19 feet 6 inches in length and 4 feet 5 inches in breadth at the foot, and 6 feet 4 inches in breadth at the head, the thickness of the stones all round being included in the measurement. This was enclosed by a number of large stones placed at a few feet distance, and following the form of the grave."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90-91, One of Nos. 4-10 (described 2nd last line, p. 91).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 113, No. 25 (g).

*O.S.L.: Clare 14 B 24, 285.

(b) Sites Marked "Cromlech" Etc. on O.S. Maps which are Not Accepted
as Megalithic Tombs

BARONY OF BURREN

5. Ballyvaghan. O.S. 2: 15: 5 (59.6 cm., 1.6 cm.). "Cromlech (Site of)." O.D. 50.
R 226 072.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1840. Westropp records that "it is said to have been a small cist of four slabs and a cover; it has been removed since 1839." Insufficient evidence to accept as a megalithic tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 66, No. 9.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No. 4.

J.R.S.A.I., XXXI (1901), 280. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXX (1900), 305.

6. Ballycahill. O.S. 5: 7: 3 (68.6 cm., 44.2 cm.). "Cromlech (Site of)." O.D. 100-200.
R 235 052.

Described in O.S. Memoranda, (1840) as "composed of large flags placed on four pedestals resembling a table of stone. The top is 3 feet over the ground. . . ." At present there is a heavily overgrown enclosure at the site within which are many large blocks of stone. Disused farm buildings may have led to the removal of the monument, which could well have been a megalithic tomb but the evidence is not sufficient to warrant acceptance.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 65, No. 4.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 459, No. 5. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 282.

7. Noughaval. O.S. 9: 11: 4 (49.1 cm., 22.0 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400.
R 213 965.

Described by Westropp¹ as "an overthrown cromlech 7 feet by 12 feet." Some years later he states² "the blocks of the dolmen uprooted and overthrown since 1897." Insufficient evidence for acceptance as a megalithic tomb.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 26. 1. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 118. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 291. 2. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1915), 255.

8. Noughaval. O.S. 9: 11: 4 (48.4 cm., 22.2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400.
R 212 965.

Slab enclosure. Westropp is correct in rejecting this site as a megalithic tomb. In addition to this site and to No. 7 Westropp* says: "There seem to be remains of an actual dolmen in the same field" (i.e., as No. 8). This third site is not a megalithic tomb.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 460, No. 25. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVII (1897), 118. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 291. **J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1915), 254 (footnote) and 255.

9. Ballyganner South. O.S. 9: 15: 4 (47.5 cm., 4.6 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300.
R 211 947.

Slab enclosure roughly 3.00 m. square. Westropp is undoubtedly correct in rejecting it as a megalithic tomb.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 461, No. 33. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXI (1901), 289 and 291. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLV (1915), 254 (footnote). *J.N.M.A.S.*, I, No. 1 (1909), 24.

BARONY OF ISLANDS

10. Carrownanelly. O.S. 42: 1: 5 (10.9 cm., 49.3 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 0-100.
R 365 736.

Three tall pillar stones and a fourth smaller one beside an earthen ring. Not a megalithic tomb. The nature of the whole site is doubtful.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 465, No. 1. *ibid.*, 467-468.

BARONY OF CLONDERALAW

11. Kiltumper. O.S. 48: 7: 2 (55.1 cm., 44.8 cm.). "Tumper's Grave." O.D. 300-400.
R 118 670.

Not visited. Westropp says:* "It was only a small kerbed cairn; the upper part is now entirely removed. The kerb slabs never exceed 3 feet 6 inches long; nine remain; most of the southern ones are removed. The enclosure only measures 15 feet east and west by 11 feet north and south."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 101, No. 1.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 466, No. 1. **J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 111. *J.L.F.C.*, II, No. 8 (1904), 253-255 (Pl.).

O.S.L.: Clare 14 B 24, 46.

BARONY OF INCHQUIN

12. **Tullycommon.** O.S. 10: 6: 4 (24.3 cm., 30.6 cm.). "Giants Grave." O.D. 500-600. R 285 973.

Westropp* states that the monument was 'a low mound called "Giants Grave" on the maps. This is shown as a small cist-like oblong on the 1839 map; it is a long, low, pear-shaped earthwork, full of blocks of stone, and measuring 33 feet east and west, and 14 feet north and south, near the west end; it tapers to a point at the east end. A slab set north and south appears near the west side; but if this be the remains of a cist there is no other trace of one.' The remains, neither at present nor in Westropp's time, justify its acceptance as a megalithic tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 73, No. 1.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 6. **J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 219. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVI (1896), 363.

13. **Slievenaglasha.** O.S. 10: 10: 3 (39.0 cm., 27.9 cm.). "Labanaglasha." O.D. 600-700. R 300 970.

No structure. Several bare patches in pasture associated with the legendary cow—"An Ghlas Ghaibhneach."

14. **Teeskagh.** O.S. 10: 10: 4 (28.0 cm., 19.2 cm.). "Ancient Grave." O.D. 400-500. R 288 961.

Long cist in cairn.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 463, No. 8. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 214 (Pl., Fig. 5).

15. **Leana.** O.S. 10: 13: 5 (9.9 cm., 1.3 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 400-500. R 269 943.

Roughly rectangular slab-lined structure 4.50 m. by 1.50 m. within a rectangular enclosure. Perhaps the remains of a hut but certainly not a megalithic tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 74, One of Nos. 5-8.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 11. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 215.

16. **Roughaun.** O.S. 16: 8: 3 (87.2 cm., 42.6 cm.). "Ancient Grave." O.D. 100-200. R 253 922.

Not found. Westropp's description suggests a large cist.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 24.

17. **Leana.** O.S. 17: 1: 2 (10.2 cm., 59.9 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to two other sites:—Cl. 68, a genuine megalithic tomb, and App. No. 18). O.D. 500-600. R 269 940.

Long cist in cairn.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 74, One of Nos. 5-8.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 13. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 215 (Pl. 214, Fig. 2).

18. **Leana.** O.S. 17: 1: 2 (10.1 cm., 59.4 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to two other sites:—Cl. 68, a genuine megalithic tomb; and App. No. 17). O.D. 500-600. R 269 940.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1839. No trace remained at the time of Westropp's visit.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 74, One of Nos. 5-8.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 464, No. 14. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXV (1905), 215.

19. **Ballyea South.** O.S. 24: 10: 6 (43.2 cm., 20.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 200-300. R 205 836.

Depression 3.00 m. long by 1.00 m. wide may represent the site. The evidence cited by Westropp—apart from the use of the word "lobba"—gives little reason for acceptance as a megalithic tomb.

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 113.

BARONY OF BUNRATTY UPPER

20. **Dooneen.** O.S. 34: 6: 6 (38.7 cm., 35.9 cm.). "Giants Grave" and "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. R 395 785.

Irregular, roughly circular, mound about 10.00 m. diameter. Densely overgrown. Three slabs near north-east edge may perhaps be portion of a large cist but in its present condition the nature of the site is quite uncertain.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 85, No. 12.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 101, No. 12 (Pl.).

21. **Clooney.** O.S. 34: 7: 3 (62.8 cm., 39.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. R 420 789.

Rectangular enclosure with walls of doubled slabs. Very probably the remains of a house or hut.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 82, No. 4 or 5.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 95-96, No. 6 (a), (Pl.).

22. **Clooney.** O.S. 34: 7: 3 (63.8 cm., 38.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. R 421 788.

Five upright slabs, mostly loose, forming approximately half a circle and several other boulders forming no apparent pattern. Few if any of the stones are set. The nature of the site is uncertain and it may not even be of any great antiquity.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 82, No. 4 or 5.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 95-96, No. 6 (b).

23. **Monanoe.** O.S. 34: 14: 2 (35.6 cm., 14.3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 50-100. R 391 763.

Two large blocks in fence beside quarry. Westropp states that a small cist stood here though the site had been destroyed before his visit.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 84 (not numbered).

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 102, No. 13.

24. Caherloghan. O.S. 35: 5: 1 (7.9 cm., 37.5 cm.). "Cromlechs." O.D. 100-200. R 460 786.

Slab 2.20 m. maximum dimension resting on several smaller stones and a second slab 2.60 m. maximum dimension 3.00 m. south of it. Though the first-mentioned slab may be artificially placed, similar slabs, more or less displaced from the natural strata, are frequent in the area and thus the site cannot be accepted as a megalithic tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 92, Nos. 11, 12, 13. Wrongly stated to be in Townland of Moymore.
Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 100, No. 10 (d and e).

25. Caherloghan. O.S. 35: 5: 5 (7.3 cm., 38.0 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. R 459 787.

Slab 2.00 m. maximum dimension resting on smaller slabs. Perhaps natural. Compare No. 24.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 86 and 100, No. 10 (a).

26. Ballymacloon East. O.S. 42: 4: 5 (78.8 cm., 48.7 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 0-100. R 436 734.

Two huge overlapping erratics.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 84, No. 10.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 102, No. 14.

BARONY OF BUNRATTY LOWER

27. Drumullan. O.S. 43: 5: 4 (4.1 cm., 31.1 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. R 455 715.

Rough slab, set on edge and aligned roughly north and south. It is 3.20 m. long, .80 m. thick, 1.30 m. high at the north and .30 m. high at the south. The top edge slopes unevenly from north to south. Several heavy slabs lie prostrate at either side. The whole could be interpreted as the remains of a very roughly-built megalithic tomb but Westropp's suggestion that the blocks may be a split rock is preferable.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 85, No. 1 or 2.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 103-104, No. 17.

28. Kilcornan. O.S. 43: 6: 1 (24.0 cm., 44.4 cm.). "Cromlech (Remains of)." O.D. 100-200. R 476 729.

Group of big boulders in rectangular area 5.00 m. by 4.00 m. Though some of these are set upright, comparable groups, obviously natural, occur near by. The site, despite a superficial resemblance to a ruined megalithic monument, is very probably natural.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 85, No. 3.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 104, No. 18.

29. Drumullan. O.S. 43: 9: 2 (8.2 cm., 26.0 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Site of)." O.D. 100-200. R 459 710.

Marked "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on O.S. 6" 1840. Removed before Westropp's time.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 85, No. 1 or 2.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 103-104, No. 17.

30. **Ballysheen Beg.** O.S. 52: 1: 2 (14.1 cm., 57.5 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Site of)." O.D. 100-200. R 465 679.

A few stones, perhaps outcrop, protrude from the ground. Westropp states that Major Walton of Ballysheen "informs me that it was a small box-like cist." He continues: "It was destroyed about 1852. It is shown by two small marks on some of the maps of the 1840 Survey."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 85, No. 5.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 104, No. 19.

31. **Brickhill West.** O.S. 62: 2: 1 (24.7 cm., 57.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 0-100. R 475 615.

Hollow 15.00 m. by 8.00 m. with slight upcast. It is shown as a single stone on O.S. 6" 1840 and marked "Cromlech." Westropp states that he "only found a low green mound of earth and stones on the site which may or may not conceal the slab."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 87, No. 7.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 104, No. 20.

BARONY OF TULLA UPPER

32. **Corracloon Beg.** O.S. 20: 14: 1 (27.5 cm., 7.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 500-600. R 579 881.

Group of six stones two of which are set. These are .85 m. and .50 m. high respectively. Though these could be the remains of a megalithic tomb, fences with fine set slabs are common in the area and the site cannot therefore be accepted.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 94, No. 16.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 119, No. 34.

33. **Milltown.** O.S. 35: 1: 3 (17.3 cm., 54.3 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. R 470 804.

Marked "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on O.S. 6" 1840. The tops of two set stones one 1.20 m. long and .40 m. high, and the other .40 m. long and .30 m. high protrude from an irregular mound 4.50 m. across. Westropp¹ states that he found "the sides of the blown-up cist in a low mound, 15 feet long north and south, 9 feet east and west. It was a small cist 3 feet 6 inches wide and long to 2 feet 6 inches wide" (? *recte* "high"). He had previously sketched it and states: "So far as I remember it and my sketch shows, the cist was a small box of three slabs and a cover, and sloped towards the south; it lay east and west."² The extant remains and Westropp's notes suggest that it is probably to be taken as a small cist rather than a megalithic tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90, One of Nos. 4-10.

2. Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 111-114, No. 25 (f). 1. *P.R.I.A.*, XXVI (1907), 469.

34. **Milltown.** O.S. 35: 1: 5 (8.2 cm., 51.9 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Site of)." O.D. 100-200. R 460 801.

Marked "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on O.S. 6" 1840. No trace remains. Destroyed before Westropp's visit. He states: "Another cist, facing north-west and south-east . . . has been long removed; and I could not get any very clear description, or the date of its destruction; but it seems to have been a ruined 'box' of slabs."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90, One of Nos. 4-10.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 111-114, No. 25 (e).

35. Milltown. O.S. 35: 1: 5 (14·4 cm., 51·4 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Site of)." O.D. 100-200. R 467 801.

Marked "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on O.S. 6" 1840. Several almost concealed blocks, obviously not in situ, lie on the site. Destroyed before Westropp's visit.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90, One of Nos. 4-10.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 111-114, No. 25 (i).

36. Milltown. O.S. 35: 1: 6 (17·2 cm., 50·4 cm.). "Cromlech (Site of)." O.D. 100-200. R 470 800.

This "Cromlech" is shown on O.S. 6" 1840 some 100 yards west of the position shown on the 1913 edition. The object was destroyed before Westropp's visit.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 90, One of Nos. 4-10.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 111-114, No. 25 (h).

37. Moymore. O.S. 35: 5: 3 (19·1 cm., 44·2 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Site of)." O.D. 100-200. R 472 793.

Marked "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on O.S. 6" 1840. Removed before Westropp's visit. No trace remains.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 115, No. 28 (first monument mentioned).

BARONY OF TULLA LOWER

38. Ardskeagh. O.S. 44: 6: 2 (36·1 cm., 43·5 cm.). "Giants Grave (Site of)." O.D. 200. R 586 727.

Shown as three stones and marked "Giants Grave" on O.S. 6" 1840. Removed before Westropp's visit. No trace remains.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 97, No. 2.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 124, No. 41.

39. Cloonconry More. O.S. 44: 7: 4 (51·8 cm., 32·5 cm.). "Cromlech (Site of)." O.D. 700-800. R 603 715.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1840. No trace remains. Westropp states: "I saw no trace of it; and the new maps mark its site under a fence, by which it was destroyed or covered. It is shown on the 1840 maps as a large slab supported by two smaller ones, and was evidently a cist."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 99, No. 7 or 8.

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), 127-128, No. 46 (third monument mentioned).

40. Lackareagh More. O.S. 44: 8: 6 (90·5 cm., 34·2 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed (Site of)." O.D. 1,000-1,200. R 644 717.

Marked "Dermot and Grania's Bed" on O.S. 6" 1840. The monument consists of a large cist embedded to its full height in peat. Its long axis is almost due west and east. The sides and ends consist of single stones. The east end stone is ·15 m. thick and the other stones ·30 m. to ·40 m. thick. The cist is 1·35 m. long, ·85 m. wide at the west, ·65 m. wide at the east and seems to have been about ·15 m. higher at the west than at the east. A displaced prostrate stone at the east may be part of the cover. While the neat wedge-shaped form of the monument, together with its orientation and the heavy stones employed, suggest some affinities with the wedge-shaped megalithic tombs, its general proportions suggest that it may be more properly considered as a large cist.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 101, No. 10. (Borlase did not locate the site. The "cairn" he mentions lies about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile north-north-west of the cist described above.)

Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXIV (1902), No. 47. *Dublin University Magazine*, XXVIII (1846), 404.

41. **Gortmagy.** O.S. 45: 2: 5 (32.7 cm., 51.1 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 300-400.
R 680 734.

First marked "Dolmen" on O.S. 6" 1938. Two upright stones .60 m. apart, approximately 1.00 m. and 1.50 m. high, respectively. No evidence that they belong to a megalithic tomb.

42. **Lackareagh Beg.** O.S. 45: 5: 2 (8.4 cm., 41.2 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 400-500.
R 655 723.

First marked "Dolmen" on O.S. 6" 1938. Two stones shown as boulders on O.S. 6" 1921. No evidence that they are part of a megalithic tomb.

43. **Ross.** O.S. 45: 10: 4 (23.6 cm., 21.6 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 100-200. R 670 703.

First marked "Dolmen" on O.S. 6" 1938. Slab 1.50 m. approximate maximum dimension resting on two small stones. Not a megalithic tomb.

PART TWO:

DISCUSSION

PART II — DISCUSSION

I. MORPHOLOGY

Of the list of 119 megalithic tombs known to exist in Co. Clare, one hundred are classified as wedge-shaped galleries, all save eight with certainty, four as portal dolmens and one as a court cairn, while fourteen remain unclassified. Of the unclassified specimens, Tyredagh Upper (Cl. 97) and Calluragh South (Cl. 50) may well be of the court cairn class: most of the remainder are likely to be wedge-shaped galleries and very few of them have features inconsistent with that class. The descriptions of the destroyed tombs at Cahermacrusheen (App. No. 1) and Milltown (App. Nos. 2, 3, 4) indicate that these also were probably wedge-shaped galleries. It is clear, therefore, that the wedge-shaped gallery is far and away the dominant megalithic tomb-type in Clare and that the series represents the densest occurrence of the type in Ireland.

Because of its dominance in the county the wedge-shaped gallery will, under each section of the discussion, precede the court cairn and portal dolmen types. The first two sections deal with morphology and distribution. No scientific excavation has been carried out on any megalithic tomb in Clare and save for rather vague reports of the finding of bones as at Gleninsheen (Cl. 15) there is no direct evidence for grave furniture or burial ritual. The indirect evidence from analogy with finds from tombs elsewhere will be referred to in the concluding section on the place of the Co. Clare tombs within the Irish series.

WEDGE-SHAPED GALLERY GRAVES

While the wedge-shaped galleries are clearly a homogeneous group, the type of large, comparatively thin, slab available in the north-western limestone region in the baronies of Burren, Inchiquin and Corcomroe gives rise to a characteristically neat form with the gallery sides each of a single slab and the cover also of one large slab. This peculiarity has led to certain misconceptions. Westropp clearly recognized that the tombs of the north-west region were of the same general class as those elsewhere but the use of such terms as "small box-like cists" has sometimes led them to be treated in a special category. Mahr¹, apparently on the form, suggested a very late date and Raftery² assigns them to a special class of their own. The occurrence in them of the characteristic wedging plan, sloping roof, outer-walling and western orientation makes it impossible to consider them as other than fully within the wedge-shaped gallery class. Most of the Clare wedge-shaped galleries appear to have been single-chambered but in a small number of cases evidence exists for the presence of porticos and probably also for east end chambers.

Main Chamber

The size of the main chambers varies considerably from large examples measuring 4 m. to 5 m. long internally, e.g., Ballyganner South (Cl. 38), Baur North (Cl. 25) and Fahy (Cl. 92) to the diminutive specimen at Eanty More (Cl. 40) which is only 1.60 m. long. While there can be no doubt that Eanty More (Cl. 40), despite its diminutive size, is a megalithic chambered tomb, some difficulty exists in drawing a clear line between three other small examples, Gleninsheen (Cl. 10), Ballymurphy (Cl. 31), Parknabinnia

1. *P.P.S.*, III (1937), 346.

2. *Prehistoric Ireland* (Batsford, 1951), 94.

(Cl. 66) and cist graves which cannot be considered to be true megalithic tombs at all. On the one hand these three specimens can scarcely be disassociated from examples such as Termon (Cl. 22 and Cl. 23) and Cragballyconal (Cl. 17) which are beyond doubt true megalithic tombs; on the other hand cist graves of normal single grave dimensions are found, e.g., Teeskagh (App. No. 14) and Leanna (App. No. 17) which, though of lighter construction, have a tapered form and lie east and west. These and other examples of cists in cairns, as at Poulawack,¹ cannot be treated as megalithic tombs. Somewhat wedge-shaped design is not abnormal in cists and west-east orientation comparable to that of the wedge-shaped megalithic tombs is fairly frequent.² The fact that cists may be more or less megalithic in their construction must be borne in mind and indeed megalithic influence has often been adduced to explain the design of especially massive cists. Conversely it is not impossible that the influence of non-megalithic cists could tend towards a reduction in the size of megalithic chambers.

It is, in any case, apparent that the occurrence of diminutive wedge-shaped chambered tombs of the north-western Clare style and of long cists within the same region, whether interaction between the two groups took place or not, must inevitably, at least in the absence of excavation, leave some cases in doubt. However, though the cists are less fully known than the megalithic tombs, the number of sites which, in fact, do present this difficulty is small. Apart from the three tombs, Gleninsheen (Cl. 10), Ballymurphy (Cl. 31) and Parknabinnia (Cl. 66) discussed above, one other site, Lackareagh More (App. No. 40), which is better taken as a large cist, is the only case known to us where the distinction between megalithic tomb and cist cannot with confidence be made. In the case of destroyed examples, e.g., Milltown (App. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 33-36) and Ballycahill (App. No. 6) doubt is especially liable to arise and for this reason, save where the extant accounts clearly imply a true megalithic tomb, such sites cannot be accepted.

The main chambers show very consistently a decrease in height and width from front (west) to back (east). Tombs built of large single side slabs and single cover stones naturally are more regular in shape and a less even slope and taper is to be expected in those with sides formed of several orthostats and roofs of more than one stone. The degree of taper varies from examples with very sharply converging sides as at Ballyganner South (Cl. 38), Corbehagh (Cl. 91) and Ballycroum (Cl. 95) to almost parallel-sided specimens as at Poulaphuca (Cl. 20), Knockalassa (Cl. 76) and Cragballyconal (Cl. 18). The roof slope varies from sharp, e.g., Berneens (Cl. 8), Gragan East (Cl. 6) to almost level at Ballyslattery (Cl. 100) and Knockalassa (Cl. 76). No tomb with several cover stones such as Formoyle More (Cl. 115) has the complete roof in situ. However, a distinct fall in height from west to east is sometimes apparent from the sidestones, e.g., Ballykelly (Cl. 112) and Bealkelly (Purdon) (Cl. 106). At Ballycroum (Cl. 95) the main part of the gallery is covered by a single slab which overlaps a smaller slab covering the eastern end of the chamber. A similar arrangement may be present in the now obscured tomb at Ballinphunta (Cl. 90). At Caheraphuca (Cl. 80) as at Ballyhickey (Cl. 87), it is likely that the slabs covering the tomb may have been originally in one piece. It is quite likely in the specimens such as Formoyle More (Cl. 115) and Ballykelly (Cl. 112), where the sides are of several stones, that the decrease from west to east was achieved by stepping the covers downwards towards the east. The roofstones rest directly on the sidestones save for a few cases where small stones are jammed as wedges under the covers, e.g., Corbehagh (Cl. 91). It is often difficult to be certain whether these are original or not. There is no evidence whatever for corbelling in the Clare wedge-shaped tombs.

The side-wall of the chamber is either of a single large slab or may be formed of several orthostats. In the north-west upper limestone region, where large relatively thin slabs are readily available the single slab is normal while elsewhere, where sandstone and silurian stone is used, sides composed of several smaller slabs are common. However, even in the Burren, Faunarooska (Cl. 4) has sides of several slabs. In some cases, though the sides are formed of one main slab, the wall is continued by one or more smaller

1. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXV (1935), 191 ff.

2. Raftery: *P.R.I.A.*, XLVI (1941), 299-315.

slabs—Fanygalvan (Cl. 33), Caheraphuca (Cl. 80), Ballycroum (Cl. 94), Ballycroum (Cl. 95). This may in some cases indicate the presence of small chambers at the east or west ends which will be discussed below, but in others, e.g., Corbehagh (Cl. 91), it is obviously no more than the filling of a gap where a single sidestone did not reach the whole length of the side. The filling of a gap in the walling by an overlapping slab is found at Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1). Otherwise doubling of slabs, to be distinguished from the well represented outer-walling feature is rare. At Baur South (Cl. 26) several slabs set side by side form the sides but this tomb has a quite unique interior arrangement forming as it were a chamber within a chamber.

Frequently in the north-west upper limestone region flaking is found along the straight tops of the sidestones. This probably indicates deliberate dressing of the edge, though many straight undressed edges are to be found. Another feature frequently noted in the north-west limestone region is the placing of the more weathered face of the side-slabs inwards and the smoother face outwards. This is probably merely the result of using surface flags, moving them without turning them over, and tilting them into sockets from the outside—a procedure that in any case might be expected. Similarly the great cover slabs have the weathered surface upwards. This again is probably merely the result of the use of surface slabs though the smooth underside would, incidentally, facilitate transport and erection. The method of raising slabs by removing the top layer of the fissured crag is illustrated by the slabs tilted on blocks of stone in the Parknabinnia area (see p. 48). It is even possible that these slabs were actually raised into their present tilted position by the tomb builders whose intensive activity in the area is witnessed by the dense concentration of sites. Even a large slab could relatively easily be raised with wooden levers and stone props placed underneath to support it at each stage of the raising process.

Without excavation little can be said of the setting of the orthostats. In some cases packing stones are exposed, e.g., Gragan East (Cl. 6), Gleninsheen (Cl. 15), Termon (Cl. 23). In a few instances there is evidence that the natural straight fissures in the crag were sometimes availed of as sockets, Ballynahown (Cl. 47) and Eanty More (Cl. 40) being the clearest examples.

East endstones or the bases of them are present in thirty-nine examples. In the upper limestone district of the north-west, where most of the examples occur, the east end is closed by a single slab fitted between the sidestones reaching roof height and normally overlapped by the cover when such is in position. These stones are usually the neatest stones in the monument and are frequently dressed along the top and sides.

In many cases one or both of the top corners are broken away. This is doubtless fortuitous in instances like Poulbaun (Cl. 12) but in four cases Baur South (Cl. 26), Poulaphuca (Cl. 20), Fanygalvan (Cl. 33) and Deerpark (Cl. 39) the removal of the top corner may be deliberate and intended to form an ope (see Plates 21 and 22). Such opes¹ have been taken to be analogous to port-hole entries found in various classes of tombs abroad.² In no case in Co. Clare can these gaps be proven to be a deliberately contrived original feature though that at Baur South (Cl. 26) is convincing enough. At Poulaphuca (Cl. 20) as well as the opening at the top southern corner the inner surface of the stone at the opposite top corner is smoothed down forming a depression of similar outline to the broken corners. If this smoothing could be shown to be artificial it would support the claim of the other opes but the very neatness of the smoothing is almost too good to be taken as artificial and even if it were, it would differ very much from the technique of chipping on the edges of the other examples. Besides the four cases mentioned there are two instances of irregular openings on the sides of endstones of the main chambers at Deerpark (Cl. 39) and Creevagh (Cl. 43). These are less likely to be deliberate original features and that at Creevagh (Cl. 43) at least may be a consequence of the damage to the side wall of the tomb.

The question of the acceptance or rejection of these opes as original deliberate features is especially important in so far as three of the examples, Deerpark (Cl. 39), Fanygalvan (Cl. 33) and perhaps Creevagh (Cl. 43) may be examples of tombs with small

1. Leask and Price: *P.R.I.A.*, XLIII (1936), 83. Ó Riordáin: *Antiquities of the Irish Countryside* (London, 1953), 64.

2. e.g., The Paris Basin, Swedish Västergötland long cists, Iberian Passage Graves.

eastern end chambers (see below). At Baur South (Cl. 26) a peculiar inner structure is present and the cairn covers the east end. At Labbacallee¹ the excavators incline with caution to consider the gap at the top corner of the endstone of the main chamber to have been an intentional feature and cite Deerpark (Cl. 39) as a possibly analogy. However, none of the scoops or port-holes claimed for Irish tombs of several types are sufficiently certain and some are at least extremely doubtful. The only series² which seems likely to merit serious consideration at present are those in the top corners of the endstones of the wedge-shaped galleries instanced above. Pending further evidence the question of their reality as deliberate features must be left open. It may always be difficult to distinguish between deliberately contrived openings on the one hand and the accidental result of trimming of edges or fortuitous damage during the construction of the tomb on the other. Moreover, later destruction could possibly account for the examples at present known. It is well to emphasize that the openings so far known are a far cry from the much more perfectly contrived specimens of true portholes recorded elsewhere.

There are no clear examples of east end closure by any method other than by a single stone set between the sidestones save that in Leana (Cl. 68) the east endstone runs across the ends of the sidestones rather than between them. Outside the upper limestone area of north-west Clare east endstones are poorly represented. Five clear examples are known while partially concealed stones in three other specimens may also be east endstones. However, in the tombs with chamber sides of more than one stone the whole eastern portion of the tomb—apparently on account of its lighter construction—is usually largely destroyed. The better preservation of east ends in the north-west region is probably due to the protection afforded by the single side-slab and single cover construction. In many cases the removal of the endstone on account of the taper and roof-slope would be quite difficult. It is, perhaps, worth noting that the surviving backstones in the eastern district are protected by the presence of a cover—Milltown (Cl. 101), Ballinphunta (Cl. 90), Corbehagh (Cl. 91), Knockshanvo (Cl. 116), Fahy (Cl. 92)—or close outer-walling—Cappaghbaun Mountain (Cl. 96). Taken as a whole the evidence makes it clear that closure of the east end by one slab is normal. There is no evidence for an entry feature at this end.

Two forms of closure of the west end of the main chamber are represented, (*a*) by one large slab completely closing the opening, (*b*) by an arrangement of two slabs, one closing approximately three-quarters of the width and a second lighter stone set outside it. In the north-western upper limestone district the first type is found only at Berneens (Cl. 8), Eanty More (Cl. 40) and Parknabinnia (Cl. 62) but it is normal in the rest of the county where indeed the west end slabs are usually the finest of the walling and run across the front ends of the sidestones of the main chamber. Where further side walling continues beyond the west end of the main chamber the closing slab is inset into the gallery walls, e.g., Ballycroum (Cl. 95), Cloonyconry More (Cl. 113).

The best represented type of west end in the upper limestone district is that by two slabs. Examples are Gleninsheen (Cl. 15), Parknabinnia (Cl. 67), Ballyganner South (Cl. 38) and Slievenaglasha (Cl. 55) while the presence of one slab closing more than half the entry such as at Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1), Cappaghkennedy (Cl. 42), Parknabinnia (Cl. 61) indicates that a similar arrangement existed in these cases. It would appear that this method may well have been the dominant one in the tombs of this region. It seems confined to the style of tomb with single slab sides and covers. One example in the east of the county, Corbehagh (Cl. 91), has two stones in the west end though these are set in line.

The structure of the west end thus indicates complete closure in the majority of cases outside the north-west region. At least at first sight the arrangement found in the tombs of the north-west suggests a door structure. This could imply a significant difference between closed tombs, i.e., those which provide for no functional entry to the

1. *P.R.I.A.*, XLIII (1936), 83, 89.

2. For Irish "portholes" see also: Daniel and Clifford: *P.P.S.*, VI (1940), 133 ff. Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, I, 205. Lowry-Corry and Richardson: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXVII (1937), 171. *A Preliminary Survey of Northern Ireland*, xv. Hawkes: *The Prehistoric Foundations of Europe* (London, 1940), 189, but note rejection of Knocknarea in Piggott and Powell: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXVII (1947), 140-141. Davies: *U.J.A.*, II (1939), 161.

main chamber, and those which would provide for periodic opening without considerable demolition. It may, of course, be incorrect to assume that the door in the north-west region was really intended for periodic use and it may be merely that with the single slab sides and covers completion of the walling was more conveniently done by the use of two west end stones.

Outer-Walling

In nearly 40 % of the wedge-shaped tombs of Co. Clare some evidence for a row of stones set .50 m. to 1 m. outside the chamber sides is found. This walling is more or less straight along the sides and the taper from west to east is normally somewhat sharper than that of the chamber sides. The slabs of the outer-wall are sometimes higher, e.g., Iskancullin (Cl. 32), Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1) than those of the chamber and though the evidence for a regular decline in height from west to east is not nearly as full as that noted in the chamber sides, a general tendency in this regard can be observed. We may note the very high slabs at the west end of the outer-walls at Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1), Creevagh (Cl. 43) and Cappaghkennedy (Cl. 42). In some cases the outer-wall stones are considerably lower than those of the chamber. The very high pillar at Creevagh (Cl. 43) with which that at Curreeny Commons,¹ Co. Tipperary, might be compared, seems to be part of an outer-wall. U-shaped outer-walling is not found save for a slight tendency at Cappaghbaun Mountain (Cl. 96). In no case can a complete outer-wall be traced. Iskancullin (Cl. 32) and Faunarooska (Cl. 4) are the most complete. These indicate a straight line across the west end. Taken in conjunction with the rather difficult evidence for outer-walling at the east end a trapeze-shaped enclosure without a break in the front is indicated for some tombs in the north-west but the extent to which this is normal throughout the county remains in doubt. Discussion of this in relation to the flat facades known in tombs elsewhere will best be taken after the question of porticos are dealt with. In cases like Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1) where the outer-wall is close to the chamber sides it was probably to some extent functional as a support for the chamber sides but in most cases outer-walling seems to be rather an architectural convention.

Portico

Several tombs have stones continuing the line of the chamber sides westwards of the west endstone of the main chamber: Ballycroum (Cl. 93), Ballycroum (Cl. 95), Ballyslattery (Cl. 100), Bealkelly (Purdon) (Cl. 106), Killokennedy (Cl. 111), Cloonyconry More (Cl. 113), Cloonyconry More (Cl. 114), Formoyle More (Cl. 115). The little porticos so formed are approximately equal in width to the main chamber. There is no evidence for a roof on any of them.

No portico of this form is noted in north-west Clare, unless the slab protruding beyond the west end of the chamber be so interpreted at Cappaghkennedy (Cl. 42). In this region, however, the side slabs normally themselves project beyond the end slabs and it is not impossible that the recess so formed may have fulfilled the function of the portico found elsewhere. The presence of the portico is associated with closure of the main chamber by a large west endstone. Elsewhere this arrangement is found frequently, e.g., Gortakeeran,² Co. Sligo, and occurs in several of the Tipperary³ sites.

East End-chamber

No certain example of a closed east end chamber in the Labbacallee style is known in Clare but several sites suggest the possible presence of this feature, Deerpark (Cl. 39), Fanygalvan (Cl. 33), Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1), Creevagh (Cl. 43) and Ballycroum (Cl. 95) and the obscured site at Ballinphunta (Cl. 90). It is obvious that a close outer-walling extending to a straight back as at Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1), especially if the area between the outer-wall and the main chamber endstone is filled, could itself produce an arrangement which would superficially resemble an end chamber. It is not unlikely that at

1. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XL (1910), 46-47.

2. Wood-Martin: *The Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland* (Dublin, 1888), 211.

3. Crawford: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XL (1910), 38-51.

Creevagh (Cl. 43) we have such a case and Fanygalvan (Cl. 33) is perhaps the least unsatisfactory example of a true rear chamber in the county.

The relation of the outer-walling to the portico does not emerge in the Clare evidence. Elsewhere porticos often open through a straight facade. It should be emphasized that in general throughout the county denudation is such that any attempt to assess the frequency of porticos or end chambers, as these seem to have been especially vulnerable, is hazardous. It does, however, appear that in the eastern regions porticos were well represented while it is likely that the plain simple chamber was the commonest form in the north-west.

Cairn

No complete cairn is extant and there is no satisfactory evidence for kerb. However, substantial remains of cairn reaching to roof height occur at Baur South (Cl. 26), Lissylisheen (Cl. 24) and many tombs have portions of cairn base. The evidence clearly points to round or very short oval shape. In the north, at least, the material is stone. At a few sites, e.g., Poulaphuca (Cl. 20), Cragballyconal (Cl. 17) the cairn structure of overlapping layers of stones laid slantwise is clearly seen. The tombs seem to have been placed more or less centrally and there are several indications that the cairn extended over the covers, e.g., Baur South (Cl. 26) and Derrynavahagh (Cl. 1). Westropp states that the tomb at Parknabinnia (Cl. 67) had but recently lost its cairn.

Orientation

The orientation of the wedge-shaped galleries of Clare is illustrated in the diagram at the end of this volume. All face between south and west-north-west. A total splay of about 100° is present. This constancy of the wedge-shaped galleries in the matter of orientation towards the west is remarkable throughout the whole Irish series. It is, on the whole, probable that it relates to a general alignment towards the side of the heavens in which the sun sets. In Clare at least the tendency is towards the summer rather than the winter position.

PORTAL DOLMENS

The number of portal dolmens represented does not warrant a detailed analysis of features. A long cairn is probable at Moyree Commons (Cl. 71) though the mound at Poul nabrone (Cl. 28) seems approximately round. Such a variation between long and round mounds occurs on portal dolmens elsewhere.¹ A high sill crosses the entry at Ballycasheen (Cl. 63) and Clogher (Cl. 103) and a low sill is present at Poul nabrone (Cl. 28). It is to be noted that the portal dolmens in Clare face rather towards the east than towards the west which is in keeping with the general tendency in such tombs.

COURT CAIRN

The only certain court cairn, Ballyganner North (Cl. 34), is small by comparison with the finest tombs of this class. The narrow forecourt compares with that at Shanballyedmond,² Co. Tipperary. The feature of the pillar-like upright at the backstone is unusual but occurs also at Shanballyedmond. The position of the dummy jambstones at the dividing stone at Aghanaglack,³ Co. Fermanagh, might be somewhat analogous. The high-pitched corbels are quite typical and the eastern orientation is normal. The other sites, Calluragh South (Cl. 50) and Tyredagh Upper (Cl. 97), which may well belong to the court cairn class, do not display sufficient features to permit discussion and Rylane (Cl. 84) is too doubtful for consideration.

1. *P.R.I.*, LX (1960), 67-68.
2. *J.C.H.A.S.*, LXIII (1958) 37-72.
3. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXIX (1939), 21-38.

2. DISTRIBUTION

(Maps, 1-4)

While the distribution of megalithic tombs in Co. Clare is, as will appear, remarkably governed by environmental factors, the siting of individual tombs shows a great variety and no rule of selection of special positions is discernible. A few occur on hill-tops, many on hill-sides and some in hollows. They occur singly and in groups of varying sizes. Despite notable concentrations such as those at Parknabinnia and Milltown there is nothing in the nature of a true cemetery arrangement. The wedge-shaped gallery graves are the only class sufficiently numerous to present a detailed distributional pattern. The very dispersal of the sites suggests that this pattern represents settlement and, as will appear, this is significantly borne out by the correspondence of dense concentrations to suitable land, suggesting intensive or prolonged occupation of favoured areas.

REGIONS

The distribution of the megalithic tombs may most conveniently be discussed by dividing the county into five main regions.¹ (1) The highland Upper Limestone² region of the north-west in the barony of Burren and the northern parts of Corcomroe and Inchiquin. (2) The Flagstone and Shale region covering the west and south-west of the county. (3) The Turlough region comprising a broad lake-studded belt of lowland limestone country running northwards from the Fergus estuary across the county border into Galway. (4) The Lower Limestone zone fringing the Old Red Sandstone and Silurian hills of east Clare and dividing them into two by a low corridor extending eastwards to Lough Derg. (5) The Old Red Sandstone and Silurian hills of eastern Clare consisting of the Slieve Bernagh range in the south and the extension of the Slieve Aughty range in the north.

Region 1. This region consists of a rocky plateau largely between 400 and 700 feet above sea-level, which falls sharply along its southern edge into the depression of the Inchiquin lakelands and from which chains of hills rising to 1,000 feet in height with narrow valleys between them stretch northwards towards the coast. The tops of these hills are broad and rounded but the sides fall sharply in a series of cliffs, especially towards the sea and along the eastern edge of the highlands at the Galway border. Save where the valleys widen towards the sea at Ballyvaghan and Bealaclogga the coastal strip is narrow. The hill ranges to the north are almost bare crag but on the plateau, though much bare crag is exposed, a very thin covering of peaty soil supports a surprisingly rich growth of grass and herbage. The valley bottoms and the hollows in the plateau are covered in light drift which provides meadow and some tillage land and supports some heavy trees, mostly ash. Hazel and thorn flourish throughout the plateau and along the valley sides. In the broader valley floors, turloughs—basins liable to frequent and prolonged flooding—cover considerable areas. Permanent lakes are few and overground rivers are practically absent and channels often run deep underground. Wells are common but many of them are liable to run dry during periods of drought.

The main use of the land is for stock-raising. Cattle, sheep and goats—the last often semi-wild—are kept in large numbers. The patches of driftland in the valleys are used for summer pasture, meadow and a little tillage. The vegetation on the extremely thin soil of the plateau provides winter grazing of considerable value and most of the land is grazed chiefly in this season when large herds are brought, often considerable distances, to the hill pastures. The cattle range high along the tops of the broad plateau ridges and all save milch cows and young calves can thrive outdoors on these pastures throughout

1. For some descriptions of Clare see: Freeman: *Ireland, Its Physical, Historical, Social and Economic Geography* (London, 1950), 387-407. Praeger: *The Way That I Went* (Dublin, 1937), 222 ff. Charlesworth: *The Geology of Ireland* (Edinburgh, 1953).

2. The geological divisions and terminology used are based on the one-inch Geological Maps as this is the most convenient and readily accessible system and is adequate for the present purpose.

the winter with no extra fodder. The winters are mild and frost and snow seldom occur. The drainage on the fissured crag is extremely good and the frequent ledges and cliff-faces provide shelter. Despite the deeply fissured nature of the rock, which makes the whole region difficult and somewhat hazardous to traverse, the cattle range over the land with surprising ease and though some losses are sustained through broken bones these are not unduly frequent. Cattle from the winterages of north-west Clare are reputed to be especially free from disease.

The tombs of this region cluster thickly on the plateau. They are absent on the bare rugged mountains towards the coast. They are virtually absent from the drift areas. The three examples, Eantibeg South (Cl. 29), Moheramoylan (Cl. 30) and Rannagh East (Cl. 41), which occur within the areas of drift as shown on the geological maps, are scarcely significant as exceptions. Eantibeg South (Cl. 29) is, in fact, on the very edge of the crag and Moheramoylan (Cl. 30), though itself on light drift, lies within 200 yards of the craglands, while at Rannagh East (Cl. 41) the crag outcrops frequently through the drift which covers the area in which the site lies. The destroyed tomb at Cahermacrusheen (App. No. 1) lay on light sandy pasture land near the coast.

The dense concentration of tombs ends abruptly at the edge of the shale and flagstone lands. Their absence on the slopes of Slieve Elva and on the patch of drift and bog-covered flagstone south of the Corkscrew Hill, isolated within the upper limestone region, is remarkably clear. The tombs surround these areas but do not encroach on them. The tomb builders availed of the little plateau of the Ballynahown district (6 inch sheet 4) which reproduces in miniature the conditions of the central plateau.

It is abundantly clear that in the whole north-western upper limestone highland region the tombs correspond very exactly with the presence of what is now good winterage land. In fact the general rule is the better the winterage the greater the concentration of sites. However, the precise reasons for such concentration can be properly assessed only if conditions of soil and climate obtaining in the region in megalithic times can be determined.

It has been claimed that the flora indicates that the craglands of the Burren region were at one time covered in bog¹ but, of course, this may have been denuded long before megalithic times. The archæological remains themselves provide some indications that the soil covering on the plateau craglands was light at the time of the tomb builders. Not only does the level of the chambers suggest little if any change in ground-level since that period but the cairns, both those of the megalithic tombs and those of non-megalithic type, seem to rest almost directly on the crag. Poulawack cairn,² a monument which must date to a period not far removed if at all from that of the megaliths, was built directly on the rock. As far as this evidence goes it clearly suggests that, even if the soil were somewhat deeper on the plateau craglands, it could scarcely have been sufficiently so, seriously to alter the character of the land. On the exposed hill-sides towards the coast and along much of the eastern edge of the highlands even a thin covering would alter the land considerably but it scarcely seems likely that, granting a thin cover only on the more sheltered craglands in megalithic times, any appreciable cover could survive on the steeper unprotected slopes.

Within the limestone area, then, soil conditions to-day probably act as a reasonably good guide to those obtaining in megalithic times. It is likely that some forest existed on the drift. The modern tree population of the Ballyvaghan district noted by Praeger³ bears a close resemblance to that quoted by Fox for the limestone hills in Britain⁴ such as the Mendips with ash, hazel, hawthorn as the principal trees.⁵ Such a forest did not prove an unsurmountable obstacle to neolithic and later settlement elsewhere.⁶ However, with attractive more open pastures nearby extensive clearance of the driftlands may

1. Praeger: *The Way That I Went* (Dublin, 1937), 225.

2. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXV (1935), 191-222. If the sherd of pottery is in fact beaker this would correspond to the beaker complex characteristic of the wedge-shaped tombs (see below, p. 114).

3. *The Botanist in Ireland* (Dublin, 1934), 349.

4. *The Personality of Britain* (Cardiff, 1943), 55 ff.

5. The charcoal from Cahercommaun (*R.S.A.I.*, Extra Volume for 1938, 76) shows a similar dominance for the ninth century A.D.

6. Clark: *Prehistoric Europe: the Economic Basis* (London, 1952), 91 ff.

not have been necessary for the tomb builders, though some use of these lands for whatever tillage they may have undertaken would seem, on general grounds, probable.

Hazel and thorn flourish to-day on the plateau craglands and, in places on the slopes and in the valleys, can be well nigh impenetrable. Grazing animals, particularly the goat, help to keep them in check. However, it does not seem likely that really dense hazel and thorn, even if unchecked by man and his beasts, would completely blanket the region and the broad tops of the ridges would probably provide extensive relatively clear pastures. Whatever clearance was necessary would be comparatively light. The presence of the hazel and thorn in an area where heavy timber for fuel and other purposes must have been very restricted, may well have ranked as an attraction rather than a deterrent and the hazel nuts and fruits of the thorns were doubtless appreciated.

Climatic changes could radically alter conditions on the plateau craglands. Greater severity of winters would reduce the principal asset of winter grazing. Drought could even have a more disastrous effect and to-day can cause grave inconvenience, though the use of the pastures largely for winterage naturally reduces the problem of summer drought. It can be suggested on the basis of the occurrence of the tombs themselves that, whatever the nature of the climate at the time of their building may have been, it was probably not much drier or colder than in modern times.

Region 2. The land in this region differs radically from that on the limestones. Praeger¹ describes the area near Lisdoonvarna in the following terms: "The shales produce as usual a heavy, wet soil; and treeless tracts of marshy, moory pasture and bog extend." In general the soil of West Clare tends to be wet and heavy and even Slievecallan (1,282 ft.) and the surrounding uplands are poorly drained. Cattle from this area compare unfavourably with those from the limestones.

In the whole region—comprising not much less than half of the entire county—only seven megalithic tombs are known. None of these sites except Calluragh South (Cl. 50) occur on the shale and all avoid the drift. Carncreagh (Cl. 52), Knockalassa (Cl. 76) and Drumanure (Cl. 72) are certainly wedge-shaped galleries while Leckaun (Cl. 77), Glenmore (Cl. 53) and Illaun (Cl. 51) are probably also to be taken as of this class. Four of them lie along the highlands which surround Slievecallan at heights ranging from 200 to 800 feet above sea-level. The other two lie on the flagstone uplands 300 to 400 ft. above sea-level about three miles from the edge of the limestones of Region 1. Calluragh South (Cl. 50) near the coast at Lehinch at 100 ft. above sea-level is not certainly classifiable, but is probably best considered as belonging to a different tradition.

Conditions on the shales and flagstones in megalithic times are difficult to assess as bog growth must have to some extent affected the vegetation. However, it seems likely that much of the land would have been ill-drained. Some areas at least would support forest growth but the real deterrent to settlement by megalithic builders was probably the contrast of the heavy wet land with the light well-drained pastures of the limestone plateau available to the north. The sparsity of megalithic tombs in the whole region compared with their density on the limestone plateau corresponds to a similar relative scarcity of archaeological monuments of other types. It corresponds, likewise, to the sparsity of tombs in the extensive shale and flagstone region beyond the Shannon in Limerick, Kerry and Cork.

Region 3. The turlough region is an area of low-lying upper limestone country studded with many lakes and areas, liable to sudden and prolonged flooding, known as turloughs. Large areas of exposed fissured crag occur and there are considerable expanses of bog, alluvium and drift.

Four tombs are recorded for the whole of this extensive region all in the north in the Barony of Inchiquin. Moyree Commons (Cl. 71) is a portal dolmen; Toormore (Cl. 73) is quite unclassifiable; Kilcurrish (Cl. 74) is a wedge-shaped gallery and Kilcurrish (Cl. 75), while unclassified, most probably belongs to this type. By comparison therefore with the plateau craglands of Region 1 the wedge-shaped galleries are very poorly represented in the turlough region. It is to be noted that the sites at Kilcurrish

1. *The Botanist in Ireland*, 345. See also: *The Way That I Went*, 228. cf. Fox: *The Personality of Britain*, 54.

lie on a prominent ridge rising above the drift. Moyree Commons (Cl. 71) is also clear of the drift lands, though Toormore (Cl. 73) lies well within a drift area.

The absence of tombs in the whole Fergus estuary district, which is largely alluvial soil, is noteworthy. Two tombs, Ballyhickey (Cl. 87) and Knopoge (Cl. 88), lie near the edge of the turlough belt, but these seem to belong rather to the group on the lower limestones discussed under Region 4.

It is clear that the area as a whole is not favourable for the megalithic tomb-builders. Patches of well-drained cragland occur but these are set among a maze of lakes, bog, alluvium and drift, and large areas liable to floods. Continuous forest would not have existed in much of the region but, unless drier climatic conditions prevailed than those obtaining at present, land suitable for habitation by megalithic settlers would be limited and circumscribed.

Region 4. This region of lower limestone forms a fringe from two to five miles wide around the sandstone and silurian heights of east Clare. There are nineteen extant megalithic tombs in the area. One, Clogher (Cl. 103), is a portal dolmen. Four are unclassified. Of these Tyredagh Upper (Cl. 97) is probably a court cairn and Rylane (Cl. 84) may not be a wedge-shaped gallery; the others, Toonagh (Cl. 86) and Knockmael (Cl. 78), could be the remnants of wedge-shaped galleries. A concentration of tombs now represented by one specimen existed in Milltown townland. The extant site, Milltown (Cl. 101), is a wedge-shaped gallery and some at least of the destroyed sites seem also to have belonged to this class.

Little of this region lies over 200 feet above sea-level. Most of it is at heights between 100 and 200 feet, though a considerable portion towards the Shannon is below 100 feet. Large areas of drift occur. In general, the tombs avoid the drift though six sites lie upon it. The tombs definitely concentrate on the Milltown district where, including the now destroyed sites, a local density approaching that in the favoured northern district of Region 1 is found. The land in this locality is thin and the underlying rock is bare in many places. Hazel clumps are frequent. The thin soil provides well-drained pasture which would have, to a considerable extent, advantages comparable to those on the cragland pastures of Region 1.

Throughout this region almost all the tombs lie above 100 feet. The sparsity of sites below 100 feet is probably related to drainage and the occurrence of drift. The notable absence of tombs in the corridor to Lough Derg running between the two sandstone and silurian masses is probably related to the presence of so much bog and alluvium in this area. Similar factors explain the absence of sites on the low alluvial soils below 100 feet along the Shannon and Fergus.

The tombs concentrate on lighter pastures. Some, however, encroach on drift soil suitable for meadow and even tillage. These drift areas would doubtless have carried some forest. Some clearance by the megalith builders seems, on the whole, likely but the preference for the thinner soils suitable for pastures is still clearly evidenced.

Region 5. This region comprises the two areas of old red sandstone and silurian highlands in eastern Clare, the Slieve Bernagh range in the south and the extension of the Slieve Aughty range in the north. The corridor of lower limestone included in Region 4 divides these areas from each other.

In the northern area seven sites are known. All are wedge-shaped galleries. All lie on the silurian and all save Corbehagh (Cl. 91) which stands at about 475 feet, are between 700 feet and 900 feet above sea-level. In the southern area fourteen sites are recorded. All again belong to the wedge-shaped class and all save four lie on the silurian. Of these four Ballinphunta (Cl. 90) lies near the edge of the lower limestone while the three others, Bealkelly (Purdon) (Cl. 106), Cloghoolia (Cl. 117) and Formoyale More (Cl. 115) closely adjoin the junction of the silurian and the old red sandstone. All the tombs save Ballinphunta (Cl. 90) at 50-100 feet and Ardataggle (Cl. 118) at about 325 feet lie between 500 and 900 feet above sea-level.

All the tombs in the whole region avoid the drift. In general they lie on upland pasture. Seven of the total of twenty-one lie on boggy mountain. A few, e.g., Cloghoolia (Cl. 117) and Ballinphunta (Cl. 90), lie on rather better pasture land.

It is likely that the valleys, with their drift, would have been heavily wooded. It is not easy to define the tree limit but it does seem probable that the upper hill slopes where the tombs stand would have been relatively open. On general grounds it is to be expected that much of the bog which covers large areas on the hills is subsequent to megalithic times and hence conditions around the bogland sites have probably altered. The general pattern seems clearly to relate to upland pastures and a lesser peat cover on the higher slopes would probably have improved conditions in the vicinity of the sites which now lie embedded in the peat.

*PATTERN OF DISTRIBUTION OF WEDGE-SHAPED GALLERY GRAVES
IN RELATION TO SETTLEMENT*

Before the general inferences to be drawn from the distribution can be summarized, the question as to how far destruction of sites or concealment of tombs by bog-growth influences the picture must be referred to. In Co. Clare destruction during the nineteenth century, though heavy in one or two localities, notably at Milltown in the Barony of Tulla Upper, does not, in general, appear to have been severe to judge from Westropp's accounts and earlier sources. Certainly in this century few instances of sites noted by Westropp and since destroyed are recorded. The crucial question concerns the possibility of removal from the drift-covered regions, for the paucity of sites there could be argued to be the result of land clearance for cultivation. However, the thorough operation that this would imply in many districts, itself makes the explanation unlikely. From the accounts beginning in the early nineteenth century there is little to support it and there is no record of the removal of a proven megalithic tomb from such an area. Widespread land clearance does not seem probable in a county that does not appear ever to have been extensively or intensively tilled. In the vast areas covered by the west Clare shale and flagstone region, the bare slopes of the limestone coastal ranges, and the turlough region, clearance would seem pointless. Especially when a corresponding absence of tombs is found in the wide shale and flagstone region south of the Shannon, the sparsity in such regions can be taken with confidence as original. The preservation on the limestone plateau of so many tombs would seem inexplicable if wholesale removal had occurred on land where destruction for agricultural purposes would be equally unprofitable.

Taken as a whole the very coincidence of tombs with areas of open pasture itself argues in favour of acceptance of the general pattern as fairly representing the original state of affairs. While it might be wise to allow for a greater tendency to removal on the more arable areas, since partial destruction is relatively more common in the meadow lands, it seems that such destruction as may have taken place on the drift land could scarcely alter the general preference for open pasture which the sites recorded so clearly show.

Tombs could lie buried beneath the bogs of west Clare and those on the eastern hills. However, much of the bog cover is relatively thin and the known sites are not very deeply embedded in it. In the east such concealment would, in any case, merely add to a reasonable density already known. For the west, while the possibility must remain open, so much of peat-free area lies blank that the probability of any considerable number of sites concealed by bog-growth must be considered very remote.

It seems, then, that the present survey can be relied on to give a fair picture of the original pattern of tombs.¹ Indeed when all the factors are taken into account it would seem to yield a degree of representation not often possible. In the case of the wedge-shaped class their high densities coincident with especially favourable open pastures allow it to be treated with confidence as portraying a settlement pattern. While no habitation sites of the builders have yet come to light, the lack of special siting and of cemetery arrangement suggests a direct relation of such sites to the tombs. It is not a question of specially selected burial grounds distinct from the areas of habitation as seems likely, for instance, in the case of passage-graves.

1. The degree to which the search of the area can be claimed to approach completeness is referred to above (p. xv.).

PORTAL DOLMENS AND COURT CAIRNS

The occurrence of tombs of the portal dolmen and court cairn classes have been noted in the discussion of the distribution of the wedge-shaped tombs. These classes are too poorly represented to allow any detailed inferences to be drawn. The examples lie scattered among the wedge-shaped groups. With the exception of Calluragh South (Cl. 50) they are confined to limestone land. Like the wedge-shaped tombs they avoid the drift. Their main interest lies in the question of their place in the Irish series of court cairns and portal dolmens. This is discussed in the next section.

3. THE PLACE OF THE MEGALITHIC TOMBS OF CO. CLARE
IN THE IRISH SERIES

WEDGE-SHAPED GALLERY GRAVES

Distributional Factors

In tracing relationships of the Clare wedge-shaped tombs outside the county it is at once apparent that very close correspondences exist between those on the east Clare highlands and those on the answering sandstone and silurian uplands in Tipperary.¹ Links through Limerick² and North Cork³ connect with the heavy concentrations in west Cork.⁴ Sites towards the coast in west Cork and Kerry⁵ bring the distribution to the extreme south-west of Ireland.

While further detailed survey is required, especially in Cos. Cork and Kerry, before a distribution of comparable reliability with that now available for Co. Clare can be obtained, it is already clear that the factors of soil and environment observed in Clare will prove applicable to west Munster in general. The paucity of sites on the wide shale and flagstone areas of west Limerick, north Kerry and extending into north Cork is already clear. The distribution follows highland pastures on the sandstones and thinly covered limestone regions such as Lough Gur and the vicinity of Labbacallee. The richer heavier lands of the great river valleys and the Golden Vale are at least in great measure devoid of tombs, while the wilder uplands such as the rugged Kerry mountains seem not unnaturally to have proved unsuitable. The emphasis on open pasture land, with whatever requirement of tillage land the builders may have had being definitely of secondary importance, is clear throughout. Allowing for the requirement of open pasture the Munster group as a whole forms a well integrated unity.

Connections northwards with tombs in Galway,⁶ including the Aran Islands,⁷ are traceable. East of the Shannon there is but slight evidence⁸ for a northwards extension from the Munster group. Beyond Galway a relatively sparse occurrence of tombs in Roscommon,⁹ Leitrim¹⁰ and east Mayo¹¹ on the one hand, and on the west Mayo¹² coast on the other, may well mark the links with the heavier concentrations in Sligo, though

1. Crawford, H. S.: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XL (1910), 38-51.

2. Lynch: *L.F.C.*, II, No. 8 (1904), 282-284; II, No. 10 (1906), 54-57; III, No. 11 (1907), 127-133. *N.M.A.J.*, I (1909), 30-35. Windele: *P.R.I.A.*, XXX (1912), 283-306. O'Kelly: *N.M.A.J.*, III (1942), 75-97, 169-184, 222-245; IV (1944), 16-53.

3. Leask and Price: *P.R.I.A.*, XLIII (1936), 77-101. Brash: *J.R.S.A.I.*, II (1853), 272-273.

4. Condon: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVI (1916), 58-76, 136-162; XLVII (1917), 153-164; XLVIII (1918), 121-139. Hartnett: *J.C.H.A.S.*, XLV (1940), 71-78.

5. e.g., Caherlehillan and Gortnagulla. Lynch: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXVI (1906), 277-281.

6. e.g., Ballynastaig, *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXIV (1904), 217 and Derrycallan North, O.S. Galway 6" Sheet 129, 7.3 cm. from left, 8.4 cm. from bottom.

7. *The Dolmens of Ireland*, I, 108-109.

8. Perhaps the "Asses Manger" in Laois. *The Dolmens of Ireland*, II, 374. Raftery: *Prehistoric Ireland* (Batsford, 1951), 87.

9. e.g., Fuerty, *The Dolmens of Ireland*, I, 198.

10. e.g., Sunnagh More, O.S. Leitrim, 6" Sheet 33, 49.1 cm. from left, 28.9 cm. from bottom.

11. e.g., At Greenwood, *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 405; Feamore (now destroyed) and Lisduff, *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXXVII (1907), 118.

12. e.g., Sraheewee, *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 63-64 and Castlehill, O.S. Mayo 6" Sheet 44, 12.1 cm. from left, 16.7 cm. from bottom.

of course, direct connections leaving little or no intervening stations are always possible. From Sligo across all the nine Ulster counties save Down and Armagh wedge-shaped tombs occur in considerable numbers. Tombs along the east of Ireland¹ in Louth, Dublin, Wicklow, Kilkenny, represent a thin diffusion which distributionally and in details of morphology suggests connection with the series which extend across Ulster.

The whole Irish series, estimated at about 400 specimens, are undoubtedly the most numerous and widely dispersed megalithic tomb type in Ireland. The central plain area tends to divide the distribution in the midlands. It is on distributional grounds probable that the group south and west of the central plain spread from entry areas in west Cork and Kerry where sites which seem to look to the coast occur. The exact connection between the tombs north of the plain and those to the south remains to be determined in detail. On the whole the most likely explanation is simply an expansion from the Munster region.

Date and Culture Context

In the absence of excavation and even of finds from the megalithic tombs of Co. Clare direct evidence for date and grave-goods is lacking. However, the evidence from wedge-shaped galleries elsewhere in Ireland enables deductions to be drawn.

Published accounts of excavations undertaken since 1932 are available for twelve examples—Labbacallee² and Island,³ Co. Cork; Lough Gur,⁴ Co. Limerick; Loughash (Giant's Grave),⁵ Loughash (Cashelbane),⁶ Clogherny,⁷ Co. Tyrone; Kilhoyle⁸ and Boviell (Cloghnagalla),⁹ Largantea,¹⁰ Co. Derry; Ballyedmonduff¹¹ and Kilmashogue,¹² Co. Dublin; Moylisha,¹³ Co. Wicklow. The report of the fine wedge-shaped tomb at Baurnadomeeny, excavated in 1959, is not to hand at the time of writing, but Professor M. J. O'Kelly has generously provided us with full information on his findings in advance of his own publication. Another site—Corraclona,¹⁴ Co. Leitrim—should probably also be considered in the context of the wedge-shaped galleries but in view of certain peculiarities in its structure discussion must be deferred until the excavation report is available. Neolithic pottery and flints at present in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, have been attributed to Antrim tombs but considerable uncertainty seems to exist as to the exact provenance. Some of these finds have been attributed to graves at Dunteige and Goakstown and in the discussion of the grave-goods from wedge-shaped galleries some prominence has been given to them.¹⁵ The Dunteige site in question, which must be distinguished from the wedge-shaped gallery in the same townland, is very probably a court cairn. It remains possible that some of the finds did come from wedge-shaped tombs but a complete re-examination of the question of the Ashmolean material is necessary before any valid conclusions can be drawn. The neolithic finds from "Tamneybrake"¹⁶ in the Grainger collection in the Belfast Museum can scarcely be discussed unless the exact provenance and the tomb type involved can be more fully established. Lastly, the beaker attributed very uncertainly to the wedge-shaped tomb in the Dingle Peninsula¹⁷ must be treated with caution.

1. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXI (1941), 9-26.

2. *P.R.I.A.*, XLIII (1936), 77-101.

3. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXVIII (1958), 1-23.

4. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXV (1955), 34-50.

5. *U.J.A.*, II (1939), 254-268.

6. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXX (1940), 143-163.

7. *U.J.A.*, II (1939), 36-40.

8. *P.B.N.H.P.S.*, (1937-38), 34-48.

9. *U.J.A.*, III (1940), 41-55.

10. *U.J.A.*, I (1938), 164-188.

11. *P.R.I.A.*, LV (1952), 61-81.

12. *P.R.I.A.*, LVI (1954), 461-479.

13. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXVI (1946), 119-128.

14. Excavated Kilbride-Jones, 1953.

15. On this question see *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 69, 133.

16. *U.J.A.*, III (1940), 51, 55.

17. *P.P.S.*, XII (1946), 153.

Of the thirteen excavated sites from which evidence is available no primary pottery is reported from Island, Kilmashogue and Clogherny. It is not always possible to be certain how much of the pottery from the other ten sites is to be considered as secondary but the evidence taken as a whole clearly indicates that beaker and varieties of coarse ware, and also occasionally food-vessel occur as primary. Urn, while demonstrably secondary, as is food-vessel, at Kilmashogue, may be primary in a few cases.

Beaker and coarse ware form the bulk of the pottery represented. At five sites: Lough Gur, Largantea, Loughash (Giant's Grave), Loughash (Cashelbane) and Ballyedmonduff—beaker is the dominant ware present. Some of the pottery at Kilhoyle may also be beaker or at least may have close affinities with this ware but a re-examination of the finds themselves is required before certainty is possible. At the other four sites pottery finds were relatively scant. At Labbacallee the sherds of thin decorated pottery¹ while not acceptable as proven beaker may well be related to such wares. At Boviell the sherds of fine ware, some bearing decoration, are unclassifiable at least in illustration. Moylisha had varieties of coarse ware only. At Baurnadomeeny the main chamber had been almost completely dug out some forty years ago but one small thin sherd of fine ware was discovered in the spoil from it. Professor O'Kelly informs us that this sherd is too featureless to permit classification but that it does not appear to be of beaker type. The rest of the pottery from the site is coarse ware, some from the cairn base similar to Knockadoon Class II pottery and some coarse sherds of rather different character associated with a cremation in the portico. Both varieties are to be considered primary. Coarse ware is also present in all the excavated sites save Boviell and apparently Loughash (Giant's Grave).

Food-vessel is well represented at Kilhoyle and Loughash (Cashelbane) and occurs at Largantea, Lough Gur and Labbacallee as a few sherds only. Urn is reported from Loughash (Giant's Grave), Kilhoyle and Lough Gur.

Western neolithic wares are ill represented. A few rimsherds from Lough Gur² seem fairly certainly of this type. Some of the Boviell pottery could belong to neolithic contexts and at several sites³ sherds which fall into no clearly defined classes may belong to a neolithic tradition. Such "miscellaneous" wares, both in the tombs and other sites,⁴ require much further detailed study before any reliable conclusions can be drawn from them. Even, however, if the unclassified material were accepted as neolithic the amount represented in the wedge-shaped galleries would remain slight.

Among the flints the barbed and tanged arrowheads are most instructive. Examples occur at Loughash (Cashelbane), Kilhoyle and Boviell. Half a broken barbed arrowhead was found at Clogherny but whether this is a barbed and tanged specimen is not clear from the report. These arrowheads, of course, are at home in a beaker context.

Metal is represented in the tombs by a palstave mould, a fragment of a bronze blade and a copper ring from Loughash (Giant's Grave), a fragment of bronze and a bone dagger mount from Largantea and the mould for a looped-spearhead from Moylisha. These may well all belong to the period of building and use of the tombs. The fragment of a mould for a spearhead, probably of leaf-shaped type, at Lough Gur is considered by the excavators to be secondary.

On the basis of the pottery supported by the arrowheads there is little doubt that a beaker-using tradition is strong, indeed dominant, in the Irish wedge-shaped tombs. Coarse ware accompanying beaker is to be expected in view of the association of these wares at Knockadoon⁵ and Grange Stone Circle.⁶ Similar coarse ware is also regularly found in Ireland with primary neolithic pottery in contexts where beaker is absent, in the Court Cairns, Lyles Hill and Lough Gur, and so far at least it seems impossible to use it as representing any clearly defined horizon.

To speak of the tombs as within a beaker-using context does not, of course, imply the presence of a beaker-folk culture, even if such a concept were acceptable. Neither

1. *P.R.I.A.*, XLIII (1936), 84, 85 (Fig. 6), 90.
2. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXV (1955), 39.
3. e.g., Ballyedmonduff, *P.R.I.A.*, LV (1952), 76-77.
4. *P.R.I.A.*, LIV (1951), 62 ff.
5. *P.R.I.A.*, LVI (1954), 297-459.
6. *P.R.I.A.*, LIV (1951), 37-74.

does it enable us to assign the tombs to the earliest incipient phase of the Bronze Age. The beaker of the tombs is, in general, degenerate and the presence of food-vessel and probably urn, together with evidence for bronze, leaves little doubt that at least for a considerable part of the range of the wedge-shaped tombs the great Early Bronze Age with its non-megalithic food-vessel, and even urn, burials, was already flourishing. The moulds for the palstave and the looped-spearhead suggest the continuance of the building and use of the tombs into a more advanced stage of the Bronze Age. The occurrence of urn need not, of course, imply a Late Bronze Age date. Indeed its frequent association with food-vessels in burial complexes and the evidence implicit in the urns of enlarged food-vessel form suggest a considerable degree of contemporary use.

Absolute dating is still very uncertain. However, it is not rash to suggest a date probably straddling the middle of the second millennium B.C. The wedge-shaped galleries probably represent the last of the great megalithic movements into Ireland. Each of the great traditions, Court Cairns, Passage Graves and Wedge-shaped Galleries must have lasted a considerable period and some overlapping is very probable. Sub-groups of one or other tradition can, of course, have arrived separately and the possibility for instance, that the little Tramore group of passage graves came after the wedge-shaped galleries were established cannot be discounted.

Origin and Foreign Relationships

Tombs of the wedge-shaped class do not appear to be recorded in Britain.¹ In north-west France, in the Brittany region, tombs which provide excellent prototypes are well represented. In the *allée couverte*² of this region small ante-chambers are a commonplace feature and outer-walling is found in some cases though the sites are normally almost completely denuded of cairn. Information on the important question of orientation is insufficient as yet to permit comparison with the Irish series. The grave goods also require examination but beaker and coarse bucket-shaped pots are present. The contrast between the scattered widespread distribution of the *allée couverte* and the cemetery concentrations of the passage graves in Brittany corresponds very closely to the distinction between the distributional pattern of the wedge-shaped galleries and that of the passage graves in Ireland.

COURT CAIRNS AND PORTAL DOLMENS

The court cairns are quite securely assigned to a neolithic context. Shanballyedmond,³ Co. Tipperary, which is close distributionally and morphologically to Ballyganner North (Cl. 34), shows in its grave-goods the normal neolithic tradition despite its peripheral position in relation to the main distribution region of the court cairns. This leaves the assignment of the Clare example to the same neolithic tradition reasonably secure. If the other sites, Tyredagh Upper (Cl. 97) and Calluragh South (Cl. 50), are also court cairns the same conclusion can be drawn for them. The actual date of the intrusion of the court cairn into Clare need not, however, necessarily pre-date the arrival of the wedge-shaped tombs in the area.

The portal dolmen is rare in Munster save in Co. Waterford. The Clare examples are peripheral to the main distribution. Typologically, the portal dolmen is akin to and probably derivative from the court cairn.⁴ The finds are yet inadequate but the occurrence of hollow-scrapers and some pottery with neolithic, including Beacharra, affinities support the connection. As in the case of the court cairns the Clare examples seem to represent a comparatively feeble intrusion and a date more or less contemporary with the wedge would not be impossible.

The absence of the other great Irish megalithic series—the passage graves—should be referred to. Round hill-top cairns occur and, while some demonstrably are not

1. Daniel would consider *Bedd yr Afanc* (Bryn Berian) to be derived from Irish wedge-shaped gallery graves (*Prehistoric Chamber Tombs of England and Wales* (Cambridge, 1950), 154, but this is doubtful.

2. Giot: *Menhirs et Dolmens, Monuments Mégalithiques de Bretagne* (Chateaulin (Finistère) 1957), 23.

3. *J.C.H.A.S.*, LXIII (1958), 37-72.

4. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 64-71.

passage graves, the possibility that others may conceal chambers of this type cannot be entirely discounted. However, there is no clear indication of a cemetery arrangement typical of passage graves and Co. Clare is certainly outside the main ambit of the type.

ECONOMY OF THE TOMB BUILDERS

In general, then, the wedge-shaped galleries which form the great majority of the megalithic tombs of Co. Clare can fairly be taken to represent an intensive occupation of the more favoured districts by people who belonged to a widespread and numerous beaker-using community ultimately connected with north-western France. The inference to be drawn from the distribution that the dominant factor in the economy of the tomb-builders in Clare was pasturage, is clear. On general grounds, cattle would appear to have been the principal stock, though sheep and goats could also have played an important role.¹ The availability of all-the-year round grazing, at least on the winterage lands of the northern limestone plateau, would be a valuable asset and would relieve the difficulty of the maintenance of herds over the winter in the absence of adequate fodder and shelter.² It is doubtless this advantage which to a great extent accounts for the phenomenal density of sites on the north-western plateau. The distribution of the wedge-shaped galleries in Clare and indeed in general in Ireland, suggests that tillage was of lesser account and that the communities they represent were even more dependent on pasturage than were their neolithic predecessors.³

1. The figures for recent years cited by Freeman: *Ireland, Its Physical, Historical, Social and Economic Geography*, 398, which show a relatively lesser emphasis on cattle than on sheep for the Burren area do not specifically refer to the winter pastures and this feature of the economy of the region is not considered.

2. Clark: *Prehistoric Europe: the Economic Basis*, 124 ff.

3. cf. Childe's remarks on the economy of beaker times: *Prehistoric Communities of the British Isles* (1949), 98.

